

**WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL**

**HEALTH SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**VIRTUAL GOTOWEBINAR**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2020**

**1:30 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

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| **CALL TO ORDER** | The meeting was called to order by Elizabeth Rugg, Chair at 1:33 PM. |
| **ATTENDANCE** | Members Present: Elizabeth Rugg, Terry Law, Michelle Keyes, Amanda Miller  Members Absent: Kim Molnar, Peggy Wallace  Guests Present: None.  Recipient Staff Present: Dorinda Seth  Lead Agency Staff Present: None.  Health Council Staff Present: Lisa Nugent, Naomi Ardjomand-Kermani |
| **CHANGES TO AGENDA** | None |
| **ADOPTION OF MINUTES** | The minutes for February 20, 2020 were approved by acclamation **(M: Law, S: Keyes)** |
| **CARE COUNCIL REPORT** | Care Council Chair and RPARC Co-Chair, Nolan Finn, reported that Part A is now operating under 4 different HIV grants through Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) that the Recipient’s office will be required to manage. The Part A award was received in early April in the amount of $10,484,379, a little over 1% increase from last year. An additional grant was received through the 2020 Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act which came unexpectedly on April 15. A total of $557,000 in COVID funding was received for the Tampa/St. Petersburg Eligible Metropolitan Area (EMA). These allocation recommendations are en route to the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners for approval and adoption into the budget and into the various contracts for the agencies who requested funding.  Arnold went on to remind members that we are entering the 2nd year of the capacity building and technical assistance grant around infrastructure for e2Hillsborough database.  Lead Agency staff, Darius Lightsey, reported that The Health Department continues to be overwhelmed by issues resulting from COVID-19, but Lightsey emphasized that the Leady Agency is committed to producing quality work. He reminded Council members that Yashika Everhart is now the new grants manager and will be overseeing the Lead Agency and ADAP program.  Pinellas’ Ending the HIV Epidemic (EtHE) Planning Committee will be meeting with youth on June 5, 2020 to ensure that young people are a part of this movement. He noted that youth are the population that represent the largest number of new HIV cases. *“They must be a part of the solution”* and they are exploring several ways to get them engaged. EtHE will be holding another planning meeting with youth on June 18, 2020.  The Community Advisory Committee reported that they reviewed the results of the client satisfaction survey and although the response rate was low (~200 survey responses), those received were overall positive.  The Membership Committee reported that the Care Council needs more non-affiliated people living with HIV; those who are ages 20-29 and 60+; representatives for Pinellas, Hernando, and Manatee Counties; and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) mandated Medicaid Agency seat.  They are currently determining how they will tailor their engagement and recruitment processes virtually under this stay-at-home period. They are planning to host a virtual open house, which they will advertise on social media platforms to reach people who want to make a difference from home. More discussion regarding this listen and learn event will occur at their next meeting on June 15, 2020.  RPARC presented the Part A Expenditure Report and Part A Additional Allocations Recommendations and the latter was adopted, by acclamation.  Care Council Chair and RPARC Co-Chair, Nolan Finn, updated the Council on the Spring Florida Comprehensive Planning Network (FCPN) meeting. This two-day meeting was held over Zoom, with over 138 participants on the call. Laura Reeves, from the HIV/AIDS section at the State, went over the budget and she made known that Florida’s Part B has been awarded $1.5 million from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding. The State’s Ryan White Program Parts A through Part D received over $6.4 million. The Community and Development parts of Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA) received $1.2 million.  Quality Management consultant, David Cavalleri, remarked on the low response rate for the client satisfaction survey and the possible barrier of telehealth and survey fatigue. Electronic versions of the survey have been approved and sent out to all Part A and Part B providers to garner more responses. To date, Cavalleri has not received any responses from clients who are engaging in telehealth. These electronic surveys are available in both English and Spanish. Cavalleri then noted that the continuous quality improvement (CQI) survey has been sent out to providers 117 responses have already been received. Three providers have yet to send in any responses at this time, but he will continue to reach out to these providers.  Finally, regarding the Assessment of the Administrative Mechanism (AAM), at this time 8 out of 9 providers and 16 out of 23 members of Care Council and RPARC have responded to the survey. He emphasized that this feedback is important not only for the AAM, but also for the CQI survey and quality management training. He concluded with the announcement that the next Quality Management Workgroup will be held on June 19, 2020 at 10:30 a.m. A WebEx invite will go out on Friday June 12, 2020. |
| **REVIEW OF IMPACT OF ADAP & ACA** | Chair, Elizabeth Rugg, share that the Insurance Services Program (ISP) received 121,000$ funding for CARES COVID to assist clients who are directly impact who need health insurance support. For example: those who have been furloughed or laid off will need assistance in paying copays and deductibles. The only requirement, applicants must meet, is to have been directly impact by COVID-19. Rugg expressed the importance of informing case managers, who should have received a memo to review clients or any of the wait-listed, clients since March 15, 2020. I doing so, they will be able to determine if the client(s) are eligible. If they qualify, they will be shifted over to these dollars to be guaranteed access to these services. Rugg also noted that clients will still be able to enroll in the Affordable Care Act (ACA) marketplace. |
| **ANNOUNCEMENTS/**  **COMMUNITY CONCERNS** | Planning Council Support Staff, Naomi Ardjomand-Kermani wish everyone safety and health in this time. They went on to remind members that the next Care Council meeting will be held virtually on July 1, 2020.  Member, Terry Law, informed attendees that all providers seem to be smoothly transitioning into new COVID-19 related procedures. The CVS CareMark Plan has made it easier than ever for clients to receives their medications in a timely manner. Law went on to note that there have been few clients, seen in the Pinellas Care Clinic, who have tested positive and those who have are respecting others by staying home.  Chair, Rugg, asked the group if there is access to data that reports cases of COVID-19 among Ryan White clients. She was told that this data is not readily available at this time.  Law noted that he has been the following American Academy of HIV Medicine (AAHIVM) and has heard that Anti-Retrovirals (ARV) may provide some protection from COVID-19; however, this has not been confirmed. He went on to say that data regarding ARVs impact on COVID-19 will be interesting.  Chair, Elizabeth Rugg, reminded members that the next HSAC meeting will be held on August 20, 2020 at 1:30pm. She anticipates that this meeting will be held virtually. |
| **ADJOURNMENT** | There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:46p.m. |
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