

WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL

**GOTO MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2023**

**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 E.S. Myles, Chair, at 1:32 p.m. |
| ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS | See attached attendance list.  As an icebreaker, E.S. Myles asked members to share something they would like to do differently in the new year. |
| CHANGES TO AGENDA | Prior to the meeting, Myles requested that there be time allotted during the moment of silence to honor Yashika Everhart. |
| MOMENT OF SILENCE | Myles announced for those who may or may not already know, that we lost one of our own in this work, Yashika Everhart. Myles requested that members and guests take the time to recognize her and honor her, for all she has done for the community and the legacy she has left. Myles called on Darius Lightsey to speak.  Darius Lightsey said his world was rocked on December 8th when he received news that Yashika had transitioned. She was a force in this work and was his sister, on a personal level. Darius said that Yashika’s presence is sorely missed at the health department and that anyone who worked closely with Yashika is likely feeling that loss as well. Yashika was honored at a memorial service that was very well attended. She was then taken back to her hometown, Birmingham, Alabama, where her family held a funeral service and she was buried. Yashika leaves behind a husband, a 17-year-old son, and a 13-year-old daughter.  Darius went on to say that Yashika came up through the ranks in the HIV program, first as a data manager, then as a contract manager, then as grants manager. She always wanted to know what she didn’t know. She was fiercely independent and stood her ground. Darius said that he was her supervisor, but that they were a team. Darius said it has been difficult, but that they are pushing forward and he is grateful for his team.  Myles thanks Darius for his words. He then said that Yashika has touched every one of us in different ways and that she will never be forgotten.  In the chat, Riley Johnson mentioned that he would like to uplift the memory of HIV advocate, Robert Bobo, who also passed recently.  Members had a moment of silence honoring Yashika Everhart and Robert Bobo. |
| ADOPTION OF MINUTES | Members reviewed the minutes from the December 7, 2022 meeting. Members were unable to adopt the minutes, due to the meeting being virtual. |
| CHAIR/VICE CHAIR’S REPORT | Myles, Chair, said that he would like to do more work out in the community and though he is only one person, he is going to try his best to join others in doing more community work. On January 21st, Myles’ organization, We Are The Change, in collaboration with Metro Inclusive Health, will be putting on a Day of Service event. There will be hot food and clothes provided to those in need. Myles said he would send Katie a flyer to share.  Rachel Brown, Vice Chair, shared that she was really looking forward to hearing more about IDEA and the syringe exchange program and safer injection practices. She said that substance use has been overlooked and dismissed and it was time to shine a light on it and bring people the help they need. |
| RECIPIENT’S REPORT | Recipient staff, Dorinda Seth, reported that Part A is coming up on the close of the grant year, which will end at the end of February. Dorinda said that Part A expects to get a partial award next month, but that they had not received anything yet. Typically, Part A receives a partial award in February and the full award in May. Dorinda concluded her report saying not much has happened since the last meeting.  Member, Nolan Finn, said that he had been copied on a message from HRSA the day before saying that they were giving out partial awards based on 26% of the formula awards and 16% of Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) awards. Dorinda said she had not seen that and asked whether it was for our local area or just what HRSA was projecting for the awards. Nolan said he didn’t know for sure. Dorinda said hopefully that meant there would be partial awards by next month. |
| LEAD AGENCY REPORT | Darius Lightsey reported that Part B is working on contract renewals for the new grant year, realigning some internal processes, working on getting fully staffed again, and wrapping up the grant year. Darius then said that he expects level funding for the upcoming grant year. |
| CARE COUNCIL PLANNING SUPPORT (PCS) STAFF REPORT | Planning Council Support (PCS) Staff, Katie Scussel, reported that the ad hoc committee meeting on Care Council committees would be on Tuesday, January 10th at 1:30 pm. Katie said that she would send out a notice with the meeting link later that day.  Katie then gave an update on the Needs Assessment survey, saying the area has received just under 200 responses. The response rate has increased but there is still a ways to go before meeting the goal. The survey will be open through the end of March. Katie thanked all providers who are working hard to get the survey out to their clients.  Lastly, Katie announced that the next meeting would likely be at the Children’s Board. We have a current reservation there for February, but need to check about the technology set up for the hybrid meetings. There is a back-up reservation at Metro Inclusive Health in St. Pete, if it does not work out with the Children’s Board. |
| COMMUNITY INPUT | There was no community input. |
| **ANNOUNCEMENTS** | Member, Anne Cronyn, with the City of Tampa, shared a link in the chat for a housing funding opportunity for all Ryan White providers. The awards will be up to $250,000 per year for up to three years. Anyone interesting in applying needs to submit a letter of intent by January 16th. Anne said that any providers in Hillsborough County who would like assistance with a letter of support from the mayor’s office can get in touch with her and she will do what she can to help.  Lisa Nugent, Suncoast Health Council staff, shared that the Hillsborough County School Board has scheduled a special hearing on Thursday, January 12th to discuss the hearing officer’s recommendations regarding the petitions against the sexual health curriculum that Hillsborough County has been using. Lisa explained that Hillsborough County Schools has had a pretty robust sexual health curriculum that they have been trying to use for many years but it has been cut back several times. There are people who are trying to challenge the information that is in the curriculum and trying to have a lot taken out. If anyone is interested in speaking at that meeting or at the next regularly scheduled School Board meeting, Lisa can send information. Lisa also shared a form in the chat so individuals can express their views to the School Board.  Member, Teriko Perkins, announced several upcoming events with Midway Specialty Care. Every second Tuesday of the month they host Three T: Test, Talent, and Trivia at Cityside Lounge, a sexual health game night and community talent show. During the night they also offer free rapid HIV and Hep C testing, as well as linkage to PrEP. Midway Specialty Care also has monthly focus groups kicking off this month, Midway in the City, which is an all-inclusive group that will be meeting on the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm. The topic this month will be new year, new sexual health and it will be at the Temple Terrace office. On January 18th there will be a Trans Social at 6:30 pm, which will be open to all individuals who are trans or trans-loving. There will also be an event on February 5th in celebration of National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, the annual PrEP pageant, Mr. and Ms. PrEP. Local drag entertainers are invited to come out and compete. The prize package has been upgraded this year and they will be giving out $2000 to the winner, sponsored by Gilead and ViiV Healthcare. Teriko will send event flyers to staff to share in the next InfoShare.  Member, Antonio Miles, announced that EVOLVE Tampa Bay will be having their next Pillow Talk event on February 10th. Pillow Talks are held on a quarterly basis and provide a space to discuss matters and issues that affect Black, same gender loving men in the Tampa area. Antonio also announced that the next Miss Shave My Face Pageant was rescheduled to February 19th and will be at the Cuban Club in Tampa. It is an amateur pageant that is PrEP and prevention centered. Anyone interested in competing can reach out to Antonio.  Nicole Houston from the Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County announced that the next Pinellas Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) Council meeting would be on January 26th at EPIC in St. Pete from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. It will be a hybrid meeting but attendees are encouraged to be there in-person. The invite will be going out within the next couple of days. Nicole also announced that if anyone has events in Pinellas County that they would like promoted, that they can submit them to [pinellasehe@flhealth.gov](mailto:pinellasehe@flhealth.gov) for the EHE biweekly newsletter.  Antonio Miles announced that Positively U has moved locations. They are still on Waters Avenue but have moved across the street to a larger location at 1419 W Waters Ave, Suite 117. |
| ADJOURNMENT | The meeting was adjourned early for a presentation by Bernice McCoy on IDEA Exchange Tampa.  There being no further business to come before the Care Council, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:08 p.m. |
| Note: A recording of the meeting is available by request | For further details about this Care Council meeting, please visit thecarecouncil.org to access meeting minutes and handouts. |
| LIST OF HANDOUTS AND ATTACHMENTS | 1. January 4, 2023 Agenda 2. December 7, 2022 Minutes 3. January 2023 Calendar |
| WEBSITES CITED | Housing Funding Opportunity for Ryan White Providers: <https://www.csh.org/hrsata/sure-housing/>  Speak Out for Comprehensive Sex Ed in Hillsborough County Schools: <https://act.progressflorida.org/letter/Speak_out_for_sex_ed/> |

**Attendance**

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| **Care Council Members** | **Attendance** |
| (Myles) Edward Myles *(Chair)* | *Virtual* |
| Rachel Brown *(Vice-Chair)* | *Virtual* |
| Steven Becker | *Virtual* |
| Lillie Bruton | *Virtual* |
| Joel Carrier |  |
| Anne Cronyn | *Virtual* |
| J Carl Devine | *Virtual* |
| Nolan Finn | *Virtual* |
| Sheryl Hoolsema |  |
| Nataliya Johnson | *Virtual* |
| Riley Johnson | *Virtual* |
| Vincent Kaborycha |  |
| Angela Kellogg | *Virtual* |
| Nicole Kish |  |
| Kamaria Laffrey |  |
| Jeffrey Lluberes | *Virtual* |
| Bernice McCoy | *Virtual* |
| Michelle McKinney |  |
| Marylin Merida | *Virtual* |
| Antonio Miles | *Virtual* |
| Amanda MIller |  |
| Kim Molnar | *Virtual* |
| Teriko Perkins | *Virtual* |
| Peggy Wallace | *Virtual* |
| Bernard Washington | *Virtual* |
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| **Associate Members** | **Attendance** |
| Chris Gudis | *Virtual* |
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| **Recipient Staff** | **Attendance** |
| Aubrey Arnold |  |
| Dorinda Seth | *Virtual* |
| Maria Teresa Jaureguizar | *Virtual* |
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| **Lead Agency Staff** | **Attendance** |
| Darius Lightsey | *Virtual* |
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| **Health Council Staff** | **Attendance** |
| Abigail Machtel | *Virtual* |
| Lisa Nugent | *Virtual* |
| Katie Scussel | *Virtual* |
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| **Regular Guests** | **Attendance** |
| David Cavalleri | *Virtual* |
| Emily Hughart |  |
| Elizabeth Rugg | *Virtual* |
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| **Guests** | **Attendance** |
| Sara Blanks | *Virtual* |
| Joshua Cardwell | *Virtual* |
| Lisa Conder | *Virtual* |
| Nicole Houston | *Virtual* |
| Cathy LaBuz | *Virtual* |
| Ian Martin | *Virtual* |
| Mike Neuges | *Virtual* |
| Corynne Nguyen | *Virtual* |
| Indira Palomino | *Virtual* |
| Nathan Remy | *Virtual* |
| Donna Sabatino | *Virtual* |
| Chris Walker | *Virtual* |
| Kevin Williams | *Virtual* |

*ALT= Alternate present*  *EX = Excused*

I, Chair E.S. Myles, do certify that these minutes have been approved by me and the members of the Care Council on this day, February 1, 2022.

E.S. Myles, Chair: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_