



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL
RURAL ISSUES COMMITTEE
POLK COUNTY SPECIALTY CLINIC – BARTOW
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2006
1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order by Linnwood Davis, Co-Chair, at 1:05 p.m.
- ATTENDANCE**
- Members Present: Ovidiu Cotea, Brenda Davis Linnwood Davis, Ellen Gates, John Halman, Donald Hinton, King James, John Melartin, Linda Rogers
- Members Absent: James Brandon, Ismael Colon, David Housier, Angela Kendall, Jan Neeson, Gail Prichard, Deborah Reinhardt, Deborah Robinson,
- Guests Present: Daisy Copeland, Jimmy Copeland, Ivette Lopez, Renee Morrison
- Grantee Staff Present: Wilma Genter
- Health Councils Staff Present: Nicole Brown
- CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO AGENDA** No changes were made to the agenda.
- ADOPTION OF MINUTES** The November meeting minutes were adopted as written.
- CARE COUNCIL REPORT** John Melartin gave the Care Council report. He said that the Care Council approved a revision to the minimum standards of care for oral health and case managers. He also stated that the Resource Analysis was approved and that two new members were added to the Care Council from rural communities.
- OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS** John Melartin gave a report on RPARC. He said that reallocations of funding were approved and sent to the Care Council for approval. He also stated that the Assessment of the Administrative Mechanism was reviewed and passed on to the Care Council.

John also mentioned that the Membership and Client Services Committees held a combined meeting focusing on Medicare Part D.

NEW BUSINESS

Linnwood Davis shared that in January the committee will continue with presentations from providers. There will be another pharmacy presentation and a speaker from Habitat for Humanity.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

John Melartin shared that the CARE Act reauthorization bill was passed by the House of Representatives and Senate for three years.

In addition John mentioned that the open enrollment period for Medicare Part D ends December 31st. He said that clients should review their plans and see if they would like to make any changes. John also said that he is concerned about Medicaid disenrolling 9,000 medically needy clients statewide because they no longer qualify.

John stated that the recent RFA process was a success and that there were applications submitted for all services.

Ellen Gates shared that the World AIDS Day art show was a big success and she thanked Ovidiu Cotea for his efforts coordinating the event.

Ovidiu said that February is Black HIV Awareness month and that he would like to do something to increase awareness for HIV in the black community. John Halman said that he is the vice-president of Churches United to Stop HIV (CUSH) and that they are also trying to create awareness with speeches and presentations. It was discussed that education would be most effective coming from local pastors and churches.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come to the Committee, meeting was adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

2/28/2007