

# Central Florida HIV Planning Council

## Ryan White Community Meeting Minutes

January 21, 2025

**Call to Order:** The Co-Chair, Jessica Seidita called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm at Comprehensive Health Care located at 1509 North Harbor City Boulevard, Melbourne FL 32935.

**Participants:** Troy Laudermilch, John Hennessy, Daniel Polanco, Troye Johnston, Gilberto Hernandez, Kerie Kingg, Lori Leaf, Shannon Bowen, Mark Canada, Cheryl Fetteihoff, John Curry, Angel Montes, Tashaun Warner, Hilda Morales, Karen Martinez, Jonie Turner, Lester Filer, Shaunda Oator, Derek Condor, Michael Johnson, Joseph Rocco, Chris Spivey, Dunte Neally, Michael Armstrong, Tiffany Iervose, Erik Hendrickson Cruz, Amaya Vinuela, Michael Henry, Lovella Mitchell, Charlie Wright, Michael Brinkley, Mark Kern, Michelle Oixom Hamilton, Wade Bailey, Jashon Gowins, Frank DeMattie, Michael Reilly, Stephen Terry, John Lebron, Gilberto Hernandez, Jessica Seidita, Jade Thompson

**Present via Teleconference:** Taisha Santiago, Andre Antenor, AJ Johnson, Brenda Franklin

**PCS Staff Present:** Whitney Marshall, David Bent, Laura Perez

<p><b>Approval of the agenda:</b></p>	<p>The committee reviewed the meeting agenda and made the following changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replace all instances of Ira Westbrook with Jessica Seidita</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion:</b> Fernell Neal made a motion to approve the agenda with the recommended changes. Gilberto Hernandez seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously without debate.</p>
<p><b>Approval of the November 19<sup>th</sup> Minutes:</b></p>	<p>The committee reviewed the November 19<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes and recommended the following changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add the titles of the two vacant mandated seats to the Membership &amp; Engagement report</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion:</b> Fernell Neal made a motion to approve the November 19<sup>th</sup> minutes with the recommended changes. John Curry seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.</p>
<p><b>Open the floor for public comment:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A member of the public made a comment on the state of the Brevard HOPWA program, sharing their lived experience, noting issues such as overcrowding and lack of transportation, and calling for an examination of the overall HOPWA system to identify areas of improvement.</li> <li>• Another member of the public commented on the need for specific housing programs for individuals requiring psychological treatment.</li> <li>• There were no public comments online.</li> </ul>

**Reports:**

**Membership & Engagement Committee:**

- The committee reviewed the membership matrix, PC reflectiveness and PC attendance roster.
- There are currently 21 Planning Council members, 52% are PWH, 43% are unaffiliated/unaligned PWH, and 29% are conflicted members. There is currently one vacant mandated seat (Local Public Health Agency).
- The committee reviewed the social media insights for Facebook and Instagram. The committee also reviewed and approved the social media posting guidelines.
- The committee reviewed and approved articles and photographs to be included in volume 15 of the Red Ribbon Times magazine.
- The committee reviewed the agenda for the first quarterly training.
- The committee discussed and provided feedback about the World AIDS Day event that took place on December 1, 2024.
- The next Membership & Engagement Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 4, 2025, at 2:00 pm.

**Service Systems Planning & Quality Committee Meeting:**

- The committee received an overview of the Part A monthly expenditure report, the Part A Quarter 3 utilization report, and the Part B & GR monthly expenditure reports.
- They also received a follow-up on the utilization and expenditures for the Orlando EMA Ending the Epidemic (EHE) initiatives that were presented during the 2024 Data Presentation.
- The committee received an update on the proposal of an Ad Hoc Housing Committee. The committee decided that before a new group is formed, a Homeless Services Network (HSN) representative will be brought in to speak at the next Planning Council Business meeting on January 29<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of the presentation will be to assist with understanding the role that the Planning Council might play in the existing housing crisis efforts.
- The committee reviewed and updated the Mental Health Service Standard.
- They also continued to create the Other Professional Services and Home and Community-Based Health Service Standards.
- Lastly, the committee received copies of the 2025 HIV Care Needs Survey and the updated Needs Assessment Toolkit. The HIV Care Needs Survey will be released in February 2025.
- The next SSPQ meeting will be held on Thursday, February 6, 2025, at 9:30 am.

**New Business:**

**Mental Health Service Standard**

Attendees were presented with the most current version of the Mental Health Service Standards for review. Whitney Marshall explained the process and the purpose of the review of Service Standards. Attendees did not make additional changes to the Service Standard.

Attendees discussed Mental Health services and Substance Abuse services. Attendees also discussed disclosure of HIV status to sexual partners.

**Mentimeter on Future RWCM Topics**

Attendees were given the opportunity to submit suggestions for future RWCM topics through Mentimeter.

**HOPWA Program**

Jade Thompson of Comprehensive Health Care gave a presentation on the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program in Brevard County, covering the following information:

- A brief introduction to HOPWA
- Overviews of local HOPWA services
  - TBRA: Tenant-Based Rental Assistance
  - STRMU: Short-Term Rent, Mortgage, & Utility Assistance
  - Transitional Housing Assistance
  - PHP: Permanent Housing Placement
- Criteria required to qualify for services
- Examples of situations where clients would qualify
- Agencies in Brevard County that partner with local HOPWA

Jade also answered questions from attendees about the Brevard HOPWA program and encouraged attendees to attend city council meetings about housing.

**Sober Living with SUD Counseling**

John Curry and Chris Spivey of Safe Place Treatment Services (SPTS) gave a presentation on sober living with substance use disorder counseling, as well as the services SPTS offers. Their presentation included the following information:

- The mission of Safe Place Treatment Services (SPTS)
- Challenges and successes in the recovery process
  - Challenges: Relapse, funding, vermin, non-rental payments, stigma, negative peer influence, levels of recovery, managing triggers
  - Successes: Recovery, family reunification, sustained employment, certification of completion, long-term stable housing, self-esteem, improved mental health, decreased criminal activities

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SAMHSA Advisory – Substance Use Disorders are more prevalent among people with HIV than the general population. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Effective SUD treatment improves both HIV and SUD related health outcomes</li> </ul> </li> <li>• List of services provided by SPTS</li> <li>• Partner agencies – Florida Association of Recovery Residence (FARR); National Alliance for Recovery Residences (NARR)</li> </ul> <p>Attendees asked questions, discussed the state of SUD treatment in Brevard County, and shared personal stories of sober living and recovery.</p>
<b>Announcements:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unconditional Love, Inc. will be hosting Getting to Zero, a 5k run/walk on Sunday, March 23, 2025 beginning at 8 AM in Eau Gallie Square.</li> <li>• Brevard Recovery Fest 2025 will be happening Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup> in Melbourne, FL.</li> </ul>
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	
<b>Item</b>	<b>Responsible</b>
<b>Next Meeting:</b>	February 18, 2025 in Orange County
<b>Adjournment:</b>	8:00pm

Prepared by: Laura Perez Date: 01/27/2025

Approved by: Jessica Lutz Date: 2/19/2025