

**WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL**

**HEALTH SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**VIRTUAL GOTOWEBINAR**

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 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 P.M.  |
| **ATTENDANCE** | Members Present: Elizabeth Rugg, Terry Law, Michelle Keyes, Amanda Miller, Kim MolnarMembers Absent: Peggy WallaceGuests Present: NoneRecipient Staff Present: Dorinda SethLead Agency Staff Present: NoneHealth Council Staff Present: Lisa Nugent, Naomi Ardjomand-Kermani |
| **CHANGES TO AGENDA** | None |
| **ADOPTION OF MINUTES** | The minutes for June 18, 2020 were approved by acclamation **(M: Law, S: Molnar).** |
| **CARE COUNCIL REPORT** | Member, Kim Molnar, reported that nominations were made for the Florida Comprehensive Planning Network (FCPN) area representative and alternate. Nolan Finn was nominated as representative and Paula Delgado as alternate.Recipient Aubrey Arnold informed the Council that the Eligible Metropolitan Area (EMA) will receive a new Project Officer (PO) as our current PO, Michael Carrigan, has been promoted to a new position. Arnold met the new interim PO, Lieutenant Commander Lawrence Momodu on August 12, 2020 and they, along with Planning Council Support (PCS) staff, plan to meet over conference call in the near future. He went on to report that the writing team is working hard on the 2021-2022 Part A application and are meeting all internal deadlines set. Arnold noted that all Ending the HIV Epidemic (EtHE) monies and expenditures are being spent on track and all COVID-19 allocations have been distributed without issue. The Part B Lead Agency expenditure reports at the upcoming Resource Prioritization and Allocation Recommendations Committee (RPARC) meeting.PCS Staff opened the floor to accept nominations for the slate for the upcoming Vice-Chair election. Finn, then asked for any nominations and member, Paula Delgado, nominated Council members Kim Molnar and Edward (Myles) Myles. Council member Molnar and Myles both accepted their nominations. No further nominations were made, but members were encouraged to reach out to staff for any further nominations. A new member was approved for voting membership and will fill the Part D seat on the Care Council.The Planning and Evaluation Committee continues to work on updating the Minimum Standards of Care (MSOC). After the last Care Council meeting, the committee will be reviewing the document one additional time to incorporate previsions for telehealth. The Women, Infants, Children, Youth, & Families (WICY&F) Committee announced that they will be holding their fall event virtually, with more details to follow soon. Care Council attendees informed all that the transition to telehealth is working well and reaching clients who may have not been reached otherwise. The AIDS Institute noted that they are working on the co-pay accumulator and changing language to match statutes. Guest, Allison Rapp, announced that the EtHE Hillsborough Planning Council will hold three upcoming town halls, of which more details will be shared with PCS staff for distribution. |
| **REVIEW OF IMPACT OF ADAP & ACA** | There were no updates on ADAP or the Affordable Care Act (ACA). |
| **ADAP MEDICATION ACCESS COMMITTEE UPDATE** | Kim Molnar informed all members that did not already know that the Florida Comprehensive Planning Network (FCPN) has a committee dedicated to medication access issues for clients throughout Florida. Representatives from the state ADAP office, as well as Department of Health (DOH) leadership, usually attend the monthly call to address issues and concerns from the community. There has been a request for up-to-date ADAP expenditure projections and forecasting. These documents were not available during the last call, however, Kim received them recently and can share them with the group. The next call is tomorrow, August 21st and anyone who would like to participate can get in touch with Kim for more information.Clayton Wise, formerly the Patient Care Manager, has been promoted to Bureau Chief of Epidemiology. Laura Reeves is currently serving as interim Patient Care Manager. The committee distributed a survey on long-acting injectable ART and the capacity of HIV providers to administer these medications. The deadline for submission is August 20, 2020. The committee also discussed a timeline for rolling out Cabotegrovir. ViiV anticipates the drug will be available in the first quarter of 2021, but there is still uncertainty due to the COVID-19 pandemic. There is no timeline yet on the use of this medication for PrEP but more information should be coming soon.There was a request from a committee member to explore options for medicinal marijuana. Kim will continue to update the group once more information becomes available. There have been questions and concerns about how drugs are added to the ADAP formulary. In response to these concerns, the HIV/AIDS Section developed an ADAP formulary process map. Kim will send the process map to staff for distribution to the committee. The ADAP Formulary Review Committee, which is separate from the Medication Access Committee, reported concerns because none of the medications they recommended in March were actually added to the formulary. A programmatic decision was made not to add these medications due to the uncertainty around COVID-19. The HIV/AIDS Section provided an update on what has happened since March 1st. There have been 178 new applicants to ADAP; 46 were enrolled in Marketplace plans, 85 in COBRA, and 47 were added to the direct dispense program. The Section also announced that the state received $1.5 million in Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding. Kim concluded the report by adding that community members are always welcome to attend these monthly calls and to bring any concerns from their local areas.Elizabeth Rugg announced that the Insurance Services Program (ISP) has received additional funds for insurance support for those impacted by COVID but that there has not been much demand so far. Elizabeth remined everyone that if they have clients in need of insurance, to refer them to ISP. Members discussed challenges with medical marijuana. There are issues with funding, as clients have to pay point of service. Elizabeth noted that through ISP, there have been several clients who have paid the co-pay for physicians certifying them eligible for medical marijuana, but these are clients that must have the discretionary income to be able to pay for it. Dorinda Seth noted that this question has also come up with Hillsborough County Health Plan members, as medical marijuana is not on their formulary either. Dorinda explained that Hillsborough County is a drug free workplace and county employees can be fired for medical marijuana, even if they are certified, so she doubts they will ever approve of it being added to the formulary. Terry Law added that it would be very difficult, as a provider, to discern who needs it for medical purposes as the guidelines provided by the state are very vague and broad scope. Terry noted that a majority of the clients at his clinic use marijuana and it is unclear who is using it recreationally or medicinally.  |
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| **ANNOUNCEMENTS/****COMMUNITY CONCERNS** | Kim Molnar announced that part two of the Florida Plan to End the HIV Epidemic meeting will be on August 27th and 28th through Zoom. They will be working on fleshing out the activities that correspond with the updated strategies proposed during part one of the meeting. Anyone who would like to attend who hasn’t received the information may get in touch with Kim. |
| **ADJOURNMENT**  | There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:56p.m.  |
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