



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL  
MINORITY ADVOCACY COMMITTEE  
METRO CENTER – TAMPA  
FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2009  
11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

- CALL TO ORDER**      The meeting was called to order by Ramon Baez, Chair, at 11:15 a.m.
- ATTENDANCE**      Members Present: Maria Aponte, Ramon Baez, Robert Bailey, Jackie Colunga, Tonicia Freeman, Brenda Grove, John Melartin, Paul Watkins, Lewis Williams, JaDawn Wright
- Members Absent: Laura Dunn, Lolita Emanuel-Brown, Anthony Frederick, Catheline Lamour, Millie LaTorre, Marilyn Merida
- Guests Present: Jerry Nealy, Guttenberg Pierre, Jr., Vanessa Washington
- Grantee Staff Present: Teresa Newgent
- Health Councils Staff Present: Collette Tomberlin
- CHANGES TO AGENDA**      An update on the committee retreat for June was added to the agenda.
- ADOPTION OF MINUTES**      The minutes from March 13 and April 10, 2009 were both approved as presented.
- REVISED MAC WORK PLAN**      Members reviewed the revised work plan and made a change to add the Black Leadership Commission on AIDS of Tampa Bay (BLCATB) to the list of other planning groups for coordination. The following motion passed (M: Groves, S: Colunga) with 10 yes votes and 0 no votes:
- APPROVE THE REVISED MAC WORK PLAN.**
- MAC SURVEY**      The committee reviewed the survey draft and revised many questions and determined the order of questions. A draft will be shared at the next meeting.

<b>JUNE RETREAT</b>	Members agreed by consensus to cancel the June meeting in favor of networking in a more relaxed setting. Ramon shared some details about a meeting location. Members determined a time to meet. Details including directions will be sent to all members.
<b>CARE COUNCIL REPORT</b>	John Melartin shared that Care Council members who attended the Ryan White Meeting in Orlando shared their experiences and the information that they gained at the conference. The Care Council approved a new voting member, two bylaw changes and accepted nominations for Care Council Chair, Vice Chair and Parliamentarian.
<b>CLIENT INPUT</b>	There was no client input shared.
<b>OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS</b>	<p>Janet shared that she presented the peer advocate program to Planning and Evaluation and RPARC. Both committees were very receptive to the idea and have formed a workgroup to look at the various programs offered around the country.</p> <p>JaDawn shared that the WICY&amp;F Mother's Day event was very nice and was attended by 25-30 clients.</p>
<b>COMMUNITY CONCERNS &amp; ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	<p>Lewis stated that the Dining Out for Life fundraiser was very successful.</p> <p>Guttenberg stated that THAP's Healthy Relationships groups are forming and that classes can be held anywhere.</p> <p>JaDawn announced that beginning July 1 the Closing The Gap grant will support an HIV intervention with positive African American youth ages 13-17 who are at risk of dropping out of school. The program will go into the schools and last for six weeks.</p>
<b>ADJOURNMENT</b>	There being no further business to come before the Minority Advocacy Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.