



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL
MINORITY ADVOCACY COMMITTEE
METRO CENTER – TAMPA
FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 2009
11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order by Ramon Baez, Chair, at 11:04 a.m.

ATTENDANCE Members Present: Maria Aponte, Ramon Baez, Jackie Colunga, Laura Dunn, Lolita Emanuel-Brown, Lewis Williams

Members Absent: Robert Bailey, Anthony Frederick, Brenda Grove, Georgette King, Janet Kitchen, Catheline Lamour, Millie LaTorre, John Melartin, Marilyn Merida, Jerry Nealy, Darlene Smith, Paul Watkins, JaDawn Wright

Guests Present: Martin Clemmons Jr., Guttenberg Pierre Jr.

Grantee Staff Present:

Health Councils Staff Present: Nicole Brown

CHANGES TO AGENDA An update on the RESTORE program was added to the agenda.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES There was no quorum present to approve the minutes from March 13, 2009.

REVISED MAC WORK PLAN Members reviewed the revised work plan and made one change to a goal due date. Members did not have a quorum present to approve the work plan and hope to approve it at the next meeting.

Members began to work on one of the goals listed in the new work plan. The Committee is developing a survey to gauge client satisfaction with services and identify barriers to receiving MAI (Minority AIDS Initiative) funded services. Those present brainstormed questions for the survey and decided to target people who are currently receiving MAI funded services. They would like to collect no more than a hundred surveys and would like the survey to be short in length (about ten questions).

RESTORE PROGRAM UPDATE

Lolita gave an update on the RESTORE (Restoration thru Education, Skills, Training and Occupational Renewal for Excellence) program. She said that they are finished compiling the community needs assessment and hope to be accepting clients at the beginning of May. She shared a copy of the community needs assessment report and that after completing the assessment they have decided to restrict the program to Blacks in Hillsborough County that have spent at least six consecutive months in jail or prison within the last two years.

JUNE MEETING

Members decided to move the May committee meeting to May 15th as to not conflict with the Women, Infant, Children, Youth and Families Committee's Mothers Event on May 8th. The committee canceled their June meeting and some members plan to have an informal networking session during what would have been the meeting time.

CARE COUNCIL REPORT

Laura reported that the Care Council held their full day retreat in April and that they also approved MAI funding reallocations.

CLIENT INPUT

There was no client input shared.

OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS

Marty shared that the Planning and Evaluation Committee is planning to do interviews with clients to gauge their satisfaction and identify barriers to them receiving services in our area. They are planning to do these one on one interviews in place of holding focus groups this year.

The Membership Committee is currently recruiting new Care Council members. Recruitment emphasis is being placed on clients, a Part D representative, blacks in Hillsborough County and a representative of Highlands and Manatee Counties. Applications are due May 8th.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Laura announced that there will be an event on May 2nd from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in Hernando County. Jeanne White-Ginder, Janet Kitchen and Linnwood Davis will be the speakers for this event.

Lewis shared that there is a program called 'The Gift of Sight' through LensCrafters that provides free eye glasses to people with HIV/AIDS in our area.

Lewis also shared flyers for the ASAP (AIDS Service Association of Pinellas) fundraiser 'Dining Out for Life' to be held at area restaurants on April 30th.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Minority Advocacy Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:02 p.m.