



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL
RURAL ISSUES COMMITTEE
POLK COUNTY SPECIALTY CLINIC – BARTOW
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 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 1:10 p.m.
- ATTENDANCE** Members Present: Ismael Colon, Ovidiu Cotea, Brenda Davis Linnwood Davis, Ellen Gates, John Halman, Donald Hinton, King James, John Melartin, Deborah Reinhardt,
Members Absent: James Brandon, David Housier, Angela Kendall, Jan Neeson, Gail Prichard, Deborah Robinson, Linda Rogers
Guests Present: Ivette Lopez, Mac McDougle
Grantee Staff Present: Wilma Genter
Health Councils Staff Present: Nicole Brown, Judit Hahn
- CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO AGENDA** No changes were made to the agenda.
- ADOPTION OF MINUTES** The September and October 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 drug reimbursement. He also stated that several members volunteered to be the delegate to the Patient Care Planning Group (PCPG). Nominations were submitted and Wendell Martin was selected with Georgette King as his alternate.
- PHARMACY PRESENTATION** Mac McDougle of the Medicine Shoppe Pharmacy gave a presentation on the services his organization offers and the benefits to the client. He said that they help their clients take their medication on time every time by providing automatic

prescription refill, home delivery and follow up.

OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS

John Melartin stated that the Planning and Evaluation Committee has reviewed and made changes to the case management minimum standards of care. Some of the changes included a case manager only having to contact their clients once every sixty days as opposed to once a month and that calls from clients must be returned within a day. Home visits must be offered once a year and face to face meetings held twice a year. The revised version will be sent to the Care Council for approval in December.

John also mentioned that the Health Services Advisory Committee will be reviewing the minimum standards of care on dental at their November meeting. John read through the current minimum standards on oral health due to questions from the group.

NEW BUSINESS

Linnwood Davis suggested there be a holiday potluck for the December meeting like last year. The committee agreed and several people offered to bring items.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Debbie Reinhardt shared her concerns about there not being a dental provider in Polk County for teeth cleanings. It was offered that all Ryan White clients can get services at the Hillsborough County Health Department but that transportation is an issue. It was also stated that the Care Council has no control over issues with Medicaid.

John Melartin shared that while attending the Florida Patient Care Network meetings he learned that the Lakeland/Winter Haven area may qualify for more money in the future because they are considered an emerging community.

John mentioned that it is currently the open enrollment period for Medicare Part D. 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.

It was pointed out that a person living with HIV/AIDS can see a primary care physician even if they do not have insurance.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come to the Committee, meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

12/21/2006