



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL
WOMEN, INFANT, CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES (WICY&F) COMMITTEE
SPRING OAKS – TAMPA
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2008
1:30 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order by Marilyn Merida, Co-Chair at 1:37 p.m.
- ATTENDANCE** Members Present: Cindy Brown, Harriet Ellington, Lolita Emanuel-Brown, Mabel Gonzalez, Mary F. Jones, Dionne Kerr, Marilyn Merida, Desmon Newton, Wendy Pearson, Felix Spann, Barbara Szelag, Tina Van Doren Ruppell, Mona Wright
Members Absent: Wanda Barker, Carolyn Eke-Peart, Ann Sherman-White, Linda Stephenson, Rita Winstead
Guests Present: Mariemyrtha Alexander, Jo Cordy, Hilda Leon, John Melartin, Darlene Smith
Grantee Staff Present: Aubrey Arnold
Health Council Staff Present: Nicole Brown
- CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO AGENDA** A perinatal report was added to the agenda.
- ADOPTION OF MINUTES** The January meeting minutes were approved as written.
- CARE COUNCIL REPORT** John Melartin and Lolita Emanuel-Brown gave the Care Council report. They said that RNT & Associates did a presentation on Quality Management. No action items were presented.
- MOTHER OF THE YEAR EVENT** Lolita and Harriet Ellington shared a flyer for the Mother of the Year event on May 9th from 11:00am to 1:00pm. The event will be held at the Greater Bethel Missionary Baptist Church in Tampa. Lolita and Harriet are working on getting donations of balloons, flowers and raffle prizes. They hope to also give each mother in attendance a music CD as a gift. Marilyn Merida offered to find a guest speaker and Lolita has contacted several different providers and organizations about donating food. They

would like to have a buffet with different styles of food. Members also discussed scheduling volunteers to provide daycare during the event.

EVENT SURVEY

Members discussed doing a survey at the upcoming Mother of the Year event. This survey would ask questions about event locations, topics and issues surrounding attendance. Members discussed possibly changing the name of the town hall or to hold the town hall meetings at non-provider locations such as local churches. Marylin and Barbara Szelag will be compiling the survey. They asked other members to send question ideas to them before the March meeting.

HIV IN OLDER ADULTS

Barbara and Marylin shared some data on women over fifty in our EMA (Eligible Metropolitan Area). After reviewing the data the committee discussed what they would like to accomplish by focusing on this subpopulation. The idea of highlighting this issue with the CPP (Community Prevention Partnership) and local community churches was discussed.

PERINATAL REPORT

Issues regarding children and teens and their eligibility for services were discussed. It was noted that several pediatric clients do not have other family members infected with HIV. It was also discussed how long the appointments for pediatric clients are and how it is difficult to add in the eligibility meeting. Every client should have their eligibility reviewed or have an appointment for it to be reviewed by March 1st. Aubrey Arnold was asked to create and share a list of people that have been certified to do the eligibility process.

PLANNING & EVALUATION COMMITTEE & RPARC UPDATE

John stated that the Planning and Evaluation (P&E) Committee reviewed the Anonymous Needs Survey Report. There was no RPARC (Resource Prioritization & Allocation Recommendations Committee) meeting in February.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The March WICY&F Committee meeting has a conflict with the statewide All Titles Conference. Members decided to move the meeting to the third Thursday, March 20th.

Lolita announced that Spring Oaks is starting a thrift store. They are accepting donations of clothing and canned foods.

John stated that the Polk County Health Department has planned lunch and learns on the first Tuesday of the month at noon for the rest of the year.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come to the Committee, meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.