



**Medical Care Subcommittee Meeting
Behavioral Science Research
2121 Ponce de Leon Blvd., Ste. 240
Coral Gables, FL 33134**

July 26, 2024 Minutes

Approved October 25, 2024

#	Members	Present	Absent	Guests
1	Baez, Ivet		X	Hermina Rojas
2	Dougherty, James	X		Carla Valle-Schwenk
3	Friedman, Lawrence	X		Karyann Victorew
4	Goubeaux, Robert	X		Ramona N. Washington
5	Miller, Juliet		X	
6	Romero, Javier	X		
7	Serrano-Irizarry, Yendi	X		Staff
8	Wright, Sonya	X		Karen Hilton
9	Ysea, Cristhian A.	X		Robert Ladner
Quorum: 4				Marlen Meizoso

All documents referenced in these minutes were accessible to both members and the general public prior to (and during) the meeting, at <https://aidsnet.org/the-partnership#mcsc1>.

I. Call to Order

James Dougherty

James Dougherty, Subcommittee Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. He introduced himself, provided an overview of the work for today’s meeting, and welcomed everyone.

II. Introductions

All

Mr. Dougherty requested members, guests, and staff to introduce themselves.

III. Meeting Housekeeping

James Dougherty

Mr. Dougherty reviewed the meeting housekeeping presentation indicating people first language, meeting protocols, and the location of Subcommittee items online

IV. Floor Open to the Public

Cristhian Ysea

Cristhian Ysea, Vice Chair, read the following:

“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 phone line and email 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 Subcommittee reviewed the agenda and adopted it as presented.

Motion to accept the agenda as presented.

Moved: Dr. Lawrence Friedman

Seconded: Cristhian Ysea

Motion: Passed

VI. Review/Approve Minutes of June 28, 2024

All

Members reviewed the minutes of June 28, 2024, and approved them as presented.

Motion to accept the minutes of June 28, 2024, as presented.

Moved: Dr. Robert Goubeaux

Seconded: Cristhian Ysea

Motion: Passed

VII. Reports

▪ **Ryan White Program**

Carla Valle-Schwenk

Carla Valle-Schwenk reviewed the current Ryan White Program expenditures and clients served which were posted online briefly. There is a Part A, Part B, and Subrecipients meeting on Monday to discuss TTRA, changes to the food bank services, reciprocal forms for Part B, and planning for new services. The meeting will be held at the Main Library.

▪ **AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP)**

Dr. Javier Romero

Dr. Javier Romero reviewed the June 2024 ADAP report as of July 1, 2024 including enrollments, expenditures, prescriptions, premium payments, and program updates. A copy of the Magellan network pharmacies for the entire state was provided as requested and posted online. As a reminder, pharmacy choice is a client’s decision.

Regarding the low Cabenuva usage, ADAP only receives pickup reports from the pharmacies. While pickup numbers were high in October 2023, the current figures are low. Based on a call with the State on this item, there have been complaints about the Cabenuva enrollment process, which is apparently not easy to complete. Some clients do not like having to go to a doctor for the injections (six visits a year for two shots), they do not like needles, it is uncomfortable, or if there are any delays during an appointment, the medication can become non-viable. There also appears to be some confusion as to the process and qualifications to be a candidate for the medication. Staff will forward the Five Barriers to Cabenuva document developed by the Department of Health.

The State has released the patient surveys on pharmacy satisfaction. Most clients like their services, except for eight who indicated they did not.

The program is monitoring 75 clients who are within the seven-month threshold of turning 65 years old and need to apply to Medicare. Target dates to reach are three months before the six months of birthday, and three months after. Medicare clients can get copay assistance for medication. The Part A program indicated it will check with American Exchange to see if they can assist clients in plan enrollment.

▪ **Vacancy Report**

Marlen Meizoso

Ms. Meizoso referenced the membership vacancy report indicating several vacancies on the Subcommittee and on the Partnership. The Subcommittee has five vacancies for members with lived experience and two seats for medical professionals. If anyone knows of any additional individuals interested in membership, they may contact staff, invite them to attend a meeting, or invite them to attend any Partnership training.

The six applications for the Partnership have been approved by the Mayor's office.

VIII. Standing Business

▪ **Ophthalmology and Medical Conditions List**

All

The Subcommittee reviewed the current edits to the Allowable Medical Conditions list under Ophthalmology discussed at the last meeting. The Subcommittee recommended two additional edits. In the blue box reword to "optometry or ophthalmological screening for eye health". Reword first sentence in second paragraph to read "Referrals to an optometrist or ophthalmologist for treatment must indicate a condition related to or exacerbated by HIV, comorbidity related to HIV, or complications of HIV treatment." The Subcommittee then made a motion to approve the document with the discussed revisions.

Motion to approve the changes to the Allowable Conditions List as discussed.

Moved: Dr. Robert Goubeaux

Seconded: Dr. Lawrence Friedman

Motion: Passed

▪ **2025 Planning Activities**

All

As indicated at the last meeting, all committees and the subcommittee are being polled as part of the annual Partnership staff support budget process. Requests are being solicited for special projects above and beyond the annual activities supported by the existing staff support budget. These requests will then be prioritized and forwarded to the Executive Committee for review and possible inclusion in the Partnership's budget/scope. Legislative requirements include comprehensive planning, priority setting and resource allocation, assessing efficiency of administrative mechanism, and needs assessment. The Subcommittee had indicated they would like the reports (Ryan White summary, ADAP, Vacancy, and Motions reports) included in the packet. The Subcommittee also discussed holding special focus groups that could be done on HIV and aging. The Subcommittee suggested holding two focus groups. The first group would be for those aged 55 and older to discuss the aging body and health needs. A second group could then be geared towards those age 64 ½ who are aging and transitioning into Medicare. The groups would be held in all three languages (English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole) with a maximum capacity of 15 clients per each group. The Haitian group might be difficult to fill, but if not, the focus group could be turned into key informant interviews with participants. Suggested budget of \$7,500 for the six groups. Client incentive of \$50. Refreshments and transportation assistance should be included. The intent of the focus group is to clarify issues of access and needs and allow the voice of the clients to be heard.

IX. New Business

Referrals Flowchart

At the last meeting staff volunteered to review the feasibility of a flowchart for referrals. Karen Hilton indicated she is still reviewing replies from agencies and will provide an update on this item at the next meeting.

Service Descriptions: AIDS Pharmaceutical and Mental Health

Per the conversation at the last meeting, drafts of the 2025 AIDS Pharmaceutical and Mental Health service descriptions and Mental Health services were distributed and reviewed both. No edits on any dates or rankings were made since these have not been decided yet. Under the AIDS Pharmaceutical service description, the following edits were recommended:

- Strike “to prolong life, improve health, or prevent deterioration of health” from second paragraph
- Use lower case for professions such as “Licensed Medical Provider, Nutritionist, and Pharmacist”
- Strike from second bullet 2. Client Education and Adherence “including information about state-of-the-art combination drug therapies”
- Fix spacing under additional important notice sec.

The Subcommittee also started reviewing the mental health service description. The following edits were recommended: Add to DSM-“TR”5 and after the name of the book Text Revision, Fifth Edition throughout the document and fix the spacing below “Available at section” on page 36.

These edits will be made and brought to the following meeting.

Ryan White Conference and August 23, 2024, meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for August 23, 2024, but it conflicts with the final day of the National Ryan White Conference which may impact meeting participation. The Subcommittee was polled, and several members were in conflict, so a motion was made to cancel the August meeting. The next meeting would then be September 27, 2024.

Motion to cancel the August 23, 2024, Medical Car Subcommittee meeting.

Moved: Dr. Robert Goubeaux

Seconded: Dr. Lawrence Friedman

Motion: Passed

X. Announcements and Open Discussion

All

Mrs. Meizoso announced the next Get on Board training is scheduled for September 4, 2024, and new member orientation will be held September 18, 2024.

No open discussion items were shared.

XI. Next Meeting

Cristhian Ysea

The next Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 27, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. at BSR, per the earlier motion. Members were encouraged to RSVP for the meeting to ensure quorum.

XII. Adjournment

James Dougherty

Mr. Dougherty thanked everyone for participating in today's meeting and requested a motion to adjourn.

Motion to adjourn.

Moved: Dr. Robert Goubeaux

Seconded: Dr. Lawrence Friedman

Motion: Passed

The meeting adjourned at 11:13 a.m.