



Housing Committee Meeting
Edison Neighborhood Service Center, 150 NW 79nd Street,
Conference Room, Miami, FL 33150
July 18, 2019

Approved September 19, 2019

#	Members	Present	Absent	Guests
1	Alleyne, Karen		X	Alicia Apfel
2	Barcnas, Rosalind		X	Donald Henderson
3	Gabriel, Kytania	X		
4	Herz, Stephen	X		
5	Howell, Jonathan	X		
6	Laso, Carlos		X	
7	McFeely, John		X	
8	Mitchell, Synthia	X		
9	Tazoe, Roberto	X		
10	Williams, April	X		
Quorum: 4				
				Staff
				Marlen Meizoso
				Abigail Schmelz

I. Call to Order

Stephen Herz, the Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:06 p.m. He welcomed everyone and asked for introductions.

II. Resource Persons

Mr. Herz identified Mrs. Marlen Meizoso and Ms. Abigail Schmelz, Behavioral Science Research (BSR) staff, as resource individuals.

III. Review/Approve Agenda

The committee reviewed the agenda and made a motion to accept it as presented.

Motion to approve the agenda.

Moved: Roberto Tazoe

Second: Synthia Mitchell

Motion: Passed

IV. Floor Open to the Public

Mr. Herz read the following:

Pursuant to Florida Sunshine Law, I want to provide the public with a reasonable opportunity to be heard on any items 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 so the floor was closed.

V. Review/Approve Minutes of March 21, 2019

The committee reviewed the minutes of March 21, 2019. Roberto Tazoe noted that on page two under the HOPWA report, the fair market rate is listed incorrectly. The correct total for one bedroom should be \$1,147.

Motion to accept the minutes of March 21, 2019 with the correction noted.

Moved: Roberto Tazoe

Second: Synthia Mitchell

Motion: Passed

VI. Membership

Marlen Meizoso

Mrs. Meizoso reviewed the vacancy report (copy on file) and indicated that there were 14 vacancies on the Housing Committee. Anyone interested in becoming a member can attend the next New Member Orientation on August 7, 2019. The notice for the orientation will be sent out next week, but details are available on the Partnership August calendar.

Members were reminded that if they knew of any other interested individuals, they can contact staff. To become a member of the Housing Committee, individuals must live in Miami-Dade County and be qualified Miami-Dade voters with an interest in the work of the committee.

VII. Reports

- **Housing Opportunities for Persons Living with AIDS (HOPWA) Programs Update (LTRA, Project Based, STRMU)**

Roberto Tazoe

Mr. Tazoe indicated that the City of Miami Commission is moving forward with the allocations to the five currently funded HOPWA agencies (Care Resource, Empower U, Center for Information, SABER and Sunshine for All). Rental assistance, project based and STRMU (Short Term Rental, Mortgage and Utility Assistance) will continue to be funded. There is no recommendation to provided operational cost for six units managed by Miami Beach Community Development Corp. Even though not funded, those units must be maintained for HIV positive clients, since the Community Development Corp. has a fifteen year covenant to provide for these clients because HOPWA dollars paid for development.

The waitlist is on number 285. An additional 15-16 people are left on the list. Once the new fiscal year begins in October, preparations will likely begin to start a new waitlist. The new waitlist will probably have a 300-person capacity.

The City of Miami has contacted the State HOPWA Program to apply for additional funding (up to \$850,000). The funds would pay for items such as permanent housing placement; additional funds for STRMU; and payment of application fees, deposits, and utility fees. No word has been received on the status of the request at this time.

VIII. Standing Business

- **HOPWA Clients Transitioning from Medicaid Managed Care Plans**

Alicia Apfel

Alicia Apfel provided an update on the HOPWA clients transiting to Medicaid Managed Care Plans. The transition has not been easy in allowing the HOPWA Program and housing specialist access to necessary information. The Program must ensure clients are connected and engaged in care. A verification form has been created and will be piloted next month (copy on file). The committee reviewed and commented on the form. The intent is for clients to take the form to their physicians, and then provide the form to their housing specialist who will place the document in their files. The forms would need to be updated as part of the annual recertification. The committee recommended adding language indicating how long the document is valid, and that minor tweaking be done to the formatting to make the fill-ins at the top and bottom the same.

IX. Announcements

Mrs. Meizoso indicated the Fair Market Rates sheet for 2019 and July Partnership Report which lists all the motions made at Monday's meeting are included in the meeting packets. Tickets for the next Community Coalition Committee meeting on July 29, 2019 were made available and should be shared. The meeting will be held at Empower U. An email with a request to complete a survey on HIV care from the State Department of Health has been shared via the list serve to all. Input is needed from persons with HIV in Miami-Dade County. Mrs. Meizoso indicated she had some hard copies for those who wish to complete the survey after the meeting.

X. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for August 15, 2019, at the Edison Neighborhood Service Center.

XI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn.

Moved: Roberto Tazoe

Second: Kytania Gabriel

Motion: Passed

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:43 p.m.