



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL  
HEALTH SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
THE CHILDREN'S BOARD - TAMPA  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2010  
2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order by Don Kurtyka, Chair at 2:05 p.m.
- ATTENDANCE** Members Present: Leslie Betts, Vicki Kenyon, Don Kurtyka, Steve Palermo, Jim Roth, Bonnie Tiemann, Michael Wagner, Donnette Waul  
Members Absent: Brent Laartz, Bobbi Lambert, John Melartin, Priya Rajkumar  
Guests Present: Deniz Curler, Nicole Geiger, Teresa Gillespie, Elizabeth Rugg  
Grantee Staff Present: none  
Health Councils Staff Present: Collette Tomberlin
- CHANGES TO AGENDA** Members agreed by consensus to add a report on the cost containment strategies being implemented at the Hillsborough County Health Department pharmacy.
- ADOPTION OF MINUTES** The minutes for August 19, 2010 were approved (M: Palermo, S: Roth) with 8 yes votes and 0 no votes.
- CARE COUNCIL REPORT** Staff and Jim Roth shared that the Care Council approved the allocation of FY 09 Part A Carry Over funds, the reallocation of current Part A funds and approved two new voting members.
- COMMITTEE WORK PLAN** Members discussed each task on the work plan and decided to add an additional task under Comprehensive Plan Objective 8E. The task will be to monitor the impact of pharmaceutical cost containment strategies by an ongoing review of the pharmaceutical expenditures from the Grantee's office reports. If possible, the committee will also seek information on clients who are accessing PAPs (Patient Assistance Programs) to determine the number served and potential cost diverted.  
The following motion passed (M: Kenyon, S: Palermo) with 8 yes votes and 0 no votes:  
**APPROVE THE 2010-11 COMMITTEE WORK PLAN AS AMENDED**

**CHAIR AND CO-CHAIR ELECTION**

Don Kurtyka and John Melartin were nominated for the position of Chair and Co-Chair, respectively. Don accepted the nomination and staff will confirm that John is willing to continue serving in the role as co-chair since he was unable to attend today's meeting. Nominations were closed and both were elected pending confirmation from John.

**ELECT DON KURTYKA AS CHAIR AND JOHN MELARTIN AS CO-CHAIR**

**MEETING DAY, TIME, LOCATION**

Members discussed the meeting day and time and decided that it is an acceptable day and time. Members would like to meet at the Children's Board if available due to the parking problems at the Hillsborough County Health Department.

**HOLD COMMITTEE MEETINGS ON THE THIRD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 2:00 PM. HOLD MEETINGS AT THE CHILDREN'S BOARD IN TAMPA WHEN AVAILABLE**

**PHARMACY COST CONTAINMENT STRATEGIES**

The Hillsborough County Health Department pharmacy is able to order over the counter medications in bulk for physicians on their staff to dispense directly to patients during their office visits. These will only be given to those clients least able to afford the over the counter costs.

The pharmacy is also able to refer patients to a toll free number for assistance with smoking cessations aids. Several smoking cessation aids are also available through PAP.

The pharmacy is looking for ways to reduce the costs for over the counter diabetic aids such as glucose strips, alcohol pads and lancets. There are several programs that will give the glucose meters to clients free of charge, but the test strips are expensive. Pinellas County has been getting some through Diabetic Charitable Services.

**QUALITY MANAGEMENT**

The QM provider held focus groups with core service providers. The technical workgroup is meeting on September 17<sup>th</sup> to review the information. A subgroup is also meeting to determine the best ways to incorporate the measurement items into RWIS (Ryan White Information System). Money was budgeted for this project to make adjustments in RWIS, but it is difficult to get to the top of the priority list for the county IT department to actually make the needed programming changes.

All items that are required by HRSA for the RSR (Ryan White Services Report) and RDR (Ryan White Data Report) are presently in the system, but items need to be added for QM measures and clarify the wording. Then training needs to take place for providers to be sure they are entering the correct data that is being asked for.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/  
COMMUNITY  
CONCERNS**

Members shared upcoming community events.

Members questioned if Ryan White programming for billing is standardized with the quarterly or monthly caps. When the system locks providers out of client records when the client's eligibility expires, it creates serious billing issues and affects the client's ability to access services which may have been ordered while they were eligible but were unable to get an immediate appointment. Other providers are finding that services were actually rendered while the client was eligible, but the billing is entered later and if the client has since become ineligible, then it does not allow the provider to bill for a service that was rendered while the client was eligible for services. The lack of real time information is creating barriers to access for needed services. These concerns have been brought to the Grantee and they are working to resolve them. Mike Wagner volunteered to draft a letter from the committee requesting an update on the changes to the RWIS programming and resolution of these issues.

Jim Roth stated that the Part B will begin requiring the use of CAREWare for eligibility on April 1, 2011. Since our area tries to mirror Part B requirements for consistency, it is assumed that everyone will need to use this system. Members discussed the fact that many of the HRSA QM performance measures are already in the CAREWare system and could be tracked there without having to make expensive changes to RWIS. Instead the funding might be used to build a communication bridge between CAREWare and RWIS.

Jim stated that the Part B will also be cutting the budget by 5-7% for FY 2011.

Members discussed the ADAP wait list and that Florida has been awarded an additional \$6.9 million dollars, but that will not even cover through March when the program year ends. Elizabeth shared that a MedNet navigator has been placed at ASAP in Pinellas to assist clients. MedNet Navigators were trained and will be collocated in several of Florida's east coast counties.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Health Services Advisory Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.