

**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL
CLIENT SERVICES COMMITTEE
WEST TAMPA NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICE CENTER-TAMPA
MONDAY, JULY 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 2:20 p.m.
- ATTENDANCE** Members Present: Janet Kitchen, Ken McCallister, John Melartin, Aritus Miller, Bob Reynolds, Bill Thomas
Members Absent: Natalie Jackson, Linda Rogers
Guests Present: Mark Mischan, Lauren Rivera
Grantee Staff Present: Aubrey Arnold
Health Council Staff Present: Nicole Brown
- CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO AGENDA** Two items were added to the agenda.
VIIA. Medicare Part D Doughnut Hole
VIII A. Client Services
- ADOPTION OF MINUTES** The June minutes were adopted as written.
- CARE COUNCIL REPORT** Mark Mischan shared the Care Council report. He said that the Council approved a draft medication formulary and a medication contract alignment. In addition the Council approved a \$100,000 reallocation to the Ryan White Information System (RWIS) and will re-bid a portion of the MAI funding. Two bylaw revisions and a new member slate of four returning and ten new members were also approved. Dave Konnerth was elected as the new Care Council Vice-Chair. The CARE Act was discussed and how it may not be reauthorized in 2006.
- NEWLY DIAGNOSED BROCHURE** Janet Kitchen gave an update on the brochure for individuals that are newly diagnosed with HIV/AIDS. She has not had a chance to meet with the graphic designer at USF because of scheduling conflicts and they were unable to send her an electronic copy of the draft. The committee discussed not adding information about pharmacies because they would like to keep the brochure general and supportive. When the brochure is complete just a few will be distributed to gauge its effectiveness. Feedback from that process will then be incorporated before a large number of brochures are

printed.

CLIENT COMMENT FORM

The client comment form developed by the committee and the consumer satisfaction survey developed through RNT & Associates for quality management were discussed. While the two documents are not the same they will both cover some similar material. The committee decided to wait on the client comment form until they see how much information is gathered by the consumer satisfaction survey. They also noted that clients have the web site as a way to voice concerns.

MEDICARE PART D DOUGHNUT HOLE

Bob Reynolds shared concerns about PLWH enrolled in Medicare Part D not taking their medication when they are in the doughnut hole. Aubrey Arnold shared information on programs that can help clients including the AIDS Wrap Around Program (AWAP) which should be available in the next couple of months to specifically help those in the doughnut hole.

CLIENT SERVICES

Janet Kitchen shared an idea she had about soliciting discount coupons and free services from area businesses for PLWH. Through the committee discussion the issues of confidentiality, fairness in distribution, eligibility requirements and needing a 501C3 to back the project were discussed. It was determined that a program like this could not be done through the Care Council.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ken McCallister shared some information on Humana's Silver Sneakers program as a follow up to the committee's discussion on physical fitness. The program offers discounts at community fitness centers for the disabled and elderly.

Aubrey Arnold announced that the next case managers' training is being planned for December.

Bob Reynolds raised a concern about Manatee County's transportation plan and how there is nothing that addresses transportation for the disabled.

Bob also raised a concern about agencies being solely reliant on Ryan White funding. He inquired if there could be a matching funds requirement added to the RFA process. Aubrey addressed the concern by saying that it would not be possible to require matching funds but that an agency applying for a Ryan White contract has to prove that they are financially stable and have other sources of funding.

Bob asked that the committee look at the issues facing co-

inflected clients, especially those with Hepatitis C. The issue will be added to the next meetings agenda.

HIV/AIDS advocacy was discussed by the group. While all members encouraged each other to be active politically with regards to funding and the CARE Act reauthorization it was discussed that it is not the planning council's role to do advocacy. Any activism that a member engaged in would be as an individual and not on behalf of the council.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come to the Committee, meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

11/7/2006