

*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, August 7, 2015  
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Covenant Missionary Baptist Church  
1055 NW 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Florida City, FL 33034

*Call to Order/Introductions*

The chair, Miguel Puente called the meeting to order at 10:18 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*

Mr. Puente identified Behavioral Science Research (BSR) staff as resource individuals; he 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; Florida City Mayor, Otis Wallace introduced himself and stated that Florida City acknowledges that there is an HIV problem in south Miami-Dade communities, and he would like to work with community based organizations and service providers to address the HIV/AIDS issue in Florida City.

*Review of June 5, 2015 Meeting Notes*

Attendees reviewed the June 5, 2015 meeting notes; no changes were made.

*Standing Business*

- *Follow Up Data on Suppressed Viral Load by Age Group (Robert Ladner, Ph. D)*

Robert Ladner, Ph. D, reviewed the suppressed viral load data by age group. Overall, there was no significant difference seen among Life Zone X residents by age group compared to the entire Miami-Dade County. The <25 age group, overall, has a lower percentage of HIV+ people who have suppressed viral loads.

- *General Revenue Patients and Viral Load (Robert Ladner, Ph. D)*

Dr. Ladner stated that BSR staff is working with Automated Case Management Systems (ACMS) and South Florida AIDS Network (SFAN) to obtain the data on the General Revenue Program patient's viral load. Once the data is available, BSR staff will present it to the workgroup.

- *Drop-in Center*
  - *Existing and Needed Services in Targeted Neighborhood (Kametra Driver)*

Carla Valle-Schwenk opened the discussion with an overview of the workgroup's accomplishments thus far and the workgroup's task to create a drop-in center.

During their June 5<sup>th</sup> workgroup meeting, members requested that Kametra Driver attend the August 7<sup>th</sup> meeting to provide insight on existing and needed services in the targeted neighborhood where Covenant Missionary Baptist Church is located.

Ms. Driver recommended that the workgroup convene a strategic planning meeting to discuss the drop-in center in greater detail. Ms. Driver acknowledged that Covenant Missionary Baptist Church currently provides a few of the services that the workgroup suggested having at the drop-in center such as, GED preparation, food distribution and child care services. Keena Middlebrook clarified that Covenant Missionary Baptist Church has an after-school program from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., but does not provide child care services. Workgroup members clarified that the child care services would only be provided while the parent is accessing services at the drop-in center. Ms. Middlebrook confirmed that Covenant Missionary Baptist Church staff would be willing to assist with child care services.

Ms. Driver suggested that the workgroup provide the following services:

- 1) Housing and rental assistance;
- 2) Child care services; and
- 3) Cooked meals and home delivered meals.

Ms. Valle-Schwenk emphasized the importance for the organizations represented at the workgroup meetings to participate in the provision of services at the drop-in center, or invite people to the workgroup meetings who can assist.

- *Next Steps and Assignments (All)*

Workgroup members agreed to use their next workgroup meeting on September 4<sup>th</sup> as a strategic planning meeting for discussion and planning of the drop-in center. The meeting will be from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Covenant Missionary Baptist Church.

Ms. Valle-Schwenk asked members to invite organizations or people they know who are interested and can help. The meeting should have break out groups to focus on different tasks such as, operations, services, administration, etc.

Ms. Driver stated that she invited today representatives from New Hope Corporation, which provides substance abuse treatment and HIV testing and counseling services. Ms. Driver committed to following up with housing, utilities, medical care and HIV testing providers to invite them to the next workgroup meeting.

Dr. Ladner stated that BSR staff will draft agenda questions that will be distributed to all attendees in preparation for the strategic planning meeting next month.

Ms. Valle-Schwenk informed the workgroup that the Office of Management and Budget-Grants Coordination and the Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County met and had a productive meeting with the Chief Executive Officer and staff of Homestead Hospital. Ms. Valle-Schwenk was pleased to state that processes are underway to establish a referral arrangement between Homestead Hospital and Ryan White Part A provider agencies.

#### Announcements

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

Dr. Ladner announced that the Partnership authorized the Care and Treatment Committee to create the Retention in Care Workgroup that will examine retention in care issues. The workgroup's first meeting is August 18<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Behavioral Science Research.

Stephen Alvarez from New Hope CORPS introduced himself and stated that he and New Hope Corporation staff are happy to assist the workgroup in any capacity they can. Mr. Alvarez and representatives from New Hope Corporation will be at the strategic planning meeting next month.

Ms. Driver announced that WeCare of South Dade is looking for office space, in case anyone knows of office space availability.

#### Adjournment

The meeting ended at 11:47 a.m.

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#### Attendees

1. Alvarez, Stephen
2. Brown, Shirley
3. Callo, Kevin
4. Driver, Kametra
5. Dardompre, Frank
6. Gomez, Karim
7. Kenneally, Sarah
8. Lemus, Judith
9. Malone, Matthew
10. McCoy, LaQuitta
11. McCoy, Rocquel
12. Middlebrook, Keena
13. Munoz, Dasha
14. Puente, Miguel
15. Thomas, Curtis
16. Valle-Schwenk, Carla
17. Wallace, Otis
18. Williams, Stephen
19. Zayas, Matilde

#### Staff

1. Ladner, Robert
2. Ross, Elizabeth