



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL
MINORITY ADVOCACY COMMITTEE
WEST TAMPA NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER – TAMPA
FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 2008
9:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order by Georgette King, Chair, at 9:06 a.m.

ATTENDANCE Members Present: Ramon Baez, Josefina Campos, Lolita Emanuel-Brown, Laura Dunn, Georgette King, Catheline Lamour, Patrick Mercier, Marylin Merida, John Melartin, Mellita Mills-Kendrick, Rachel Parks, Paul Watkins

Members Absent: Maria Aponte, Ramon Benitez, Heather Clayton, Janet Kitchen, Sherri White

Guests Present: Carla Baity, Jana Balicki, Maxwell Jones, Lorraine Langlois, Vincent Lisbon

Grantee Staff Present: Aubrey Arnold, Dorinda Seth

Health Councils Staff Present: Nicole Brown

CHANGES TO AGENDA Community concerns and announcements were moved to the beginning of the agenda to allow time for the committee to make quorum.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS & ANNOUNCEMENTS Spring Oaks is opening a food pantry and thrift store. They have received two \$1,000 donations from local Sam's Club to start these programs.

The Women, Infant, Children, Youth and Families Committee will be holding their Mother of the Year event on May 9th in Tampa.

John Melartin shared a concern about bus passes being hard for clients to get in Pinellas and Hillsborough Counties.

There will be a PCPG (Patient Care Planning Group) meeting in Tampa on April 9th – 11th.

Georgette spoke about the PCPG and how they have been working on rewriting the guidance for the state comprehensive plan. She said that she has attended several of these meetings and would be willing to help the Care Council with their local comprehensive plan.

Georgette also raised a concern that the Minority Advocacy Committee is not notified in advanced for some Care Council events such as focus groups and they are not asked to help with Care Council work products.

Metro Charities and the Hillsborough County Health Department are working together to do a health fair event in east Tampa. They are expecting over a thousand people.

Allen Temple Church in Ybor City is planning an outreach and testing event for May or June.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The minutes for March were approved with the addition of the funding dates for noted grant increases.

CARE COUNCIL REPORT

The Care Council held its annual full day retreat in April. There were presentations on the state comprehensive plan and the planning process. There was also a business meeting held where members approved Part A funding allocations.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

No other committee reports were given.

MAI PROGRAM REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Members discussed the MAI (Minority AIDS Initiative) program. They reviewed the current programs, looked at funding reports and the number of clients served by each service. Members also looked at demographic data for the TSA (Total Service Area) and had current providers share information on the programs. Specific changes were suggested for some of the current programs. The committee recommended that the residential piece be taken out of the substance abuse contract because it seemed to make it harder for the provider to provide the service. This contract differs from general substance abuse because it will have culturally specific outreach.

Members discussed the treatment adherence program and decided to require that the provider once a year asses the client and see if they should continue with the program or if they are able to be removed to allow another client service.

The program for women of child bearing age was also discussed at length. After reviewing the data some concerns were raised that there is not a large population of women that can utilize this service. Members decided that they could still have a focus on women in this area but that they could use the extra funding to service other women and men through treatment adherence. The following motion was passed: (**M**: Merida **S**: Melartin, 9 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions).

MOTION 04/08-01

THAT THE MEDICAL CARE COORDINATION OF WOMEN OF CHILD BEARING AGE FUNDING BE MOVED UNDER TREATMENT ADHERENCE.

The Minority Advocacy Committee made the following funding recommendations to the Resource Prioritization and Allocation Recommendations Committee (RPARC). The following motion was passed: (**M**: Mercier **S**: Baez, 9 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions).

MOTION 04/08-02

THAT THE MINORITY ADVOCACY COMMITTEE RECOMMEND TO RPARC THAT \$372,000 OF THE MAI FUNDING BE USED FOR TREATMENT ADHERENCE BROKEN DOWN IN THE SAME CURRENT PERCENTAGES AND THAT \$97,942 BE USED FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE WITH 60% FOR BLACK AND 40% FOR HISPANIC IN HILLSBOROUGH AND PINELLAS COUNTIES.

Members of the committee will also work with the grantee's office to discuss specific language for the RFAs (Request For Application).

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Minority Advocacy Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:04 p.m.