



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL  
MEMBERSHIP, NOMINATIONS, RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING COMMITTEE  
METRO CENTER – TAMPA  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2009  
12:00 P.M. – 1:30 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**      The meeting was called to order by Bob Reynolds, Chair, at 12:07 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE**      Members Present: Denis Hayes, Janet Kitchen, Marshall Lee, John Melartin, Bob Reynolds, Bill Thomas  
Members Absent: Michael Amidei, David Hasiba, Don Metzgar, Andrew Paquette, Bill Quercia, Tom Wood  
Guests Present: Adam Lapekes  
Grantee Staff Present: Debra Hill  
Health Councils Staff Present: Nicole Brown

**CHANGES TO AGENDA**      A discussion on when to hold meetings in January and February was added to the agenda.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**      There was no quorum present to approve the minutes for October 19, 2009. The members present approved the minutes (**M:** Melartin **S:** Hayes) and staff contacted an absent member to request approval. A phone approval was achieved November 24<sup>th</sup> (Quercia). There were 6 yes votes, 0 no votes and 1 abstention (Thomas).

**CONSUMER INPUT**      Marshall shared concerns that he had heard about billboards in Pinellas County. He said that these billboards refer to “hoochie mamas” and that some people think it creates stigma and has a bad image. Bill stated that they are billboards for prevention and were put up by the CRCS (Comprehensive Risk Counseling Services) program through ASAP (AIDS Service Association of Pinellas).  
  
Bob shared information from the PCPG (Patient Care Planning Group) meeting. He also stated that the Planning and Evaluation (P&E) Committee is discussing the upcoming statewide survey. Bob also stated that clients should share the current AETC (AIDS Education and Training Center) survey with their personal healthcare providers.

**CARE COUNCIL  
REPORT**

It was announced that the Ryan White Extension Act was passed with a 5% funding increase. The Care Council approved Edward Ford as a new voting member and approved funding allocations for FY 2010-2011. In addition, Hillsborough County will now be the administrator of HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS) funds in Manatee County.

**MEMBER  
EXPENSE  
REIMBURSEMENT  
POLICY**

Staff explained that for the first time in many years a Care Council member had inquired about reimbursement for lost wages. In trying to update the expense form to request lost wage reimbursement it was determined that this is not a reimbursable expense by Hillsborough County. A corrected policy was sent to the committee to ensure an accurate policy is included in member manuals in the future. Janet stated that she felt that the request by the Care Council member should be honored because the policy that was given out states that a HIV+ Care Council member could request lost wages reimbursement. Bob shared his opinion that clients should be allowed to participate in the Care Council regardless of their economic situation and that denying lost wages prevents disadvantaged clients from participating. He also said that he thinks that this is minority discrimination because many minorities have a lower economic status and by not allowing lost wages we are preventing minorities from being involved in the process. He stated that this is a small amount of money and should be taken out of the administration's allowable 10%. He also said that there is money in that area that is not spent. Bob removed himself as chair and asked Marshall to lead discussion so that the following motion could be made. (M: Reynolds, S: Kitchen)

**THAT THE MEMBER EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT POLICY BE  
TABLED.**

There was no vote taken on this motion and the discussion was stopped with no resolution to the issue.

Bob went on to say that this current change in the member expense reimbursement policy raises a concern he has about the minimum standards of care. He feels that if certain requirements are taken out of the minimum standards of care because these requirements are already written into the provider contracts then what is preventing the Grantee's office from just changing the contracts in the future and removing these requirements. The following motion was presented and passed after a phone vote on November 24<sup>th</sup> (Quercia): (M: Reynolds, S: Kitchen) with 5 yes votes, 0 no votes and 1 abstention (Thomas):

**THAT THE PLANNING AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE REVISIT  
THE MOST RECENT CHANGES MADE TO THE MINIMUM  
STANDARDS OF CARE.**

**CURRENT MEMBERSHIP REVIEW**

Staff reported that one member of the Care Council did not let anyone know of their absence from the November meeting. Staff has an orientation set up with one new member but still has yet to schedule an orientation with another member. Staff also shared the committee affiliation for all Care Council members.

**MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT**

Staff reported that the Care Council is still in need of a member to represent Manatee County. The Care Council could also use more representation from the Hispanic community. Bob suggested sharing the need for Hispanic representation with the Minority Advocacy Committee and Marshall volunteered to develop a marketing strategy for recruiting new members.

**DECEMBER MEETING**

The Membership and Client Services Committees will be holding a joint meeting on December 21<sup>st</sup> from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm at Metro Charities, Tampa. Tiffany Strobl, of a specialty pharmacy, will be presenting for a half hour and providing lunch for the event. The remainder of the time will be open for socializing and networking.

**JANUARY & FEBRUARY MEETINGS**

Members decided to move their January meeting to the second Monday instead of the third Monday due to the Martin Luther King Holiday. There will be no change to the February meeting date for Presidents Day. The meetings will be on January 11<sup>th</sup> and February 15<sup>th</sup>.

**GUEST PACKETS**

Members decided to independently review the committee flyer and frequently asked questions flyer. They plan to discuss the guest packets at their January meeting.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/ COMMUNITY CONCERNS**

Janet shared that ADAP (AIDS Drug Assistance Program) has started to fill 90 day prescriptions. There are special qualifications in order to be offered the three months worth of medication at one time.

It was also announced that ISP (Insurance Services Program) is again paying \$175 towards co-payments for enrolled clients.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Membership Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.