



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL
MINORITY ADVOCACY COMMITTEE
METRO CENTER – TAMPA
FRIDAY, APRIL 9, 2010
11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order by Ramon Baez, Chair, at 11:16 a.m.
- ATTENDANCE** Members Present: Myleen Ayala, Ramon Baez, Robert Bailey, Ann DePoole, Laura Dunn, Brenda Grove, Catheline Lamour, John Melartin, Brien Richard, Chris Spall, Lewis Williams
- Members Absent: Cecillia Carothers, Lolita Emanuel-Brown, Anthony Frederick, Tonicia Freeman, Millie LaTorre, Andrew Maldonado, Guttenberg Pierre
- Guests Present:
- Grantee Staff Present:
- Health Councils Staff Present: Nicole Brown
- CHANGES TO AGENDA** There were no changes to the agenda.
- ADOPTION OF MINUTES** The minutes for March 12, 2010 (**M:** Melartin, **S:** Grove) were approved as written. There were 11 yes votes, 0 no votes and 0 abstentions.
- STIGMA POST CARD** Members discussed the anti-stigma post cards that they would like to create. The price quote the group received was shared and members decided to proceed with asking a pharmaceutical company to sponsor the cards. Members came up with a few ideas for the cards and would like them to have a space for agencies to put their contact information on for testing and services. Staff will ask Blue Hand Media and Marshall Lee who are helping with this process for a draft of the card for the May meeting.
- HEALTH FAIR** While members originally planned to hold their own health fair to share information the idea of joining onto already planned health fairs to pass out anti stigma information was discussed. Laura shared that she is planning a hand ball tournament in Spring Hill in October. Anne also suggested attending the homeless coalition’s health fair in October held in Clearwater. Members stated that they would like to attend these

events on behalf of MAC and share the anti stigma message. The group decided to call those volunteers from the committee to each event MAC ambassadors. Brenda stated that members could use the talking points from the stigma highlights she collected and share the information with other groups. Myleen offered to be the coordinator of the MAC ambassadors and Brenda and Ramon offered to help her get the idea going.

CARE COUNCIL REPORT

The Care Council held a half day retreat in April. There was no business meeting held but the Grantee announced that our area received a 2% decrease in our Part A supplemental award.

CLIENT INPUT

There was no client input shared.

OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Membership Committee is currently recruiting new Care Council members. They are specifically looking for someone to represent Pasco County, female clients and Hispanics.

The needs assessment survey is now available. This is an important part of our planning process and everyone is encouraged to distribute the survey to anyone that is HIV+.

The Rural Issues Committee will be holding an event in Lakeland on May 1st. This family picnic is open to anyone infected or affected by HIV.

The Women, Infant, Children, Youth & Families Committee will be holding their mothers luncheon on May 7th in Tampa.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Catheline stated a concern about the lack of supportive services provided. Chris shared information on a general service provider meeting held monthly at Metropolitan Ministries. He offered this as a way to find out about general supportive services available.

Ramon announced that he no longer works for Metro Wellness and Community Center. He now works for AB Specialty Pharmacy.

Lewis announced that there will be a fundraiser for ASAP (AIDS Service Association of Pinellas) on April 29th. Dining Out for Life enlists local restaurants to share a portion of the day's proceeds with ASAP.

Brenda shared information about training that she is working on for local pastors. This training will focus on educating pastors in Pinellas & Hillsborough Counties on the basics of HIV and AIDS.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Minority Advocacy Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.