



**Care and Treatment Committee Meeting**  
**Miami-Dade Public Library, Auditorium**  
**101 West Flagler, Miami, FL 33130**  
**August 17, 2023**  
**Minutes**

*Approved September 14, 2023*

#	Committee Members	Present	Absent
1	Alcala, Etelvina	X	
2	Ellison, Jennifer		X
3	Grant, Gena		X
4	Henriquez, Maria	X	
5	Mills, Vanessa		X
6	Siclari, Rick		X
7	Shmuels, Diego	X	
8	Trepka, Mary Jo	X	
9	Wall, Dan	X	
<b>Quorum: 4</b>			

Guests	
David Goldberg	
Brad Mester	
Karen Poblete	
Javier Romero	
Kira Villamizar	
Staff	
Robert Ladner	Marlen Meizoso

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](http://www.aidsnet.org/meeting-documents).

**I. Call to Order**

*Dr. Diego Shmuels*

Dr. Diego Shmuels, the Chair, welcomed everyone, introduced himself and called the meeting to order at 10:14 a.m. He reminded everyone that this was the last of the data-focused meetings, and at the next meeting the priority setting and resource allocation process will conclude. All are urged to pay attention to the presentations as they serve to provide the tools to make data-based decisions.

**II. Introductions**

*Dr. Diego Shmuels*

Members and guests introduced themselves around the room.

**III. Meeting Housekeeping and Rules**

*Dr. Mary Jo Trepka*

Dr. Trepka reviewed the Housekeeping and Rules presentation, which reviewed the environmental reminders, parking, and meeting decorum for all participants.

**IV. Floor Open to the Public**

*Dr. Mary Jo Trepka*

Dr. Trepka 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.*

*BSR has a dedicated line for statements to be read into the record. No statements were received.*

There were no comments, so the floor was closed.

**V. Review/Approve Agenda**

*All*

The Committee reviewed the agenda and accepted it as presented.

**Motion to accept the agenda as presented.**

**Moved: Dan Wall**

**Seconded: Dr. Mary Jo Trepka**

**Motion: Passed**

**VI. Review/Approve Minutes of July 17, 2023**

*All*

The Committee reviewed the minutes of July 17, 2023, and Dr. Javier Romero suggested an edit. Under the last line under the ADAP report, the sentence should read “Pharmacy selection is a clients’ choice only”.

**Motion to accept the minutes from July 17, 2023, with suggested edits.**

**Moved: Dan Wall**

**Seconded: Dr. Mary Jo Trepka**

**Motion: Passed**

**VII. Reports**

- *Part A/Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI)*

*Dan Wall*

Dan Wall indicated the current client count is 7,228, already higher than last year. Expenditures to date are low, because contracts are still being executed. At today’s meeting, an issue with the unspent carryover will be addressed. HRSA plans an on-site visit in January 2024. Test and Treat Rapid Access reporting has been changed to reflect current figures: 116 new to care; 125 new to Ryan White Care; and 83 returned to care for a total of 324. Fifty-four percent (176) are virally suppressed.

The Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) Request for Proposals (RFP) closed in late June but there is no news to share. On August 8-10, a HRSA EHE site visit was conducted.

At the end of July, the Florida Comprehensive Planning Network (FCPN) met in Tampa. The State is working on restructuring the FCPN and governance. There are five models being considered: consortia, lead agency, hybrid, state led, or state contracts out.

On August 29, 2023, there will be a joint EHE and Fast Track Cities workshop, in which both the County and City of Miami Mayors will participate. Attendance is limited. Both prevention and care and treatment items will be discussed.

- *Part B*

*David Goldberg*

David Goldberg reviewed the June Part B report. For the month of June 2023, 580 clients were served at an expense of \$92,669.29. The Part B program is paying for a new service for referrals to services. There appears to be some confusion about Part B services and the notice of eligibility requirements. A memo will be released shortly clarifying these items. Two agencies have been billing late, and this is being addressed.

- *ADAP*

*Dr. Javier Romero*

Dr. Javier Romero reviewed the July 2023 ADAP report, as of August 2, 2023, including data on enrollments, pharmacy and insurance expenditures, program updates, medication additions, and current pharmacy listings. Program updates were reviewed, and the Navarro Specialty Pharmacy has been added.

A member mentioned that the ADAP program has been discussing lowering the FPL rate from 75% to 50% for clients to access ACA plans.

- *Vacancies*

*Marlen Meizoso*

Mrs. Meizoso reviewed the July 2023 vacancy report which indicated there are twelve vacancies for members of the affected community. Current Affected Community vacancies on the Care and Treatment Committee total seven with Dennis Iadarola terming off. Staff urged members and guests to share vacancy information with clients or invite them to upcoming trainings and meetings.

A guest indicated if livestream or online access was available for greater participation. Staff indicated that currently a physical quorum is required per Government in the Sunshine. The County Attorney will need to be consulted regarding that issue.

### **VIII. Standing Business**

- *FY 2022 MAI Carryover Adjustment*

*All*

At the last meeting the Committee made recommendations on the FY 2022 Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) Carryover. HRSA indicated that the total Carryover could not include FY 2020 totals, and the total had to be reduced by \$94,086. The Committee responded by reducing both Medical Case Management and Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services by \$47,043.

**Motion to reduce the Miami-Dade County Ryan White Part A FY 2022 Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) carryover grant funding allocation by \$47,043 from Medical Case Management, and by \$47,043 from Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services.**

**Moved: Dan Wall**

**Seconded: Dr. Mary Jo Trepka**

**Motion: Passed**

## **IX. New Business**

- *2022 Ryan White Co-Occurring Conditions* *Dr. Robert Ladner*

Dr. Robert Ladner reviewed the 2022 Ryan White Co-Occurring Conditions which provided data on the seven special need demographic groups and eight co-occurring conditions. Annual cost of clients per co-occurring conditions was reviewed. Ryan White viral load suppression rates are at 82%. Blacks, persons who are homeless, and women of childbearing age are three groups that need improvements to raise viral load rates. Black clients acquiring HIV through male-to-male sexual contact (MMSC) had the lowest levels of viral suppression, while Hispanic MMSC had the highest. As in prior years, clients with mental illness and homelessness have the highest annual costs.

- *Unmet Needs in Miami-Dade HIV Community* *Dr. Robert Ladner*

Dr. Ladner reviewed the Unmet Needs in Miami-Dade HIV Community, which indicated Hispanics have a high level of health seeking behaviors, while Blacks have low levels. There are significant demographic differences between the clients in care in the Ryan White Program and the demographic profile reflected in the countywide Epi data.

- *2022-23 Community Input/Town Hall Results* *Marlen Meizoso*

Mrs. Meizoso reviewed 2022-2023 Community Input Integrated Plan Development and Virtual Town Hall presentation. The information presented was derived from the 2022 Community Input for the Integrated Plan development, a 2023 Virtual Town Hall, and other public input options. Items were themed such as housing, transportation, communication, mental health, dental (oral health), food insecurities, and appointments and aside from expressing concerns, progress being made was reviewed.

A guest mentioned that under the Part B program the EFA line item covers limited utilities, food, transportation, and housing. The ADAP program also provides daily public transportation passes to clients who need them, but usage has been low. Issues related to access to psychiatry may be related to these physicians being in-network or not on an ACA plan.

- *Service Categories* *Marlen Meizoso*

Mrs. Meizoso shared and referenced the HRSA Policy Clarification Notice (PCN) #16-02 which will aid the Committee to prioritize all allowable services, including those not currently funded. Staff will send out a prioritization sheet for Part and MAI services next week and include a note to see the PCN #16-02 for a complete description. Mrs. Meizoso also shared the Planning CHATT guide “Using MAI Funds Effectively,” which highlights the background of the MAI program, allowable items, expectations of HRSA, and funding challenges.

- *August Summary and Next Steps*

*Marlen Meizoso*

Mrs. Meizoso reviewed the August Summary and Next Steps presentation, which provided a summary of the data and locations of materials in the needs assessment book. Members were urged to review all items and reminded of remaining topics, and the next meeting date.

- *Planning Council Meeting Survey*

*Marlen Meizoso*

Mrs. Meizoso explained that the Executive Committee has been working on issues related to membership retention and meeting improvements. As part of this process and 2024 planning, staff has developed a short three-question survey for members to complete and return. Results will be brought back to the Committee and reported to the Executive Committee.

## **X. Announcements and Open Discussion**

*All*

Mrs. Meizoso announced that the Library will have the walkway bridge closed from September 14 to October 27, 2023. Members should park in the garage and walk across the street to access the library. Mrs. Meizoso also announced the HIV and Criminalization presentation being hosted by Community Coalition on August 28, 2023, at Latino Salud.

No open discussion items were suggested.

## **XI. Next Meeting**

*Dr. Mary Jo Trepka*

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 14, 2023, at the Miami-Dade County Main Library Auditorium, 101 West Flagler Street, Miami, FL 33130, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

## **XII. Adjournment**

*Dr. Diego Shmuels*

With business concluded, Dr. Shmuels thanked the members for participating in today's meeting and adjourned the meeting at 12:25 p.m.