



**WOMEN, INFANT, CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES (WICY&F) COMMITTEE  
SUNCOAST HOSPICE – ST PETERSBURG  
THURSDAY, February 27, 2014  
9:30 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.**

**MINUTES**

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order by Barbara Szelag, Chair at 9:45 am
- ATTENDANCE** Members Present: Brandice Corriveau, Marylin Merida, Wendy Pearson, Barbara Szelag, Ayakao Watkins, JaDawn Wright, Mona Wright  
Members Absent: Mabel Gonzalez, Mary Frances Jones, Janet Kitchen, Stephanie Lugo  
Guests Present: Guttenberg Pierre Jr.  
Grantee Staff Present:  
Lead Agency Staff Present:  
Health Council Staff Present: Ashley Richards
- CHANGES TO AGENDA** A section titled “Letter update” was added to the agenda preceding the Care Council Report. Kirsty Gutierrez and Lomia Irby were both moved from “voting members” to “guests” on the committee’s roll call due to non- attendance.
- ADOPTION OF MINUTES** The minutes for November 28, 2013 were unanimously approved (**M:** JaDawn Wright, **S:** Mona Wright).
- LETTER UPDATE** The chair reviewed the results of the previously described letter to the Membership Committee regarding changing the bylaws to allow for more flexibility with the attendance policy for consumers to be a part of the WICY&F Committee.  
Barbara Szelag informed the committee that she did attend the Membership committee meeting. During this meeting, several suggestions were brought up to alleviate the problem of membership recruitment and retention for the WICY&F



Committee. A suggestion was made to hold two separate meetings on both sides of the bay to be able to accommodate members in both Pinellas and Hillsborough counties. This brought up the issue of staffing both meetings and not violating the Sunshine Laws. Permission to use media and technology will also be reviewed under the Sunshine Laws.

The progress of these suggestions will continue to be monitored.

A committee member suggested an alternative to having two separate meetings which would be to create a new type of member that would acknowledge the fact that they are a community member and possibly not be able to attend every meeting, i.e. an “affiliate member”.

Other ways to get clients to come to the meetings would be to ask consumers how to increase their participation. The emphasis on making sure that consumers have the right to vote may be irrelevant. It would be a good idea to survey the consumers at the Mother’s Day event as a way to gather some rough data.

It was also a suggestion to instead hold more events and less actual meetings in order to attract more community members. Also changing the formal title of the meeting from a “meeting” to a different name could also help attract more community members who might otherwise be deterred by the formality implied by a meeting.

## **CARE COUNCIL REPORT**

Barbara Szlag gave a summary of the Care Council meeting held February 5, 2014. Joe Parramore discussed the National Minority AIDS Commission training event he attended in January. Joe has shared the materials with Care Council staff who will be creating a library on the website and through Info Share. Joe also has some materials available on disk and anyone interested can contact him. Joe also discussed his participation in Connect 2 Protect’s recent Youth Pastor Summit.

Aubrey Arnold announced that they had received the Part A Partial Notice of Grant Award for \$2,615,213.00. The amount is

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approximately 1/3 of the expected amount. The grantee's office does not know when to expect the balance from HRSA.

Contract renewal recommendations are going to the Hillsborough Board of County Commissioners for 13 contracts. The remainder of contracts for Ryan White services will go to the Board on February 19. The grantee is expecting to add a contract for CAREWare assistance with the Florida Department of Health. All contracts will begin March 1, 2014.

The CAREWare transition continues with several providers helping with beta-testing for billing. March 1<sup>st</sup> remains the transition date for reporting needs.

Aubrey reminded case managers and clients that March 31<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for enrolling in the insurance exchange. Clients who are eligible should register ASAP to avoid being left without insurance and Ryan White or having to pay a penalty.

Members asked Project AIDS Care (PAC) Waiver clients who are being waitlisted and the associated impacts with Medicaid and ADAP (AIDS Drug Assistance Program). The Council was told that for Part B only, if the client is on the PAC waiting list and that is documented in their case management file they will be able to receive assistance from ADAP.

Shelley Taylor-Donohue introduced Suzanne Stevens from the Florida Department of Health who is in town doing monitoring visits. They reiterated that Part B will not pay for premiums or co-pays for marketplace plans at this time.

The Florida Department of Health is conducting site visits this week for technical assistance and monitoring. Shelley announced that the lead agency had submitted the coordinated funding plan and they are monitoring contracts. They are also busy moving clients from AICP to ADAP Premium Plus.

Aubrey talked about the proposed changes to the Membership Applications. Aubrey noted that there were no issues with the proposed changes to the application regarding reorganizing the content and flow of the application. These changes will be in effect once the necessary content can be revised. Aubrey also



gave the committee an update on the upcoming changes to membership recruitment and applications that stem from streamlining applications monitored by the BOCC. Changes surrounding the addition of a background screening are still being reviewed by the BOCC and the Grantee's office so there is no action to be taken at this time. The background screenings are to be added to the application to make all of the county's boards and commission consistent in their application process and the applicant screening process.

Two new membership applications have already been scored and the interviews have been completed. These will be voted on by Care Council in March.

#### **P&E/RPARC Report**

Marylin Merida reported that P&E and RPARC did not meet in February. Both committees are scheduled to meet next month.

#### **MAY MOTHER'S DAY EVENT**

The 2014 Mother's Day Event will take place in Tampa at Metro Wellness and Community Centers in Ybor.

Some proposed dates for the event are May 8, 9, and 16.

The theme has yet to be decided but will focus on community engagement.

Possible event components:

- Focus group and/or round table discussions with some pre-set survey questions.
- Spilling the tea discussions – serve tea and pastries
- Motivational speaker – Encourage interaction from positives
- Massages, Pampering, Food
- WICY&F Committee member recruitment – Have some volunteers to call interested community members to make sure they are reminded of the meetings and plan to come. Encourages accountability.
- Fill in the Pie – Game/Discussion/Ice Breaker – Use questions from the survey to encourage dialogue. Make it out of construction paper shaped like a pie.
- Do an activity involving Mother's Day Cards similar to one



done during International Condom Day.

- Entertainment – Singing, Dancing
- Chair Massages
- Mary Kay Consultant
- Speaker – HIV Criminalization and/or Law Issues

Brandice volunteered to contact a florist regarding donating flowers for the event.

Ayakao volunteered to inquire about bringing back a Mary Kay consultant for hand massages or other services.

Several other vendors will need to be contacted as well as recruiting volunteers for the day of the event.

Read reviews from previous Mother's Day event to ensure this year's event takes into account any suggestions from the previous event.

## **COMMITTEE WORKPLAN OVERVIEW**

Need more feedback from the community.

Providers should email chair/staff with about issues affecting the WICY&F community so that this information can be taken back to Care Council. This would include issues with HIV status and insurance to avoid something similar to the issue that went on in Louisiana.

Co-Chair will request data from the grantee's office to ensure 25% funding allocation for WICY&F clients.

## **COMMUNITY CONCERNS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A baby was born at St. Josephs in Tampa and tested positive for HIV. The mother had an unknown HIV status at the time of delivery. Possible drug addiction.

ADAP Premium Plus is using CVS Caremark as the primary pharmacy. There will be some town hall meetings to address the need for choice in selecting a pharmacy.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 am.