

Roll Call

**Palm Beach County HIV CARE Council
CARE Council Meeting**

**Monday, June 24th @ 12: 00 P.M. @ Belle Glade Library - 725 NW 4th St, Belle Glade Library/
Community Services-810 Datura Street Floor "B" (Basement Conf. Room) West Palm Beach, FL
33401**

Council Members Present

Ashnika Ali
Hector Bernardino
Damion Baker
Lilia Perez
Lysette Perez- **Vice Chair**
'Richardo Jackson- Chair
Kristen Harrington
Tyrina Pinkney
'Ashaki Sypher
Miguel Vasquez
Brittany Henry
Tad Fuller
Cecil Smith
Kim Rommel-Enright
Angelie Diya
Mary Jane Reynolds
Dr. Youssef Motii-Treasurer

Members absent

Thomas McKissack
Kenny Talbot-Secretary

Nancy McConnell
Cynthia Walker
Domonique Lane
Denisse Grigoriou

Guests

Carole (Community Member)
Barbara Edward

Patricia Jackson
Miller Jackson
Brenda McColl
Christian Johnston-(FDOH)
Caroline Hills
Sandra Steward
Robb Scott-(FDOH)
Marie Presmy

CARE Council Staff

Neeta Mahani

Recipient Staff Present

Helene Hvizd
Jeffrey Lesanti
Dr. Daisy Wiebe
Thomas Eaton
Sean Conklin
Shoshana Ringer
Jasmine Parrish
Dr. Casey Messer
Anna Balla
Jason Gross
John Hulick
Amber
Chloe
Tammy Fields

Recipient Staff Absent

Geneve Simeus

Note: If you have any question or require special accommodations, please contact Neeta Mahani at 561-355-4820 or Nmahani@pbcgov.org .

Agenda

- I. Call to order 12:12 P.M., Roll call by Neeta Mahani, Introduction of Guests, There was a Quorum.
- II. A Moment of Reflection: **Richardo Jackson**

A Moment of Silence

*A moment of silence is observed in respect to the memory of those individuals
Who have succumbed to AIDS and those who are living with HIV. Let us
Remember why we are here today. Let us have the strength to make the decisions that
Will improve the care of those we serve. Let us be thankful for what we have accomplished to date.*

- III. **Acceptance of Excused Absences: Cynthia Walker**
Motion to accept excused absence-1st Motion Lysette Perez, Cecil Smith 2nd. No discussion.
Motion Carries.
- IV. **Acceptance of the June 24th CARE Council Meeting Agenda**
The discussion centered around a proposal to merge two committees, introduced by the Bylaws Committee, which sparked concerns from Kim, Helene, and Lysette about the democratic process and the need for a further broader discussion among the Care Council as a whole. CC members agreed to this proposal, emphasizing the importance of an open, and inclusive process in making such decisions.
 - 1. Motion to accept removal of item 3 {Membership & CAC meeting motion approval:
Motion to “Merge Community awareness and membership into a new committee Community engagement committee”}
Under New Business & removal of May 20th Meeting Minutes, as it is incomplete and told Neeta to correct the names.
Lilia Perez- first, Mary Jane Reynolds – second. No discussion. Motion Carries.Changes were made to the agenda for an upcoming meeting, including the removal of and the rescheduling of certain items. This discussion also included the importance of community in decision-making and the need for new participation to address community challenges. The educational session was agreed to be a part of future discussion.
- V. **Acceptance of the April 29th 2024 Care Council Meeting Minutes.**
Motion to accept CARE Council Meeting Minutes from April 29th, 2024.
Lysette Perez – first, Dr. Youssef Motii- second. No discussions. Motion Carries
- VI. **Comments by the Chair: None**
- VII. **County Staff Comments: Recipient and Care Council staff - Holding simultaneous public meetings of the CARE Council at locations in Belle Glade and WPB update and collaboration with library Staff and providing lunch at both the locations concern.**

Note: If you have any question or require special accommodations, please contact Neeta Mahani at 561-355-4820 or Nmahani@pbcgov.org .

Richardo Jackson wants to make sure Recipient and Care Council staff voices & opinions are heard at these meetings. Encourages staff to be present, involved. Neeta has concerns with lunches at both the locations. She asked advices from the members how to proceed in future to make sure food is supplied in both locations. Glades area, it's hard to find the vendor as Auntie Rosie is the only county vendor and it's very expensive. Recommendations are to explore vendors in the area. Neeta and Richardo will work to get in touch with local vendors in Glades area within the budget.

VIII. Old Business: Addition of "Contact Us" link on the Recipient's Webpage-Update-Richardo Jackson.

In previous meeting members spoke about creating a space where community members and people living with HIV can voice their concerns about treatment they're receiving & whether or not they need additional resources that they're not receiving. Goal is to create a space where you can log on and explain situation to get resources they need without any challenges. On screen Neeta brought up link from Palm Beach County Community Services Website, under "Tell Us How We're Doing". Richardo encourages members use this resource to make sure that these services and service providers are up to par. This helps reduce the amount of people falling out of care.

IX. Standing Report: (5 – 10 min each)

A. CPP Update: Dylan or Rob Scott- **No Updates**

B. Part B Report: Patient Care & 4BNWK Report: Christian Johnston gave an update on Part B expenditure, **Part B Expenditure 2023-2024 Report** document. This covers Allocation for following:

- RW Part B GY23-24: Administration 71%, Ambulatory/Outpatient (Lab w/ eligibility) 100%, Medical Nutrition Therapy 45%, Clinical Quality Management 0% & Planning Evaluation 0%. Total Allocation- Ryan White Part B 78%.
- Patient Care Network GY23-24: Administration 98%, Ambulatory/Outpatient (IDC w/ Eligibility) 110%, Oral Health 4%, Referral for Healthcare/Supportive Svcs 76% & Clinical Quality Management 55%. Total Allocation- Patient Care Network 63%
- Patient Care General Revenue GY23-24: Administration 64%, Ambulatory/Outpatient (Lab w/ no Eligibility) 74%, Mental Health Services 73%, Treatment Adherence Services 73%, Referral to Healthcare/Support Services 79%, Food Bank/Home Delivered Meals 278%, Clinical Quality Management 49%, CQM-PB436-Pending, Medical Transportation-Bus Passes 100%, Oral Health 62%. Total Patient Care (General Revenue) 77%.

Ashnika has concerns with over expenditure of Food Bank/Hand Delivered Meals. Christian explains as we approach the end of the GY we will end up reallocating as needed and will eventually come down 200%. Christian explained that the Nutrition Program takes care of Food Bank & the Nutritionists take care of that side of the services. Christian also explains that going into the next GY these percentages should match much more closely with budget spending. There is an ongoing conversation in Tallahassee to find out how much we have in rollover.

Note: If you have any question or require special accommodations, please contact Neeta Mahani at 561-355-4820 or Nmhahani@pbcgov.org.

- C. **HOPWA (West Palm Beach):** Miguel Vasquez explains he has 215 families with the [in audible] voucher. Miguel also stated that they are not accepting new clients at this time.
- D. **Palm Beach County Recipient Report:** John Hulick, the senior program manager for behavioral substance use disorders, was introduced by Dr. Casey Messer as a key member of the team to integrate physical and behavioral health services. Dr. Casey stated that over the past few months the Department of Community Services has been doing some realignment of programs, focused on community help, particularly aligning our physical health, behavioral health and substance abuse programs & looks forward to collaboration. Dr. Casey said for team to expect John at future meetings moving forward and welcomes him to the team. John also mentioned that the Health Care Housing and Opportunities Program is now open and accepting referrals. This helps with improving economics and to increase income for those who cannot afford housing.
- E. **Part A Expenditure Report:** Jeffery Lesanti thanks John for his dedication & welcomes him to the team and is excited to see the new changes to come. Jeffrey goes over Ryan White GY24 Report Worksheet. Jeffrey discussed the challenges faced by their agencies in managing and reporting their expenses. He highlighted that many large recipients were yet to request reimbursements due to the complexity of setting up their systems to manage program income. He also noted concerns about the slow drawdown of grants due to high program income, and the fact that actual spending was significantly lower than expected, with 95% of the received grant money needing to be spent to avoid penalties. Sub recipients and partners are doing their best to work on this issue.
- F. **Executive:** Richardo Jackson – **No Update**
- G. **LGBTQ:** Kim Rommel Enright-The Bylaws Committee a vote was taken to change the name of the Executive LGBT Committee to the Ad hoc Health Equity Committee. Kim did not see this on the agenda so she does not believe we can vote on that today because no one has been notified of it. We did take that vote at the Bylaws Committee. Kim's request is for that to be put on the agenda for the next full CARE Council Meeting, and this was passed.
- H. **LPAP: No Update**
- I. **Membership:** Kenny Talbot – We are meeting on August 15th @ 2 p.m. – No update for this month
- J. **P & A:** Dr Youssef Motii stated that they had a very productive P&A meeting. No further update.
- K. **QMEC: No Update**
- L. **Planning:** Lysette Perez stated that the Planning Committee continues to work on the Needs Assessment Survey. The survey is close to being completed. She thanks the committee for their patience.
- M. **Community Awareness:** Richardo Jackson- **No Update**

Note: If you have any question or require special accommodations, please contact Neeta Mahani at 561-355-4820 or Nmhahani@pbcgov.org .

N. Housing: Miguel Vazquez & Andres – Not accepting any new clients at this time. It is expected to have a possible increase in funding this year.

O. Ad-Hoc Bylaws- Lysette Perez would like to save her update for the Educational Moment.

X. Public Comments: 3 Minutes –

Member of the CC committee discussed funding and housing challenges for the HOPWA Program, suggesting an educational session for the CARE Council to address these issues. As of right now there is about 200 individuals on the waiting list. Dr. Casey stated that the need for housing is double what we have funding for. Dr. Casey also discussed other programs that are available to clients, such as to assist with increasing income to be able to afford housing. This would help individuals to get promotions, vocational training, technical classes, and certifications needed to get better paying jobs to help increase their income.

XI. New Business:

1. Membership Committee meeting motion approval: For Christian Johnson for FDOH seat for July 2nd BOCC approval. All in favor. Motion carries.

2. Priority & Allocation Motion approval:

- **Motion to freeing up \$552,000 from the budget to be reallocated to new service categories, with 75% towards core services and 25% towards support.** Abstaining members, Lysette Perez- Compass; Lilia Perez, FoundCare; Brittany Henry, FoundCare; Ashnika Ali- HCSEF
- **Motion to approve the plan proposed reallocating funds to meet legislative requirements with a specific allocation of \$359,647 to 11 service.** Motion to table at this time as members did not have the print outs, Mary Jane Reynold- First, Miguel Vazquez- Second. Motion carries.
- **Motion to accept reallocation for MAI funding.** Dr. Motii- First, Lysette Perez- Second. Motion carries. Jeffrey Lesanti goes on to discuss which service categories will be impacted by this, medical case management for MAI.
- Abstaining Members - Lilia Perez, FoundCare; Ashnika Ali, Health Council of South East Florida; Brittany Henry, FoundCare. All in favor, motions carries.

XII. Educational Moment: Lysette Perez discusses how the Bylaws Committee met to discuss the Possibility of streamlining some things for the CARE Council, that being the possibility of merging membership and community awareness. Before the possibility of merging these two committees, Lysette goes on to address the issue of poor attendance at the organization's committee meetings. A root cause analysis was proposed to identify and solve the problem, with Jasmine explaining the principles of the analysis. Jasmine goes over short presentation of what a RCA is. The team identified transportation challenges and other obligations as major contributors to lack of attendance. Solutions were suggested, including changing meeting times to better accommodate community members and employees, and consolidating some committees to improve attendance. The issue of communication and scheduling was also highlighted, with the feasibility of holding meetings outside of business hours left open for

Note: If you have any question or require special accommodations, please contact Neeta Mahani at 561-355-4820 or Nmhahani@pbcgov.org .

further consideration. The conversation ended with Jasmine encouraging members to send any unannounced news to her for distributions.

Motion to accept to table this topic for further discussion, Lilia Perez, First, Cecil Smith, Second. Motion carries.

XIII. Announcements: Cecil Smith mention about attending the positive living conference in September.

XIV. Adjournment: 3:30 P.M.

**Conflict of Interest*

A CARE Council member who has an identified conflict of interest must abstain from voting on issues related to that conflict. A member who does not abstain from voting on issues where a conflict is identified by the County's Commission on Ethics may be removed from the CARE Council.