



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL  
RURAL ISSUES COMMITTEE  
POLK COUNTY SPECIALTY CLINIC – BARTOW  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 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 1:12 p.m.
- ATTENDANCE**
- Members Present: Ovidiu Cotea, Brenda Davis, Linnwood Davis, Ellen Gates, John Halman, Donald Hinton, King James, John Melartin, Deborah Robinson, Linda Rogers, Vivian Swanigan
- Members Absent: James Brandon, Ismael Colon, David Housier, Angela Kendall, Jan Neeson, Gail Prichard, Deborah Reinhardt
- Guests Present: April Agnew, Evonne Cobbett, Sylvia Diaz, Gregory Kent, Robert Nelson, Regina Stevens
- Grantee Staff Present:
- Health Councils Staff Present: Nicole Brown
- CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO AGENDA** No changes were made to the agenda.
- ADOPTION OF MINUTES  
CARE COUNCIL  
REPORT** The February meeting minutes were approved as written.
- Deborah Robinson shared highlights from a presentation that was given by the Grantee, Aubrey Arnold at the March Care Council meeting. She also pointed out that some funding streams have been renamed by the new Ryan White legislation.
- POLK COUNTY  
FUNDING OVERVIEW** Gregory Kent of the Polk County Health Department Specialty Care Clinic gave a financial overview. He shared what grants the specialty clinic receives and what that money is used for. He also provided committee members with a detailed financial report. The clinic is also planning to hire a case manager to work with Project AIDS Care (PAC) Waiver clients.

There was a discussion about dental funding and why Polk County would be returning unspent money to the Grantee. Some of the issues discussed were having trouble identifying a provider and clients not showing up for their appointments.

**ATTENDANCE  
POLICY**

Deborah Robinson started discussion on the draft attendance policy. Members discussed the importance of having a quorum to vote on action items. The following motion was passed: (M: Melartin S: Davis, 11 yes 0 no 0 abstentions)

**MOTION 03/07 - 01**

**THAT THE PROPOSED ATTENDANCE POLICY BE  
ADOPTED BY THE RURAL ISSUES COMMITTEE.**

**OTHER COMMITTEE  
REPORTS**

No other committee reports were given.

**COMMUNITY  
CONCERNS AND  
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

April Agnew of BioScrip Pharmacy spoke about her pharmacy's services to clients. She said that she can be a resource to support groups and providers as well as help clients stay adherent to their medication regime by offering refill reminders and follow up.

Evonne Cobbett announced that she will be doing HIV, Syphilis and Hepatitis testing at the Weekend Community Buzz Fest the weekend of June 30<sup>th</sup> – July 1<sup>st</sup> in Winter Haven. Anyone who is willing to volunteer is welcome and she hopes to test 200 people that weekend.

There will be a 501 training on HIV testing and counseling at the Polk County Specialty Clinic in April and June.

Ellen Gates shared that she gave a presentation to a group of dietitians about HIV and Hepatitis. She said that it went very well and she hopes that other providers will do the same with their colleagues.

Deborah said that she is planning a town hall meeting tentatively for April 27<sup>th</sup> at the Polk County Health Department. She welcomed providers to set up tables with information about their services.

John Melartin shared information about the Create Your Scared Space retreat that will be held the weekend of April 12<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup>. Contact AIDS Service Association of Pinellas (ASAP) for more information.

Trinity Charities is sponsoring a one day HIV education workshop on April 14th from 9:00am – 3:00pm. Contact John for more information.

Brenda Davis announced that The Medicine Shoppe Pharmacy has changed its name to Northdale Pharmacy and also has a new location.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business to come to the Committee, meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

4/27/2007