



**Miami-Dade HIV/AIDS Partnership Meeting Minutes
Miami-Dade County Main Library
101 West Flagler Street, Auditorium, Miami, FL 33130
July 18, 2022**

Approved October 31, 2022

#	Partnership Members	Present	Absent
1	Burks, Laurie Ann	x	
2	Downs, Frederick	x	
3	Duberli, Francesco	x	
4	Forrest, David		x
5	Garcia, Ana		x
6	Goldberg, David		x
7	Henriquez, Maria	x	
8	Herz, Stephen	x	
9	Hess, Amaris	x	
10	Hunter, Tabitha		x
11	Iadarola, Dennis	x	
12	Laso, Carlos		x
13	Machado, Angela	x	
14	McIntyre, Harold	x	
15	Neff, Travis	x	
16	Perez Bermudez, Alberto	x	
17	Puente, Miguel	x	
18	Romero, Javier	x	
19	Sarmiento, Abril	x	
20	Shmuels, Diego	x	
21	Siclari, Rick	x	
22	Tazoe, Roberto		x
23	Tramel, Alecia	x	
24	Wall, Daniel T.	x	
25	Vacant Representative of the Affected Community		
26	Vacant Representative of the Affected Community		
27	Vacant Representative of the Affected Community		
28	Vacant Representative of the Affected Community		
29	Vacant Representative of the Affected Community		
30	Vacant Representative of the Affected Community		
31	Vacant Representative of the Affected Community		
32	Vacant Representative of the Affected Community		
33	Vacant Representative of the Affected Community		
34	Vacant Representative Co-infected with Hepatitis B or C		
35	Vacant Other Federal HIV Program Grantee Rep. (SAMHSA)		
36	Vacant Hospital or Health Care Planning Agency Representative		
37	Vacant Federally Recognized Indian Tribe Representative		
38	Vacant Mental Health Provider Representative		
39	Vacant Miami-Dade County Public Schools Representative		
Quorum = 13			
*Non-Voting			

#	Alternate Representatives of the Affected Community	Present	Absent
1	Vacant		
2	Vacant		
3	Vacant		
#	Ex-Officio Members	Present	Absent
1	Vacant MDC Mayor Office		
2	Vacant Board of County Commissioners		
Guests			
	Bahamon, Monica		
	Darlington, Tajma		
	Dirckze, Rebeca		
	Gallo, Giselle		
	Gomez, Francesco		
	Larios, Alejandro		
	Mejias, Thaydee		
	Mester, Brad		
	Nieto, Ana M.		
	Singh, Hardeep		
	Vasquez, Wanda		
Staff			
	Bontempo, Christina		
	Ladner, Robert		
	Smith, Esq., Terrence A.		

Note: All documents referenced in these minutes were accessible to members and the public prior to (and during) the meeting, at www.aidsnet.org/meeting-documents. The meeting agenda and calendar were distributed to all attendees. Meeting documents related to action items were distributed to members. Reference copies of reports, minutes, and flyers were available. All meeting documents were projected on the meeting room projection screen.

I. Call to Order

Committee Chair, Dennis Iadarola, called the meeting to order at 10:16 a.m.

II. Introductions

Members, guests, and staff introduced themselves.

III. Housekeeping/Meeting Rules

Mr. Iadarola presented the PowerPoint, *Partnership Meeting Housekeeping*, including code of conduct, people first language, resource persons, and attendance. Members and guests were reminded that the meeting was being recorded and will become part of the public record.

IV. Floor Open to the Public

Mr. Iadarola 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. BSR has a dedicated telephone line as well as a general email address for statements to be read into the record. No statements were received via the telephone line or email.”

There were no comments; the floor was then closed.

V. Review/Approve Agenda

Members reviewed the agenda. There were no changes.

Motion to approve the agenda.

Moved: Miguel Puente

Seconded: Travis Neff

Motion: Passed

VI. Review/Approve Minutes of May 16, 2022

Minutes of May 16, 2022 were posted for review and shown on the screen at the meeting; there were no changes or corrections.

Motion to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2022, as presented.

Moved: Frederick Downs, Jr.

Seconded: Miguel Puente

Motion: Passed

VII. Membership

Mr. Iadarola noted the Membership Report was in the meeting packet and there are many vacancies on all committees and the Partnership.

VIII. Reports

A. Committee Reports

Committee Reports to the Miami-Dade HIV/AIDS Partnership were projected on the shared screen and distributed to members. Committee chairs read action items into the record and Mr. Iadarola summarized the activities of other committees.

▪ **Executive Committee**

Dennis Iadarola

Members reviewed and accepted updates to the Code of Conduct.

Motion to adopt the updated Code of Conduct.

Moved: Daniel T. Wall

Seconded: Rick Siclari

Motion: Passed

After the motion, staff requested all members sign the Code of Conduct Attestation which was in their meeting packets.

▪ **Care and Treatment Committee**

Dr. Diego Shmuels

A final draft of the “Dear Colleague” letter regarding gender-affirming care was presented.

Motion to accept the “Dear Colleague” letter regarding gender-affirming care, with changes.

Moved: Dr. Diego Shmuels

Seconded: Daniel T. Wall

Motion: Passed

A Letter of Medical Necessity was generated and revised which approved five oral health codes for implants, limited to patients who had no teeth and could not keep dentures in place. An effective start date of August 1, 2022, was suggested for use of the codes and the Letter of Medical Necessity.

Motion to add codes to the Ryan White Oral Health Care Formulary:

- **D6010 (Surgical placement of implant body, second-stage surgery, placement of healing cap);**
- **D6191 (Semi-precision abutment-placement);**
- **D6192 (Semi-precision attachment-placement);**
- **D6110 (Implant/abutment supported removal denture for edentulous arch-maxillary); and**
- **D6111(Implant/abutment supported removal denture for edentulous arch-mandibular).**

As detailed in the Letter of Medical Necessity for Dental Implants, the implants are not cosmetic. They are for edentulous patients [patients lacking teeth] with insufficient bone support for conventional complete dentures and/or advanced resorption of the bone that supports dentures so they have difficulty keeping them in place. Limit is 8 units.

Moved: Dr. Diego Shmuels

Seconded: Miguel Puente

Motion: Passed

Motion to accept the Letter of Medical Necessity for Dental Implants.

Moved: Dr. Diego Shmuels

Seconded: Rick Siclari

Motion: Passed

Motion to have an effective start date of August 1, 2022 [for the above referenced changes], pending approval by the Partnership of the Letter of Medical Necessity for Dental Implants.

Moved: Dr. Diego Shmuels

Seconded: Angela Machado

Motion: Passed

Members commended the change, noting how important it is to have appropriate teeth for basic nutrition.

Members reviewed the Other Professional Services: Legal Services and Permanency Planning service definition and the provision to allow for gender-affirming name change, which allows the service to be provided as a billable activity without disclosing a client is transgender.

Motion to accept the Other Professional Services: Legal Services and Permanency Planning services description with gender-affirming language as presented.

Moved: Dr. Diego Shmuels

Seconded: Rick Siclari

Motion: Passed

Members reviewed the Miami-Dade County - Ryan White Part A FY 2022-23 (YR 32) Formula & Supplemental Grant Funding Allocations - Sweeps 2 (SW2) - Funding Reallocations.

Recommended reductions totaled \$1,045,848, and requests totaled \$3,583,631. While the full request could not be met with the carryover funding, most requests can be fulfilled.

Rick Siclari stated his conflict of interest as representative of the sole provider in the Food Bank service category; therefore, the Food Bank allocation was deliberated separately. Mr. Siclari left the room and completed Form 8B, included as an attachment to these minutes.

Motion to allocate \$766,083 of Part A FY 2022-23 (YR 32) Sweeps 2 funds to the Food Bank service category.

Moved: Dr. Diego Shmuels Seconded: Angela Machado Motion: Passed

Following the Food Bank motion, Mr. Siclari returned to the meeting and members continued review of the Miami-Dade County - Ryan White Part A FY 2022-23 (YR 32) Formula & Supplemental Grant Funding Allocations - Sweeps 2 (SW2).

Motion to allocate Part A FY 2022-23 (YR 32) Sweeps 2 funds:

- **\$5,815,461 to Medical Case Management;**
- **\$8,577,172 to Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services;**
- **\$132,385 to Mental Health Services;**
- **\$84,492 to AIDS Pharmaceutical Assistance;**
- **\$3,088,975 to Oral Health Care;**
- **\$335,776 to Health Insurance Services;**
- **\$1,969,744 to Substance Abuse Residential;**
- **\$44,128 Substance Abuse Outpatient Care;**
- **\$194,149 to Medical Transportation;**
- **\$9,853 to Emergency Financial Assistance;**
- **\$264,696 to Outreach Services; and**
- **\$154,449 to Other Professional Services (Legal)**

Moved: Dr. Diego Shmuels Seconded: Daniel T. Wall Motion: Passed

Daniel T. Wall, Office of Management and Budget – Miami-Dade County (OMB), confirmed that legal services funds were being used for a lot of housing issues. Also, he advised that the County has continued the relaxed restrictions for accessing food bank (bags of food) which had been put in place over the 2021 holiday season.

Members reviewed the Miami-Dade County Ryan White Part A FY 2022-23 (YR 32) Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) Grant Funding Allocations - Sweeps 2 (Sw2) - Funding Reallocations 6). Recommended reductions totaled \$18,179, and the only request was \$6,883 under Clinical Quality Management.

Motion to allocate MAI FY 2022-23 (YR 32) Sweeps 2 funds of \$6,883 to Clinical Quality Management.

Moved: Dr. Diego Shmuels Seconded: Daniel T. Wall Motion: Passed

Regarding Ryan White Program carryover funds, Assistant County Attorney, Terrence A. Smith, advised that the Executive Committee’s approval of the carryover funds recommendations was sufficient to move the recommendations forward and no further action was needed by the Partnership. The Executive Committee may act on behalf of the Partnership in an emergency, which was necessary in the case of carryover funds recommendations brought to the Partnership last month, because the Partnership did not achieve quorum at that meeting.

B. Grantee/Recipient Reports

Ryan White Part A/Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI)

Daniel T. Wall

Mr. Wall reported on Ryan White Part A/Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) Program (RWP) updates. The latest expenditure reports and client count were projected on the screen.

The final number of clients served for fiscal year ending February 28, 2022 was 8,420 unduplicated clients which is close to pre-COVID client numbers although expenditures have not caught up to pre-COVID spending.

The full award for RWP funds – Formula, Supplemental, and MAI – total \$27,245,345; a 3.07% increase from the last fiscal year. An independent review board gave the RWP grant application a score of 99.32 out of 100; this is the sixth highest ranking among RWP recipients.

Ending the HIV Epidemic funds were awarded on June 15, 2022, totaling \$3,464,861.

As of July 5, 2022, the Test and Treat/Rapid Access (TTRA) protocol included 2,837 unduplicated clients.

There has been a rule change, effective November 1, 2022, which allows RWP Part B/AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) to accept certified referrals from any RWP Part A jurisdiction, and vice-versa. This should cut down on additional paperwork for both clients and providers and help streamline service delivery.

Also, the data-sharing agreement between RWP Part A and the Florida Department of Health (FDOH) in Tallahassee was executed. Clients who have fallen out of care or who are believed to be lost to care will be reported to FDOH-Tallahassee surveillance for case finding assistance. This is intended to identify clients who have moved or passed away so that their cases can be closed locally and outreach workers will not need to spend time trying to find those clients.

Mr. Wall explained the Part A Emergency Relief Funds category was not currently funded since that category is for prescription drugs coverage for TTRA which is currently otherwise well-funded. However, MAI providers have exhausted General Revenue funds for prescription drugs coverage for TTRA, and that may need to be addressed with another sweeps in the future.

Mr. Wall explained that the “other services” category includes legal services.

Brandi Knight was recently named the new HIV Section Administrator, a high-ranking position at FDOH-Tallahassee. However, Ms. Knight has taken a new position in Leon County and the HIV Section Administrator position is now vacant again and being temporarily filled by two other staff members.

AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) Miami

Dr. Javier Romero

Dr. Javier Romero, FDOH-Miami-Dade County, reported on the clients served, number of prescriptions, and program notes as detailed in the ADAP Report.

Dr. Romero stressed the importance of clients reporting to ADAP any changes in income as this could impact their tax returns.

Dr. Romero reported on the efforts of the FDOH to combat the recent Monkeypox outbreak.

Effective October 1, additional CVS pharmacies will be added to the roster of ADAP dispensing pharmacies. A complete list of pharmacies will be made available at that time.

▪ **General Revenue at SFAN**

Angela Machado

Angela Machado, South Florida AIDS Network, reviewed the General Revenue (GR) Report for May, 2022. Nine hundred thirty five unduplicated clients were served by medical case managers in the last month; face to face encounters continue to increase.

When the GR fiscal year began on July 1, 2022, the program was divided into two contracts: 1) for hospital services; and 2) for all other services. Reporting on all services will remain combined and does not impact a client's ability to access all services. Ms. Machado explained that hospital services payments are available for RWP Part A clients who are in need of inpatient hospital care.

General revenue funds are currently available for beds for men at the Salvation Army.

▪ **Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)**

Roberto Tazoe was not present; the item was tabled.

Motion to table the HOPWA Report until the next meeting.

Moved: Daniel T. Wall

Seconded: Frederick Downs

Motion: Passed

Staff was asked to contact Mr. Tazoe to impart the importance of regular HOPWA reporting to the Partnership.

C. Approval of Reports

Mr. Iadarola called for a motion:

Motion to accept the Membership, Grantee/Recipient, and Committee Reports as presented.

Moved: Travis Neff

Seconded: Miguel Puente

Motion: Passed

IX. Standing Business

There was no standing business.

X. New Business

A. I Am a Work of ART

Alecia Tramel

Ms. Tramel announced the new prevention campaign, I Am a Work of ART. The campaign features posters, postcard, and social media content promoting Antiretroviral Treatment (ART) and features local and national advocates, including Ms. Tramel.

Previously the Partnership had voted to have a Partnership member representative and staff liaison for the campaign. Since the member representative is no longer on the Partnership, members recommended Ms. Tramel.

Motion to appoint Alecia Tramel as designated Miami-Dade HIV/AIDS Partnership member representative to the I Am a Work of ART Campaign.

Moved: Travis Neff

Seconded: Harold McIntyre

Motion: Passed

Staff advised that campaign materials will be distributed in August.

XI. Announcements

Mr. Iadarola announced flyers available at the meeting:

- People with HIV make the difference!;
- The Community Coalition Roundtable Dinner Presentation Series; and
- Miami-Dade County RWP Research Symposium.

He also noted, the meeting presentation posted online includes:

- 2022 Annual Needs Assessment dates;
- Monkeypox vaccine updates from FDOH; and
- Meningococcal Disease: What People Living with HIV Need to Know.

Francisco Gomez from Care Resource announced the HOPWA-funded Short-term Rental, Mortgage and Utility Assistance Program (STRMU) program is open to people with HIV needing limited assistance to remain housed. Flyers and palm cards regarding the program were available at the meeting. Persons needing assistance do not need to be clients at Care Resource.

Wanda Vasquez of Janssen introduced herself as the new community liaison and offered to speak to anyone interested in educational presentations.

XII. Next Meeting

Vice Chair, Alberto Perez Bermudez, announced the next meeting date is August 15, 2022.

XIII. Adjournment

Mr. Iadarola called for a motion to adjourn.

Motion to adjourn.

Moved: Frederick Downs, Jr.

Seconded: Miguel Puente

Motion: Passed

The meeting adjourned at 11:28 a.m.