



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL
MINORITY ADVOCACY COMMITTEE
METRO CENTER – TAMPA
FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 2010
11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order by Ramon Baez, Chair, at 11:03 a.m.

ATTENDANCE Members Present: Myleen Ayala, Ramon Baez, Robert Bailey, Cecillia Carothers, Ann DePoole, Laura Dunn, Tonicia Freeman, Brenda Grove, Catheline Lamour, Millie LaTorre, John Melartin, Lewis Williams

Members Absent: Lolita Emanuel-Brown, Anthony Frederick, Andrew Maldonado, Darlene Smith, JaDawn Wright

Guests Present: Bernadette Clemons, Edward Ford, Lourdes Llorens, Guttenberg Pierre, Bob Reynolds, Brien Richard, Chris Spall

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 December 11, 2009 were approved as written (**M:** Melartin, **S:** Dunn). There were 11 yes votes, 0 no votes and 1 abstention (Freeman).

MAC DISCUSSION GROUPS Catheline and Lewis shared information from discussion groups that they have held with a total of eighteen participants. Some issues and topics brought up were; how dating differs for age groups, dating within the gay population versus dating in the heterosexual population, the fact that no one education message will be effective for everyone and that sex education for teenagers should not be boring. Brenda offered to write down some of the ideas discussed in a list of assumptions about stigma and education as a start to the committee creating ways to break down stigma.

The following motion passed (**M:** Lamour, **S:** Freeman) with 12 yes votes, 0 no votes and 0 abstentions:

TO CREATE A FRAMEWORK OF WAYS TO BREAK DOWN

STIGMA.

**CARE COUNCIL
REPORT**

There was no Care Council meeting held in January.

CLIENT INPUT

Edward shared the idea of having comment cards placed at case management agencies. During discussion, clients shared their desire to voice concerns immediately. Issues such as how to collect and respond in a timely manner were also discussed.

**OTHER
COMMITTEE
REPORTS**

The Membership Committee is looking for new Care Council members to represent Pasco County and the Hispanic population.

The Planning and Evaluation Committee is currently reviewing the state needs assessment survey.

**COMMUNITY
CONCERNS &
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Laura announced that the support group for Hernando and Pasco Counties has moved to St. Teresa's Catholic Church. This group meets the fourth Thursday of the month at 6:00 pm.

RESTORE (Restoration thru Education Skills Training & Occupational Renewal for Excellence) announced that they are now accepting clients.

Tonica shared information on two new programs. Second Chance is a new program for clients recently released from prison or local jails. This program helps those clients with care coordination. There is also a new program, WEST (Women Empowered and Standing Tall), that is targeted to women of all races that have partners in jail or prison.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Minority Advocacy Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:58 p.m.