



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL
MINORITY ADVOCACY COMMITTEE
FRANCIS HOUSE – TAMPA
FRIDAY, JULY 13, 2007
9:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.**

MINUTES

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order by Carla Baity, Co-Chair, at 9:07 a.m.
- ATTENDANCE** Members Present: Maria Aponte, Ramon Baez, Carla Baity, Georgette King, Jeannie Lewis, John Melartin, Patrick Mercier, Marylin Merida, Jacqueline Tobar-Lax , Paul Watkins, Sherri White
- Members Absent: Janet Kitchen, Ivette Lopez
- Guests Present: Joselin Colon, Marie Denis-Uique, Laura Dunn, Catheline Lamour, Mellita Mills-Kendrick, Rachel Parks, Bob Reynolds
- Grantee Staff Present: Gilda Roman-Nay-Torres, Deborah Thomas
- Health Councils Staff Present: Nicole Brown, Tristan Tarantino
- CHANGES TO AGENDA** Gilda Roman-Nay-Torres asked that capacity building be added as VI.2. and Georgette King requested that an update on the Patient Care Planning Group (PCPG) be added under the Care Council report.
- ADOPTION OF MINUTES** The June meeting minutes were approved as written.
- CARE COUNCIL REPORT** Carla Baity gave the Care Council report. She stated that there were announcements made on the importance of maintaining confidentiality and the extension of the anonymous needs survey in Hillsborough County. There were elections held and Wendell Martin will be the new Chair of the Care Council and Carla will be the new Vice-Chair. New members were also approved and there was a request for volunteers to be

mentors. The Epidemiology and Demographics Report and the minimum standards of care revision for nutritional supplements were approved. There was also a mini training on the homeless.

**PATIENT CARE
PLANNING GROUP**

Georgette attended the Patient Care Planning Group (PCPG) meeting which was held in Tampa. The PCPG is part of the Florida Community Planning Network (FCPN). She shared some concerns about our areas implementation plan not highlighting our current problems, the state disaster preparedness plan not addressing the needs of the infected community that are at the poverty level and the lack of data and number of staff working with the state's prison linkages program. Georgette also felt that during the presentation at the PCPG meeting the information presented did not represent the race/death disparity. She asked Lorrie Maddox at the state to run data sheets with the races broken out. Georgette shared this data and the committee discussed some of the findings. One issue discussed was the lack of data collected on the transgender population. Members decided to have a guest speaker come and do a presentation on the transgender population for an hour of the August committee meeting. There will also be a meeting of the prevention branch of the FCPN in August.

**MAI APPLICATION
UPDATE**

It was announced that the Grantee's office has still not received the Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) grant award. They are expecting to hear by the end of July.

**CAPACITY
BUILDING**

Gilda spoke about capacity building and requested that members stay after the August meeting to develop standards of care for MAI providers.

There was also some discussion about the progress of current MAI programs.

**COMMITTEE
REPORTS**

No additional committee reports were given.

**COMMUNITY
CONCERNS AND
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Jeannie Lewis encouraged members to attend the local Community Planning Partnership (CPP) meetings.

Gilda shared that RNT & Associates has developed a MAI social service directory and one has been given to each MAI provider.

Bob Reynolds announced that the Hillsborough County planning commission will be holding three public meetings to get input on the comprehensive plan through 2025.

Bob also stressed the importance of having a power of attorney.

John Melartin stated that there will be a town hall in Bartow on July 27th. Contact the Polk County Health Department at 863-519-8237 for more information.

Georgette passed out a flyer for a focus group that is being held in Tampa on Saturday, July 21st. The topic for the focus group is black infant mortality.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Minority Advocacy Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.