



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL
RURAL ISSUES COMMITTEE
POLK COUNTY SPECIALTY CARE CLINIC – BARTOW
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2011
1:30 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order by Linnwood Davis, Chair, at 1:32 p.m.
- ATTENDANCE** Members Present: Keith Boyd, Gilbert Crespo, Linnwood Davis, John Halman, Randy Masters, John Melartin, Jeffery Wells
Members Absent: Evonne Cobbett, King James, Janet Kitchen, Rose-Marie McGomez-Porter, Gwen Patterson, Bill Quercia
Guests Present: Dan Lewis, Brenda Rhodes, Brian Saddler, David Sezlanski, Lee Steele
Grantee Staff Present:
Health Councils Staff Present: Nicole Brown
- CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO AGENDA** There were no changes to the agenda.
- ADOPTION OF MINUTES** The minutes for December 15, 2010 (**M**: Melartin, **S**: Masters) were approved as written. There were 7 yes votes, 0 no votes and 0 abstentions.
- CARE COUNCIL REPORT** At the Care Council meeting the Grantee shared an update on the ADAP (AIDS Drug Assistance Program) waiting list. There are over 2,500 people on the waiting list and the state is facing a large budget deficit in the ADAP program. Our area is still waiting for \$114,000 in carryover funds to be received from HRSA (Health Resources and Services Administration) and the Care Council approved final reallocations of funding and two new members from Hardee County.
- VISITING OTHER COUNTIES** Members discussed the communities that they would like to hold meetings in this year. The Committee decided to pursue having a meeting in Manatee County, Hernando County and

Plant City in Hillsborough County. Linnwood offered to follow up with contacts in each of those counties to see if they were interested in hosting a meeting and what month would be best.

Members also discussed that they would like to hold their Thanksgiving dinner event again this year but possibly move it to another city in Polk County such as Winter Haven. After discussion the Committee decided to not plan a social event in Polk County this year but to rather help plan a World AIDS Day event.

OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Client Services Committee discussed the ADAP crisis and the quality management comment cards.

The Minority Advocacy Committee has printed their 'Stop the Stigma' flier cards.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

There will be a CPP (Community Planning Partnership) meeting held in Lakeland on Friday, January 21st from 1:00pm – 4:00pm.

John Halman announced that Pharmacy One Pro is now sponsoring a new HIV/AIDS resource center in Winter Haven. The center will have meeting space available and hopes to hold a monthly support group and social for clients. The center hopes to work with case management services and offered their space for Committee meetings. John also stated that their new transportation program is still under development.

Information was shared about the Assurance Mobile phone program. The program can provide qualified individuals with a free phone and 250 minutes per month.

It was announced that September 25th is National Gay Men's HIV Awareness Day and members and guests are already thinking of ideas and planning for an event.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come to the Committee, meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.