

**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL
MINORITY ADVOCACY COMMITTEE
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2005
11:00 A.M. -1:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 11:20 a.m. by the Chair, Georgette King.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present: Candi Clark, Edith Ellerson, Georgette King, Mellita Kendrick, Janet Kitchen, Debbie Langhorne, Kyle Lidge, Marylin Merida, John Melartin, Diondria Riley, Pat Riley, Gregory Ruffin, David Stubbs, Robert Tate

Members Absent: Mary Adams, Gayla Cox, Mary Francis Jones, Lisa Sampson, Paul Watkins

Guests Present: Betty Sharp, Dixie Morgese, Gilda Roman-Nay-Torres

Staff Present: Susan Josephson and Teresa Kelly

CHANGES TO AGENDA

The chair passed out a revised agenda which added old business of updated PIR tables, and committee descriptions and new business of World AIDS day.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The Chair expressed her willingness to step down as Chair due to time limitations, if someone else was willing to serve. She indicated that her ability to assist in projects would be limited due to other commitments. Georgette will remain as chair. Corrections to minutes included year, spelling of names (Mellita and Diondria) adding Nicole Brown as staff in attendance. Additions included: work plan discussion was tabled. Clarifying language on the formation of a subcommittee to survey clients regarding evening meetings, correction to the MAI capacity building activities focusing on the entire EMA not just

Hillsborough County were made. Editorial corrections to community concerns were also made.

The minutes were adopted as revised.

CARE COUNCIL REPORT

The Co-Chair reported on the Care Council retreat. Presentations were made on quality management, planning and needs assessment, application review process, committee structure, and team building. A short business meeting was held after the retreat approving carryover funds and reallocations of Title I funds. A Care Council meeting was scheduled for January 12, 2006 to approve final reallocations under Title I in order to lessen the possibility of carryover funds which may be lost if not expended.

PIR REPORT UPDATE

The Chair passed out an updated Parity, Inclusion and Representation (PIR) report provided by the Grantee. The ratios reflect the epidemic and minority PLWAH participation has increased. Georgette commented recruitment efforts had paid off, but noted that new members needed to be supported to maintain their involvement.

COMMITTEE DESCRIPTIONS

Revised descriptions have not been completed and will be brought to the next meeting.

MEETING DATE/TIME

The work group developed a survey to assist in determining the feasibility of night meetings. An update will be provided at the next meeting.

MAI CAPACITY BLDG

The Chair passed out the results of a brainstorming activity completed by the committee when developing the capacity building concept. She discussed the need for establishing an appropriate definition of Minority AIDS Initiative eligible clients in this EMA, since congressional language was never intended to be based on race or ethnicity alone.

A history of the Minority Outreach Pilot Project on cultural competency was provided, and the

shocking lack of understanding among providers was discussed.

Gilda Roman-Nay-Torres and Dixie Morgese of RNT and Associates provided an update of their activities with regard to the capacity building project. The need to develop a philosophy surrounding service provision, and the need to link service definitions and design, standards of care, outcome measures and data collection techniques were highlighted. While some of these processes currently exist there is fragmentation and disconnection. In essence we have “the cart before the horse”. The efforts of the capacity building project will tie in with quality management efforts also underway by the firm.

Gilda and Dixie made the following points during their presentation: Ideally, the intake and assessment process for all providers should be able to identify individuals eligible for MAI services and referrals should be made.

Some possible MAI populations include Black women of childbearing years, single Black males who were in need of stable housing, formerly incarcerated individuals, and substance abusers.

The provider will coordinate with other committees such as WICY&F as it is important in developing an effective MAI service continuum. In addition, provider meetings have been scheduled to help define services.

Resource should be devoted to training, and better coordination of resources between the Ryan White titles and improved understanding that there is not just one “pot” of money for special populations. There is a state-wide culture that services are funded only from specific sources, and this thinking should be revisited.

Data gathering should be part of every step of the process or there is nothing to analyze. Unique data collection instruments that are tailored to identify ways to address those barriers are required. Outcomes need to be developed to reflect changes in health status and quality of life.

Mapping services (locations of service cross referenced with location of populations served) is also a helpful tool in assessing access to services.

Other system issues including educating RPARC to see the value in investing in new approaches, capacity development and training should be undertaken.

Gilda requested that committee members e-mail (tainaroman@aol.com) suggestions for questions that need to be answered by the RARE process. As drafts become available she will provide them to staff for dissemination to committee members. An 800 number will be forthcoming as an alternative means of communication for those without e-mail.

WORK PLAN

The Chair recommended that that the committee focus on the capacity building project due to the important nature of the work and time requirements. In addition to providing support for new members, no other efforts should be undertaken for the immediate future.

Adoption of a work plan was set aside for the present time. Staff pointed out that a work plan will need to be adopted sometime in the next few months to comply with Care Council policy.

WORLD AIDS DAY

Announcements of three events in Hillsborough County, and one event in Pinellas County were made. St. Joseph's/Tampa Care will have training for nurses on December 1, 2005. The Red and Black Ribbon ball will be on the evening of December 7th in Tampa. A prayer breakfast hosted by the Pinellas AIDS

partnership will be at 7:30 a.m. on December 1st at the Greek Orthodox Church in Clearwater.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

It is still not known if Ryan White or other public funds will be able to be utilized for out-of-pocket requirements under Medicare part D. Training for “dual-eligible” individuals (Medicare/Medicaid) will be held on November 17, 2005. Contact Nine Peck for more information.

Individuals that need help with compassionate use programs from drug manufacturers can contact Chris McGinnis of the Health Councils at (727) 217-7070. There are additional options for assisting with medications which he can refer clients to.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Several announcements were shared with the committee. Spanish translations of HIV/AIDS terminology were distributed.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on November 4, 2005 at 11:00 a.m. at Spring Oaks in Tampa. Date change is due to the Veteran’s Day holiday.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.