



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL  
MINORITY ADVOCACY COMMITTEE  
METRO CENTER – TAMPA  
FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2009  
11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order by Ramon Baez, Chair, at 11:05 a.m.

**ATTENDANCE** Members Present: Ramon Baez, Laura Dunn, Lolita Emanuel-Brown, Millie LaTorre, Paul Watkins, Lewis Williams, JaDawn Wright

Members Absent: Maria Aponte, Robert Bailey, Jackie Colunga, Anthony Frederick, Brenda Grove, Georgette King, Janet Kitchen, Catheline Lamour, John Melartin, Marilyn Merida, Jerry Nealy, Darlene Smith

Guests Present: Tonicia Freeman, Anil Pandya, Brian Randolph

Grantee Staff Present:

Health Councils Staff Present: Nicole Brown, Collette Tomberlin

**CHANGES TO AGENDA** No changes were made to the agenda.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES** There was no quorum present to approve the minutes from January 9, 2009 and February 13, 2009. The members present approved the minutes (**M:** Williams, **S:** Dunn) with 7 yes votes, 0 no votes and 0 abstentions and staff will contact remaining members to request approval. Approval was achieved March 19<sup>th</sup> (Colunga, Lamour & Smith).

**MAC'S ROLE IN THE CARE COUNCIL** Collette gave a presentation to the committee on the Minority Advocacy Committee's role in the Ryan White Program and the Care Council structure. Following her presentation, members brainstormed ideas for what activities they would like to undertake as a committee. Ideas generated included: client surveys (are needs being met, what can be added to improve services and barriers to services being utilized), reducing stigma and how to approach clients in the community, barriers to visiting a local health department, clients choice of provider, resources guide for specialty programs, sharing of resources with other providers, a yearly event that highlights all providers, discussion of

transportation and housing issues, moving to a medical case management model, education and training on substance abuse and mental health services, commitment to bringing clients to the meetings and welcome packets for new meeting attendees.

**MINIMUM STANDARDS OF CARE**

Members reviewed the proposed minimum standards of care and the current standards of care for the three programs funded by MAI (Minority AIDS Institute) in our area. After discussion the committee decided to take no further action on this project.

**REVISE MAC WORK PLAN**

Members discussed each of the goals and activities listed on the committee work plan. After review, some ideas were deleted and some ideas from the meeting's brainstorming session were added. Members also decided to not set benchmarks and outcomes for each goal. Due to the lack of quorum the revised work plan was not adopted but will be presented with the revisions at the April meeting.

**CARE COUNCIL REPORT**

Laura reported that the Care Council approved the 2008 Epidemiology and Demographics addendum. She also shared copies with the committee as a follow up to their request to have the Planning and Evaluation Committee create an addendum.

**CLIENT INPUT**

There was no client input shared.

**OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS**

No other committee reports were given.

**COMMUNITY CONCERNS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Laura announced that there will be an event on May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in Hernando County. Jeanne White-Ginder, Janet Kitchen and Linnwood Davis will be the speakers for this event.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Minority Advocacy Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.