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

**GOTO MEETING**

**THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 22, 2022**

**10:00 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.**

# MINUTES

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| CALL TO ORDER | The meeting was called to order by Holly Beaver at 10:05 am. |
| ATTENDANCE | Attendees Present: Holly Beaver, Paula Delgado, Mary Jones, Tara Ochoa, 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 August 25, 2022 and did not make any edits. |
| **CARE COUNCIL REPORT** | Care Council staff, Katie Scussel, reported that the Care Council met on September 7, 2022 at Metro Inclusive Health in St. Pete. This was the first meeting with the new Chair, E.S. Myles, and new Vice Chair, Rachel Brown. Action items included the approval of three new voting members and one associate member.  For the Part A Recipient report, Aubrey Arnold announced that the Part A program has been working on a data sharing agreement with the Florida Department of Health (DOH) for the last couple years. The agreement was finally approved by the county and has been signed. The agreement will allow data sharing between the e2-Hillsborough system and DOH, which will make things more seamless for reaching clients who have been lost to care or people trying to get back into care, as well as people who are newly diagnosed. There will be some updates to client consent forms to reflect this change. Aubrey also mentioned that Part A is working on its yearly grant application and is asking for $11,207,839 from the federal government for the local Part A program, which would be a 5% increase from the previous year. The Part A program will be receiving around $180,000 in carryover funding, so Aubrey expects to bring allocation recommendations to the Care Council for these funds in November. All carryover funds are required to go back into direct services. Aubrey also announced that Part A will be opening up a Request for Applications in October. They will be procuring for the Health Education/Risk Reduction program and for some housing and substance abuse services in Pasco and Hernando Counties.  There was no report from Part B.  Care Council staff will be participating in a Planning Council Recruitment and Retention Learning Collaborative starting in October. It will be a series of six training sessions between October and March, working with other Planning Councils across the nation on strategizing ways to boost recruitment and retention.  The next Care Council meeting will be on October 5th at 1:30 pm at Metro Inclusive Health in St. Pete.  Katie went on to mention that the Rules of Engagement, the agreement that the Care Council is currently operating under that suspended the committees, has been extended through the end of December. An Ad Hoc Committee met this week to discuss planning for the transition out of the Rules of Engagement and whether to bring back committees. Katie said based on the discussion, it seems likely some committees will be brought back but they may combine their meetings or meet less frequently, such as quarterly or every other month.  Katie asked the group how they felt about WICY&F operation as a work group over the last year and whether they wanted to continue meeting this way or go back to being a formal committee. Members expressed that they preferred to continue as a work group. Members also decided they would continue to rotate through the list of attendees and take turns leading the meeting, rather than electing a Chair. |
| **MOMENT OF INSPIRATION** | Holly read a passage to the group:  *“As you go from day to day, you may encounter situations that depict the need for helping hands. Sometimes you never take action because you think your small contribution or action will not make a difference. But in the poem Just One, the author clearly details for you the power that you can have. You can, in fact, make a different with one small act or tiny gesture. And remember, if each person performs one small act of kindness, it all adds up. And not only does your act of kindness make a difference, but when combined with the same from others, it becomes all the more powerful.”* |
| FALL EVENT PLANNING | Attendees discussed planning for the fall event. Bernard Washington gave an update on locations, saying he was waiting to hear back from someone at the Deuces in St. Pete whether the space could be used for free. Bernard said he would reach back out to his contact. Holly asked what date the group had decided on and Katie said she thought Thursday, November 17th, or any date that week.  The group talked about how many things had changed over the last couple months, in terms of staffing, and that it had been a long time since they had done anything in-person, so it was uncertain whether they would still be able to pull off an event as large as they used to, but that they would still try. Mary said that Wanda Vazquez would still be able to help with refreshments, once the details were finalized. The group talked about possibly postponing the event until December, if they were unable to finalize everything in time.  Holly asked if there was a reason we weren’t using Metro Inclusive Health for the location. Katie answered she thought the group was looking at outdoor spaces, to be safer in terms of COVID, though finding an outdoor space did make planning the event much more difficult when both EPIC and Metro have large meeting spaces with tables and chairs.  The group agreed to share any updates with Katie over the next month and she will email them out to the group. |
| WOMEN/ YOUTH/ CONCERNS/ UPDATES | There were no women/youth concerns shared. |
| ANNOUNCEMENTS | Bernard announced that the Ybor Youth Clinic is hosting an event for National Gay Men’s HIV/AIDS Awareness Day on Tuesday, September 27th. They will be doing free HIV and TB testing all day from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm. The flyer will be in the next InfoShare. |
| **ADJOURNMENT** | The meeting was adjourned at 10:46 AM. |