

**WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL**

**PLANNING AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE**

**SUNCOAST HOSPICE, CLEARWATER**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2019**

**9:30 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.**

**MINUTES**

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| **CALL TO ORDER** | The meeting was called to order by Chair, Kirsty Gutierrez, at 9:30 a.m. |
| **ATTENDANCE** | Members Present: Nolan Finn, Kirsty Gutierrez, Sheryl Hoolsema, Elizabeth Rugg  Members Absent: Marylin Merida  Guests Present: Edward Myles  Recipient Staff Present: Aubrey Arnold  Lead Agency Staff Present: Floyd Egner  Health Council Staff Present: Lisa Nugent, Katie Scussel |
| **CHANGES TO AGENDA** | None |
| **ADOPTION OF MINUTES** | **The minutes for September 19, 2019 were approved by acclamation (M: Finn; S: Rugg).** |
| **CARE COUNCIL REPORT** | Members expressed condolences for the family of Charlie Hughes, who was recently reported to be deceased.  The Care Council met on October 2nd at the Children’s Board of Hillsborough County. Action items included the approval of two new members. There was a guest speaker present to speak on HIV and ophthalmology, however, the beginning portion of the agenda took more time than usual, and the speaker had to leave before she could give her presentation. Care Council Chair, Nolan Finn, and Membership Committee Chair, Tonicia Freeman-Foster, introduced a new icebreaker activity.  The Community Advisory Committee (CAC) reported that they are struggling to maintain consistent membership. Members are looking for new strategies to revitalize the committee so that it may serve its intended purpose. Kamaria Laffrey, Co-Chair, encouraged any interested members to attend the next CAC meeting to share ideas to help the committee.  In addition to recommending two new members, the Membership Committee presented proposed revisions to the bylaws. The bylaw revisions will sit on the table for thirty days and will be voted on at the November 2019 meeting.  The Resource Prioritization and Allocation Recommendations Committee (RPARC) presented the Part B Expenditure Report. All spending is currently on track.  The Women, Infants, Children, Youth, and Families Committee (WICY&F) is currently planning their fall event. The event will be on November 20th at Metro Inclusive Health in Tampa. More details will be available at the next Care Council meeting.  The next Florida Comprehensive Planning Network (FCPN) meeting will be on November 19-21, 2019 in Tampa. The Community HIV Advisory Group (CHAG) will meet before FCPN on November 18th. The State HIV/AIDS Section is still debating redrawing the funding areas and this topic is expected to be discussed at the meeting.  Finally, Care Council Chair, Nolan Finn, recognized the twentieth anniversary of the Care Council and baked cookies to share with all members, guests, and staff. |
| **SERVICE PRIORITIES** | Members reviewed the preliminary data from the 2019 HIV Care Needs Survey. In response to the question, “Which five services do you think are most important to the State to provide for people with HIV?” outpatient medical care ranked fifth, behind medications, health insurance, case management, and dental/oral health. Members suggested that the reason for the lower ranking could be that many more people have insurance now, so they are going elsewhere for medical care. Members also noted the high rates of viral load suppression, meaning clients are not needing medical care as frequently as they are just seeing the doctor to get medications refilled but do not feel sick.  Members noted that oral health ranked fourth, indicating that it is a high need, but that it is currently underfunded. Part A Recipient, Aubrey Arnold, noted that the problem is due to a lack of capacity. Arnold would like to have more than one funded provider for oral health in every county but few providers apply for the funds.  Member Elizabeth Rugg noted that it is misleading to classify medications as separate from health insurance because health insurance pays for medication co-pays. These two service categories are inextricably linked.  Member Kirsty Gutierrez suggested moving non-medical case management up in the service priorities, because Part B now funds it separately from medical case management. All other funded services are ranked higher in the priorities. Members were reminded that service priorities are separate from funding priorities. Service priorities are not necessarily what are funded, but capture the needs of the community. HRSA does not require funding to reflect the service priorities.  After discussion, members decided to table the service priorities until November. Because the data is still preliminary, members decided to wait until final data can be reviewed before making final decisions. Members planned to vote on the service priorities in November and bring them to the Care Council in December. |
| **MSOC REVIEW & REVISION PLAN** | Aubrey Arnold announced that he had recently discussed the Minimum Standards of Care (MSOC) revision process with our HRSA Project Officer. He advised the committee to start with what we currently have as a base and to invite providers for each service to weigh in. Aubrey stated that it is in our HRSA site visit response plan to have the MSOC finished in 2020. Aubrey also stated that Part A monitoring staff will be attending upcoming committee meetings to assist with the process.  The committee discussed planning a schedule for next year so that it is decided at which meeting each service will be discussed so that the appropriate providers can plan to be present for these meetings and review any relevant documents ahead of time. The committee decided to create this schedule at the December meeting so that discussions can begin in January.  Member Elizabeth Rugg noted that she reviewed Broward County’s standards while updating the Insurance Services Program (ISP) standards. Elizabeth updated the ISP standards according to the Broward standards and the checklist in the HRSA service standards handout. Elizabeth will share these standards with Aubrey. |
| **COMMUNITY INPUT/ANNOUNCEMENTS** | Aubrey Arnold announced that the Ending the Epidemic grant is being finalized and will be submitted before the deadline on Tuesday, October 15th. Hillsborough County is applying for the ceiling funding amount, which is $4 million per year to be renewed for five years. Aubrey stated that he believes even if we do not receive the full grant award, even some additional funding will be a very good thing for the community. He would like to expand transportation services and substance abuse services--possibly including inpatient treatment--and to expand the Health Education and Risk Reduction program to the general population. (This program, funded through Minority AIDS Initiative funds, is currently only available to Black/African American and Latinx individuals). Aubrey stated that he will receive notice of the funding in February for programs to start immediately in March. |
| **ADJOURNMENT** | There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m. |
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