

WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL

GOTOWEBINAR

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2021**

**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 1:32 p.m. |
| ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS | See attached attendance list. |
| CHANGES TO AGENDA | None.  Chair, Nolan Finn, reminded members that at the meeting would be abbreviated to accommodate a presentation, by the National Minority HIV/AIDS Council (NMAC), taking place upon adjournment of the Care Council meeting. As part of members’ requirement to attend two leadership development trainings, Finn noted that NMAC would be providing more details regarding the Council’s participation in their Engage Leadership through Employment, Validation, and Advancing Transformation & Equity (ELEVATE) program. |
| MOMENT OF SILENCE | Vice-Chair, Edward (Myles) Myles, asked members to take a moment to give honor and recognition to those that we have lost to HIV, those living with HIV, and those who are currently unaware of their serostatus. |
| ADOPTION OF MINUTES | No adoption of minutes took place as actionable business can no longer be conducted virtually, due to the Florida Sunshine Law; however, members reviewed the minutes for their November 4, 2020 Care Council meeting, nevertheless. No changes or modifications were requested. |
| CHAIR/VICE CHAIR’S REPORT | Vice-Chair, Edward (Myles) Myles, applauded Positively U’s Antonio Miles for organizing EVOLVE of Tampa. *“EVOLVE is a group that targets black and brown, same-gender loving men between the ages of 21 to 40, across Tampa Bay. The sole purpose of this group is to develop an active network of professionals within this community” – EVOLVE Tampa Bay Facebook Page*  Chair, Nolan Finn, informed attendees that he needs an alternate for the Florida Comprehensive Planning Network (FCPN), as Paula Delgado stepped down. Finn told interested members to contact staff for more information but noted that the role entails attending all FCPN meetings and voting in his absence. |
| RECIPIENT’S REPORT | Recipient, Aubrey Arnold, began his report informing members that Part A is entering into the final quarter of the Part A FY20 grant, as well as funding for the Ending the HIV Epidemic Initiative (EtHE). The Part A program year will end February 28, 2021 and the Recipient expects all allocations to be expended 95% or more.  Arnold went on to tell members that he will be providing information regarding the COVID-19 vaccination as he receives it. The Hillsborough County Health Department is working with the Hillsborough County Government to set up strategic locations for the vaccine roll-out. Currently the roll-out of vaccines has been problematic as seniors (priority population as determined by Governor DeSantis), have been unable to access the scheduling website. These issues are being worked on, diligently, by both Pinellas and Hillsborough counties.  Part A is amid one of their biggest projects: EtHE virtual site visits will be taking place the last week in January, alongside Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), contracted provider Metro Inclusive Health, and other community organizations. They hope to showcase all the successful work done locally despite being under unprecedented circumstances as these.  Finally, Arnold asked members to begin thinking about transitioning from virtual to in-person meetings, due to restrictions enforced by the Sunshine Law *(“These statutes establish a basic right of access to most meetings of boards, commissions and other governing bodies of state and local governmental agencies or authorities”).* Actionable business will only be allowable with an in-person quorum so, come February 2021, a plan must be in place to begin this transition. He added that Part A is working with the Leady Agency (Part B) and Planning Council Support (PCS) staff to come up with the logistics, with announcements to be expected in late January for how we will proceed.  Care Council Chair, Nolan Finn, then asked Arnold if the Council will be notified of any reallocations that may take place prior to the end of the fiscal year. In response, Arnold told attendees that Part A is fortunate to be able to move any necessary funding in the last 60 days of the grant year, without action on the Care Council’s part. He went on to assure members that any reallocations will be brought to the Care Council for transparency as these funding moves are to ensure that the award is spent-out as optimally as possible.  Representative from The AIDS Institute (TAI), Donna Sabatino asked Arnold again about the Sunshine Law, receiving further clarity that this presents an issue for all planning bodies in the state of Florida. Adding that if he had his own choice, we would continue meeting virtually, but due to the expiration of the Governor’s Executive Order *(The Governor of the State of Florida issued an Executive Order on March 20, 2020, temporarily suspending any requirement under the Sunshine Law or any Florida Statute that a quorum must be physically present and a public entity board (“Public Board”) meeting must be held in a public place (the “EO”)*, the Council has no choice but to figure out a way to safely meet in-person once more. This is a legislative-level issue, so he included that the legislative session will be March through May, with committee meetings beginning next week. Sabatino added that TAI is aware of this issue and advocating for changes to be made. |
| LEAD AGENCY REPORT | Lead Agency staff, Yashika Everhart, began the report informing members that Part B is conducting virtual monitoring to ensure all award funds are expended by March 31, 2021. The AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) has had a successful enrollment period, but clients may struggle to schedule appointments as phone lines are currently overwhelmed with individual’s calls regarding the COVID-19 vaccine. Lead Agency staff, Darius Lightsey, added that he does not have any vaccine-related information to share at this time and does not know of any clinical trials regarding people living with HIV and the vaccine. At this time, he has not received any communication with the State Health Office.  Lightsey went on with a Pinellas County Ending the HIV Epidemic Initiative (EtHE) update. Chris Walker and Nicole Houston, both EtHE consultants, are working hard reviewing proposals currently. Although award announcements were supposed to occur on December 28, 2020, delays in scheduling have moved the announcement date to January 8, 2021. From that point, they will proceed on to the implementation phase of the initiative. |
| CARE COUNCIL PLANNING STAFF REPORT | Planning Council Support (PCS) staff, Katie Scussel, began the report by presenting members with the results of a survey, that assessed members’ comfort in returning to in-person meetings.  This survey ran from December 11, 2020 through January 6, 2021 garnering 24 responses in total (9 Voting Care Council Members, 13 Voting Committee Members, and 2 that did not answer this question). Of these responses, seven (7) respondents said they would be comfortable returning to in-person meeting, ten (10) do **not** feel comfortable with returning, and seven (7) are unsure as to how they feel. When asking about Care Council meetings, six (6) respondents said they would feel comfortable coming back in January or February, whilst seven (7) wanted to wait until a later date. When asked what precautionary measures they would like to see put in place, they prioritized wearing masks, ensuring physical distancing, and providing hand sanitizer. All of which, including desk shields, will be provided, and enforced by PCS staff once in-person meetings resume.  Scussel emphasized that members should not feel forced to come to in-person meetings, but rather should be aware of the cautionary measures planned when they do, so we are able to conduct business.  Care Council Chair, Nolan Finn, asked when in-person meetings will be required and PCS staff, Naomi Ardjomand-Kermani, replied that this will be required for any meetings with actionable business. Staff expects this transition to begin in February 2021 but will depend entirely on the February 2021 Care Council meeting agenda. Ardjomand-Kermani added that they are collaborating with agencies to secure meeting space that will allow for a hybrid meeting option (virtual or conference call options).  Scussel concluded the report with a reminder that all voting members are required to attend the leadership training that will begin upon adjournment of the meeting. Voting members are expected to participate in two (2) trainings per grant year. This afternoon’s training will be provided by staff from the National Minority HIV/AIDS Council (NMAC). |
| COMMITTEE REPORTS | **A. Resource Prioritization & Allocation Recommendations (RPARC) – Nolan Finn, Committee Member**  Nolan Finn provided a brief overview of the Part B Expenditure Report, as reviewed by RPARC:   1. Part B Expenditure Report   Finn noted that although number may appear off-schedule, monies are expected to be spent down quickly in February and March. Finn offered the floor, for questions, but none were brought forth. |
| PUBLIC POLICY REPORT / COMMUNITY INPUT | None. |
| PREVENTION ACTIVITIES / QUALITY MANAGEMENT (QM) | Recipient, Aubrey Arnold, announced that Part A’s project manager will be conducting data quality reviews over the next several months, with providers, rather than employing their typical monitoring strategies. This is a new project that will compare data from client-level charts to data that is currently in the e2Hillsborough database. Ensuring this consistency between provider records and the e2Hillsborough database is essential to determining trends.  Quality Management Consultant, David Cavalleri, announced that he is in the middle of conducting site visits, with no issues thus far. He added that performance measure data is returning to numbers prior to COVID. Despite challenges faced by providers, agencies, and clients, in December 2020: 87.1% of clients were virally suppressed, 93.2% were prescribed Anti-retrovirals, and 84% were retained in care (defined as 2 or more provider visits that are 3 months apart, over a 12-month period). Responding to a question from attendee, Marylin Jones, Cavalleri explained that this data is collected from databases, such as e2Hillsborough and CareWare, and is also broken down by demographic information (ie. Race, gender, income, etc.) to best focus efforts on improving the overall welfare of people living with HIV.  Cavalleri went on to note that while the performance measures are assessed by provider data, the Client Satisfaction Survey asks questions about wait times, staff knowledge, and whether they would recommend a specific provider. He expressed gratitude to providers for their flexibility and help in collecting surveys, having received 700 surveys over the last three (3) months.  He went on to note that the Assessment of the Administrative Mechanism (AAM) will be presented at the February 2021 meeting for final review, as an informational item. Finally, he has put together all the initial findings for the Ending the HIV Epidemic (EtHE) Initiative report, summarizing work done by Metro Inclusive Health. |
| ANNOUNCEMENTS | Care Council Chair, Nolan Finn, welcomed back previous members, in attendance and reminded participants that voting membership is limited to two terms. Lead Agency Staff, Darius Lightsey, noted that term limitations should be addressed considering issues with recruiting new members.  Former voting member and guest, Bernard Washington, announced that February 7, 2021 is National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (NBHAAD), and February 13, 2021 is International Condom Day. Events are planned for both and more information will be provided for distribution, once finalized. |
| ADJOURNMENT | There being no further business to come before the Care Council, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:31 p.m. to begin the leadership training provided by Terrell Parker from NMAC. |
| 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. January 6, 2021 Agenda 2. November 4, 2020 Minutes 3. Part B Expenditure Report 4. January 2021 Calendar |

**ATTENDANCE LIST: JANUARY 6, 2021**

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| **Care Council Members** | **Attendance** |
| Nolan Finn (Chair) | X |
| Joel Carrier | X |
| Lisa Conder | X |
| Paula Delgado | X |
| J Carl Devine | X |
| Kayon Henderson | X |
| Vincent Kaborycha |  |
| Kamaria Laffrey | X |
| Jeffrey Lluberes | X |
| Michelle McKinney |  |
| Amanda Miller | X |
| Kimberly Molnar | X |
| (Myles) Edward Myles | X |
| Peggy Wallace | X |
| Charles Ware | X |
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| **Associate Members** | **Attendance** |
| Nicole Kish |  |
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| **Recipient Staff** | **Attendance** |
| Aubrey Arnold | X |
| Dorinda Seth |  |
| Maria Teresa Jaureguizar |  |
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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 | X |
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| **Regular Guests** | **Attendance** |
| Jim Roth |  |
| Dave Konnerth |  |
| Elizabeth Rugg |  |
| Emily Hughart |  |
| David Cavalleri | X |
| Tonicia Freeman-Foster | X |
| Kirsty Gutierrez |  |
| Allison Rapp |  |
| Lillie Bruton | X |
| Crystal Waddy | X |
| Angela Kellogg | X |
| Michelle Keyes | X |
| Sam Quintero | X |
| Donna Sabatino | X |
| Antonio Miles | X |
|  |  |
| **Guests** | **Attendance** |
| Michael Alonso |  |
| Jasmine Alvarado |  |
| Katherine Barbera |  |
| Conrad Barzarea |  |
| Shakayla Birch |  |
| Dawn Branley |  |
| Taryn Buckley |  |
| Jose Camino |  |
| Joshua Cardwell |  |
| Michael Carlton |  |
| Mike Catala |  |
| Gregory Clark |  |
| Everis Clarke |  |
| Donna Corpuz |  |
| Anne Cronyn | X |
| Diamond Cunningham |  |
| Scott Dartange |  |
| Michael Dunn |  |
| Darlene Duran |  |
| Adrianne Emanuel |  |
| Lolita Emanuel-Brown |  |
| Brittany Frederick |  |
| Karlie Gallagher |  |
| Geneva Galloway |  |
| Beth Gotti |  |
| Tashann Grant |  |
| Michael Gutierrez-Torres |  |
| Khalil Hall |  |
| Indica Harris |  |
| Lovell Harp |  |
| Shayla Hobbs |  |
| Demarcus Holden |  |
| Michael Holder |  |
| Sherri Hoover |  |
| Nicole Houston | X |
| Karen Hoyle |  |
| Marylin Jones | X |
| Vicki Kenyon |  |
| Janet Kitchen |  |
| Topher Larkin |  |
| Grace Levy-Clarke |  |
| Andrew Maldonado |  |
| Olinda Manjenje |  |
| Andrew McFarbme |  |
| Sean McIntosh |  |
| Mark Mischan |  |
| Carmen Millie Montanez |  |
| Lauren Miller | X |
| Jamie Morano |  |
| Denise Mote |  |
| Michael Neuges |  |
| Sheyla Nobles |  |
| James Ogedegbe |  |
| Vicky Oliver |  |
| Sebastian Osorio |  |
| Steve Palermo |  |
| Terrell Parker | X |
| Guttenberg Pierre |  |
| Juliana Pinero |  |
| Dee Prendergast |  |
| Hope Sharon Proell |  |
| Ashley Quidaciolu |  |
| Dedra Richardson |  |
| Shaquira Robinson |  |
| Allison Ruby |  |
| Sheila Ruck |  |
| Christine Santos |  |
| Michelle Scavnicky | X |
| Dartange Scott |  |
| Garrett Sears |  |
| Ashley Smith |  |
| Ashley Snug |  |
| Diego Villalba |  |
| Chris Walker | X |
| Bernard Washington | X |
| 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, February 3, 2021

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