



**Medical Care Subcommittee Meeting
Behavioral Science Research
2121 Ponce de Leon Boulevard, Suite 240
Coral Gables, FL 33134**

November 22, 2024 Minutes

Approved January 24, 2025

#	Members	Present	Absent	Guests
1	Baez, Ivet	X		Ana M. Nieto
2	Dougherty, James	X		Carla Valle-Schwenk
3	Friedman, Lawrence	X		
4	Goubeaux, Robert		X	
5	Miller, Juliet	X		
6	Romero, Javier	X		
7	Serrano-Irizarry, Yendi		X	
8	Ysea, Cristhian A.	X		
Quorum: 4				Staff
				Robert Ladner
				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 9:43 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 meeting 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 accepted it as presented.

Motion to accept the agenda as presented.

Moved: Dr. Lawrence Friedman

Seconded: Cristhian Ysea

Motion: Passed

VI. Review/Approve Minutes of October 25, 2024

All

Members reviewed the minutes of October 25, 2024, and made several corrections:

- Dr. Lawrence Friedman and Cristhian Ysea names are misspelled on page 2;
- The ADAP pharmacy should be changed to the County Health Department on page 2;
- There is an extra “P” in ARNP on page 3; and
- “with” needs to be added after “problem” on page 4.

The Subcommittee made a motion to accept the minutes with the changes discussed.

Motion to accept the minutes of October 25, 2024, with changes as discussed.

Moved: Ivet Baez

Seconded: Dr. Lawrence Friedman

Motion: Passed

VII. Reports

▪ **Ryan White Program**

Carla Valle-Schwenk

Carla Valle-Schwenk reviewed Ryan White Program (RWP) expenditures and clients served to date. As of the September report, the RWP has served 8,534 unduplicated clients, which is close to the number of clients served last year. Insurance payment totals on the sheet do not reflect all the expenditures. About 25% of the bills received for expenditures have been paid. Expenditure totals in December should reflect all payments. Three contracts are pending signatures at agencies.

The Mayor of Miami-Dade County approved the changes to the Ordinance relating to the Miami-Dade HIV/AIDS Partnership, which includes removal of the Part A Recipient seat and reduction of quorum requirements to one-third-plus-one members.

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

Dr. Javier Romero

Dr. Javier Romero reviewed the October 2024 ADAP report as of November 4, 2024, including enrollments, expenditures, prescriptions, premium payments, and program updates. Open enrollment for insurance for 2025 is open and there are 62 plans, a reduction from the 72 plans in 2024. Most clients enroll in the Florida Blue health plans, but there is a platinum plan that will not continue going forward for new clients since it is not cost effective. There has been an increase in the number of clients enrolled in health insurance. Clients should be reminded that they need to be updated in both the ADAP database and the Broward Regional Health Planning Council system.

▪ **Vacancy Report**

Marlen Meizoso

Ms. Meizoso referenced the November vacancy report indicating several vacancies on the Subcommittee and on the Partnership. 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 the upcoming New Member Orientation.

VIII. Standing Business

▪ **Service Descriptions: Substance Abuse**

All

The Subcommittee reviewed edits made to the 2025 Substance Abuse service descriptions. Edits of dates, rankings, and scrivener's errors were indicated in track changes. The referenced links access dates will be updated prior to publication. The Subcommittee decided to delay further review until after the methadone discussion in case any changes need to be made to the service description.

▪ **Minimum Primary Medical Care Standards (selection)**

All

The Subcommittee reviewed and updated pages 1-4 and pages 9-11 of the Minimum Primary Medical Care Standards. The anal dysplasia requirement should match the latest standards and reference the NIH article indicated in the document. The standards indicate that viral load tests should be done every six months; and CD4 tests for stable patients can be done annually. Some providers are not following the standards which impacts performance. A statement should be included at the top of the document indicating that regardless of patient stability, viral load tests need to be done every 6 months. Immunizations are pending CDC release of guidance which is due shortly. For the next meeting, the full document with edits will be presented.

▪ **2025 Officer Nominations**

All

As mentioned in the last meeting, elections will be taking place next month. Both officers are eligible for a second term, but if anyone else is interested they may add their name to the ballot. No members indicated interest except for the current officers, whose names will be included on the ballot in January.

Motion to accept the nominations of the current Chair, James Dougherty, and current Vice Chair, Cristhian Ysea for 2025 Subcommittee Officers.

Moved: Dr. Lawrence Friedman

Seconded: Juliet Miller

Motion: Passed

IX. New Business

▪ **Service Descriptions: Oral Health Care and Oral Health Care Standards**

Staff forwarded the Oral Health Care service description and Oral Health Care Standards to the former members of the Oral Health Care Workgroup for feedback, and no replies were received. The service cap limitations per client will likely need to be reimplemented because of the overall increase in clients.

There will also need to be reassessment of the inclusion of implants since there is only one provider and that provider is awaiting funding reallocations (Sweeps) before accepting clients for this service. The cost for the service runs from \$16,000-\$20,000 per client, which is unsustainable.

The Subcommittee decided to wait until the next meeting to make decisions on the standards to allow staff to follow-up with the former Oral Health Care Workgroup members. Staff will also query about the number of clients who would qualify for the service and if there is any additional capacity.

▪ **2025 Meeting Workplan**

Staff provided the Subcommittee with the 2025 calendar of activities (workplan), updated from the last meeting. Under January, the new items to be addressed from this meeting will be added. For November, the planning date needs to be changed to 2026. The Subcommittee approved their calendar of activities as discussed.

Motion to adopt the 2025 calendar of activities as discussed.

Moved: Ivet Baez

Seconded: Cristhian Ysea

Motion: Passed

▪ **Methadone Access and Ryan White Program**

A request for consideration of methadone access was received by a for-profit provider that receives funding from Thriving Minds. In 2022, the Subcommittee addressed the same request and decided not to recommend the medication due to legal hurdles. The legal hurdles have not changed. Contracting with for-profit providers is difficult for the Ryan White Program (RWP), and members were reminded that the RWP must be payor of last resort. How to categorize the service would also need to be considered. Time was running short for further discussion so this item will be brought back for the January meeting.

A request was made to add an extra five minutes to the meeting to finish the agenda items.

Motion to add an extra five minutes to the meeting.

Moved: Cristhian Ysea

Seconded: Juliet Miller

Motion: Passed

X. Announcements and Open Discussion

All

Mrs. Meizoso announced the next New Member Orientation training is scheduled for January 15, 2025.

No open discussion items were shared.

XI. Next Meeting

Cristhian Ysea

The next Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 24, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. at BSR.

XII. Adjournment

James Dougherty

Mr. Dougherty thanked everyone for participating in today's meeting and wished everyone a happy and safe holidays. Mr. Dougherty called for a motion to adjourn.

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Moved: Juliet Miller

Seconded: Cristhian Ysea

Motion: Passed

The meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.