



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL  
RURAL ISSUES COMMITTEE  
POLK COUNTY SPECIALTY CLINIC – BARTOW  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2007  
1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order by Deborah Robinson, Chair, at 1:20 p.m.
- ATTENDANCE**
- Members Present: Ovidiu Cotea, Linnwood Davis, Ellen Gates, John Halman, Donald Hinton, King James, John Melartin, Deborah Robinson
- Members Absent: James Brandon, Ismael Colon, Brenda Davis, David Housier, Angela Kendall, Jan Neeson, Gail Prichard, Deborah Reinhardt, Linda Rogers
- Guests Present: April Agnew, Renee Morrison, Donna Sabatino, Vivian Swanigan
- 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** There was no quorum present to approve the minutes from December 20, 2006 and January 17, 2007. The members present approved the minutes with one typographical change to the January minutes. An e-mail will be sent out to remaining members to request approval. E-mail approval was achieved February 28th.
- CARE COUNCIL REPORT** There was no Care Council meeting held in February. John Melartin gave an overview of the major actions taken by the Care Council in the last couple of months. He mentioned that Dave Konnerth is the new chair and Wendell Martin is the Vice Chair. Wendell is also the Patient Care Planning Group (PCPG) representative from the Care Council.

**PROVIDER  
PRESENTATION**

Donna Sabatino of Tibotec Therapeutics gave a presentation on her role as a community educator and her company's prescription drug Prezista. Donna is a nurse who worked in the field of HIV for several years. She is available to do presentations on various HIV/AIDS health topics and advocacy.

April Agnew of Bioscrip Pharmacy also spoke about her pharmacy's programs and desire to do more outreach to the community.

**ATTENDANCE  
POLICY**

Deborah Robinson requested that the attendance policy be tabled until the next meeting. She plans to contact all committee members and ask if they are still interested. She hopes that there will be more members present next month to review the attendance policy.

**OTHER COMMITTEE  
REPORTS**

John gave a report on the February Planning and Evaluation Committee meeting. The committee has been reviewing minimum standards of care and is sending four updated standards to the Care Council in March for approval. He also mentioned that the committee recommended a funding waiver for the perinatal program. This would allow the perinatal program to spend more than 25% of its funding on medical education.

**COMMUNITY  
CONCERNS AND  
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

John Halman announced that PharmacyOnePro is now providing free name brand extra fine syringes to clients that receive medications that are administered by needle injection. He said that this is in response to client complaints that the syringes that come with the medication are inadequate.

Ellen Gates mentioned that March is National Nutrition Month. On March 6<sup>th</sup> at the Polk County Health Department she will be providing a lunch & learn focusing on nutrition. A healthy lunch will be provided.

Deborah said that she is planning a town hall meeting one Friday in April at the Polk County Health Department. She welcomed providers to set up tables with information about their services. She also is inviting the Social Security Administration, Medicaid and Medicare to send representatives. In past years around sixty clients attended.

Deborah also stated that the Polk County Health Department is now doing outreach to newly diagnosed individuals at local hospitals.

There is now a massage therapist that can serve clients on Project AIDS Care (PAC) Waiver in Polk County. This new provider has also agreed to make house calls.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business to come to the Committee, meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

3/23/2007