



The floor was opened to the public; there were no comments, questions, or concerns.

#### Review of December 4, 2015 Meeting Notes

Attendees reviewed the December 4, 2015 meeting notes. Rishi Patel from Community AIDS Network stated that under “Call to Order/Introductions”, the record should reflect that Community AIDS Network provides HIV specialty services throughout Florida, not solely Central Florida. There were no other changes.

#### South Dade Survey Results

Karla Llarena presented the *2015 South Dade Needs Survey Top- Line Summary of Findings* (copy on file). The purpose of the survey was to assess the South Miami-Dade community’s perceived needs for support services including HIV/AIDS services.

Overall, the survey results indicate that 55% of South Miami-Dade County residents living within one mile of the Covenant Missionary Baptist Church and the Florida City Neighborhood Center did not perceive HIV/AIDS services as a great need for the community, compared to other more important needs (e.g., getting help learning to speak English (70%), confidential help for heavy drug use (68%), confidential help for heavy alcohol use (60%), legal help for immigration issues (57%), and a place to go for “support for your problems where you could meet people like yourself and help each other solve problems together” (57%)).

Overall, residents were more likely to access the aforementioned services at a resource center located at the Florida City Neighborhood Center than a resource center located at Covenant Missionary Baptist Church. Of the people who were unlikely to access the resource center, 84% of them stated they would not access the resource center because they do not need any of the surveyed services. Only one percent stated they would rather get services further away from their neighborhood for confidentiality.

According to the survey, 55% of the survey respondents indicated that the best way to communicate with them about the resource center is by sending them a letter or postcard directly.

For household service needs, of the total 507 survey respondents, 30% indicated that someone in their household has emotional problems, depression, anxiety, anger or another problem where they would want to see a psychologist or therapist. Of those, 75% (111) would be willing to go to the resource center for help. Of the total survey respondents, only 3% (15) indicated that someone in their family has HIV or AIDS, and of those, 73% (11) would be willing to go to the resource center for help.

#### Revisit Workgroup’s Year 2 Final Report to the Partnership

Ms. Ross summarized the workgroup’s discussion they had last month regarding the workgroup’s final report to the Partnership. Last month, workgroup members suggested that the Strategic Planning Committee request another year from the Partnership to allow the workgroup to complete its investigation of unmet HIV needs in South Miami-Dade and develop a sustainability plan. Ms. Ross asked the workgroup to revisit this discussion now that they have reviewed the South Dade survey results.

Francisco Sastre, Ph. D, reminded the workgroup of all the data that the workgroup had investigated over the past two years, which indicates that there is no unmet need for HIV/AIDS services in Life Zone 10.

Carla Valle-Schwenk added that Project Outreach closed because they did not have the volume of patients accessing the center to sustain its operational costs, and a medical provider that recently stationed a location in South Miami-Dade is having difficulty recruiting HIV+ patients.

Karen Hilton stated that after reviewing the survey results she and others should be encouraged to share the workgroup's findings with elected officials in South Miami-Dade to address the support service needs identified in the survey.

After much discussion, the workgroup agreed to request from the Partnership a short extension of a few months to transition the oversight of the South Dade Workgroup to another community entity.

Ms. Hilton suggested that when the workgroup presents its findings to the Partnership a recommendation should be made that the Partnership write a letter to South Miami-Dade elected officials notifying them of the workgroup's findings and recommend that the elected officials consider action on the perceived needs.

Ms. Valle-Schwenk stated that while the Ryan White Part A Program and the Miami-Dade HIV/AIDS Partnership cannot lead an initiative to address the need for non HIV-related support services, they would like to still be a partner in this effort.

Tabitha Hunter suggested asking We Care of South Dade if they have the capacity to lead the workgroup once the workgroup's term under the Partnership ends. Ms. Hilton stated that We Care of South Dade hosts monthly community meetings every first Thursday at 9:00 a.m. at the Phicol Williams Community Center located at 951 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Homestead, FL 33030.

Ms. Ross stated that next month the workgroup will review the draft final report to the Partnership for feedback.

#### Announcements

Ms. Ross highlighted changes to the January and February Partnership calendars (copies on file).

#### Adjournment

The workgroup meeting ended at 11:45 a.m.