

WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL

GOTOWEBINAR

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2020**

**1:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

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| **CALL TO ORDER** | The meeting of the Ryan White Care Council was called to order by Nolan Finn, Chair, at 1:30 p.m. |
| ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS | See attached attendance list. |
| CHANGES TO AGENDA | There were no changes to the agenda. |
| ADOPTION OF MINUTES | **The minutes for June 3, 2020 were approved (M: Conder, S: Devine) (13 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain).** |
| CHAIR/VICE CHAIR’S REPORT | Chair, Nolan Finn, stated that we are continuing to learn how to conduct business virtually. He encouraged members to use their webcams, if possible, to keep everyone more connected.  Vice Chair, Kamaria Laffrey, stated that she would like to hold her report until later in the meeting. |
| FLORIDA COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING NETWORK AREA NOMINATIONS | Chair, Nolan Finn, explained that every three years the Care Council nominates a Patient Care Representative and an Alternate to sit on the Florida Comprehensive Planning Network (FCPN) to represent Areas 5, 6, and 14. Nolan stated that he would like to continue as the Patient Care Representative but that an Alternate is needed at this time. Nominations are open for both representatives and will need to be voted on at the August meeting. Nolan explained the responsibilities of being a member of the FCPN and asked members to contact staff if they are interested. |
| MOMENT OF SILENCE | Vice Chair, Kamaria Laffrey, asked members to take a moment to give honor and recognition to those that we have lost to HIV, as well as COVID-19. |
| RECIPIENT’S REPORT | Recipient, Aubrey Arnold, announced that we received the scoring for the Part A Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the 2020-2021 fiscal year and the application had a score of 99 out of 100 and there were no weaknesses cited. Aubrey recognized planning staff members, Lisa Nugent, Naomi Ardjomand-Kermani and Katie Scussel, Quality Management Consultant, David Cavalerri, and Recipient staff for their hard work on the NOFO.  Steven Young, the Part A Chief at the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)’s Division of Metropolitan HIV/AIDs Programs retired last September and was replaced by Chrissy Abrams-Woodland as interim Bureau Chief. Chrissy has now taken the job permanently. Aubrey congratulated Chrissy and shared that he believes the program is in great hands with her during these unprecedented times.  The Notice of Funding Opportunity for 2021-2022 was released on June 12th and is due on October 7th. Staff has begun planning for the application and expects to be done sometime in August. Anyone on the Care Council is invited to review the application. The Recipient is requesting the ceiling amount for the award, totaling slightly over $11 million.  The Recipient’s office went through the scoring process for the Ending the HIV Epidemic grant for Hillsborough County and selected subrecipients for the funds. They will also be working with The AIDS Institute to guide the integration among various planning groups. Contracts for the service providers for Early Intervention Services and Health Education and Risk Reduction are expected to be in place by August.  The technical assistance and training grant, also known as the capacity building grant used for building the e2-Hillsborough database, is starting year two. Over the course of the second year, starting in July, these funds will be used primarily on working on data exchange in the database.  The COVID-19 funding received through the CARES Act in April was allocated to service providers. Funding totaled approximately $500,000 and was allocated to service providers to assist with the COVID-19 pandemic in our area.  Aubrey concluded his report by noting the rising cases of COVID-19 within Florida and our service area. Testing in Florida is currently at a 16% positivity rate and the World Health Organization likes to see no more than 5%. Aubrey reminded everyone to stay safe, follow the protocols set by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), practice social distancing, and wear a mask. |
| LEAD AGENCY REPORT | Lead Agency staff, Darius Lightsey, began his report by wishing Vice Chair Kamaria Laffrey a happy belated birthday. With the Department of Health (DOH)’s fiscal year beginning in July, Darius reported that Lead Agency staff has been busy certifying funds. Additionally, many DOH staff have been recruited for contract tracing for COVID-19.  The Pinellas Ending the HIV Epidemic Planning Council had a very successful meeting the previous week, focusing on youth. The meeting was held over Zoom and was streamed through Facebook. There were over 300 viewers on Facebook. Darius stated that the next meeting will focus on Community Based Organizations (CBOs), especially those that are not solely focused on HIV. Leisha Mckinley-Beach has been a great facilitator and kept the Council on the ball. The date of the next meeting will be sent out through email.  The new Part B Grants Manager, Yashika Everhart, reported that with the closing of the state fiscal year, staff has been working to close out Patient Care Network and General Revenue contracts. New contracts began July 1st. Yashika noted that one contract has been reduced due to lack of staff members and lack of service provided. Lead Agency contract managers are continuing to get acclimated and develop relationships with the providers that they work with.  Yashika also noted that with the two-month vacancy in her position, there has been a lot to catch up on but that she is working to get caught up. She still expects to partner with the Part A Recipient in the coming months to provide a Medical Case Management training. Yashika is also encouraging her contract managers to attend Care Council and subcommittee meetings.  Nolan Finn thanked Yashika and other DOH staff for their hard work in their efforts with COVID-19, as well as the everyday responsibilities of their jobs in HIV. Yashika noted that she is working from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. to assist epidemiology staff with contact tracing and many ADAP staff are working six days a week. |
| CARE COUNCIL PLANNING STAFF REPORT | Planning Council Support Staff, Katie Scussel, reported that staff would offer some time for technical assistance before the next Care Council meeting starts to help members having any difficulty connecting to the audio or anything else on the GoTo Webinar platform. An announcement of the time will be made in the next Care Council email. Katie also thanked members for their patience as we adjust to virtual meetings. It has been encouraging to see members continue to show up and for most committees to be consistently making quorum. Katie asked for members to let staff know if they have any suggestions or feedback as we continue to adapt to virtual meetings. |
| COMMITTEE REPORTS | **A. Community Advisory Committee (CAC) – Kamaria Laffrey, Co-Chair**  CAC met virtually on June 25, 2020 and had quorum with three voting member, three guests, and two staff in attendance. Quality Management Consultant, David Cavalleri, joined the call to give updates on the Client Satisfaction Survey. The survey has had a very low response rate. Though the results we have received show that satisfaction with the services is very high, David has been trying to figure out how to increase participation. Now that so many services are happening through telehealth, the survey is now online through Survey Monkey. It is available in English and Spanish and was distributed to all providers. Members and guests discussed strategies to increase participation, including asking providers if they could add a reminder about their survey to any electronic appointment reminders.  Members also discussed making changes to the work plan to increase engagement and participation. Members would like to continue having some kind of virtual option for the meeting, even when we go back to having in person meetings, as a way to increase accessibility and hear from more of the community. The committee was interested in using a virtual platform even before COVID-19. Members were unsure how to incorporate this idea into the work plan as things are so uncertain right now. After discussion, members voted to keep the work plan as is for the time being but to continue to discuss how they would like it to be changed so that the committee can be ready to make more significant changes when it is revised again in September.  The next meeting will be Thursday, July 23, 2020 through GoTo Webinar.    **B. Health Services Advisory Committee (HSAC) – Elizabeth Rugg, Chair**  HSAC met on June 18, 2020 through GoTo Webinar and had quorum with three members, three staff, and three guests. There was no representation from the Recipient and Lead Agency offices and the committee would like to encourage staff to attend the next meeting on August 20th.  The committee discussed the increased funding to the Insurance Services Program through COVID-19 funding and the impacts it could have on clients on Affordable Care Act (ACA) plans. The program is looking for clients who have been directly impacted by COVID-19 through job loss or other economic hardships and are looking to get into the program to gain insurance coverage. The eligibility for these clients will be less strict.  The next meeting will be on August 20, 2020 through GoTo Webinar.  **C. Membership - Tonicia Freeman-Foster, Chair**  The Membership Committee met on June 15, 2020 and did have quorum. Members discussed the current Care Council membership demographics. The Care Council needs more non-affiliated people living with HIV; those who are ages 20-29 and 60+; those who identify as male or transgender; representatives for Pinellas, Hernando, and Manatee Counties; and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) mandated Medicaid Agency seat.  For recruitment purposes, the committee is planning to host a virtual open house during their July 20th meeting to introduce community members to the Care Council and subcommittees. The committee will be presenting an abbreviated version of the orientation PowerPoint and are hoping to engage with people who are at home right now and looking for ways to get involved. Vice Chair, Kamaria Laffrey, suggested that committee Chairs be present to discuss their committees.  **D. Planning & Evaluation Committee (P&E) – Kirsty Guiterrez, Chair**  P&E met on June 11, 2020 through GoToWebinar. The committee has been working to revise the Minimum Standards of Care (MSOC). These revisions were shared with providers for feedback and the committee did not receive feedback for several of the standards, so the committee voted to bring the revised MSOC to the Care Council. Kirsty reviewed the changes made to the MSOC. Additions to the document are underlined and items that have been deleted are struck through.  Care Council members discussed the MSOC. Tonicia Freeman-Foster asked in regard to client confidentiality if accommodations had been made for telehealth. Aubrey Arnold suggested that the committee look at the document one last time and discuss adding provisions for telehealth services. This change could be done at the next P&E meeting and would still leave time for the revisions to be adopted by the deadline of September 30th. Aubrey added that the project officer is reviewing the changes but has not yet gotten back to him. Revisiting the document in August would give the committee a chance to incorporate any comments from HRSA as well.  The next P&E meeting will be on August 13, 2020 through GoTo Webinar.  **E. Resource Prioritization & Allocation Recommendations (RPARC) – Dave Konnerth, Chair**  RPARC last met virtually on June 11, 2020 at 11:30 a.m. with 8 voting members, 2 guests, and 7 staff members in attendance. The Committee reviewed the COVID-19 Allocations.   1. COVID-19 Allocations   Committee Chair, Dave Konnerth, presented the allocations made by Part A for funding received from the CARES Act. The funding is available for service providers through February 2021 to assist clients with additional hardships due to COVID-19. Providers were surveyed on their needs for additional funding and funded accordingly. Funding was allocated for Planning Council Support, Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services, Oral Health, Mental Health Counseling, Medical Case Management, Health Insurance Premiums and Cost Sharing, and Food Bank/Home Delivered Meals. This item was presented as an informational item not requiring a vote by the Care Council.  RPARC will meet next on August 13, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. through GoTo Webinar.  **F. Standards, Issues, & Operations Committee (SIOC) – Kamaria Laffrey, Chair**  SIOC did not meet in June of 2020.  **G. Women, Infants, Children, Youth, & Families (WICY&F) – Lisa Conder, Member**  WICY&F met on June 25, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. through GoToWebinar. The Committee met quorum with 7 members, 3 guest, and 2 staff present. The committee discussed the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on community mental health. The Ryan White Part D program has experienced the death of two clients by suicide within one month. Members shared local mental health resources and discussed strategies for checking in on clients.  The Committee discussed National HIV Testing Day, which was on June 27th. While in person testing events have mostly been cancelled, many providers are still offering free testing by appointment. Youth Education Services (YES) is offering at home test kits to the youth in their care and their partners. Anyone interested in getting a test kit can contact Bernard Washington.  The Committee also discussed holding a future WICY&F event through Zoom since the spring event was cancelled. They will be discussing the event further at their next meeting.  WICY&F will meet next on July 23, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. via GoToWebinar. |
| PUBLIC POLICY REPORT / COMMUNITY INPUT | Chair, Nolan Finn, noted that we are all feeling the effects of being quarantined. There will be changes to the numbers of outreach events, prevention efforts, etc. Both Nolan and Aubrey Arnold reflected that, as a group, we expected the circumstances of the pandemic to be temporary and that we could quickly get back to in person meetings and activities but, with the local COVID-19 numbers increasing, it seems we will continue to conduct business this way for the foreseeable future. Aubrey noted that all Part A providers in the four county Eligible Metropolitan Area (EMA) are now offering telehealth and have been very nimble in adjusting to the circumstances in order to serve their clients. |
| PREVENTION ACTIVITIES / QUALITY MANAGEMENT (QM) | Quality Management consultant, David Cavalleri, presented the June 2020 System-Wide HIV/AIDS Bureau (HAB) Performance Measures, noting that there have been a few decreases in the measures due to COVID-19. Retention in Medical Care dropped from 88.7% to 79.8%, Viral Load Monitoring from 97.8% to 94.8%, Risk Counseling from 93.4% to 84.9%, and Syphilis Screening from 82% to 73%. David noted that Viral Suppression remains at 85%, which is in line with national numbers. David also noted that providers have expressed that some of these decreases in the measures could be that clients who are generally in good health have not been called into doctors' appointments as much because it is an unnecessary risk to them. Providers are also experiencing a delay in lab results, as COVID testing has taken priority. David stated that these results are based on the 6,499 clients who have access Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services over the past twelve months. David is sending out individual results to each of the providers and will be scheduling calls with each to discuss their results. David added that while there have been some decreases, the performance measures for our area continue to be very strong and he congratulated any service providers on the call for the work they do to support clients.  David also mentioned that he had reached out to providers about the Client Satisfaction Survey and the suggestion the Community Advisory Committee had made about adding a reminder about the survey to electronic appointment reminders. One provider responded that they were able to do this, but others did not have this function.  The next Quality Management Technical Work Group meeting will be on Friday, September 18, 2020. A meeting space is reserved at The Children’s Board; however, David expects that the meeting will be moved to a virtual platform.  Finally, David noted that that Friday, July 3rd, would be Steve Pallermo’s last day at the Department of Health in Hillsborough County and asked everyone to share their well wishes with him before Friday. He has been a champion of quality management and has been like a mentor to David. |
| ANNOUNCEMENTS | Vice Chair, Kamaria Laffrey, announced that the State of Florida has signed onto the U=U, Undetectable=Untransmissible campaign.  Kamaria also noted that the United States Conference on HIV/AIDS (USCHA) is being held virtually this year October 19-21st. The conference is currently taking abstracts and the submission deadline is July 17th. Abstracts related to COVID-19 and the Black Lives Matter movement are being prioritized.  Both AIDS 2020 and HIV 2020 will be virtual this year. HIV 2020 is a conference created in counter to AIDS 2020 and is being led by people living with HIV. The registration is open now.  Kim Molnar announced that the following Wednesday and Thursday the Florida Comprehensive Planning Network (FCPN) would be hosting their Ending the HIV Epidemic meeting through Zoom. Anyone who has not yet registered and would like to can contact Kim.  Kamaria Laffrey made an additional announcement that she has made the difficult decision to resign from the role as Care Council Vice Chair. Citing the current climate with COVID-19, racial tensions, and recent personal experiences, Kamaria stated that she has felt the need to reprioritize her time. She stated that she plans to stay involved and to continue serving as a voting member through the rest of her term. Kamaria went on to express that she values her time with the Care Council, values what she has learned and values each person that has shared with her. She also expressed that she is frustrated right now as a Black woman and working with others around the country to improve the experiences of serving on Planning Councils as Black women. Kamaria also stated that she hopes that the amount of energy and creativity being displayed right now in response to COVID-19 can continue even when the pandemic has ended. Kamaria's resignation letter may be requested from staff by anyone who would like to read it.  Chair, Nolan Finn, presented slides from the Community HIV Advisory Group (CHAG) meeting that had occurred the previous day, highlighting the budget overview from the HIV/AIDS Section. The slides will also be sent out via InfoShare.  Nolan reminded everyone that with Kamaria stepping down as Vice Chair, the floor is now open for nominations. Any members who would like to nominate themselves or someone else can send their nomination to staff.  Aubrey Arnold announced that the Department of Health in Pinellas is opening a new test site at Mahaffey Theater.  Sam Quintero, Community Liaison, with Janssen Infectious Disease, announced that he has been given approval to give virtual, educational, non-branded presentations. Sam also remineded everyone of Janssen’s free trial offer card, which may be used by anyone who has lost insurance coverage due to the pandemic as they wait to be reenrolled in Ryan White or ADAP.  Finally, members had a discussion around the security features of various web platforms as more and more meetings are happening virtually and providers are offering telehealth services. Kamaria Laffrey asked if there one approved platform that all providers can use. Aubrey Arnold stated that at this time, with everything so new, there is no consensus yet about platforms. Though Zoom is very popular, there have been a number of security issues with it. |
| ADJOURNMENT | There being no further business to come before the Care Council, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:57 p.m. |
| Note: A recording of the meeting is available for review at the Suncoast Health Council. | For further details about this Care Council meeting, please visit thecarecouncil.org to access meeting minutes and handouts. |
| LIST OF HANDOUTS | 1. **June 3, 2020 Minutes** 2. **Revised Minimum Standards of Care** 3. COVID-19 Allocations 4. Systemwide HAB Performance Measures 5. July Calendar |

**ATTENDANCE LIST: JULY 1, 2020**

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| **Care Council Members** | **Attendance** |
| Nolan Finn (Chair) | X |
| Kamaria Laffrey (Vice-Chair) | X |
| Joel Carrier | X |
| Lisa Conder | X |
| Paula Delgado | X |
| J Carl Devine | X |
| Michael Dunn |  |
| Tonicia Freeman-Foster | X |
| Michael Gutierrez-Torres | X |
| Kayon Henderson | X |
| Vincent Kaborycha |  |
| Jeffrey Lluberes | X |
| Amanda Miller | X |
| Kimberly Molnar | X |
| (Myles) Edward Myles | ALT |
| Peggy Wallace |  |
| Charles Ware |  |
|  |  |
| **Associate Members** | **Attendance** |
| Nicole Kish |  |
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| **Recipient Staff** | **Attendance** |
| Aubrey Arnold | X |
| Dorinda Seth |  |
| Maria Teresa Jaureguizar | X |
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| **Lead Agency Staff** | **Attendance** |
| Darius Lightsey | X |
| Yashika Everhart | X |
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| **Health Council Staff** | **Attendance** |
| Lisa Nugent | X |
| Katie Scussel | X |
| Naomi Ardjomand-Kermani |  |
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| **Regular Guests** | **Attendance** |
| Jim Roth |  |
| Dave Konnerth | X |
| Elizabeth Rugg | X |
| Adrianne Emanuel |  |
| David Cavalleri | X |
| Kirsty Gutierrez | X |
|  |  |
| **Guests** | **Attendance** |
| Michael Alonso |  |
| Katherine Barbera |  |
| Conrad Barzarea |  |
| Shakayla Birch |  |
| Dawn Branley |  |
| Lillie Bruton | X |
| Taryn Buckley |  |
| Jose Camino |  |
| Michael Carlton |  |
| Mike Catala |  |
| Gregory Clark |  |
| Everis Clarke |  |
| Donna Corpuz |  |
| Anne Cronyn | X |
| Diamond Cunningham |  |
| Scott Dartange |  |
| Darlene Duran |  |
| Lolita Emanuel-Brown |  |
| Brittany Frederick |  |
| Karlie Gallagher |  |
| Geneva Galloway |  |
| Beth Gotti |  |
| Tashann Grant |  |
| Khalil Hall |  |
| Indica Harris |  |
| Lovell Harp |  |
| Shayla Hobbs |  |
| Demarcus Holden |  |
| Michael Holder |  |
| Sherri Hoover |  |
| Karen Hoyle |  |
| Emily Hughart | X |
| Angela Kellogg |  |
| Vicki Kenyon |  |
| Michelle Keyes | X |
| Janet Kitchen |  |
| Topher Larkin |  |
| Grace Levy-Clarke |  |
| Andrew Maldonado |  |
| Andrew McFarbme |  |
| Sean McIntosh |  |
| Antonio Miles |  |
| Mark Mischan |  |
| Jamie Morano |  |
| Michael Neuges | X |
| Sheyla Nobles |  |
| James Ogedegbe |  |
| Sebastian Osorio |  |
| Steve Palermo |  |
| Guttenberg Pierre | X |
| Juliana Pinero |  |
| Dee Prendergast |  |
| Hope Sharon Proell |  |
| Ashley Quidaciolu |  |
| Sam Quintero | X |
| Allison Rapp | X |
| Shaquira Robinson |  |
| Allison Ruby |  |
| Donna Sabatino |  |
| Christine Santos |  |
| Michelle Scavnicky |  |
| Dartange Scott |  |
| Garrett Sears |  |
| Ashley Smith |  |
| Ashley Snug |  |
| Diego Villalba |  |
| Crystal Waddy |  |
| Bernard Washington |  |
| Ronald Weston |  |

*ALT= Alternate present EX = Excused*

I, Chair Nolan Finn, do certify that these minutes have been approved by me and the members of the Care Council on this day, August 5, 2020

Nolan Finn, Chair: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_