



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL
MINORITY ADVOCACY COMMITTEE
METRO CENTER – TAMPA
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2010
11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order by Ramon Baez, Chair, at 11:12 a.m.
- ATTENDANCE**
- Members Present: Myleen Ayala, Ramon Baez, Robert Bailey, Cecillia Carothers, Ann DePoole, Brenda Grove, Andrew Maldonado, John Melartin, Brien Richard, Lewis Williams
- Members Absent: Laura Dunn, Lolita Emanuel-Brown, Anthony Frederick, Tonicia Freeman, Catheline Lamour, Millie LaTorre, Darlene Smith, JaDawn Wright
- Guests Present: Jennifer Echevarria, Andrew Paquette, Chris Spall, Sylvia Velez
- Grantee Staff Present:
- Health Councils Staff Present: Nicole Brown
- CHANGES TO AGENDA** A presentation on Project H.I.R.E was added to the agenda.
- ADOPTION OF MINUTES** The minutes for January 8, 2010 were approved as written (**M:** Williams, **S:** Ayala). There were 10 yes votes, 0 no votes and 0 abstentions.
- PROJECT H.I.R.E** Jennifer Echevarria shared information about Project H.I.R.E (Health Improvement for Re-entering Ex-offenders). This program works with state prison ex-offenders who are HIV+ and returning to our community.
- COMBATING STIGMA FRAMEWORK** Brenda shared a stigma framework that she had created based on the Committee's discussion in January. The Committee wants to keep these guiding principles in mind when talking about stigma issues. Members discussed stigma at length and decided to create a post card size flyer that would target Black and Hispanic heterosexual males aged 25-55. This post card can be e-mailed and sent to different agencies and individuals. When this card is printed out for events or testing the individual group can add their name and phone number to personalize the flyer. Members think that these post cards will be good

for the general community and could be given out at events or at the health department. They also think that a good slogan for dealing with stigma is “Fight AIDS Not People With AIDS”.

**CARE COUNCIL
REPORT**

The Care Council approved a new voting member and the AAM (Assessment of the Administrative Mechanism). In addition, the Care Council Chair asked that members remember to be professional at Care Council and committee meetings.

CLIENT INPUT

There was no client input shared.

**OTHER
COMMITTEE
REPORTS**

There were no other committee reports shared.

**COMMUNITY
CONCERNS &
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There will be a national week of prayer March 7-13 coordinated through the state of Florida and the Balm in Gilead. They are still looking for local churches to participate and there will also be a statewide event on March 7th at Potter’s House in Tampa.

Brenda shared that the Black Commission on AIDS is working with two grants to do training for 25 churches in our area during the month of March.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Minority Advocacy Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:46 p.m.