



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL  
WOMEN, INFANT, CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES (WICY&F) COMMITTEE  
METRO CENTER – ST. PETERSBURG  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 2010  
9:30 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.**

**MINUTES**

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order by JaDawn Wright, Chair at 9:30 a.m.
- ATTENDANCE** Members Present: Wanda Barker, Cindy Brown, Fitzroy Dillon, Carolyn Eke-Peart, Harriet Ellington, Coralie Gatewood, Mabel Gonzalez, Mary F. Jones, Marilyn Merida, Wendy Pearson, Jana Richardson, Adella Screen, Darlene Smith, Barbara Szelag, JaDawn Wright
- Members Absent: Felix Spann, Linda Stephenson, Mona Wright
- Guests Present: Bernadette Bass, Jo Cordy, Teresa Lohr, John Melartin
- Grantee Staff Present: Aubrey Arnold
- Health Council Staff Present: Nicole Brown
- CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO AGENDA** There were no changes to the agenda.
- ADOPTION OF MINUTES** The minutes for October 22, 2009 were approved (**M:** Barker, **S:** Brown) with 15 yes votes, 0 no votes and 0 abstentions.
- CARE COUNCIL REPORT** There was no Care Council meeting held in January. In December the Care Council adopted a budget for the upcoming year and discussed changes to the new federal legislation.
- FEEDBACK ON NOVEMBER EVENT** Members discussed the November community event held in Tampa. They stated that the small group break outs were a success and that committee members worked well together. While there were 29 people in attendance the committee wished to have reached more newly diagnosed clients. It was also mentioned that they think it is a good step toward combating

stigma that this event was open to not only those infected but also those affected and that clients brought their families.

## **MOTHERS CELEBRATION**

Members discussed the mothers' celebration. It was decided that the mothers' event should alternate counties every year so even though the last two events have been held in Tampa this year's mother celebration will also be in Tampa. Adella was selected as the lead planner for this event and Carolyn volunteered to be the lead planner for the next event to be held in St. Petersburg. The Committee also selected Tuesday, July 13<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, November 10<sup>th</sup> as dates for the events in St. Petersburg this year.

The mothers' event will be a luncheon on Friday, May 7<sup>th</sup> to be held at a local church. Adella will be checking to see if the Anointed Word Church in Tampa is available. The theme selected for the event is "Celebrate You" with hats and a tea party as the decorations idea. Yamilette will be asked to do decorations for the event and USF will help provide food. Mary offered to check into getting a violinist for entertainment and JaDawn will contact Life, a local poet about being the inspirational speaker. Liz Straight was also suggested as a back up poet. Members would like to have a relaxation theme to their favors and would like to purchase meditation CDs and candles from the dollar store for each participant. Cindy, Mary, Teresa and Darlene will work on getting small door prizes. Barbara offered to do the event flyer and program and Carolyn said that she will look into using the Hospice bus to transport St. Petersburg clients to the event in Tampa.

## **PLANNING & EVALUATION COMMITTEE & RPARC UPDATE**

Marylin and Aubrey gave a report from the Planning and Evaluation Committee and RPARC (Resource Prioritization and Allocation Recommendation Committee). It was shared that the new Ryan White Extension Act calls for the Care Council to be more involved in prevention. Details were also shared about the upcoming needs assessment survey. This survey will be available the beginning of April and the planning council is looking for it to be widely available to clients in our eight counties. This survey is a major part of the needs assessment process and is instrumental in our grant for funding.

## **COMMUNITY CONCERNS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Teresa shared information about the Women's Empowerment Initiative. This program is for women with a past or current substance abuse problem and that are 18 years old and older. There are three locations in Pinellas County and the program involves three hours a day, three days a week for twelve weeks. Call 727-499-7243 for more information.

Aubrey announced that there is now a second dental provider in Pinellas County.

The AIDS Alliance for children, youth and families will be holding a leadership training for women. This two and a half day training will most likely be held the end of February in Tampa. Any women interested can contact Marylin at mmerida@usf for details.

There will be a week of prayer the first week in March coordinated through the state of Florida and the Balm in Gilead. They are still looking for local churches to participate.

Black HIV Awareness Day is February 7<sup>th</sup>. There will be an event in Ybor on February 9<sup>th</sup>. This will be a poetry event from 9-midnight and there will be free HIV testing.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business to come to the Committee, meeting was adjourned at 10:50 p. m.