



**Care and Treatment Committee Meeting
 Care Resource Health Care Center, Midtown Miami
 3510 Biscayne Blvd, 3rd Floor Executive Board Room
 Miami, FL 33137**

April 11, 2024 Minutes

Approved May 9, 2024

#	Committee Members	Present	Absent
1	Fils Aime, Louvens	X	
2	Henriquez, Maria	X	
3	Mills, Vanessa	X	
4	Siclari, Rick	X	
5	Shmuels, Daniel		X
6	Shmuels, Diego		X
7	Trepka, Mary Jo	X	
8	Wall, Dan	X	
Quorum: 4			

Guests	
Brooks, Jimmie	
Fernandez, Chad	
Gonzalez, Tivisay	
Ingram, Trillion	
Leiva, German	
Kratofil, Keri	
Poblete, Karen	
Staff	
Hilton, Karen	Meizoso, Marlen
Ladner, Robert	

All documents referenced in these minutes were accessible to members and the public prior to (and during) the meeting, at <https://aidsnet.org/the-partnership#caretreatment2>.

I. Call to Order

Dr. Mary Jo Trepka

Dr. Mary Jo Trepka, the Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:18 a.m.

II. Introductions

Dr. Mary Jo Trepka

Members, guests, and staff introduced themselves.

III. Meeting Housekeeping

Marlen Meizoso

Marlen Meizoso reviewed the meeting housekeeping presentation.

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 that was distributed and posted in advance of the meeting. Rick Siclari was not present yet so any item with his name should be changed to Dr. Mary Jo Trepka until he arrives.

Motion to accept the agenda, with the change as noted.

Moved: Dan Wall

Seconded: Vanessa Mills

Motion: Passed

VI. Review/Approve Minutes of March 14, 2024

All

The committee reviewed the minutes of March 14, 2024, and approved it as presented.

Motion to accept the minutes from March 14, 2024, as presented.

Moved: Louvens Aime

Seconded: Dan Wall

Motion: Passed

VII. Reports

- *Part A*

Dan Wall

Dan Wall reviewed Ryan White Program (RWP) expenditures and clients served to date. As of the latest FY 2023 yearend report, the RWP has served 9,060 unduplicated clients, including 1,591 Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) clients. This is more than last year's total. Final payments are still being processed. Part A has expended 87% of funds and MAI has expended 56% of funds. Some carryover is expected after all expenditures are reconciled, although this will be less than it has been in past years.

The Recipient has received the HRSA site visit report for the January 2024 visit. Some findings and recommendations include that Partnership membership does not reflect the epidemic (as reflected in FDOH epidemiology data); concerns about billable service activity related to training; the need for the Recipient to develop a more detailed grievance procedure; the need for planning council involvement in planning council staff support budgets; and the need for faster contract execution. Some improvement options were offered. HRSA complemented the data visualization provided by BSR CQM, the positive relationships reported between subrecipient providers and the Recipient, the dedicated Recipient and BSR staff, and the exceptional planning council website. The Recipient has 30 days to reply to the report.

Test and Treat/Rapid Access has enrolled 704 clients since the last report.

The Recipient attended an Ending the HIV Epidemic conference. The Recipient is working with the Quick Connect provider to establish a partnership with FDOH and the Gilead Frontlines of Communities in the United States (FOCUS) Program to station a linkage specialist at two Jackson

locations and the Baptist emergency room. There will also be an expanded media and an outreach campaign focusing on Liberty City and the Beach, concentrating on MSM of color between 18-39 years of age. In addition, a smart phone app called “Positive Peers” will be made available.

A member indicated that some clients are being fraudulently enrolled in Affordable Care Act insurance plans. Clients and/or medical case managers who encounter these fraudulent enrollments are advised to contact the state insurance commissioner.

- *Vacancies*

Marlen Meizoso

Mrs. Meizoso reviewed the vacancy report as of April. There are vacancies on all Committees and the Partnership. Currently there are eight vacancies in Care and Treatment. If anyone knows of candidates who may be interested in the work of the Committee, staff encourages these persons to be invited to a Committee meeting or training, or be directed to staff for further information.

There are two applicants for the Committee, Tivisay Gonzalez and German Leiva. Both applicants introduced themselves and expressed their interest in joining the Committee.

Motion to recommend Tivisay Gonzalez and German Leiva as members of the Care and Treatment Committee.

Moved: Dan Wall

Seconded: Vanessa Mills

Motion: Passed

VIII. Standing Business

- *Service Definition Development Continued*

All

The Committee reviewed the April version of the Service Definitions Development document. Of the five original services, only three remained, which were addressed as indicated below.

Psychosocial Support

Staff presented a revised service definition, based on the discussion at the last meeting. Areas of specific concern were highlighted and reviewed. The Committee recommended the following:

- Delete “reimbursement will be provided at a flat rate” because the Service Description states elsewhere that the Recipient will set the reimbursement rates;
- Add “(individual client counseling only)” ...to client progress; and
- Strike the rest of the sentence, “and ...supervisor as applicable”.

The Committee made no additional recommended changes and made a motion to accept the document with the changes noted.

Motion to approve the Psychosocial Service Definition as amended.

Moved: Dan Wall

Seconded: German Leiva

Motion: Passed

Housing

Staff had drafted a model Housing Service Definition based on the Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) Housing Services description and the HRSA Policy Clarification Notice (PCN) #16-02 which was discussed and reviewed at the last meeting. Members clarified the definition of participation in other housing assistance programs (“receiving assistance from”), and with no other changes to the document, the Committee moved to accept the Housing Service Definition as amended.

Motion to approve the Housing Service Definition as amended.

Moved: Dan Wall

Seconded: German Leiva

Motion: Passed

Non-Medical Case Management

The Committee discussed Non-Medical Case Management Service Definition and reviewed an updated infographic of the difference between medical and non-medical case management functions when Peers are employed. HRSA wants non-medical case management available at non-traditional sites, and will not accept this service as an expanded Peer activity. Billing data for various activities for peers and medical case managers were reviewed. While the parameters provided under non-medical case management under PCN #16-02 seem to duplicate most of the services provided under medical case management, except for adherence counseling, if clients have the option to select to see either a medical or non-medical case management this would eliminate the duplication because they would select one or the other. HRSA had indicated that for clients who are virally suppressed, they would not need go to a medical case manager when that level of services is not warranted.

Motion to adopt the HRSA PCN#16-02 definition on the Service Definition Development document as the service definition for Non-Medical Case Management.

Moved: Dan Wall

Seconded: Rick Siclari

Motion: Passed

Bundling

The Committee considered a final clarification of the configuration of the required bundling of Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services (OAHS) with Medical Case Management (MCM) and Mental Health (MH). Based on prior discussions, staff provided an infographic of all case management-related and mental health-related services that could be bundled with OAHS. The Committee indicated they also wanted to include Medical Transportation with Medical Case Management, which is the current active bundle. The Committee did not want to add Psychosocial Support and Non-Medical Case Management to allow for nontraditional providers to apply for the next RFP. The Committee moved to add Medical Transportation as part of the new bundle. Although Medical Transportation and Mental Health Services are required elements of the OAHS bundle, they may be offered independently as well.

Motion to add Medical Transportation to the upcoming RFP bundle of Outpatient Ambulatory Health Services with Medical Case Management and Mental Health Services.

Moved: Dan Wall

Seconded: Rick Siclari

Motion: Passed

Since the meeting end time was near, the Committee made a motion to extend the meeting by 15

minutes.

Motion to extend the meeting by 15 minutes.

Moved: Vanessa Mills

Seconded: Maria Henriquez

Motion: Passed

IX. New Business

- *IDEA Exchange: T-Sharp Study*

All

Chad Fernandez and Jimmie Brooks provided a presentation on the T-Sharp Study being conducted by the IDEA Exchange. The IDEA Exchange offers status-neutral syringe exchange services to persons who inject drugs, in a non-stigmatizing setting, as a harm reduction outreach activity. Contact information was also shared for any providers who wish to refer clients to the study.

X. Announcements and Open Discussion

All

Mrs. Meizoso announced the Needs Assessment starts next month and is scheduled through August. This year it may extend into September and must conclude by October.

HRSA and CDC have issued a “Dear Colleague” letter announcing the rise of congenital syphilis. Attendees were asked to share the letter widely. It will also be shared with the Medical Care Subcommittee.

XI. Next Meeting

Rick Siclari

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 9, 2024, at Care Resource from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

XII. Adjournment

Dr. Mary Jo Trepka

With business concluded, Dr. Trepka thanked Care Resource for their hospitality, members for their work at today’s meeting, and adjourned the meeting at 12:14 p.m.