

WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL

**THE CHILDREN’S BOARD OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2024**

**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 1:37 p.m. |
| ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS | See attached attendance list. |
| CHANGES TO AGENDA | There were no changes to the agenda. |
| MOMENT OF SILENCE | Myles led everyone through a moment of silence. |
| ADOPTION OF MINUTES | Due to the Council not meeting quorum, the minutes from December 6, 2023 were not voted on. Edits for grammar were brought to the Council’s attention by Nolan Finn. |
| CHAIR/VICE CHAIR’S REPORT | Chair, E.S. Myles, reported that he went to Tallahassee to rally for trans rights and against the trans erasure bill currently in the State legislature. He stated that it was great to be around like-minded people and to be supportive of those who the bill effected. He also stated that the Day of Giving he had mentioned at February’s Care Council meeting went well. It was held in an apartment complex and was a success. He mentioned that there were more planned for the future. |
| RECIPIENT’S REPORT | Part A Recipient staff, Aubrey Arnold, reported that the 2023-2024 grant year had ended and wished everyone a happy new grant year. He reiterated that the Recipient had received a partial award for the new grant year and anticipated the full award in April or May. He expects the funding to remain at similar levels as last year. He mentioned that the Recipient would need to compete for the grant again this year as the 3 year competitive grant cycle has renewed.  The Board of County Commissioners approved all contracts for the new grant year. All contracts were in place by February 29th. The recipient also held a training for new providers to teach them the systems and processes in place. Aubrey reviewed that claims for the 2023-2024 grant year must be submitted by March 15th. Aubrey also stated that as of March 1st there was no oral health provider in Hernando and Pasco Counties. He stated that RPARC had agreed on combining the funding for both counties for one provider. In the meantime, clients who need oral health services in Pasco or Hernando Counties can visit a provider in any of the other counties.  Aubrey reminded the Council of some important dates. The HRSA site visit is scheduled for June 11-14, 2024. Aubrey also confirmed that the HRSA officers would not need to come to a Care Council meeting; they would only need to come to a SIOC meeting. The Ryan White Conference is scheduled for August. The EHE Technical Assistance Conference would be held in Washington DC on March 20-21. Aubrey announced that the Recipient and Lead Agency would be holding a case management training on April 18th. This training will be lead by the North Florida AETC. It will include Part D case managers.  Aubrey was asked by Nolan Finn for an updates on the expenditures and spend down rates. Aubrey stated that he was confident that the expenditures would reach 95%. He stated that the Recipient applied for a waiver that would allow the remaining money not spent to carryover to this grant year. Aubrey believed that the final expenditure reports should be available by the end of April. |
| LEAD AGENCY REPORT | For the Part B Lead Agency report, Joshua Cardwell started by thanking Aubrey for his help with the case manager training in April. The Lead Agency hosted the HIV/AIDS section of the Florida Department of Health for a site visit. Joshua shared that the feedback they received has been positive, but they did not have the final report yet. He stated that all contracts for the upcoming grant year should be executed by March 31st. The spend down rate for Part B services looked on track and better than in previous years.  He shared that he and Pinellas County HAPC Nicole Houston were looking at making the Part B program more complimentary to Part A so that it would work in addition to Part A and not have unnecessary duplication of services. There had been no updates from the State regarding the transition to the statewide fiduciary agent model. Members discussed what the fiduciary agent model would look like and how it would impact services. Joshua shared that he was under the impression the largest changes would be to the administrative side of the program. Members discussed how the State would communicate these changes to local areas and how they would remain involved once the changes take place. Joshua shared that many of these questions have not been answered, but he would share any updates he received. |
| HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH HIV/AIDS (HOPWA) REPORT | Anne Cronyn, City of Tampa, shared that she represented the HOPWA grantee for Hillsborough, Pinellas, Pasco, and Hernando Counties. The HOPWA program is currently about halfway through the first year of their three year grant cycle. The staff has started the monitoring phase of the cycle. The HOPWA formula has been modernized, but the Grantee is still having issues keeping up with rents and has had to serve less clients with more work to keep up.  Anne also shared that Congress had passed the Transportation and HUD budget allocations on March 3rd. Overall HUD saw an $8.3 billion increase, but some programs were cut altogether including some home programs like section 202 and section 811.  Anne also shared that based on the City of Tampa’s measurements there has been a 12% increase in homelessness in Tampa. The US Supreme Court has a bill on their docket that would greatly impact the homeless population essentially making homelessness illegal. The Florida State Legislature also has a bill proposed that would create the same laws in Florida. |
| CARE COUNCIL PLANNING SUPPORT (PCS) STAFF REPORT | Planning Council Support Staff, Abigail Dees, asked Council Members to sign the Guiding Principles that were on the tables in front of them. She reminded members that the Council had agreed to have members sign the Principles yearly.  Abigail also reminded guests of the Council to sign in before they left the meeting. |
| COMMITTEE/WORKGROUP REPORTS | **A. Planning and Evaluation Committee (P&E) – Nolan Finn, Co-Chair**  The Planning and Evaluation Committee did not meet in February. Their next meeting will be on March 14, 2024 at 9:30.  **B. Resource Prioritization and Allocation Recommendations Committee (RPARC) – Nolan Finn, Chair**  RPARC met on February 8, 2024 at Empath Health in Clearwater. The committee discussed Oral Health funding in Pasco and Hernando Counties. Members discussed the administrative burden for allocations of small amounts of money. Committee members voted to combine the funding for both counties due to no applicants applying for the separate funding in each county.   1. Part A Quarterly Expenditure Report   Nolan Finn stated that the greatest concern for this expenditure report was meeting a 95% spend down rate. Nolan confirmed that the Recipient was receiving invoices at a rate that should lead to a spend down rate of at least 95%.   1. Part B Quarterly Expenditure Report   Nolan shared that the expenditures were moving in the right direction for these allocations.   1. DOH State Quarterly Expenditure Report   Nolan stated that this fiscal year starts July 1st and all categories were moving well.  The RPARC will meet next on March 14th at 11:00 AM at Empath Health in Clearwater.  **C. Membership and Community Outreach – Abigail Dees, Staff**  Membership and Community met on February 19, 2024 at the Children’s Board of Hillsborough County.   1. **New Member Application – Luis**   New Member Applicant Antonio Luis introduced himself. He is a medical doctor working at his practice in Pinellas Park called Inclusive Care Group. His practice serves the LGBTQ community. He shared that he has been working with the HIV/AIDS population for a long time and is excited to serve the community and learn more about the Ryan White program. Due to the Council not having Quorum, Abigail Dees shared that the Council could not vote in this new member, but they would do so in April.   1. **New Member Application – Brown**   New Member Applicant Dal Brown introduced himself. Dal shared that he and his wife had recently moved from Texas where they owned organizations that work with the Health and Human Services Commision for vocation rehabilitation. They have since moved to Florida and work with the Florida Department of Education’s vocational rehab program. Their organization is expanding and they are in the competitive grant process for HOPWA for the Housing Intervention program. He would like to join the Council to help serve the community and gain a better understanding of the program.   1. Care Council Satisfaction Survey   Abigail Dees presented the Care Council Satisfaction Survey results. Overall the results were positive from both Committee and Care Council members. The main comments for improvement were to rotate meetings throughout the total service area and to have a virtual option for committees. Members had no questions or feedback to the results.  **D. Health Services Advisory Committee – Abigail Dees, Staff**  The Health Services Advisory Committee did not meet in February. Their next meeting will be on March 21, 2024 at 1:30 at the Children’s Board of Hillsborough County.  **E. Women, Infants, Children, Youth and Families (WICY&F) Work Group – Abigail Dees, Staff**  The Women, Infants, Children, Youth, and Families Work Group did not meet in February. Their next meeting will be on March 28th at 10:00 AM via ZOOM. |
| COMMUNTIY INPUT | There was no community input. |
| PREVENTION ACTIVITIES/ QUALITY MANAGEMENT | Quality Management Consultant, David Cavalleri shared that he was in the process of compiling the data for the quarterly performance measures report. Many of the measures have improved since the last report was created. The measure for syphilis screenings is still lower than it should be, but that has been identified as a data entry issue. The measure for prescription of antiretroviral medication increased to 91.5% from 84.3% in December. The major outcomes seem to be trending in the right direction.  David encouraged Case Managers to complete their quality management trainings. David shared that the next Quality Management Work Group meeting would be on March 25th via ZOOM. |
| **PUBLIC POLICY REPORT** | There was no public policy report. |
| **ANNOUNCEMENTS** | Anne Cronyn shared that the City of Tampa has a rental assistance program that is still open. It is a limited pool of money and application are open at 9:00 AM on Tuesdays and Thursdays. She also shared that there is a homeless housing program through Metro and Soletis House that covers deposits up to $7500 and it is a once in a lifetime benefit. Aubrey Arnold shared that affordable housing is a major issue in the area. Anne shared that there are a lot of issues in the area and moving people into self-sufficiency is an arduous process that requires a lot of trust. She stated that the new laws that would encourage criminalization of homelessness take that trust away.  Nolan Finn urged members to attend Care Council meetings in person or send their alternate if they cannot be at the meeting. He also reminded members that their sub-committee chair and co-chair meetings would be taking place this month. He urged members to be aware during these elections that these chairs or co-chairs need to attend Council meetings and report on the committee’s activities. At least one chair or co-chair from each committee must be a member of the Council. This is also important because of the HRSA visit in June. Aubrey emphasized the attendance policy. He proposed that hybrid meetings may not be serving the Care Council anymore.  Angela Moss shared that April 10th was Youth HIV/AIDS Awareness Day and the Ybor Youth Clinic would be holding an event. J. Carl Devine shared that AHF would be holding an event at Pinellas Technical College. |
| ADJOURNMENT | With no further business before the Care Council, the meeting was adjourned at 2:56 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. Meeting Agenda – March 2024 2. Meeting Minutes – February 2024 3. Part A Quarterly Expenditure Report February 2024 4. RW Part B Federal Quarterly Report 2.5.24 5. RW Part B State Quarterly Report 2.5.24 6. Background – New Member – Brown 7. Background – New Member – Luis 8. March Meeting Calendar |
| WEBSITES CITED | None |

**Attendance**

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| **Care Council Members** | **Attendance** |
| (Myles) Edward Myles *(Chair)* | In-person |
| Rachel Brown *(Vice-Chair)* |  |
| Lillie Bruton |  |
| Joel Carrier |  |
| Anne Cronyn | In-person |
| J Carl Devine | In-person |
| Nolan Finn | In-person |
| Ashley Hill |  |
| Nataliya Johnson | *Virtual* |
| Riley Johnson |  |
| Angela Kellogg | In-person |
| Nicole Kish | *Virtual* |
| Kamaria Laffrey |  |
| Jeffrey Lluberes | In-person |
| Bernice McCoy | *Virtual* |
| Marylin Merida | *Virtual* |
| Antonio Miles | *Virtual* |
| Kim Molnar | *Virtual* |
| Teriko Perkins |  |
| Anthony Trunzo | *Virtual* |
| Peggy Wallace | In-person |
| Bernard Washington | Alternate |
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| **Associate Members** | **Attendance** |
| Chris Gudis |  |
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| **Recipient Staff** | **Attendance** |
| Aubrey Arnold | In-person |
| Dorinda Creighton-Seth |  |
| Maria Teresa (MT) Jaureguizar |  |
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| **Lead Agency Staff** | **Attendance** |
| Joshua Cardwell | In-person |
| Nicole Houston |  |
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| **Health Council Staff** | **Attendance** |
| Abigail Dees | In-person |
| Lisa Nugent | In-person |
| Katie Scussel |  |
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| **Regular Guests** | **Attendance** |
| David Cavalleri | *Virtual* |
| Emily Hughart | *Virtual* |
| Elizabeth Rugg |  |
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| **Guests** | **Attendance** |
| Gabriella Amador | *Virtual* |
| Dal Brown | In-person |
| Laura Brown | In-person |
| Lisa Conder | *Virtual* |
| Allyson Jones | In-person |
| Kristen Lewis | *Virtual* |
| Candace Lewis | In-person |
| Antonio Luis | In-person |
| Mike Neuges | *Virtual* |
| Indira Palomino | In-person |
| Kevin Williams | *Virtual* |
| Taylor Randolph | In-person |
| Allison Ruby | *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 7, 2024.

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