



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL
RURAL ISSUES COMMITTEE
POLK COUNTY SPECIALTY CLINIC – BARTOW
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 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 1:15 p.m.
- ATTENDANCE** Members Present: Ovidiu Cotea, Linnwood Davis, John Halman, King James, Angela Kendall, John Melartin, Deborah Reinhardt, Linda Rogers
- Members Absent: James Brandon, Ismael Colon, Brenda Davis, Ellen Gates, Donald Hinton, David Housier, Jan Neeson, Gail Prichard, Deborah Robinson
- Guests Present:
- 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 vote to adopt the minutes for September due to lack of quorum.
- CARE COUNCIL REPORT** John Melartin gave the Care Council report. He said that it was the annual members retreat and there was a short business meeting following. David Konnerth was named the new chair because of Mark Mischan's resignation and Wendell Martin was elected vice chair. There were also 2006 funding reallocations and 2007 allocations that were approved.
- DISASTER PLANNING** Linnwood Davis started discussion about disaster planning. It was pointed out that the Polk County Specialty Clinic is a special needs shelter that can hold around 200 clients. Clients need to pre-register with the county to stay at a special needs shelter. It was noted to the group that if they have special

needs they should sign up for a shelter site now if they have not already done so. In addition pre-registering for transportation to the shelter if there is a disaster was discussed.

Linnwood asked if disaster planning is something that a case manager mentions to all clients. The group said that it is the responsibility of the client to make sure they have made preparations for a disaster but case managers should be able to provide clients with guidance. Angie Kendall said that Positive Healthcare sends out a letter in June every year with information to help their clients get ready for Hurricane season. Ovidiu Cotea asked Angie to send him the letter so that the Polk County Consumer Board could review and see if they would like to send out a similar letter next year to all Polk County clients.

John Halman spoke about the importance of making sure clients have enough medication during a disaster.

OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS

John Melartin shared a draft copy of the Resource Analysis with the group. He explained what information was in the Resource Analysis and how the information is difficult to keep current due to frequent changes of provider information.

NEW BUSINESS

Linnwood Davis said that he would like to have brief fifteen minute presentations on the services that clients need. He would like the committee to invite a couple of different pharmacies to come and give presentations about the benefits of a specialty pharmacy to the consumer. He would then like to re-invite the transportation provider to come and give a presentation. Angie Kendall suggested that they invite Habitat for Humanity to give a presentation on housing. She said that she has several clients that are getting houses built through their programs.

Linnwood also suggested there be a holiday party for the December meeting.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Angie Kendall said that the United Way has an open house for vendors and providers on the first Tuesday of the month at 9:00am.

Ovidiu Cotea shared that in November the Polk County Specialty Clinic will be partnering with the school for the creative arts at USF. The first session will be held on November 8th from 1:00pm to 4:00pm and focus on creative writing. The second session will be on November 22nd from

1:00pm to 4:00pm and will focus on visual arts. It is open to those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS. These programs will culminate in an art show on World AIDS Day.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come to the Committee, meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

11/16/2006