



## **ADOPTED - REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**COMMITTEE:** Citizens Advisory Committee on Health and Human Services (CAC/HHS)

**MEETING DATE and TIME:** August 10, 2017 at 9:00AM

**MEETING LOCATION:** Basement Conference Room – 810 Datura Street, West Palm Beach, FL 33401

**PERSON PRESIDING:** Dr. Patrick Halperin (Chair)

**REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Elizabeth Hernandez Cayson, Randy Palo, Sharon Greene, Dr. Thomas Cleare, Barbara Jacobowitz, Anne Gerwig, Sandra Chamblee, Dr. Christine Koehn

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Houston Tate

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Nancy Bolton, James Green, Taruna Malhotra, Sonja Holbrook, Helene Hvizd, David Rafaidus, Joseph Lambert, Douglas Eberhart (United Way PBC), Lizbeth Cabral (United Way PBC), Carly Gottorff (United Way PBC), Richard Radcliffe (League of Cities), Jared Greene (Boystown), Linda Roman (211), Clay Walker (DCF), Keianna Williams (PBC Human Services), Seth Bernstein (United Way PBC), Adam Reback (DoH Palm Beach)

**DISCLOSURES:** None.

**CHAIR & STAFF COMMENTS:** Dr. Patrick Halperin presented Edward Holloway with a special Certificate of Appreciation for his service and dedication to the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) and the County as a whole. Sandra Chamblee paid her respects for his service and showed her admiration for his commitment to the CAC. Barbara Jacobowitz informed everyone that she had known Mr. Holloway and his wife for many years and told a sweet story about his compassionate nature while she worked as his employee. Elizabeth Hernandez Cayson asked Ms. Jacobowitz to let Mr. Holloway know that he was dearly missed at the meeting. David Rafaidus informed everyone that the certificate would be placed in a plaque and delivered to Mr. Holloway's home.

**Agenda Item:** *1.D. Chair/Staff Comments*

**Discussion:** Anne Gerwig felt it would be appropriate and appreciated if the Board of County Commissioners recognized Edward Holloway's work with the county over so many years.

**Action Taken:** Motion to recognize Edward Holloway's service to the County at the Board of County Commissioners meeting by Anne Gerwig. Second by Elizabeth Hernandez Cayson. Motion approved and adopted by unanimous vote.

### **CONSENT ACTIONS OF MEETING**

**Agenda Item:** *2.A/B. Additions, Deletions, Substitutions / Adoption of Agenda*

**Discussion:** Taruna Malhotra added that Keianna Williams from Human Services will be presenting on the 100 Day Youth Homelessness Challenge.

**Action Taken:** Motion to approve the agenda as modified by Dr. Patrick Halperin. Second by Randy Palo. Agenda approved and adopted by unanimous vote.

### **REGULAR BUSINESS - ACTIONS OF MEETING**

**Agenda Item:** *3.A. Adoption of CAC Regular Committee Minutes (July 13, 2017)*

**Discussion:** None.

**Action Taken:** Motion to approve the minutes by Sandra Chamblee. Second by Elizabeth Hernandez Cayson. Minutes approved and adopted by unanimous vote.

## **REGULAR BUSINESS**

### **Agenda Item: 3.B. Mission and Goals of United Way & Hunger/Food Insecurity (Douglas Eberhart)**

- The history of the Hunger Relief Plan of Palm Beach County stems back to 2015.
- This is a partnership that began between United Way and the Palm Beach County Government; since then, they included the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC) from Washington D.C. and the University Of South Carolina Arnold School Of Public Health.
- The partners, along with over 180 different organizations, came together and conducted surveys, personal interviews, etc. with key stakeholders, service recipients, and providers.
- Community partners in addition to the County and United Way include Farris Foundation and Quantum Foundation with many more partnerships continuing to grow.
- There are around 200,000 food insecure people in Palm Beach County; 64,000 of these are children; and 54% of kids in schools are receiving free lunches.
- The school system has identified over 4,000 children as homeless; around 22% of all children are considered in poverty, as of 2014 (~60,000); almost 15% of the Palm Beach County population is living in poverty.
- Mr. Eberhart presented a table with demographics (employment, education, gender, and race) on Poverty within Palm Beach County.
- The Hunger Relief committee, along with the 180 organizations, created 10 goals aimed at changing the outlook of food insecurity throughout all of Palm Beach County, from Boca Raton to Tequesta.
- In general, the 10 goals address awareness of the food insecurity problem, advocacy for better legislation to fight hunger and reduce food hardship, reduction of hunger in the Glades, more access to nutritious food (for children, seniors, low-income individuals, etc.), more access to public assistance (SNAP benefits), better connection to nutritious food/resources through food banks, pantries, etc., increased knowledge of healthy food choices, and encouraging low-income families to achieve higher incomes which would improve their healthy food choices.
- With SNAP benefits, there are opportunities for the state to change the minimum amount of money that applicants could receive.
- Depending on the map used, there are between 20-88 identified food deserts in Palm Beach County.
- There are four Hunger Relief focus areas: children, infrastructure, senior, and Glades; each focus area contains several targets / intended outcomes to guide the best solution to accomplish the overarching goal. Providers of the services needed to accomplish the identified targets are convening together.
- Questions/Concerns:
  - Barbara Jacobowitz asked how involved the Glades Initiative was with the Hunger Relief Plan. Mr. Eberhart confirmed that Karis from the Glades Initiative was very involved and Taruna Malhotra added that her collaboration with the Hunger Relief plan is tied to her FAA contract as well.
  - Nancy Bolton asked who was empowered to raise the money for the Hunger Relief plan. Mr. Eberhart identified himself as the main contact for the task of raising funds but added that there are currently efforts underway to find others who could assist with this.
  - Elizabeth Hernandez Cayson commented how happy she was to learn that Children's Services Council assisted the Glade's Initiative in funding their large refrigeration unit.
  - Sharon Greene asked if Mr. Eberhart was aware of any programs working with local business and corner stores to provide fresh fruits and vegetables. Mr. Eberhart cited a study done for the Glades that highlighted all the stores in the region and what the relationship with them is; one of the targets for this year is to see which of these stores accept EBT/SNAP benefits to avoid having these residents travel so far outside of their home area.
  - Barbara Jacobowitz cited a study done on diabetes where a hospital has committed to providing food to individuals suffering from diabetes in order to keep them out of the emergency room. Ms. Jacobowitz added that it is important to find out where the pockets are in order to address filling those gaps.
  - Seth Bernstein asked Mr. Eberhart to speak more about the EBT and the Bonus Bucks. Mr. Eberhart said he called the EBT/Bonus Bucks a Continuum of Care program. The plan is to bring in a manager to establish a community garden in a designated food desert that could be maintained with grant funds; the products of the community garden could be paid for with EBT cards at a reasonable price and would allow the community members using these benefits to stretch them out for the entire month.
  - Mr. Eberhart added how important it is to get the key stakeholders all around the community to talk and communicate about the issues and how to implement problem-solving programs.
  - Dr. Patrick Halperin commended Mr. Eberhart on his hard work and getting the Hunger Relief Plan underway.
  - David Rafaidus mentioned his work with the County's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and the importance of distributing food and water according to hunger and poverty hot spots. He added that specifics

are key to improving the distribution process. Mr. Eberhart agreed and added that finding out what area is being served and what area is not being served is very important.

## **REGULAR BUSINESS**

### **Agenda Item: 3.C. 100 Day Youth Challenge (Keianna Williams)**

- The goal is to house 141 unaccompanied youth and families within the 100-day period, while targeting people of color and the LGBTQ community.
- Several objectives include making the community aware of the homelessness issue and proposed solution and to reach out to agencies that may be interested in participating in the challenge; there are currently 12 different agencies that are working together to achieve this goal.
- If anyone encounters homeless youth during this 100-day period, they should encourage him or her to contact the Lewis Center to get them into Rapid Rehousing.
- Staff hopes to achieve the goal by 2018 and continue the momentum from then on.
- Questions/Concerns:
  - Elizabeth Hernandez Cayson asked if someone in the Glades would still be required to contact the Lewis Center. Ms. Williams informed her that they would in order to be assessed and placed on a specific list.
  - Dr. Christine Koehn asked what the defined age range is. Ms. Williams told her it is 18-24.
  - Seth Bernstein asked if individuals had to physically go to the Lewis Center. Ms. Williams told him that in order to be assessed, they would need to call.
  - Nancy Bolton addressed Ms. Cayson to remind her that outside of this Youth Challenge, there is still a 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness that seeks to look at more regional solutions for assessment and intake, specifically out in the Glades. James Green also mentioned that staff expects additional funding to assist in creating a new facility in Belle Glade that would serve the entire Glades area.
  - Chief Deputy Michael Gauger asked if law enforcement will be made aware of the progression of the Youth Challenge. Mr. Green added that this collaboration is ongoing and Mr. Palo has already reached out to Chief Deputy Gauger's office. Chief Deputy Gauger also added that there are no walk-ins allowed at the Lewis Center and the only way to arrive and enter the facilities is through the escort of an officer.

## **REGULAR BUSINESS**

### **Agenda Item: 3.D. Mission and Goals of PBC Health Care District & Funding Streams (Dr. Thomas Cleare)**

- The mission of the Health Care District is to be the health care safety net for Palm Beach County; their organization aims at filling the gaps.
- Several different programs include air medical helicopters in partnership with the Palm Beach County Fire Rescue, nursing home facilities, school help programs, clinics, etc.
- One of the main questions for the Health Care District is where funding comes from. Dr. Thomas Cleare informed everyone that the majority comes from property tax dollars; for every dollar of tax revenue, less than 7 cents goes to the Health Care District. Funding fluctuates year to year to changes in the millage rate.
- The Health Care tax assists in funding several trauma centers, registered nurses in public schools, primary care/dental clinics, a public hospital in the Glades, a rehabilitation and skilled nursing facility in Riviera Beach, and the uninsured (through several different community sponsors such as the Caridad Center, Families First of PBC, Genesis Community Health, Legal Aid Society of PBC, etc.).
- Dr. Cleare informed everyone that the Health Care District hopes to release their Request for Proposals (RFP) soon and wishes the CAC attendees to spread the word amongst their agencies.
- The Health Care District is considered a collaborative agency under the Human Services Goal and the Access to Care objective outlined in the Health and Human Services Element.
- The Health Care District provides eligibility to pharmaceutical and physician services through the C.L. Brumback Primary Care clinics. The clinics provide adult services including annual physicals, medical evaluations, disease management, health care for the homeless, etc. The pediatric clinic provides well and sick child visits, school and sport physicals, childhood immunizations, etc.
- Questions/Concerns:
  - Nancy Bolton asked about the prohibition against felonies that prevents individuals from being placed at the Healey Center and was wondering if the Health Care District had given any thought to rectifying this. Dr. Cleare feels that it is a district policy or practice. Ms. Malhotra added that she was glad Ms. Bolton had asked this question because there is already a shortage in medical respite for clients at the Lewis Center.
  - Anne Gerwig inquired if the Health Care District collaborated with the educational community in terms of the medical or dental rotations that students are required to complete. Dr. Cleare confirmed that there is a residency program at Lakeside Health Center.

- Dr. Halperin added to the felony issue mentioned earlier. He said the state government relieves that situation, somewhat, through their process of restoring the rights of a former felon. But because not all felons or felonies are equal, the process still needs to be improved. Ms. Malhotra also mentioned that clients are served through ad-valorem taxes and because of current regulations, we have facilities but are unable to serve a certain population. Mr. Green agreed and said this situation could benefit from addressing the problem through our local legislation.
- Elizabeth Hernandez Cayson commented on how helpful it was that the Health Care District has placed a hospital out in the Glades because her father has medical issues and it makes it easier for him to be treated and cared for close to his home. Ms. Cayson also asked if Health Care District could set aside funding to fund an entity that may not be able to get funding through FAA but falls under the health category. Dr. Cleare said it sounds like a joint RFP collaboration. Mr. Green agreed and said that it appears to fall within the direction that the Community Services Department wants to move in. Ms. Malhotra said the idea of a joint RFP with United Way, for example, has been discussed as well.
- Seth Bernstein informed everyone that during the recent United Way RFP, they received requests that tripled the amount of money available and the agencies that could not get funded could serve as a good data source for the Health Care District, or other entities, in determining what the gaps are. Dr. Cleare addressed the issue of being more efficient and smarter in the allocation of funds throughout the community. Dr. Koehn commended the collaboration with the Health Care District and several other agencies that truly wish to work together to make the best decisions.
- Elizabeth Hernandez Cayson suggested looking at what other Nursing Facilities do and how they handle felony situations.

### **REGULAR BUSINESS**

#### **Agenda Item: 3.E. CAC/HHS Retreat – September 14, 2017 (James Green)**

- James Green met with a Board member who was part of an Agency outside of the field of work that the Community Services Department currently works in. This individual wanted to redefine their agency mission and transition into the field of Mental and Behavioral health but was unaware of the plans in progress to address the gaps in this field.
- Mr. Green said this interaction with the Board member made him further see the importance of a community collaboration when addressing community problems.
- Community collaboration encourages the exchange of data, resources, gaps, etc. and other interrelationships between key stakeholders that aid in strategic planning.
- Mr. Green suggested conducting a root cause analysis to drill down to the underlying issues.
- Mr. Green informed everyone that these are just some of the themes that will be discussed at the CAC Retreat along with the examination of the different broad plans that already exist in our community.
- Questions/Concerns:
  - Dr. Koehn asked if the spreadsheet containing all of the discussion points for the retreat included Strategic Planning. Mr. Green said yes.
  - Anne Gerwig asked for the time and location of the meeting. Mr. Green and David Rafaidus told her it would be from 9am to 3pm at the Mounts Auditorium. Mr. Rafaidus said the details would be emailed out shortly.

### **REGULAR BUSINESS**

#### **Agenda Item: 3.F. CAC/HHS Membership (David Rafaidus)**

- David Rafaidus informed everyone that there would be two vacancies coming up on September 30, 2017.
- Pam Gionfriddo will not be seeking reappointment; Anne Gerwig will be seeking reappointment and she has already submitted her paperwork.
- Mr. Rafaidus has reached out to the American Indian Association and the Hispanic Human Resources Council, amongst others, to solicit potential members that will further diversify the CAC board.
- The CAC Executive committee will be meeting to review the submitted applications; Mr. Rafaidus will contact Executive committee members to schedule that meeting with them.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **Agenda Item: 3.G. Potential Agenda Items for Future Meetings (David Rafaidus)**

- David Rafaidus mentioned that the next meeting will be the CAC Retreat meeting on September 14, 2017.
- Taruna Malhotra told everyone that there is a Legislative Summit on October 20, 2017 and in the past, the CAC has attended this meeting. Previously, the CAC meeting closest to the Legislative Summit would be held at the same location beforehand but this year the Legislative Summit is being held on a Friday. Ms. Malhotra suggested moving the CAC meeting date in October to Friday, October 20, 2017 from 8:00-9:30am in order to encourage

the CAC members to stay for the Legislative Summit right after. Another suggestion would be to keep the original October meeting date and just ask the CAC members to attend the summit on the 20<sup>th</sup>.

- Mr. Rafaidus asked Assistant County Attorney Helene Hvizd if the September CAC Retreat meeting needs to be publicly noticed. Ms. Hvizd told him she would clarify and let him know.
- Sandra Chamblee motioned to move October 12 CAC meeting to October 20 from 8-9:30am prior to the Legislative Summit but the motion was withdrawn after several CAC members mentioned they would not be able to attend the meeting if it was moved to October 20.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

##### **Agenda Item: 4.A. Staff Information Updates**

- Taruna Malhotra said the review panels for the Ryan White RFP have been scheduled for September 11, 2017. Ms. Malhotra thanked Barbara Jacobowitz, Sandra Chamblee, and Randy Palo's staff for their participation. The panels will be publicly noticed.
- Ms. Malhotra also announced that Mary Woodward was recently hired as the new Ryan White Manager.
- Ms. Malhotra notified everyone that although Sonja Holbrook will no longer be the Manager of Planning and Evaluation, she will be moving into a temporary position as a department consultant and will be working part-time.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

##### **Agenda Item: 4.B. Member Comments on Non-Agenda Items**

- Anne Gerwig announced that James Green and his family were on the cover of Palm Beach Atlantic University's Current magazine publication.
- Randy Palo said the Children's Services Council has officially launched their Every Parent app. Mr. Palo asked for a few minutes in an upcoming meeting (October 12) for his staff to show off the app's features.
- Mr. Palo also added that there have been several successful funder meetings in which 12 funders have committed to assist and support emergency operations following potential natural disasters.
- James Green also confirmed that Randy Palo will be coming to the next Emergency Operations Center (EOC) meeting.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

##### **Agenda Item: 4.C. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items**

- None.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

##### **Agenda Item: 4.D. Good News Item(s)**

- Elizabeth Hernandez Cayson announced Dr. Patrick Halperin's recent birthday.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

##### **Agenda Item: 4.E. Potential Agenda Items for Future Meetings**

- Please see section 3.G.

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**DATE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING:** *September 14, 2017 (CAC Retreat), October 12, 2017*

**DATE OF NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING:** *August 24, 2017, September 21, 2017*

#### **ACTIONS OF MEETING**

##### **Agenda Item: 5. Meeting Adjournment**

Discussion: None.

Action Taken: Motion by Anne Gerwig. There was no second but all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote.

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**THESE MINUTES APPROVED AND ADOPTED** by the CAC Regular Committee on *August 10, 2017*.

 CHAIR \_\_\_\_\_

Prepared by SC - September 1, 2017  
Modified by DMR - 10/5/2017