

*FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY*

**Miami-Dade HIV/AIDS Partnership  
Strategic Planning Committee's South Miami-Dade  
HIV/AIDS Care and Treatment Needs Workgroup Meeting**

Friday, June 5, 2015  
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Phichol Williams Community Center  
951 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Homestead, FL 33030

*Call to Order/Introductions*

The chair, Miguel Puente, called the meeting to order at 10:26 a.m. He introduced himself and asked for introductions. Elizabeth Ross informed the workgroup that meetings are recorded and the recordings are available to the public.

*Resource Persons*

Matilde Zayas, Ph. D, identified Behavioral Science Research (BSR) staff as resource individuals; she informed attendees they can contact BSR staff with questions or concerns.

*Floor Open to the Public*

Mr. Puente opened the floor to the public with the following statement:

*“During the 2013 session, the Florida Legislature passed Senate Bill 50 which requires states, county and municipal boards to provide members of the public a ‘reasonable opportunity to be heard’ on items and matters before the board.*

*On items that are on today’s agenda, members of the public have an opportunity to be heard concerning each of the items. If there is anyone who wishes to be heard, I invite you to speak now. Each person will be given three minutes to speak. Please begin by stating your name and address for the record before you talk about your concerns.”*

The floor was opened to the public; Frank Dardompre announced that South Florida AIDS Network (SFAN) has met with New World Community Health Centers to discuss the feasibility of collaborating to provide medical case management and outpatient medical services in the City of Homestead. Mr. Dardompre will provide updates to the workgroup as they become available.

*Review of May 1, 2015 Meeting Notes*

Attendees reviewed the May 1, 2015 meeting notes; no changes were made.

*Standing Business*

- *Further Analysis on PLWHA in Care*

Francisco Sastre, Ph. D, stated that last month he presented data from the Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County (FDOH-MDC) and the FDOH in Tallahassee on the number of Persons Living With HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) in care in Miami-Dade County by Life Zone. The data were inconsistent and the workgroup requested that Dr. Sastre conduct further clarification on the data. The inconsistencies in the data resulted from a misunderstanding. The data from the local Department of Health counted all clients in Life Zone X who were linked to care at any time. The

data from Tallahassee counted clients who had a viral load, CD4 or ARV prescribed during the calendar year 2013.

Dr. Sastre reviewed *Zone X People Living with HIV/AIDS and in Care, Ryan White Program Viral Load Data* and *Ryan White Program – Medical Outpatient and MCM Encounters* (copies on file).

The data from Tallahassee were correct which indicates only 45% of the PLWHA linked to care in 2013 were retained in care.

Of the PLWHA living in Miami-Dade County who accessed care during FY 24, 80% of them have suppressed or undetectable viral loads. Of the PLWHA living in Life Zone X specifically, 80% of them who have a suppressed or undetectable viral load. However, Dr. Sastre informed the workgroup that 22.5% of the total PLWHA who are in the Ryan White Part A Program are missing viral load data. Of the PLWHA in care who live in Life Zone X, 27.3% of them have no viral load data recorded in the Ryan White Part A Program for 2013.

Carla Valle-Schwenk suggested reviewing the data to determine where PLWHA who live in Life Zone X are going to receive their medical care.

Kevin Gonzalez, the District Aide to Representative Kionne McGhee, asked if there were any identified needs in Life Zone X and if there was a demand for services in the area. Robert Ladner, Ph. D, clarified that based on data analysis and focus groups held in south Miami-Dade there are no structural unmet needs in Life Zone X.

The data analysis also indicates that PLWHA living in Life Zone X who are accessing the Ryan White Part A Program have significantly less face to face encounters for outpatient medical care and spend less time with medical case managers than PLWHA living in other Life Zones.

Ms. Valle-Schwenk suggested that BSR staff investigate the number of patients served by General Revenue and their viral load values. Stephen Williams suggested analyzing the Ryan White Part A Program viral load data by age.

- *Discussion on Next Steps to Address PLWHA Retention*

Ms. Valle-Schwenk suggested that Mr. Gonzalez share with the workgroup what Representative Kionne McGhee would like to do in south Miami-Dade before the workgroup discuss next steps.

Mr. Gonzalez re-introduced himself and stated that Representative McGhee intends to increase community awareness and is looking to partner with stakeholders in the community. Ms. Valle-Schwenk thanked Mr. Gonzalez for attending and stated that there is an under-utilization of neighborhood centers in Life Zone X and it would be productive to maximize the neighborhood centers' usage through provision of support services. Ms. Valle-Schwenk also stated that the workgroup would appreciate Mr. Gonzalez or Representative McGhee's efforts to contact the administrators at Homestead Hospital to establish a referral arrangement with medical providers in south Miami-Dade to ensure that clients diagnosed and treated in Homestead Hospital's emergency room are referred for HIV care and treatment. Mr. Gonzalez stated he will try to establish contact at Homestead Hospital then notify BSR staff.

Karen Hilton stated that another identified challenge in south Miami-Dade is coordinating and disseminating information in a timely manner for residents.

Beth Hayden stated that the Quality Management team of the Ryan White Part A Program will conduct technical assistance for Ryan White Part A providers that have patients with high viremia.

Workgroup members decided to move forward with creating a drop-in center in Life Zone X and identified the following as support services that should be provided out of the drop-in center along with HIV services:

1. GED preparation;
2. Employment placement and career training;
3. Mental health and support groups;
4. Child care services;
5. Health screenings and STD testing including HIV; and
6. A bundle of services such as, transportation for follow up care; meals; and housing assistance, provided by Baptist Congregational Care Partners.

Members agreed that the above services can be a start, and depending on the drop-in center's utilization, additional services could be added at a later date. The Ryan White Part A services that will be offered at the drop-in center may include medical screenings and medical case management.

Members also agreed to not finalize this list until the next workgroup meeting when Kametra Driver is present to advise what services listed above are already provided in the proposed area of the drop-in center.

Lastly, the workgroup agreed to use Pastor Thomas' church, Covenant Missionary Baptist, as the location for the drop-in center.

- *Meeting Locations for Remainder of 2015*

Ms. Ross asked members where they would like to host their remaining meetings for 2015. Members agreed to tentatively schedule their remaining meetings at the Covenant Missionary Baptist Church pending availability.

Ms. Ross will send Covenant Missionary Baptist Church's address to the workgroup once the facility has been reserved. Additionally, workgroup members asked Ms. Ross to send an email with the list of suggested services for the drop-in center, so members can identify agencies or persons who can provide said services at the drop-in center. Members will forward names to Ms. Ross of people who can assist in the provision of services at the drop-in center for her to contact and invite to the next meeting.

#### Announcements

Chaplain Shirley Brown announced that there will be a facilitator training workshop for complicated mourning due to violent death on June 20<sup>th</sup> and June 27<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Those interested should call (786) 594-6360. The registration deadline is June 8<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Ross reviewed the flyers and Partnership calendars (copies on file) in the packet.

#### Adjournment

The meeting ended at 12:04 p.m.

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#### Attendees

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|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Alvarez, Armando | 2. Branch, Rodney | 4. Dardompre, Frank |
|                     | 3. Brown, Shirley | 5. Gonzalez, Kevin  |

6. Hilton, Karen
7. Kenneally, Sarah
8. McCoy, LaQuitta
9. Orozco, Eddie
10. Puente, Miguel
11. Valle-Schwenk, Carla
12. Williams, Stephen
13. Wohlfeiler, Michael
14. Zayas, Matilde

**Staff**

1. Hayden, Beth
2. Ladner, Robert
3. Ross, Elizabeth
4. Sastre, Francisco