

WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL

**RESOURCE PRIORITIZATION AND ALLOCATION**

**RECOMMENDATIONS COMMITTEE (RPARC)**

**EMPATH HEALTH, CLEARWATER**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2024**

**11:00 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

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| CALL TO ORDER | The meeting was called to order by Nolan Finn, Chair, at 11:05 a.m. |
| ATTENDANCE | Members Present: Nolan Finn, Angela Kellogg, Kevin Williams, Joy Winheim, Lillie Bruton, Bernice McCoy, Marylin Merida, Elizabeth Rugg  Members Absent: Nicole Kish  Guests Present: Elisa Johsnon  Recipient Staff Present: Aubrey Arnold, Dorinda Seth  Lead Agency Staff Present: Joshua Cardwell  Health Council Staff Present: Abigail Dees |
| CHANGES TO AGENDA | There were no changes to the agenda. |
| ADOPTION OF MINUTES | **The minutes from November 9, 2023 were approved (M: Bruton, S: Winheim).** |
| CARE COUNCIL REPORT | Committee Chair, Nolan Finn, reported that the Care Council met on February 7, 2024 and met quorum.  Part A reported that they had received a partial award of $3,096,341 and expected to receive the full award in May. They also reported that EHE had received a partial award of $119,428. They have 11 contracts for renewal and 8 new contracts to go to the Board of County Commissioners in February. They stated that the OAHS provider in Hernando county had agreed to a one year contract extension and that dental care in Hernando and Pasco counties still had no applicants.  Part B reported that they had 12 contracts renewed and they had an upcoming site visit from the HIV/AIDS Section of the Florida Department of Health. Their new budget starts April 1 and they did not have any updates on the statewide fiduciary agent.  The Care Council reviewed the Integrated Plan, discussed that Membership and Community Outreach had received new member applications, and the Health Services Advisory Committee was in the process of discussing adding erectile dysfunction medications to the Part A Formulary. Committee members discussed the possibility of weight loss medications also being added to the Formulary and Planning Council Support Staff, Abigail Dees stated that she would bring it up to the committee.  The Care Council also reviewed December 2023 Performance Measures from the quality management consultant.  The next Care Council meeting will be on March 6, 2024 at 1:30 PM at the Children’s Board of Hillsborough County. |
| PART A RECIPIENT UPDATE | 1. Quarterly Expenditure Reports   Members reviewed the Part A quarterly expenditure report. Aubrey Arnold, Part A Recipient, stated that there were some categories on the report that the Recipient was still waiting for billing from. The Carryover funding from the last fiscal year was included in this report. Aubrey reported that most services were on track. There was one provider of OAHS in Pinellas county that will not spend out all of their funds. Members discussed Oral Health in Pasco and Hernando County. Aubrey proposed that due to issues finding a provider for each of these counties that the funds be combined into one contract. Members discussed the administrative burden of taking on a Ryan White Contract and other issues that may be causing providers to not apply. Members discussed options for providers that may not be able to take on the administrative burden such as a nonprofit working as the billing agent for the provider. **Members approved the combination of funds for Pasco and Hernando Counties Oral Health (M: Williams, S: Merida).**  Members discussed the other categories on the report. All were expected to spend out most of their funds by the end of the grant year. The only exception was the housing funding which the Recipient expected as this was a new program. Overall, Aubrey reported that the Recipient expected all contracts to be spent down at least 95% by the end of the grant year, but a waiver had been requested just in case. He also stated that he expected the funding to remain about the same for the next fiscal year. |
| PART B LEAD AGENCY UPDATE | A. Expenditure Reports  Members reviewed the Part B and state quarterly expenditure reports. For the Part B Report, Joshua stated that some numbers were showing higher than they should be, but they always inflate towards the end of the grant year. He also mentioned that Polk County Health Department’s information was missing from the reports since he was not able to pull data from another county and they had not completed their invoices. Overall spending looked on track. Contracted providers had until April 15 to submit their invoices for the year.  Members discussed the medical transportation contract and what it entailed. Joshua explained that Polk County is the only county with a contract for medical transportation and that the Lead Agency had difficulty issuing any other contracts because bus passes were considered client incentives. Marylin Merida stated that HRSA had put out a letter last year that allowed for client incentives and the Part D program was seeing success in implementing incentives in their program. Members discussed the use of incentives and the barriers for using them in the Part A and B programs.  Members reviewed the state funded quarterly expenditure report. Joshua reported that the contract year was about 50% complete. He stated that many of the contracts showing large portions of unspent funds were missing data. He stated that the Lead Agency has had issues with oral health and it was largely a staffing issue with those providers. Members discussed oral health providers in the area and other options for clients that may qualify for other programs. |
| COMMUNITY INPUT/ ANNOUNCEMENTS | Marylin stated that at the Care Council meeting Anne Cronyn had mentioned a new proposed bill in the state legislature that would essentially criminalize homelessness. Members discussed the merits of this bill, its consequences on clients, and how the Care Council and its members might be able to help. Nolan asked for The AIDS Institute to be contacted to see if there were any ways that members could help. Abigail Dees stated that she would reach out to TAI and get back with the committee. |
| **ADJOURNMENT** | There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:34 p.m. |