**WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL
WOMEN, INFANT, CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES COMMITTEE**

**GOTO WEBINAR**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 2021**

**10:00 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.**

# MINUTES

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| CALL TO ORDER | The meeting was called to order by Holly Beaver, Chair, at 10:05 AM. |
| ATTENDANCE | Members Present: Holly Beaver, Alex Cario, Lisa Conder, Paula Delgado, Mary Frances Jones, Marylin Merida, Sheila Ruck, Barbara SzelagMembers Absent: Kamaria Laffrey, Michelle McKinney, Bernard WashingtonGuests Present: NoneRecipient Staff Present: NoneLead Agency Staff Present: NoneHealth Council Staff Present: Katie Scussel |
| CHANGES TO AGENDA | There were no changes to the agenda. As an icebreaker, members shared what they wanted to be when they grew up and what was their first job. |
| **ADOPTION OF MINUTES** | The committee reviewed the minutes for February 25, 2021 and did not make any changes. The minutes were tabled as the committee is unable to vote virtually at this time.  |
| **CARE COUNCIL REPORT** |

|  |
| --- |
| The Care Council met virtually on March 3, 2021. Their first in-person meeting will be next month on April 7, 2021 at Metro Inclusive Health in St. Pete. This meeting will be a hybrid meeting and anyone who wants can join virtually.The Part A Recipient, Aubrey Arnold, informed Care Council members that fiscal year 2020-2021 ended at the end of February and the 2021-2022 fiscal year began on March 1, 2021. Part A has received a partial award and awaits their full notice of award. Financials are currently under review but the Part A program expects over 95% spend down of their total funding. Part A also received a partial award of $240,000 thorugh Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) and are hoping for an increase over last years $1,000,000 for the total award.The Part B new fiscal year begins April 1, 2021. Part B staff are currently working on contract renewals and executing new contracts. Kayon Henderson with the City of Tampa gave an update on HOPWA. For the 2019 funding year, they assisted 650 individuals with housing and spent $4.2 million. HOPWA has been parting with Hillsborough HOPE since early on in the pandemic and is hoping to partner with Pinellas HOPE as well. If any committee members are interested in further HOPWA updates, staff can get them in touch with Kayon. |

 |
| **MOMENT OF INSPIRATION** | Holly Beaver asked everyone to take a moment of silence to recognize the victims of the recent mass shootings in Atlanta, Georgia and Boulder, Colorado. |
| WOMEN/ YOUTH/ CONCERNS/ UPDATES  | Alex Cario shared that the Children’s AIDS Foundation (CAF) recently received a very large donation from an anonymous donor that wanted to be able to make a big impact the lives of as many youth as possible. The USF Pediatrics case managers put together a list of fifteen clients and their families and made a list of their biggest financial needs, including several clients facing late payments and eviction notices. Alex noted that it was great to be able to help these clients after a year of very little fundraising during the pandemic.Marylin Merida stated that at the most recent Planning and Evaluation Committee meeting, the committee reviewed the Epidemiology Report. Marylin noted that the report has some really good data and suggested that the WICY&F committee look at some of the data around women and youth to identify any new trends. Katie Scussel, Staff, agreed to send the report out to the committee list after the call and to add it as an agenda item next month. Marylin also noted that she had recently seen that COVID vaccine trials were being opened to children and babies. There is emerging evidence on vertical transmission between mothers and babies that Marylin said she is interested in hearing more about. Alex added that the governor recently announced that starting April 5th, all adults over 18 in Florida can be vaccinated. Holly brought up that now that more and more people are being vaccinated and hopefully the committee members will all have access within the next month, perhaps the committee should discuss resuming in-person meetings. Members agreed to discuss it further at the next meeting, with an in-person meeting happening possibly as soon as May. Staff mentioned that we can transition to in-person meetings slowly, offering a conference line for anyone unable to come in-person yet. Staff also mentioned that since Brandee Butler is no longer on the committee, the committee will need to vote on a new Co-Chair whenever we meet again in-person. |
| **COMMUNITY CONCERNS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS**  | Sheila Ruck announced that the recent COVID relief bill includes a COBRA subsidy, meaning that if anyone has patients, clients, friends, or family who have recently lost their jobs or who may lose their jobs in the next six months the federal government will help pay for them to access COBRA through the end of September 2021. Sheila also mentioned that enrollment in the Health Insurance Marketplace has been extended through August 15th.  |
| **ADJOURNMENT** | There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 AM. |