



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL  
WOMEN, INFANT, CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES (WICY&F) COMMITTEE  
HOSPICE – ST. PETERSBURG  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2009  
1:30 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order by Barbara Szelag, Chair at 1:42 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE** Members Present: Wanda Barker, Carolyn Eke-Peart, Harriet Ellington, Mabel Gonzalez, Marilyn Merida, Wendy Pearson, Felix Spann, Barbara Szelag, JaDawn Wright, Mona Wright  
Members Absent: Cindy Brown, Lolita Emanuel-Brown, Mary F. Jones, Darlene Smith, Linda Stephenson, Ann White, Rita Winstead  
Guests Present: Cecillia Carothers, Fitzroy Dillon, Sarah Doughty, Coralie Gatewood, Danielle Kahl, John Melartin, Jana Richardson  
Grantee Staff Present: none  
Health Council Staff Present: Nicole Brown

**CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO AGENDA** Members added a discussion of the Mothers Celebration.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES** The minutes for December 9, 2008 were approved as written (**M:** Merida, **S:** Ellington) with 10 yes votes, 0 no votes and 0 abstentions.

**CARE COUNCIL REPORT** John shared that the Care Council approved allocations for new Part B funding including an allocation for emergency housing assistance. He also stated that the Council decided to make the same eligibility requirements for Part A and Part B and that all clients must go through eligibility by March 1<sup>st</sup> in order to receive services. He also reminded everyone that the federal legislation for the Ryan White Program sunsets in September 2009.

**DISCUSSION OF THE NOVEMBER COMMUNITY EVENT**

Members discussed the November event and decided to do more events like this in the future. This event was held on a Friday evening and was geared to the community and not just clients. They noted that it was a success with about 55 attendees and whole, multi-generational families in attendance. It was decided that two community events would be added this year. One will be held at the Hospice in St. Petersburg from 6:00pm to 8:00pm on a Tuesday night in late August or early September. There will also be a community event held at Francis House in Tampa from 6:00pm to 8:00pm on a Tuesday night in late June or early July.

**MOTHERS CELEBRATION**

Members set the date for the Mothers Celebration as Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup> from 11:00am to 1:00pm at the Hospice in St. Petersburg. Members will be thinking about speaker ideas or themes for this event to be discussed at the next meeting. The committee also decided to pick November 20<sup>th</sup> as the date for the client focused event. This will be held from 11:00am to 1:00pm in Tampa at Francis House if available.

**EPIDEMIOLOGY REVIEW**

Barbara and Marylin spoke about the importance of reviewing epidemiological data. A review of the Care Council Demographics and Epidemiology Report was postponed until after the Care Council approves a forthcoming addendum.

**PLANNING & EVALUATION COMMITTEE & RPARC UPDATE**

Marylin shared that the Planning and Evaluation Committee discussed housing issues and reviewed a housing report that focused on people with HIV/AIDS in our area.

She also stated that RPARC (Resource Prioritization and Allocation Recommendations Committee) discussed the Assessment of the Administrative Mechanism (AAM).

**COMMUNITY CONCERNS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

JaDawn shared information on life skills classes for youth that are held on Saturdays in St. Petersburg. Harriet said that life skills are a good topic for clients over the age of 24 as well.

JaDawn also said that there will be a poetry slam held at Studio at 620 in St. Petersburg on February 24<sup>th</sup> from 7:00pm to 10:00pm.

Coralie voiced a concern about housing and particularly the difficulty for ex-offenders to get housing.

John shared information on ETHA (The Early Treatment for HIV Act). He said this legislation was just approved and is proposed to help clients get Medicaid without being classified as disabled.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business to come to the Committee, meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.