



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL  
CLIENT SERVICES COMMITTEE  
METRO CENTER - TAMPA  
MONDAY, MAY 18, 2009  
2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

- CALL TO ORDER**      The meeting was called to order by Janet Kitchen, Chair, at 2:00 p.m.
- ATTENDANCE**      Members Present: David Hasiba, Natalie Jackson, Janet Kitchen, Andrew Paquette, Bob Reynolds, Bill Thomas  
Members Absent: Denis Hayes, Marshall Lee, John Melartin, Darlene Smith, Tyrone Stamps  
Guests Present: Bill Hare, Jerry Nealy  
Grantee Staff Present: Teresa Newgent  
Health Councils Staff Present: Collette Tomberlin
- CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**      Members agreed to add information on the Ticket to Work Program and peer support program.
- ADOPTION OF MINUTES**      The minutes for April 20, 2009 were approved as written (**M:** Thomas, **S:** Hasiba). There were 6 yes votes, 0 no votes and 0 abstentions.
- CONSUMER INPUT**      Client concerns shared last month have been brought to the attention of the proper governing body and the clients are awaiting a response.  
  
Andrew shared information from a workshop he recently attended on the Ticket To Work Program and changes in disability and returning to work. The Social Security Administration has job openings for people with disabilities – full time positions with salary and benefits. Vocational Rehabilitation has wait lists because so many people are losing their jobs due to the economy. There is a tax credit for companies when hiring individuals with disabilities, as much as 40% of the salary for two to three years. Medco Data Company is hiring individuals who can work from home to man their help desk positions.  
  
Bill shared the latest Social Security Red Book and how to access the information online. Bill also suggested that those returning to work

keep a detailed journal to verify the accommodations of their employer so Social Security benefits can be quickly reinstated if they individual cannot handle the workload with the accommodations.

Janet presented information on behalf of the Client Services Committee to both P&E and RPARC. Janet shared information gathered from several websites and presentation she had attended in addition to how a similar program that she is currently involved with is working. The groups discussed the role of peers, their training needs and compensation for them. Questions were raised about the particulars of such a program, but both committees were in favor of the program. A workgroup was formed to gather information.

**CARE COUNCIL  
REPORT**

Janet Kitchen shared that the Care Council approved a new voting member and an associate member and approved bylaw revisions for membership applications and new member orientation. Members that had attended the Ryan White Program meeting in Orlando shared their experiences. The Grantee shared our Part A award which included an increase of \$65,884. It was announced that there is no grace period for eligibility. Clients must have a notice of eligibility on the date they receive services. The Care Council also accepted nominations for the position of Chair, Vice-Chair and Parliamentarian with elections to be held in June.

**NEWLY  
DIAGNOSED  
BROCHURE  
UPDATE**

A revised final version of the brochure is now ready to be printed. Staff will get the English and Spanish versions from the individuals making the final corrections and forward to the Grantee's office for printing.

**COMMUNITY  
OUTREACH**

No community outreach information was shared.

**OTHER  
COMMITTEE  
UPDATES**

A workgroup has been formed to pull together information on peer support programs across the state and country to discover successful models and explore implementation locally.

**COMMUNITY  
CONCERNS/  
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Members announced upcoming community events.

Members shared some new web resources that will be distributed to the group.

Bob announced that a new home for youth ages 18-24 leaving foster care will be opening in the next 90 days.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.