



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL
MINORITY ADVOCACY COMMITTEE
SPRING OAKS – TAMPA
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2010
11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order by Ramon Baez, Chair, at 11:20 a.m.
- ATTENDANCE** Members Present: Ramon Baez, Ann DePoole, Laura Dunn, Brenda Grove, Andrew Maldonado, John Melartin, Bill Quercia, Chris Spall, Lewis Williams
- Members Absent: Myleen Ayala, Robert Bailey, Cecillia Carothers, Lolita Emanuel-Brown, Tonicia Freeman, Tony Gonzalez, Catheline Lamour, Millie LaTorre, Jerry Nealy, Guttenberg Pierre, Brien Richard
- Guests Present: Angel Monge
- Grantee Staff Present:
- Health Councils Staff Present: Nicole Brown
- CHANGES TO AGENDA** There were no changes to the agenda.
- ADOPTION OF MINUTES** There was no quorum present to approve the minutes for November 12, 2010. The members present approved the minutes (**M:** Quercia, **S:** Melartin) and staff contacted absent members to request approval. A phone approval was achieved December 14th (Ayala & Richard). There were 11 yes votes, 0 no votes and 0 abstentions.
- STIGMA POST CARD** Ramon gave an update on the stigma card. He stated that now that the Facebook page information is finalized the cards are ready to be printed. He is working with the printer and he hopes to have the cards by the January meeting for distribution.
- MAC AMBASSADORS & FACEBOOK PAGE** Members discussed the new anti-stigma Facebook page. The group hopes to post anti-stigma messages, education and testing information on the Facebook page and encourage the community to become fans of the page. Members agreed to alternate the maintenance of the page among the Committee members and share with each other over e-mail any concerning or negative messages. All members agreed and

stressed the importance of remaining professional and not allowing negative messages to dominate the Facebook page. The login and password information was shared with the group and members shared an e-mail address with Ramon as a way to contact all members as issues on the website arise.

MARCHMAN ACT INFORMATION

Chris shared information about the state of Florida's Marchman Act. The Marchman Act allows concerned individuals to request that an involuntary assessment be done and possibly court ordered treatment for relatives or close friends with substance abuse problems. Chris shared a brochure containing detailed information and answered questions from the group. Members suggested sharing information on the Marchman Act via the new Facebook page.

CARE COUNCIL REPORT

There was no Care Council meeting held in December so members could participate in World AIDS Day Events.

CLIENT INPUT

There was no client input shared.

OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Resource Prioritization & Allocation Recommendations Committee (RPARC) reviewed expenditure reports and is forwarding funding reallocation recommendations to the Care Council.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members shared feedback on World AIDS Day events.

Billy shared a concern about clients getting tested. He said that when the community hears that there is a waiting list for services then people are less inclined to get tested.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Minority Advocacy Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:34 p.m.