

**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL
CLIENT SERVICES COMMITTEE
WEST TAMPA NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICE CENTER-TAMPA
MONDAY, APRIL 17, 2006
2:00 P.M.–3:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order by Janet Kitchen, Chair, at 2:30 p.m.
- ATTENDANCE** Members Present: Janet Kitchen, John Melartin, Bob Reynolds, Bill Thomas
Members Absent: Wayne Bibeault, Linda Rogers
Guests Present: Natalie Jackson, Aritus Miller, Mark Mischan
Staff Present: Aubrey Arnold, Nicole Brown
- CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO AGENDA** No changes were made to the agenda.
- CARE COUNCIL REPORT** Mark Mischan gave the Care Council report. He stated that recommendations for additional Title I and MAI funds were approved. Following the meeting Care Council members held their half-day retreat.
- NEWLY DIAGNOSED BROCHURE** Janet began discussion about the brochure for newly diagnosed by sharing her experiences after being diagnosed. She would like to create an easy guide to help people figure out what to do after they discover that they are HIV positive. Aritus Miller shared that he did not see a big need for the brochure because he felt that his case manager gave him all the information he needed and that once he was placed in the network he was kept informed of other services as he needed them. Janet said that while she hopes people have a good experience like Aritus she would like to have the brochure available to clients that are given little information after diagnosis. Natalie Jackson suggested that because Janet feels so strongly about the subject she could create an interesting brochure by writing it as a narrative with information included.

The group agreed that the brochure should first reassure people and let them know there are services available. Second would be to explain the importance of a case manager and the case manager's role. While the committee felt the brochure should be keep as simple as possible and not contain too much dated information they suggested listing the names and

phone numbers for case management agencies in the TSA.

Mark and Bob Reynolds suggested the Project Inform and POZ websites as a good reference in getting initial information.

NEW BUSINESS

Bob asked that the transportation information that was requested in October and presented to Planning and Evaluation be discussed next month.

Mark shared that SIOC asked each committee to evaluate whether they would like to adopt an attendance policy or change the meeting time and location. The committee also discussed the desire to have more client involvement and the suggestion of having an evening meeting. One suggestion from the group was to have a town hall meeting twice a year with the FACT or PWA dinner. These dinners can draw from 40 to 70 clients and would be a great source of new ideas and community concerns.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bob mentioned that starting July 1st in order to receive Medicaid a person must show proof of citizenship or resident alien. It was mentioned that Ryan White does provide services for undocumented clients.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come to the Committee, meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

5/17/06