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Central Florida HIV Planning Council

Planning Council Business Meeting Minutes

September 24, 2026

Call to Order: The CFHPC Sr. Co-Chair, Andre Antenor, called the meeting to order at 9:12 AM at Florida Department of Health – Lake Ellenor located at 6101 Lake Ellenor Drive, Orlando, FL 32809.

Members Present: Andre Antenor, Anthony McNeil, Alelia Munroe, Angus Bradshaw, Charlie Wright, Vel Cline, Glorybee Nunez, Iradarnell Westbrook, Jessica Seidita, Kara Williams, Angie Buckley, Monika Trejos-Kweyete, Nino Franklin, Paolo Mancini, Raymond Macon, Rene Cotto-Lewis, Terrance Hunter, Tim Collins, AJ Johnson (Associate Member), Fernell Neal (Associate Member), Shonna Ferguson (Associate Member)

Members Present via Teleconference: Sueanne Vazquez, Beatrice Bourisquot, Ida Starks

Members Excused: Mike Alonso

Members Absent: Jules Smith

Recipient Staff Present: Claudia Yabrudy, Pedro Huertas-Diaz, Whitney Marshall, Doris Huff

PCS Staff Present: Laura Perez, Dedrah Mathis

<table>
<tr><td>Approval of the agenda:</td><td>The Planning Council reviewed the meeting agenda and approved it as presented.

Motion: Andre Antenor made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Alelia Munroe seconded the motion.

<table><tr><th>In Favor</th><th>Against</th><th>Abstain</th></tr><tr><td>16</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr></table>
The motion was adopted with a unanimous roll-call vote.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Approval of the August 26 Minutes:</td><td>The Planning Council reviewed the August 26 minutes and approved them as presented.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Open the Floor for Public Comment:</td><td>• There were no public comments.
• PCS did not receive any comment cards.</td></tr>
<tr><td>New Business:</td><td>Committee Annual Reports
Each standing committee presented their Annual Reports:

Membership & Engagement Committee: October 2025 – September 2026
1. Committee’s Role Within the Service System:

The Membership & Engagement Committee supports the Central Florida HIV Planning Council by promoting membership recruitment,</td></tr>
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retention, engagement, and representation. The committee monitors Planning Council membership and reflectiveness, reviews applicants for appointment, supports member orientation and leadership development, oversees communication and social media engagement activities, and promotes opportunities for community participation and awareness.

2. **Activities Accomplished during past 12 months:**

- Elected Kara Johnson Williams as Chair and Raymond Macon as Vice Chair.
- Reviewed and approved the 2025-2026 Membership & Engagement Committee Workplan.
- Routinely reviewed the membership matrix, reflectiveness data, committee rosters, and Planning Council attendance.
- Reviewed applicant summaries and recommended applicants for appointment.
- Monitored Facebook and Instagram performance and approved Social Media Guidelines.
- Reviewed and supported development of Volumes 17 and 18 of the Red Ribbon Times.
- Supported member development through Interview Skills training, Planning Council training, leadership training, orientation evaluation, and leadership evaluation activities.
- Supported Integrated Plan Community Engagement Activities and received updates regarding the HIV Care Needs Survey.
- Began planning the 2026 World AIDS Day event and selected the theme “45 Years Together: United and Unbreakable.”
- Development of the Planning Council Member of the Year Awards process and rubric.

3. **Challenges or Lessons Learned:**

Maintaining Planning Council membership that meets reflectiveness and representation goals remained an ongoing priority. The committee identified the need to increase participation among unaffiliated/unconflicted RWHAP client members and continued recruitment efforts for an open mandated seat representing representatives of/or formerly incarcerated people with HIV. The committee also reinforced the importance of appropriate and positive communication on CFHPC social media platforms, recognizing that negative public interactions can discourage prospective members from participating.

4. **Outstanding Activities (still pending completion):**

- Continue recruitment efforts to fill the open mandated Planning Council seat.

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- Continue strategies to increase unaffiliated/unconflicted RWHAP client representation.
- Complete planning and implementation of the 2026 World AIDS Day event.
- Continue member recruitment, retention, orientation, training, and leadership development.
- Continue communicating the Integrated Plan and related community engagement activities to the community.

5. **Additional comments:**

Throughout the 2025-2026 planning cycle, the Membership & Engagement Committee maintained a consistent focus on strengthening Planning Council participation, representation, communication, and member engagement. As of June 9, 2026, the Planning Council had 26 members, with 50% PWH and 31% unaffiliated/unaligned PWH. The committee will continue building upon recruitment, retention, leadership development, community engagement, and recognition efforts during the next planning cycle.

Service Systems Planning & Quality Committee: October 2025 – September 2026

During the 2025–2026 calendar year, the SSPQ Committee navigated both systemic policy hurdles and regional healthcare needs with agility, rigorous oversight, and an unwavering commitment to health equity. The following report outlines the five cornerstone achievements accomplished by the SSPQ Committee this year—ranging from emergency resource reallocations that preserved direct medication access for thousands of local residents to the collaborative finalization of our multi-year strategic roadmap for Central Florida.

SSPQ Committee Achievements:

(1) The Service Systems Planning & Quality (SSPQ) Committee Members reviewed the utilization of funds and made recommendations for the following budgets to ensure proper money allocation, based on the prioritization list approved by the council and the actual immediate needs of the HIV community.

- Part A – Monthly Expenditure Report and Quarterly Utilization Report
- Part B - Monthly Expenditure Report
- Part B - General Revenue Monthly Expenditure Report
- Planning Council Support (PCS) Quarterly Expenditure Report

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(2) The SSPQ Committee responded quickly to understand the ADAP Program change scheduled to take effect in March 2026, focusing on how the revised eligibility standard—reducing the qualifying income level from 400% to 130% of the federal poverty level—would affect clients across the region. The Committee worked to assess the scope of the change and its potential consequences for the local HIV service system, including the fact that approximately 1,600 clients in Central Florida would lose access to medication support which included medication such as Biktarvy® and other wraparound medications that community members have relied on. Florida fully restored the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) medication funding and eligibility limits back to 400% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) as of July 1, 2026, following the state budget signed by Governor Ron DeSantis.

Current Status of Florida ADAP:

1. **Funding & Eligibility**: The Florida Budget added $75 million in state funding, returning income eligibility limits back up to 400% FPL (approx. $63,840 annually for a single individual) and averting prior dramatic restrictions.
2. **Medication Formulary**: Essential direct-dispense medications—including key antiretrovirals like Biktarvy and Deskovic—have been fully restored to the formulary without previous restrictive prior authorizations.
3. **Unresolved Gaps**: Health insurance premium assistance (the Premium Plus program) remains discontinued by the state pending an independent review scheduled for January 2027, leaving participants to rely strictly on direct medication dispense or copay/deductible assistance rather than full premium coverage. Also, advocates continue the fight against enrollment caps to the program.

(3) Orlando Service Area (OSA) HIV Service Standards are the established rules and minimal levels of care required for Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program services in the Central Florida region. The SSPQ Committee reviewed and provided initial recommendations and updates to the following four (4) Service Standards:

- Substance Abuse Residential Services
- Outpatient Ambulatory Health Services
- Oral Health Services
- Medical Case Management

(4) The SSPQ Committee received, discussed, and made recommendations on important items that were reflected in documents such as:

- 2025-2026 Workplan

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- 2025-2026 Assessment of the Administrative Mechanism (AAM)
- EMA Annual Retention & Viral Suppression Report
- Planning Council Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
- Data Presentation, Priority Settings. and Resource Allocation Processes

(5) The SSPQ Committee received updates, discussed, and made recommendations on the Integrated Plan Community Engagement Activities, the HIV Care Needs Survey, and the draft of the 2027-2031 Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Plan for Orlando Service Area. After months of working as a team with the entire council and David Cavalleri PhD, an outside consultant from The AIDS Institute, the 2027-2031 Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Plan for Orlando Service Area was submitted on schedule and with the team's approval.

Greatest Lesson

As we look to the horizon, our mission continues to evolve alongside the community we champion. And after this past year, we agree that the greatest lesson we learned was understanding that, specifically as it relates to funding, anything can change at any time. Two amazing realizations came about after this past year's ADAP Program changes:

- We realized that as the Central Florida Region, we are resilient. It does not matter if you are HIV positive or negative, if you are a provider or a client or community, and it doesn't matter who you work for or with – when we needed to come together to develop a solution, we did. And that was amazing to witness.
- The need for contingency plans is imperative. Contingency planning must be built within the services we offer as well as the funding we assign each service. It is important to be prepared with some ideas of what we would do should state-wide changes in funding are instituted without notice.

The Next Journey & Thank You

In embracing this future, the SSPQ Committee proudly transitions into our focused identity as the Service Systems Planning (SSP) Committee, and we warmly welcome the launch of the dedicated Needs Assessment Committee to deepen community engagement and data-driven care. This vital work would not have been possible without the passion, insight, and selflessness of our current members. As Chair of the 2025-2026 SSPQ Committee, I want to express my deepest, most sincere gratitude to every individual—past and present—who has contributed to the SSPQ committee and

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whose dedication now enriches other vital council spaces. Your leadership has built a more equitable, responsive system of care across Central Florida, and together, we will continue moving forward with unity, compassion, and purpose.

2025-2026 Council Members:

Paolo Mancini (Chair), Jules Smith (Vice-Chair), Alelia Munroe, Angie Buckley, Charlie Wright, Glorybee Nuñez, Iradarnell Westbrook, Jessica Seidita, Mike Alonso, Monika Trejos Kweyete, Nino Franklin, Rene Cotto-Lewis, and Tim Collins.

Ryan White Committee: October 2025 – September 2026

1. **Committee's Role Within the Service System**

The Ryan White Community Meeting serves as a community-engagement forum connecting consumers, Planning Council members, service providers, and community partners within the Central Florida HIV service system. It communicates Planning Council and committee business, gathers community input on service standards and planning priorities, shares Ryan White Part A and AIDS Drug Assistance Program updates, promotes available services and resources, and creates opportunities for education, advocacy, and participation by people with lived experience.

2. **Activities Accomplished during Past 12 Months**

- Provided recurring updates on work completed by the Membership & Engagement Committee, Service Systems Planning & Quality Committee, Integrated Plan Ad Hoc Committee, Bylaws Ad Hoc Committee, and World AIDS Day Workgroup.
- Shared the 2026–2027 final prioritizations, Ways to Best Meet Needs directives, and final Part A and Part B funding slates.
- Promoted the HIV Care Needs Survey and conducted community-engagement activities to gather input for the 2027–2031 Integrated Plan; draft and final versions of the plan were also distributed for community review and feedback.
- Obtained participant feedback and proposed revisions on Service Standards.
- Provided timely education and question-and-answer opportunities regarding ADAP enrollment, program changes, funding restoration, special enrollment deadlines, the local impact of changes, insurance-broker assistance, and the reinstatement of Oral Health Services.
- Presented information on Planning Council purpose, responsibilities, membership categories, committee roles, and the value of participation by people with lived experience.
- Delivered educational presentations and activities addressing substance-use care best practices, sober living, financial literacy,

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community resilience, hurricane preparedness, HIV/AIDS knowledge, stigma reduction, women's empowerment, community advocacy, research participation, and Photovoice.
- Supported World AIDS Day and AIDS Memorial Quilt activities, recognized community contributors, shared HIV-awareness events, and promoted local partner resources.

3. **Challenges or Lessons Learned**

The reporting period highlighted the need for clear, repeated, and accessible communication during rapid program and policy changes, particularly those affecting ADAP, insurance enrollment, funding, and service availability. Multiple subject-matter presentations and open question-and-answer opportunities helped participants understand changes and identify available assistance. The period also demonstrated that varied engagement methods—including surveys, facilitated discussions, games, creative activities, small-group workshops, and direct review of draft documents—can strengthen participation and produce meaningful community feedback.

4. **Additional Comments**

From October 2025 through August 2026, the meetings maintained a consistent focus on transparency, community voice, service-system education, and coordination among Planning Council committees and community partners. The breadth of presentations and participatory activities reflects an effort to address immediate program changes while also building long-term knowledge, resilience, advocacy, and leadership within the Central Florida HIV community.

Election of Officers
The Planning Council held elections for their new Junior Co-Chair, Patient Care Client Representative, and Prevention Client Representative. The Planning Council members elected:
- Tim Collins for Junior Co-Chair of the Planning Council
- Rene Cotto-Lewis for Patient Care Client Representative
- Nino Franklin for Prevention Client Representative

Awards Presentation
Members received awards recognizing their time serving on the Planning Council. Anthony McNeil, Fernell Neal, Iradarnell Westbrook, and Sueanne Vazquez received recognition for completing a three-year term on the council. Andre Antenor, Angie Buckley, Charlie Wright, and Vel Cline received recognition for completing a six-year term on the council. Additionally, New Member of the Year was awarded to Anthony McNeil and Veteran Member of the Year to Kara Williams.

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Announcements:	• There were no announcements.

Next Meeting:	October 28, 2026
Adjournment:	10:14 AM

Prepared by: Dedrah Mathis **Date:** 10/1/2026

Approved by: Anthony McNeil **Date:** 11/3/2026

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