



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL
MINORITY ADVOCACY COMMITTEE
SPRING OAKS – TAMPA
FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 2007
9:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.**

MINUTES

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order by Georgette King, Chair, at 9:12 a.m.
- ATTENDANCE** Members Present: Ramon Baez, Carla Baity, Georgette King, Jeannie Lewis, John Melartin, Patrick Mercier, Paul Watkins
- Members Absent: Janet Kitchen, Ivette Lopez, Marylin Merida
- Guests Present: Joselin Colon, Catheline Lamour, Anil Pandya, Jacqueline Tobar-Lax, Sherri White
- Grantee Staff Present: Aubrey Arnold, Valetta Rhinehart, Gilda Roman-Nay-Torres
- Health Councils Staff Present: Collette Tomberlin
- CHANGES TO AGENDA** The Grantee was asked to provide an update on the MAI (Minority AIDS Initiative) application status.
- ADOPTION OF MINUTES** Minutes for March 9 were approved (M: Melartin, S: Baity) with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.
- CARE COUNCIL REPORT** Carla Baity and John Melartin shared information about the Care Council retreat and the training modules presented by the Academy of Educational Development.
- COMMITTEE REPORTS** Patrick Mercier reported that the Planning and Evaluation Committee passed a motion to recommend a change to Comprehensive Plan Goal 4 to the Care Council. The committee approved the methodology for the Anonymous Needs Survey. MAC (Minority Advocacy Committee) members discussed methods to improve distribution and completion of the survey, particularly among the hardest to reach populations such as individuals in substance use treatment and the

homeless. Georgette King offered to recruit USF students to help in the data collection process for the upcoming Anonymous Needs Survey. Several meeting attendees began the process of brainstorming possible sites for students to assist in administering the survey. Collette Tomberlin agreed to provide copies of the survey and to meet with a group of students organized by the MAC members.

Patrick also shared that the P&E (Planning & Evaluation) Committee ranked service priorities. The method of ranking separated core services from support services. The MAC members discussed the process of service prioritization and expressed concern that the process continues to exclude the involvement of other committees. Members discussed ways to move past this impasse and to begin involving other committees in the process.

MAI APPLICATION STATUS

Aubrey indicated that the guidance had not been released. There will be a four to six week turn around for the application to be submitted once the guidance is received. Aubrey will take the lead in completing the application, but requested input and information from the Minority Advocacy Committee (MAC). Aubrey anticipates asking for the FY06 MAI funding amount plus 5-10%. This is an opportunity to expand services to reach more of our service area and to more fully fund current services, but we should not request more than we are able to expend.

Individuals who are able to help provide information for the application will meet on Monday, May 7 at 1:00 at WestCare. This meeting will replace the regular May MAC Meeting. Aubrey will provide excerpts from the current Title I application and Gilda Roman-Nay Torres will provide data from the RARE study.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gilda stated that the MAI (Minority AIDS Initiative) marketing tools had been completed and sent to the printer and will be ready for distribution very soon. The Customer Satisfaction Survey received around 300 responses in a two week period. The MAI Intake Instrument Pilot is complete. The MAI TSA (Total Service Area) Service Provider directory is complete and will be distributed to all MAI service providers in hard copy and on disk in both Spanish and English.

The PPG (Prevention Planning Group) will meet in Tampa on April 19th and 20th.

Because the date of the May 2007 meeting coincides with the WICY&F (Women, Infants, Children, Youth and Families Committee) Mother of the Year Event the committee decided to hold a special meeting on May 7th to develop information to contribute to the MAI application.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Minority Advocacy Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:17 a.m.