



ADOPTED – REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

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

MEETING DATE and TIME: May 11, 2023 at 9:00 AM

MEETING LOCATION: Virtual & First Floor Conference Room – 2300 Vista Parkway, West Palm Beach, FL 33411.

PERSON PRESIDING: Dr. Merlene Ramnon (Chair) (V)

REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: “Virtual” = (V) & “In-Person” = (IP): Dr. Thomas Cleare (V), Randy Palo (IP), Inger Harvey (V), Elisa Cramer (V), Dr. Barbara Cox Gerlock (IP), Charlotte Leonard (V)

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Aruna Gilbert (V), Marie Presmy (V)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Helene Hvizd (V), Dr. James Green (IP), Dr. Joanna Reid-Enoise (IP), Stessy Cocerez (IP), Adam Reback (IP), Angela Cruz (IP), Maybe Alfau (IP), Michael Wright (IP), Shantel Drayton (V), Julia Dattolo (CareerSource PBC, IP), Christian Londono (Palm Tran, IP), Barbara Matos (Palm Tran, IP), Lane Johnson (Palm Tran, IP), Andres Torres (Families First, V), Ashley Pfister (Arc of Palm Beach County, V), Charla Reece (Family Promise of North Central Palm Beach County, V), Claudia Roberts (Jeff Industries, V), Cristobel Perez (CILO, V), Darlene Williamson (Vita Nova, V), Jeff DeMario (Vita Nova, V), Jennifer Rey (AVDA, V), Jessica Pagan (AAF, V), Kwankila Corbin (P2P, V), Lauren Scirroto (Center for Child Counseling, V), Randee Gabriel (211, V), Rebecca Reinsburrow (AVDA, V), Sanira Rivera (Farmworkers Coordinating Council, V), Stephanie Thompson (DAF, V), Amber Lott (CILO, V)

DISCLOSURES: None.

CHAIR & STAFF COMMENTS: Dr. Merlene Ramnon confirmed that there is no quorum since there are only two members in person.

CONSENT ACTIONS OF MEETING

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

Discussion: No quorum.

Action Taken: No quorum.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Agenda Item: *3.A. Adoption of CAC/HHS Regular Committee Meeting Minutes (March 9, 2023)*

Discussion: No quorum.

Action Taken: No quorum.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Agenda Item: 3.B. Employment Presentation (Julia Dattolo)

- Julia Dattolo introduced the types of services that CareerSource provides within Palm Beach County (PBC). Ms. Dattolo mentioned the collaborations that they have done, and continue to do, with many other agencies in the County in order to achieve their goal. CareerSource partners with local educational business development boards in order to identify education and training needed for the local workforce in PBC. CareerSource has implemented more options to expand accessibility such as booking appointments and interviews online, electronic trainings and robo-texting; all of which have eliminated unnecessary traveling and have connected more services directly to the clients. CareerSource reports to the Department of Economic Opportunity as well as to the State of Florida on a quarterly basis in order to keep themselves accountable for their work.
- Dr. Ramnon asked if nursing schools are involved with CareerSource. Julia Dattolo answered that while they are, it is a long career path since the client has to pass the board. Ms. Dattolo added that they also look at the schools themselves and their passing rate to ensure validity and accountability of the schools.
- Dr. James Green asked how unemployment was calculated and he asked for Ms. Dattolo to share more information on the 31,000 jobs that are available and what the skill gaps were within those jobs. Ms. Dattolo answered that the unemployment is calculated by counting the people who are actively looking for jobs and actively applying. The current skills mismatch fall within finance, IT, healthcare, and construction. The wages in hospitality are low and the requirements such as education and skills are high. CareerSource tries to put those individuals in training to close the gap as much as they can. Dr. Green also asked what the biggest barrier is for clients. Ms. Dattolo answered that the biggest barriers are childcare, transportation, and education.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Agenda Item: 3.C. Transportation Presentation (Christian Londono)

- Christian Londono presented on the services that Palm Tran provides in Palm Beach County. He provided an overview of the system and operational profile of Palm Tran. He explained how ‘Go Glades’ works and its service performance. Mr. Londono also mentioned multiple accomplishments that Palm Tran reached within the past few years, such as the Paradise Pass Project, the COVID-19 Response Project, and Administrative Ride Day. He also discussed future short-term, mid-term, and long-term project goals for Palm Tran such as the Bus Shelter and Stop Improvement Program, Zero Emission Transition Plan, and the Port Saint Lucie Express.
- Dr. Merlene Ramnon asked where clients can obtain the Paradise Pass. Christian Londono explained that it is as simple as downloading the Paradise Pass application but some places do have physical passes if preferred; i.e. at any of the County libraries, train stations, and ticket vending machines at governmental buildings.
- Dr. Barbara Cox Gerlock asked if there were any income requirements for the Paradise Pass. Mr. Londono answered that there was not and that any resident of PBC can obtain the Paradise Pass.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Agenda Item: 3.D. FAA Overview on NOFO Process and Outcome Evaluation/Community Investment Report (Dr. Joanna Reid and Michael Wright)

- Michael Wright provided some background on the Financially Assisted Agencies (FAA) program. He explained how all of the contracts begin with a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). He also spoke on some of the areas of focus for FY2023 such as providing ongoing technical assistance to FAA-funded agencies, conducting annual FAA monitoring within the fiscal year, and increasing agencies’ utilization of FAA funds.
- Dr. Joanna Reid-Enoise spoke about SPRE (Strategic, Planning, Research and Evaluation) including what the team does and the team’s areas of focus. She then provided some background and a summary of the data that SPRE collects. She spoke on the FAA Demographic and Outcome report process and the components that would be included (clients served and outcomes). She then presented on the demographics of the clients served from each of the following categories: behavioral health, homelessness, economic stability and strategic partnerships.

- Dr. Barbara Cox Gerlock asked the team, what are the consequences for an agency that is not meeting the outcomes, per their contract. Dr. Joanna Reid-Enoise answered and explained that they try to elevate the agencies by giving them as much assistance needed in order to keep them on track. However, it becomes an issue when it's a constant problem, which can result in that agency no longer being awarded or funded.

OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Item: 4.A. Staff Information Updates

- Stessy Cocerez mentioned to the board that there are two applications currently moving through the re-appointment process.
- Dr. Joanna Reid introduced the newest members of the SPRE team – Angela Cruz and Dr. Poulomy Chakraborty.

OTHER BUSINESS

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

- Dr. Barbara Cox Gerlock applauded the success of the Youth Summit, hosted by the Youth Services Department on April 22, 2023.

OTHER BUSINESS

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

- None.

OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Item: 4.D. Good News Items(s)

- None.

OTHER BUSINESS

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

- Dr. Joanna Reid stated that the division of Human Services and the Community Action Program of Palm Beach County will be presenting on Homelessness during the July meeting. Furthermore, there will be a presentation on Behavioral Health during the September meeting.

ACTIONS OF MEETING

Agenda Item: 5. Meeting Adjournment

Discussion: No quorum.

Action Taken: No quorum.

DATE OF NEXT REGULAR CAC/HHS MEETING(S):	<i>June 8, 2023 (9:00 AM) if needed</i>	&	<i>July 13, 2023 (9:00 AM)</i>
DATE OF NEXT EXECUTIVE CAC/HHS MEETING(S):	<i>June 8, 2023 (9:00 AM) if needed</i>	&	<i>July 13, 2023 (9:00 AM) if needed</i>

*Reviewed by SC on June 14, 2023
Prepared by Maybe Alfau on June 14, 2023*