

WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL

METRO INCLUSIVE HEALTH – SAINT PETERSBURG OFFICE

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 2021**

**1:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **CALL TO ORDER** | The meeting of the Ryan White Care Council was called to order by Nolan Finn, Chair, at 1:43 p.m. |
| ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS | See attached attendance list. |
| CHANGES TO AGENDA | To ensure that actionable items were voted on, Care Council Chair, Nolan Finn, moved the Resource Prioritization & Allocation Recommendations Committee’s (RPARC) **Part A Reallocation Recommendations** to the beginning of the agenda.   1. **Resource Prioritization Allocation Recommendations Committee (RPARC) – Lillie Bruton, Co-Chair**   RPARC met on April 8, 2021 at Empath Partners in Care (EPIC) Suncoast Hospice Garden House at 11:00 a.m.  Members in-person made quorum and reviewed the Part A reallocation recommendations, presented by Part A.   1. **Part A Reallocation Recommendations Funding Year (FY) FY 21-22**   **Background**  The recommendations were derived based on the underutilization of funding for AIDS Pharmaceutical Assistance (Local) and Emergency Financial Assistance (EFA) and the unmet need for additional Oral Health funding. The recommendations were also based on service priority, prior reallocations, and other factors. This reallocation process occurs routinely in the latter part of the grant year to ensure maximum expenditures.  **Action Required**  **THAT THE CARE COUNCIL ADOPTS THE PART A FY 21-22 FUNDING REALLOCATION RECCOMENDATIONS AS FOLLOWS:**   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **PART A REALLOCATIONS RECOMMENDATIONS FY 21-22** | | | | | |  |  | **Current** |  | **Revised** | | **Service** | **County** | **Amount** | **Decrease** | **Amount** | | AIDS Pharmaceutical Assistance (local) | EMA | 252,808 | (40,000) | 212,808 | | Emergency Financial Assistance (EFA) | EMA | 758,422 | (100,000) | 658,422 | | **Total** |  |  | **-140,000** |  | |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  | **Current** |  | **Revised** | | **Service** | **County** | **Amount** | ***Increase*** | **Amount** | | Oral health | Hillsborough | 257,850 | 30,000 | *287,850* | | Oral health | Pinellas | 327,850 | 110,000 | *437,850* | | **Total** |  |  | **140,000** |  |   Care Council Chair, Nolan Finn, requested a roll-call vote and all members (in-person and virtual) voted to accept the recommendations, by acclamation. **(15 yes** *8 in-person***; 0 no; no abstentions)**  RPARC members reviewed the Funding Year 2020-2021 Ryan White Part A COVID-19 Response Preliminary Expenditures Report, provided by the Recipient, Aubrey Arnold. Arnold noted that this funding is not under the direction of the Care Council, but rather is being provided as an informational item. Funding was spent almost entirely, even with additional funding that was granted in summer of 2020.  RPARC will meet again on May 13, 2021 at EPIC Suncoast Hospice Garden House at 11:00 a.m. *\*Note: this meeting was changed to meet virtually as no actionable business would be conducted.* |
| MOMENT OF SILENCE | Vice-Chair, Edward Myles, asked members to take a moment to give honor and recognition to those that we have lost to HIV, those struggling with HIV, and those who are currently unaware of their serostatus. |
| ADOPTION OF MINUTES | The minutes for **April 7, 2021** (Attachment)were approved by acclamation **(M: Devine, S: Molnar).** |
| CHAIR/VICE CHAIR’S REPORT | Finn announced that the spring Florida Comprehensive Planning Network (FCPN) has been rescheduled to June 9-10, 2021. More information is to be determined and will be shared as soon as possible. Finn continued by reminding members that the FCPN is still need of an alternate for his position. |
| RECIPIENT’S REPORT | Recipient, Aubrey Arnold, began his report by asking attendees if they have been able to access the COVID-19 vaccines and continued by informing members that merely 25% of Florida’s population has had *at least* one dose of the vaccine at this point. Now that vaccines are available to all, they are being made more accessible as Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) and other non-traditional sites can administer them. He asked that members talk to and encourage members of their communities to get vaccinated for *the greater good*. Arnold said that we are fortunate to have access to vaccines where other countries, such as India, are experiencing the negative effects of the lack of access to COVID-19 vaccines.  Chair, Nolan Finn, added that the County Attorney, Catherine Benson, will be on the agenda for the June 2, 2021 Care Council meeting to present a Sunshine Law refresher and how this law impacts public meetings. He noted that he anticipates a robust and interactive question and answers (Q&A) segment.  Arnold continued the Recipient’s report with the announcement that the monitoring process has begun internally as site monitoring will return to in-person rather than virtually, as was done in 2020, due to the pandemic.  Part A is currently overseeing four (4) grants:   1. The FY 2021-2022 Part A award is off to a good start 2. The Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) procurement will begin soon for Hillsborough County, with additional funding for Early Intervention Services (EIS), Substance Misuse, and Mental Health. $160,000 was granted to Pinellas County for supportive housing and Mental Health services. This procurement announcement will be place in all printed newspapers and at as many public meetings as is possible. 3. CARES Act Funding is ending after spending down over 99% of the total grant award. Part A fiscal staff are working on final financial reports for the past year. 4. The Technical Assistance grant is ending on June 2, 2021 after 2 years of funding. This award was used to enhance and expand the e2Hillsborough database for grants management in Hillsborough. A successful training was held on May 28, 2021 for all contracted providers. The purpose of this project is to eliminate all paper records, enhance document trackers, and work entirely in an electronic environment.   Care Council member, Jeffrey Lluberes, requested a timetable for the data enhancements to which Arnold approximated within the next three to six months. A virtual attendee |
| LEAD AGENCY REPORT | Lead Agency staff, Yashika Everhart, informed Care Council members that all Part B contracts have been procured and began on April 1, 2021. Everhart continued that contractual changes are taking place internally and noted the need for all case management (CM) agencies in Pinellas County to have access to the e2Hillsborough database as well. The AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) is working with agencies to move eligible clients to Affordable Care Act (ACA) plans and requested that all agencies participate in this eligibility and enrollment endeavor. Everhart added that while there was an initial uptick in clients qualifying for ACA plans, some people choose not to enroll due to their plan preference. |
| CARE COUNCIL PLANNING SUPPORT (PCS) STAFF REPORT | Planning Council Support staff, Naomi Ardjomand-Kermani, addressed concerns some members have regarding the in-person meeting locations and assured members that staff are working tirelessly to find accommodations that fulfill the Council’s needs. (Space available, need for social distancing, prior meeting locations no longer offering spaces, etc.) Currently, Metro Inclusive Health’s Saint Petersburg office is the only location that staff has been able to secure but continue to seek additional meeting locations outside of Pinellas County.  PCS staff, Katie Scussel, wrapped up the report with a reminder to submit mileage for reimbursement, if eligible. This includes both voting members and non-affiliated People Living with HIV who travel for in-person meetings. |
| HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH HIV/AIDS (HOPWA) REPORT | HOPWA representative and Care Council member, Kayon Henderson, began the housing report by thanking the EHE planning councils for inviting HOPWA to speak at their events, as well as to advertise funding opportunities. Henderson went on to address concerns members have expressed regarding the perceived lack of notice for these opportunities by noting that she pulled Care Council minutes, for the past year, and confirmed that in at least three meetings these opportunities were advertised.  The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development has launched a competitive grant for approximately $40 million for HOPWA and all non-profit agencies are eligible to apply. HOPWA staff member Anne Cronyn has sent this information to all non-profits they have previously worked with and will share with PCS staff for distribution.  To address the emergency rental assistance program, Henderson reported that HOPWA hoped to see more of a need, but with the overlap of stimulus checks used towards rent, people did not seek funding from HOPWA as expected. Currently, they are receiving requests for back-rent and can cover up to 12 months of back-rent to retain people in safe housing as the eviction moratorium was lifted that same morning. She noted that although landlords were unable to evict tenants for the inability to pay their rent, many found loopholes in their lease agreements and evicted tenants based on breaking contingencies of their leases (ex. Having guests stay overnight). It is ultimately up to the individual to apply for this assistance. They are accepting all individuals who are up to 80% above the Federal Poverty Line (FPL) and encourage people to call HOPWA directly if they experience any issues with applying online. |
| COMMITTEE REPORTS | 1. **Standards, Issues, and Operations Committee (SIOC) – Myles (Edward) Myles, Care Council Vice-Chair**   SIOC did not meet in April 2021.   1. **Community Advisory Committee (CAC) – Katie Scussel, Planning Council Support Staff; Vincent Kaborycha, Chair**   CAC Chair, Vincent Kaborycha, began the report by disclosing that he did not know if the committee has met as he has been overwhelmed with the vaccine roll-out and obtaining medical authorizations for vaccination. Many sites are informing people living with HIV that they must first consult with their Infectious Disease (ID) doctor prior to being administered the vaccine. Currently, he is not aware of any educational materials that address the subject. Care Council member, Joel Carrier, disclosed experiencing a similar issue as he was refused the vaccine when recently hospitalized and sent to an assisted living facility (ALF) where everyone else was receiving the vaccine. Similar concerns were expressed by medical staff as they do not know if it is safe to administer the vaccine to those living with HIV. It was ultimately up to Carrier to follow-up with a physician for an authorization form.  Staff put emphasis on the need for attendance at CAC meetings so these and similar issues can be raised at that time and solutions can be found ahead of Care Council meetings.  CAC will meet again May 27, 2021 at 1:30 p.m. by way of GoToWebinar.    **C. Health Services Advisory Committee (HSAC) – Elizabeth Rugg, Chair**  HSAC met on April 18, 2021 and members discussed oral health needs such as crowns and more sophisticated surgical dental options. The committee requested that a Part A funded provider come to the next meeting to discuss these issues with the group. Dorinda Seth, of the Recipient’s office, agreed to connect with the appropriate persons and request that they attend. Care Council member, Peggy Wallace, happily offered to be a part of provider discussions going forward.  HSAC will meet again June 17, 2021 at 1:30 p.m. by way of GoToWebinar.  **D. Membership, Nominations, Recruitment & Training Committee – Tonicia Freeman-Foster, Chair**  The Membership Committee met virtually on April 19, 2021, with quorum made.  Currently 53% of Care Council members are people living with HIV and, of those, 33% are unaffiliated (not working for funded agencies). The Council continues to need someone to represent mental health and substance misuse as well as someone from the Department of Health and State Medicaid office. All three of these seats are mandated by Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).  Committee members discussed the National Minority AIDS Council (NMAC) report *(provided to all attendees in their electronic and paper packets)* and looked for themes about the desire for a sense of belonging and understanding resources available (ex. Transportation reimbursement). Members agreed for the need for cultural humility training to be incorporated in all areas of the Care Council. The NMAC timeline for training continues to be pushed back and members do not want to stay stagnant and seek strategies in the interim. Freeman-Foster noted that Yashika Everhart and Naomi Ardjomand-Kermani are in the process of reaching out to subject matter experts for guidance and cost estimations. She added that these changes need to be represented within the Care Council bylaws and member expectations. The need for increasing cultural awareness at meetings is obvious and the Membership Committee is taking these results seriously to provide appropriate responses.  The committee continues to brainstorm the necessary evolution of the onboarding and new member orientation process and hopes to create a virtual version of these trainings, coupled with knowledge checks, so anyone can access these resources when necessary.  Care Council Chair, Nolan Finn, queried attendees for their perceptions of the NMAC report and garnered a response from Lead Agency staff, Darius Lightsey. Lightsey expressed appreciation for the report but added that everything reported was already known to the Council. Recommendations made will not resolve issues with barriers to membership and Sunshine Law restrictions, thus no viable solutions have been provided within the NMAC report. Finn requested that the Recipient approach the county attorney again for permission to create a mentorship/buddy program. Freeman-Foster responded that options are available and simultaneously people need to feel that Council meetings are safe spaces to speak up without feeling judged or retaliated against. That the priority it to create a culture where people feel accepted when they walk in and feel affirmed to stay. She added that a buddy system will not help solve these issues. Lead Agency staff, Yashika Everhart, concurred and added that for those most marginalized to feel comfortable in the room, Chairs, staff, and committees all need to know and understand privilege and microaggressions and acknowledge their roles and responsibilities. Recipient, Aubrey Arnold, added that everyone would benefit from Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) training and admitted that even he didn’t know what microaggressions were until recently. He continued that this is an example of the work that is yet to be done within this field to work towards creating welcoming environments and away from upsetting and harming others.  Freeman-Foster went on to recognize that there is no glossary for what offends and hurts others, the goal is to build relationships that allow for authenticity and acknowledging when harm is done. Lightsey inquired as to how the report will be used going forward and Freeman-Foster responded with doing the work that comes from cultural humility training, creating rules and guidelines that are instituted in the Council bylaws. Humility is being and how we navigate spaces, thus the committee anticipates ongoing discussions at each Council and committee meeting.  The Membership Committee will meet next on May 20, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at EPIC’s Francis House in Tampa.  **E. Planning & Evaluation Committee (P&E) – Naomi Ardjomand-Kermani, Planning Council Support Staff**  P&E met on April 8, 2021 at EPIC’s Suncoast Hospice Garden House at 11:00 a.m.  Quorum was not met, so business was unable to be passed. Although not voted on, the Eligible Metropolitan Area’s (EMA) Needs Assessment was reviewed, with no questions asked from members.  P&E will meet again on May 13, 2021 by way of GoToWebinar\*, due to the inability to make in-person quorum, as determined by the committee. This was based on travel and meeting conflicts for members of the committee.  **F. Women, Infants, Children, Youth, & Families (WICY&F) – Paula Delgado, Chair**  WICY&F Co-Chair, Paula Delgado reported that the committee met last on April 22, 2021 by way of GoToWebinar\*, with 7 members, 1 guest, and 1 staff present.  The committee reviewed the EMA’s Epidemiology and Care Continuum reports and discussed data trends relevant to WICY&F providers.  Currently there is no committee Co-Chair, so the group plans to vote for a new co-chair in June 2021.  WICY&F will reconvene on May 27, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. via GoToWebinar\*. |
| ENDING THE EPIDEMIC (EHE) UPDATES | 1. **Hillsborough County Arnold**   Arnold reported that the full award of $1,667,000 has been received and the program is off to another successful year. Procurements will be sent out in late May in the hopes to have new contracts in place by August 2021.   1. **Pinellas County Everhart/Lightsey**   Darius Lightsey reported that Pinellas County’s EHE has been approved to create a community-based website for a mode of communication throughout all communities, distanced from the Department of Health. They have selected local vendors to contract with and the website will be launched, with streaming media and advertising included, soon.  Lightsey went on to announced that one community partner, Abundant Life Ministries, will hold a prayer vigil on May 6, 2021 for HIV/AIDS and gun violence awareness, at Child’s Park, at 6:00 p.m. On May 8, 2021 they will host a community block party focused on HIV/AIDS and gun violence awareness on May 8, 2021 at the Deuces from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. Speakers, food, entertainment, and outreach will be provided. Phi Beta Sigma will collaborate with Abundant Life Ministries to host a youth forum on May 9, 2021.  Pinellas County’s EHE has a cultural intelligence training with Gwendolyn Reese, on May 12, 2021 and the next EHE quarterly meeting will be held on July 29, 2021. They anticipate a meeting on October 28, 2021 to follow; both held virtually from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. |
| PUBLIC POLICY REPORT / COMMUNITY INPUT | None. |
| PREVENTION ACTIVITIES / QUALITY MANAGEMENT (QM) | Quality Management (QM) consultant, David Cavalleri, presented details of the Assessment of the Administrative Mechanism (AAM) to attendees and handed out physical copies of the survey to all Care Council and RPARC members to complete in-person. Cavalleri stated that the AAM’s purpose is to evaluate how well Part A is spending funding monies. Care Council and RPARC members are surveyed and have the option to take the survey electronically as well (link e-mailed directly from QM to members). He asked that Part A representative, Aubrey Arnold, leave the meeting so members felt comfortable disclosing their comments and critiques. |
| ANNOUNCEMENTS | Care Council member and Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) funded provider, Lisa Conder, announced that Help Us Help U will be hosting a community resource event on May 18, 2021 from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. at the 1600 block of 16th Street South in Saint Petersburg.  Lead Agency staff, Darius Lightsey, took the time to commend Care Council member and EHE funded provider, J. Carl Devine, for the events Banyan Tree has hosted recently, such as the Men’s Day party where discussions were centered around healthy sexual behaviors, and the Sunday POSE watch party.  A representative from Midway Specialty Care Center, another EHE funded provider introduced themself and expressed interest in joining the Care Council. *\*Note: A planning council support staff member followed up with this individual after the adjournment of the meeting.* |
| ADJOURNMENT | There being no further business to come before the Care Council, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:10 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 AND ATTACHMENTS | 1. May 5, 2021 Agenda 2. May 2021 Calendar 3. **April 7, 2021** **minutes** 4. Background: Part A Reallocation Recommendations    1. **Part A Reallocation Recommendations** 5. Funding Year 2020-2021 Ryan White Part A COVID-19 Response Preliminary Expenditures Report |

**ATTENDANCE LIST: MAY 5, 2021**

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| **Care Council Members** | **Attendance** |
| Nolan Finn *(Chair)* | X *in-person* |
| (Myles) Edward Myles *(Vice-Chair)* | X *in-person* |
| Joel Carrier | X |
| Lisa Conder | X |
| Paula Delgado | X *in-person* |
| J Carl Devine | X *in-person* |
| Kayon Henderson | X |
| Vincent Kaborycha | X |
| Kamaria Laffrey | X |
| Jeffrey Lluberes | X *in-person* |
| Michelle McKinney | ALT *in-person* |
| Amanda Miller | ALT *in-person* |
| Kimberly Molnar | X |
| Peggy Wallace | ALT *in-person* |
| Charles Ware | X |
|  |  |
| **Associate Members** | **Attendance** |
| Nicole Kish |  |
|  |  |
| **Recipient Staff** | **Attendance** |
| Aubrey Arnold | X *in-person* |
| Dorinda Seth |  |
| Maria Teresa Jaureguizar |  |
|  |  |
| **Lead Agency Staff** | **Attendance** |
| Darius Lightsey | X *in-person* |
| Yashika Everhart | X |
|  |  |
| **Health Council Staff** | **Attendance** |
| Lisa Nugent | X |
| Katie Scussel | X *in-person* |
| Naomi Ardjomand-Kermani | X *in-person* |
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| **Regular Guests** | **Attendance** |
| Jim Roth |  |
| Dave Konnerth |  |
| Elizabeth Rugg | X |
| Emily Hughart |  |
| David Cavalleri | X *in-person* |
| Tonicia Freeman-Foster | X |
| Kirsty Gutierrez | X |
| Allison Rapp |  |
| Lillie Bruton | X |
| Crystal Waddy | X |
| Angela Kellogg | X |
| Michelle Keyes |  |
| Sam Quintero | X |
| Donna Sabatino |  |
| Antonio Miles | X |
|  |  |
| **Guests** | **Attendance** |
| Michael Alonso |  |
| Jasmine Alvarado |  |
| Katherine Barbera |  |
| Conrad Barzarea |  |
| Shakayla Birch |  |
| Dawn Branley |  |
| Taryn Buckley |  |
| Jose Camino |  |
| Joshua Cardwell | X |
| Michael Carlton |  |
| Mike Catala |  |
| Gregory Clark |  |
| Everis Clarke |  |
| Donna Corpuz |  |
| Anne Cronyn | X |
| Diamond Cunningham |  |
| Scott Dartange |  |
| Michael Dunn |  |
| Darlene Duran |  |
| Lolita Emanuel-Brown |  |
| Brittany Frederick |  |
| Karlie Gallagher |  |
| Geneva Galloway |  |
| Beth Gotti |  |
| Tashann Grant |  |
| Pierre Guttenberg |  |
| Khalil Hall |  |
| Indica Harris |  |
| Chris Holland |  |
| Lovell Harp |  |
| Shayla Hobbs |  |
| Michael Holder |  |
| Sherri Hoover |  |
| Nicole Houston | X |
| Karen Hoyle |  |
| Marylin Jones |  |
| Vicki Kenyon |  |
| Janet Kitchen |  |
| Topher Larkin |  |
| Grace Levy-Clarke |  |
| Andrew Maldonado |  |
| Olinda Manjenje |  |
| Andrew McFarbme |  |
| Sean McIntosh |  |
| Mark Mischan |  |
| Carmen Millie Montanez |  |
| Lauren Miller |  |
| Jamie Morano |  |
| Denise Mote |  |
| Michael Neuges |  |
| Sheyla Nobles |  |
| James Ogedegbe |  |
| Vicky Oliver |  |
| Sebastian Osorio |  |
| Steve Palermo |  |
| Terrell Parker |  |
| Guttenberg Pierre |  |
| Juliana Pinero |  |
| Dee Prendergast |  |
| Hope Sharon Proell |  |
| Ashley Quidaciolu |  |
| Dedra Richardson |  |
| Shaquira Robinson |  |
| Allison Ruby |  |
| Sheila Ruck |  |
| Christine Santos |  |
| Michelle Scavnicky |  |
| 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, June 2, 2021.

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