



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL
MINORITY ADVOCACY COMMITTEE
METRO CENTER – TAMPA
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2008
11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order by Ramon Baez, Chair, at 11:14 a.m.
- ATTENDANCE**
- Members Present: Maria Aponte, Ramon Baez, Robert Bailey, Laura Dunn, Anthony Frederick, Georgette King, Janet Kitchen, John Melartin, Darlene Smith, Lewis Williams
- Members Absent: Jana Balicki, Josefina Campos, Jackie Colunga, Lolita Emanuel-Brown, Catheline Lamour, Patrick Mercier, Marilyn Merida, Jerry Nealy, Sherri White
- Guests Present: Brenda Grove, Jennifer Echevarria, Paul Watkins
- Grantee Staff Present: Aubrey Arnold, Ray Reed
- Health Councils Staff Present: Nicole Brown
- CHANGES TO AGENDA** The agenda was approved (**M:** Kitchen, **S:** Dunn) as written with 10 yes votes, 0 no votes and 0 abstentions.
- ADOPTION OF MINUTES** The minutes for October 10, 2008 were approved (**M:** Melartin, **S:** King) as written with 10 yes votes, 0 no votes and 0 abstentions.
- REVISE MAC WORK PLAN**
- Members reviewed the committee work plan that was approved at the October meeting and began to revise the plan to include benchmarks and outcomes. Members also volunteered to work on a specific objective or activity. Those individuals assigned to each activity will bring draft benchmarks and outcomes for discussion at the next meeting.
- Ramon passed out a new copy of the MAI (Minority AIDS Initiative) intake and referral form. Members spoke to Aubrey about translating the form into Spanish and Creole so that clients will be able to understand what has been written on their behalf. Members also discussed attaching information on the agency that they are being referred to for the client's reference.

**CARE COUNCIL
REPORT**

John stated that the MAC motion that was sent to the Care Council requesting that voting Care Council members be associated with their mandated seats was not accepted. He also stated that our area received about \$200,000 in additional funding from the state.

**COMMITTEE
REPORTS**

Janet shared that the Client Services and Membership Committees will be holding a joint meeting in December. The topic for this meeting will be the grievance process. Clients Services is also making final revisions to the brochure for people newly diagnosed with HIV.

John stated that the Planning and Evaluation Committee will be discussing the Comprehensive Plan at their next meeting.

**COMMUNITY
CONCERNS &
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

John stated that the state eligibility has been changed to eliminate the assets limit and to raise the income cap to 400% of the federal poverty level.

Laura shared that there is an HIV support group on the fourth Thursday of the month at the Hernando County Health Department in Brooksville.

Maria announced that she will be leading a women's support group on November 28th starting at 10:00am at the Metro Center in Tampa.

The Red Ribbon ball will be held on December 6th at Cypress Green. Janet has tickets available.

The Hillsborough County Health Department will be holding a World AIDS Day event on December 5th from 7:00am to 3:00pm. There will be free testing.

ADJOURNMENT

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