



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL  
MINORITY ADVOCACY COMMITTEE  
METRO CENTER – TAMPA  
FRIDAY, MARCH 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 11:19 a.m.

**ATTENDANCE** Members Present: Ramon Baez, Robert Bailey, Laura Dunn, Brenda Grove, Catheline Lamour, John Melartin, Guttenberg Pierre, Chris Spall, Lewis Williams

Members Absent: Myleen Ayala, Cecillia Carothers, Ann DePoole, Lolita Emanuel-Brown, Anthony Frederick, Tonicia Freeman, Millie LaTorre, Andrew Maldonado, Brien Richard

Guests Present: Miguel Maxime

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 February 12, 2010. The members present approved the minutes (**M:** Melartin **S:** Bailey) and staff contacted an absent member to request approval. A phone approval was achieved March 26th (Emanuel-Brown). There were 9 yes votes (Emanuel-Brown), 0 no votes and 1 abstention (Dunn).

**STIGMA POSTCARD** Members discussed the anti-stigma post cards that they would like to create. It was decided that all three myths discussed would be put onto one card and that the card needs to have an eye catching design. It was also suggested to include a national HIV resource website on the card so that members of the community picking it up would have a place to find out more information. John volunteered to speak with another Care Council member who works in marketing about having a design made and to get a quote on printing costs. Members would like to speak with a Pharmaceutical company about sponsoring the cards. It was also suggested that agencies could label the back with their

contact information if using these at events or to offer support. Members would like to see these given out at events as well as placed at non-traditional sites such as barber shops. Members also discussed creating “stigma free zone” posters for agencies and supportive churches and companies. Brenda shared notes that she had made from national stigma articles that reiterate that stigma is a barrier to keeping clients in care.

In addition members discussed holding a community health fair to share general information as well as anti-stigma information. During discussion it was determined that they would like to focus on Blacks and Hispanics in Hernando County. The following motion was presented and passed after a phone vote on March 29<sup>th</sup> (Emanuel-Brown): (**M**: Dunn, **S**: Lamour) with 8 yes votes, 0 no votes and 0 abstentions:

**THAT THE MINORITY ADVOCACY COMMITTEE WILL PLAN A HEALTH FAIR TO BE HELD IN THE FALL TO SHARE ANTI - STIGMA INFORMATION.**

**CARE COUNCIL REPORT**

The Care Council is expecting the formula grant amount for Part A in March. They will have to wait until May to find out the supplemental grant award.

**CLIENT INPUT**

It was shared that getting a bus pass is an issue for some clients.

**OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The Membership Committee is currently recruiting new Care Council members. They are specifically looking for someone to represent Pasco County, female clients and Hispanics.

**COMMUNITY CONCERNS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Guttenberg shared a concern about the Care Council being uninviting to consumers. He said that it is very formal and people don't feel comfortable sharing their opinions.

May 8<sup>th</sup> will be Haitian Flag Day at the Florida State Fairgrounds. Metro is planning to have an education booth.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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