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

**GOTO MEETING**

**THURSDAY AUGUST 25, 2022**

**10:00 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.**

# MINUTES

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| CALL TO ORDER | The meeting was called to order by Amanda Miller at 10:04 am. |
| ATTENDANCE | Attendees Present: Holly Beaver, Paula Delgado, Mary Jones, Amanda Miller, Tara Ochoa, Barbara Szelag, Wanda Vazquez, Bernard Washington, Kristin Ziegler  Recipient Staff Present: None  Lead Agency Staff Present: None  Health Council Staff Present: Katie Scussel |
| CHANGES TO AGENDA | There were no changes to the agenda. |
| **REVIEW OF MINUTES** | The group reviewed the minutes for July 28, 2022 and did not make any edits. |
| **CARE COUNCIL REPORT** | Care Council staff, Katie Scussel, reported that the Care Council met on August 3, 2022 at Metro Inclusive Health in Tampa. An election was held for Chair and Vice. The new Chair is E.S. Myles, who was formerly the Vice Chair, and the new Vice Chair is Rachel Brown. The Council also voted on Part A allocation recommendations. There was an additional $946,189 allocated to Outpatient Ambulatory Health Services, Medical Case Management, Oral Health, Mental Health, Substance Abuse, and Health Education and Risk Reduction (HERR). Katie explained that this funding was made up of both additional money, since the Part A program had received a larger grant award this year, and money reallocated from the Emergency Financial Assistance line of the budget which has been underutilized, so no money was taken away from existing services. The Council also voted on Service Priorities, one new member, and the Care Continuum and Epidemiology Reports.  For the Part A Recipient’s report, Aubrey Arnold announced he would be attending the Florida Comprehensive Planning Network’s August meeting, which would be on the state’s Integrated Plan. Aubrey also announced that the Part A program would be receiving $180,000 in carryover funding this fall, funding that was unspent from the previous year, so there will be reallocation recommendations brought to the Care Council once that is received. Aubrey also gave an update on the change in eligibility from six months to one year, saying that it was expected to be rolled out in October but has been delayed until November.  For the Part B update, Darius Lightsey announced that there were a number of vacancies within the Florida Department of Health in Pinellas, including a contract manager position. Chris Walker, one of the Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) coordinators is also leaving DOH to start his PhD program.  Katie also noted that the Care Council briefly discussed the current Rules of Engagement, which suspended the bylaws and collapsed most of the committees. Members voted to extend the Rules of Engagement until December 31st. There will be an ad hoc committee meeting to discuss planning for the transition, either bringing back committees or continuing the current structure.  The next Care Council meeting will be on September 7th at 1:30 pm at Metro Inclusive Health in St. Pete. |
| **MOMENT OF INSPIRATION** | Amanda Miller asked the group whether anyone was attending the National Ryan White Conference, which was being held virtually the same week. Amanda reported that she saw Ryan White’s mother speak on dealing with Ryan’s diagnosis during a time when no one knew much about HIV and the backlash she faced from the community. She shared that it was especially inspiring hearing her perspective as a mom. Amanda commented that the sessions were recorded and encouraged everyone to listen to the recordings when they are available. |
| FALL EVENT PLANNING | Attendees discussed planning for the fall event. Bernard Washington gave an update on locations, saying he had a contact at the Deuces in St. Pete through the Burg Cares and would update the group once hearing back from them.  Mary Jones introduced Wanda Vazquez, community liaison with Janssen Infectious Disease and Vaccines. Wanda explained that, as a community liaison, her role is to provide education for clients on different aspects of HIV. Janssen has a fund to support different community events. To access these funds, the group would need to write a request letter detailing the specific needs of the event and have a draft agenda. Once details are finalized, the group can get this information to Wanda and discuss funding. Wanda shared her information in the chat: Wanda Vazquez, Sr Community Liaison, Janssen Scientific Affairs, LLC 1125 Trento-Harbournton Rd. Titusville, NJ 08560. |
| WOMEN/ YOUTH/ CONCERNS/ UPDATES | Holly Beaver shared that a baby recently tested positive for HIV in Pinellas County. Perinatal transmissions are rare in this area, with one other case occurring in 2020. Holly shared that it appears the mom acquired HIV during pregnancy and did not have any prenatal care. She is struggling with substance misuse and it is uncertain whether she will stay in care. The baby is receiving treatment at All Children’s and will unfortunately be placed in foster care. |
| ANNOUNCEMENTS | Amanda Miller announced that there would be a patient education event at Metro Inclusive Health in St. Pete on Tuesday, September 13th. Dinner will be provided for guests who RSVP. The event targets anyone over 40 living with HIV who may also have diabetes or high cholesterol. Amanda said she sent the flyer to Katie and it would be in the next InfoShare. |
| **ADJOURNMENT** | The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 AM. |