

**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL
RURAL ISSUES COMMITTEE
SPECIALITY CARE CLINIC-BARTOW
OCTOBER 18, 2005
1:30-3:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order by James Brandon, Co-Chair at 1:35 p.m.
- ATTENDANCE** Members Present: James Brandon, Ovidiu Cotea, Brenda Davis, Linnwood Davis, Deborah Robinson, Linda Rogers
Members Absent: John Halman, John Melartin, Jan Neeson, Gail Prichard, Deborah Reinhardt, Woody Wilbanks
Guests Present: Daisy Copeland, Patricia Mayid
Staff Present: Nicole Brown, Wilma Genter
- CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO AGENDA** None.
- ADOPTION OF MINUTES** The minutes from the meeting held on September 20, 2005 were approved by those in attendance with the addition of Linda Rogers as a guest.
- CARE COUNCIL REPORT** Deborah Robinson mentioned that a Care Council retreat was held on October 5th followed by a short business meeting. Funding reallocations were approved and it was decided to move the January Care Council meeting to January 12th to allow the full body to reallocate carryover funds.
- ELECTIONS/ DATE, TIME, LOCATION** Another election was held for chair. Gail Prichard now has difficulty attending the meetings and has decided to no longer serve in an office. Deborah Robinson was elected the new chair.

The time and date was readdressed as well due to the RPARC meeting being held at the same time. It was decided to move the meeting to the third Wednesday of the month at 12:30pm to coincide with a support group. There was discussion of moving the meeting to another rural county but it was decided to stay at the Polk County Specialty Clinic for the next couple of months.
- PHONE TREE** James Brandon said that he called a few clients about attending the meeting but they said it would be difficult for them to make it mostly because of transportation issues.

**NEW & OLD
BUSSINESS**

The idea of doing a flyer like the client services committee does to promote the meeting was mentioned. This flyer would be sent out to committee members to post where clients would be able to view. James Brandon mentioned that he still would like to make posters to advertise the meeting and support group. Deborah Robinson said that she will bring some supplies to the November meeting so that these posters could be made. She also suggested that the December meeting be an open house where guests would be invited to hear what the Rural Issues Committee does.

**COMMUNITY
CONCERNS AND
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

James Brandon spoke about the local public transportation problems. He said that it can take more than a couple of hours to get to a doctors appointment or meeting. He feels the buses don't run often enough and that some buses frequently run late causing clients to miss their connection. Deborah Robinson said that she would contact the bus system and let them know of these concerns.

There will be a case management town hall meeting on October 21st in Bartow from 8:30am to 4:00pm.

Linnwood Davis raised a concern about clients having a hard time finding affordable housing.

Daisy Copeland spoke about the Get Involved Community Outreach Hospitality Compassionate Friend Program. Their program services Lakeland and includes a food bank, hot meals, buddy system and gift baskets.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come to the Committee, meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.