



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL
MINORITY ADVOCACY COMMITTEE
SPRING OAKS – TAMPA
FRIDAY, JULY 11, 2008
11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order by Georgette King, Chair, at 11:15 a.m.
- ATTENDANCE** Members Present: Maria Aponte, Ramon Baez, Laura Dunn, Lolita Emanuel-Brown, Georgette King, Janet Kitchen, Catheline Lamour, John Melartin, Marylin Merida, Lewis Williams
- Members Absent: Jana Balicki, Josefina Campos, Patrick Mercier, Mellita Mills-Kendrick, Paul Watkins, Sherri White
- Guests Present: Robert Bailey, Rashee Bennett, Jackie Colunga, Anthony Frederick, Penny Griffith, Edward Myles, Jerry Nealy, Martine Nelson, Guttenberg Pierre, Rachel Stewart-Campbell, Jose Torres, JaDawn Wright
- Grantee Staff Present:
- Health Councils Staff Present: Nicole Brown
- CHANGES TO AGENDA** Members decided to add a discussion on the committee’s work plan.
- ADOPTION OF MINUTES** There was no vote taken on the May minutes.
- CARE COUNCIL REPORT** Georgette gave the Care Council report. She stated that she gave an update to the Care Council on the Minority Advocacy Committee (MAC) and the linking ex-offenders ad hoc. The Council approved the comprehensive plan goals and objectives, approved a slate of new members and allocated unbid Part A funds. It was also shared that all the Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) contracts were bid on and are in the process of being approved by the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC).
- COMMITTEE AND PCPG REPORTS** Marylin shared that the Planning and Evaluation (P&E) Committee approved the Epidemiology and Demographics Report. She then gave an overview of the three year Needs Assessment cycle and the

different components that are done each year. She stated that the members of P & E discussed ways to improve upon the recent state consumer survey that was completed the end of 2007. The members of MAC present discussed the needs assessment work products and their ideas on how to improve these documents. The committee asked that copies of the most recent Focus Group Report, Expert/Case Manager Survey Report and the Consumer Survey Report be sent to all members. Members plan to review the documents and then offer suggestions to the Planning and Evaluation Committee which is charged with coordinating the needs assessment process.

The Client Services Committee is actively working on a brochure for people that are newly diagnosed with HIV.

The Membership Committee recommended new voting Care Council members and is planning their new member orientation.

The Women, Infant, Children, Youth and Families Committee (WICY&F) is currently doing a survey on stigma.

Georgette shared information from the Patient Care Planning Group (PCPG) meeting. She discussed data that was presented on race/ethnicity and AIDS death disparity. She stated that she also did a presentation on interpreting this data at the PCPG meeting. There is concern as to why on average Blacks don't live as long as Whites or Hispanics following their AIDS diagnosis. Those present discussed the issue and reasons for this disparity.

**EVALUATING THE
MAI ASSESSMENT
REFERRAL
MECHANISM**

Marylin and a small workgroup of members planned to meet after the meeting to review the MAI referral mechanism form in more detail and to incorporate some of the new medical case management tools.

**MAI STANDARDS
OF CARE
DOCUMENTS**

There was no discussion on this topic.

**NEW BUSINESS:
MAC WORK PLAN**

The committee discussed the state comprehensive plan goals and objectives. The goals are set by the state and our local area sets the tasks. Members plan to review the goals and objectives in order to work on their committee work plan at the August meeting.

**COMMUNITY
CONCERNS &
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Janet stated that there are socials for individuals that are infected or affected by HIV on the fourth Friday of every month at the Metro Center in Tampa. These events are for individuals twenty-one and over.

John raised a concern about Ryan White dental services in Hillsborough County. He shared an extensive list of forms and documentation that you need to bring every year in order to get dental

services. He said that he is concerned that clients have to go through the eligibility process and then are still required to bring the documentation to the dental office.

John also stated that there still seems to be a bus pass shortage in Hillsborough and Pinellas Counties.

Metro Charities will be holding MAI support groups on July 22nd and July 26th. Contact Catheline or Maria for more information.

The FACT dinners are held on the first Tuesday of the month and the AIDS Partnership dinners are held the third Wednesday of the month. Both are in Pinellas County.

There will be a minority health summit held in Tampa, August 13th – 15th.

CNN will be airing a series titled “Black in America” at the end of July.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Minority Advocacy Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:07 p.m.