

IV. Floor Open to the Public

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

“Pursuant to Florida Sunshine Law, I want to provide the public with a reasonable opportunity to be heard on any item on our agenda today. 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.”

There were no comments; the floor was then closed.

V. Review the Minutes of February 25, 2019

Members reviewed the February 25, 2019 meeting minutes (copy on file). There were no changes.

Motion to approve the February 25, 2019 meeting minutes as presented.

Moved: Sandra Jones

Seconded: Antoinette Carr

Motion: Passed

VI. Membership

- **March Vacancy Report**

Rudy Pierre

All committees and the Partnership are lacking in members, particularly Ryan White Client Representatives of the Affected Community/Persons Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA). Mr. Pierre reviewed all the requirements and expectations for Partnership and Committee membership. Applications were available at the meeting and all non-member attendees were encouraged to join the Committee and/or the Partnership.

- **“Application April”**

Next month will be a push for membership including time on the agenda to complete Partnership and/or Committee membership applications. Meeting participants received tickets for the Application April meeting and were encouraged to distribute tickets to Ryan White Program clients and other people living with HIV who may be interested in membership.

VII. Standing Business

- **Partnership Report**

Rudy Pierre

The Partnership approved the committee’s motion: *Motion to recommend to the Mayor of Miami-Dade County the appointment of Karen Iglesias as Local Public Health Agency Representative from the Florida Department Health in Miami-Dade County on the Miami-Dade HIV/AIDS Partnership.* Other approved motions are included in the *Partnership Report to Committees and Subcommittees* (copy on file) distributed at the meeting.

The next Partnership meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 15, 2019 at the United Way Ansin Building, 3250 SW 3rd Avenue, Ryder Conference Room, Miami, FL 33129.

▪ **Ryan White Part A/MAI and ADAP Reports**

Christina Bontempo

Ms. Bontempo highlighted Ryan White Part A and Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) expenditures as of March 5, 2019 (copy on file): Part A (\$16,789,848); and MAI (\$1,874,125). The County Fiscal Year ended February 28 so final billing for the Fiscal Year is not yet reflected on the expenditures sheet.

It was noted that the services listed are the services funded by the Ryan White Part A/MAI Program in Miami-Dade County. The process for “sweeps” was discussed as a Care and Treatment Committee activity. Anyone wishing to have input on decisions made about expenditures or service categories were urged attend the Care and Treatment Committee’s Annual Needs Assessment meetings in June.

The AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) February 2019 Report was reviewed and the following items were highlighted: Expenditures (\$2,358,678); Clients “Pts” (2,665); New Enrollments (75); and Re-Enrollments (725). Members were reminded that the report includes details on how to enroll in ADAP and when reenrollment is required for existing clients. Also, the report details reasons clients were turned down for enrollment/reenrollment (e.g., missing documentation, not living in Miami-Dade County) to assist anyone having difficulty accessing medication through ADAP.

Members asked about Affordable Healthcare Act (ACA) enrollment. ACA enrollment is only available during specified enrollment periods, with a few exceptions such as lost coverage from a job or relocating to a new area. Some clients do not qualify for ACA because of minimum income requirements. In that case, the Ryan White Program, as payer of last resort, would cover those clients (if they otherwise qualify).

▪ **AIDS Walk Miami (April 28) Planning**

The Partnership has secured a “half booth” at the April 28 AIDS Walk Miami hosted by Care Resource. The FAQs about the event were distributed (copy on file). Several members and staff will be in attendance to set up, staff, and break down the table, as well as participate in the walk.

▪ **Recruitment Strategies and Social Media**

Travis Neff

Partnership Chair Travis Neff shared insights from the 2018 National Ryan White Program Conference regarding recruitment strategies and suggestions for increasing membership. Mr. Neff noted that the conference included many inspirational speakers from across the country and around the world, including Jeanne White-Ginder, the mother of Ryan White for whom the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program was named.

Mr. Neff urged members to look at the things we’re doing in a different way. Particularly, regarding social media, Mr. Neff will produce a video to be posted on the Partnership’s website (AIDSNET.org) and Facebook and Twitter accounts. The video will highlight how the community needs to give input in the decision-making process and how the Partnership is the place to voice concerns about successes and needs in the HIV care system in Miami-Dade County. The video will feature Black/African American and Hispanic members to promote diversity on the board. A Media Release Form is pending approval by the Miami-Dade County Assistant County Attorney to allow filming to begin. Members suggested Channel 2 (WLRN) should be contacted to promote the Partnership’s video.

Mr. Pierre thanked Mr. Neff for his efforts. Mr. Pierre has experience as a public speaker and rapper who reaches out to youth regarding HIV. Both gentlemen spoke of the difficulty of accepting diagnosis and the importance of knowing there is a support structure in place. Mr. Pierre is continuing efforts to advocate in schools and is planning to speak to legislators in Tallahassee to advance his prevention outreach.

Members received a list of local support groups (copy on file) and were urged to attend those groups to promote Partnership membership opportunities.

VIII. New Business

- **Special Presentation: HIV & The Transgender/Gender Nonconforming Community**

Allison Ruby, Community Liaison at Merck & Co. presented *HIV & The Transgender/Gender Nonconforming Community*. The presentation highlighted the need for individuals and providers to afford a safe-space for transgender persons and to take the time to understand the particular needs of this population. A question and answer session followed the presentation. Ms. Ruby offered to present further information on this and other topics to the committee in the future.

- **HRSA Training for Ryan White Planning Councils**

Beginning next month, Community Coalition Committee meetings will include training on the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) based on the TargetHIV.org training modules for planning councils. The training is intended to empower members speak about the planning council to potential members.

IX. Announcements

Rob Collins, Esq. of Housing Opportunities Project for Excellence, Inc. (HOPE, Inc.) announced the annual Miami-Dade County Fair Housing Month Celebration: “All Hands on Deck”, and distributed flyers for the event (copy on file).

Staff announced the Annual Needs Assessment and encouraged members to attend; a flyer with details was distributed (copy on file).

X. Next Meeting

Mr. Pierre announced the next meeting is Tuesday, April 29, 2019 at the United Way Ansin Building.

XI. Adjournment

Mr. Pierre called the meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.