



**Community Coalition Committee Meeting
Sembrando Flores, 29355 South Dixie Highway, Homestead, FL 33033
February 22nd, 2010 Minutes**

Approved March 29, 2010

#	Members	Present	Absent
1	Brown, Dedra	X	
2	Dawson, Dashia		X
3	Hallmon, Rolando		X
4	Jauregui, Jocelyn	X	
5	Jones, Sandra	X	
6	Martinez, Tomas		X
7	McGowan, Ed		X
8	Osorio, Blanche		X
9	Rivera, Hilda		X
10	Robinson, Louis		X
11	Spann, Annette	X	
12	Tamayo, George	X	
13	Taylor, Diamond		X
14	Torres, Edwin		X
15	Waterman, Cheryl	X	
Quorum = 6			

Guests	
Alyssa Arnell	
Aleida Avila	
Belkys Brito	
Charles Garcia	
Iria Portals	
Rosa Portals	
Nancy Rivera	
Staff	
Christina Bontempo	
Beth Hayden	
Marlen Hernandez	

I. Call to Order/Introductions

The chair, Cheryl Waterman, called the meeting of the Community Coalition Committee to order at 6:21 p.m. She welcomed everyone and asked for introductions.

II. Identify Resource Persons

Ms. Waterman indicated Behavioral Science Research (BSR) staff as resource individuals.

III. Review Agenda

The committee reviewed the agenda; Louis Robinson and Christina Bontempo were added to announcements.

IV. Review/Approve Minutes

The committee reviewed the minutes of January 25th, 2010.

Motion to approve the minutes of January 25th, 2010 as presented.

Moved: Sandra Jones

Seconded: George Tamayo

Motion: Passed

V. Membership

Staff received two applications for the vacant Formerly Incarcerated seat on the full Partnership. The applicants were asked to attend next month's New Member Orientation and committee meeting. Members will vote on their applications at the March meeting.

Staff also received an application from John Eaton for the vacant Department of Health seat and has requested an application from Janice Bouyer for the vacant General Revenue seat. Neither Mr. Eaton nor Ms. Bouyer live in Miami-Dade County. However, they are the persons most qualified for the seats in question.

Staff will ask the applicants to attend the next meeting for the committee's consideration. If the committee votes to put their applications forward, staff will include a letter requesting a waiver for the Miami-Dade County residency requirement since they are the only persons qualified to fill these federally mandated seats.

New Member Orientation is March 17th at Behavioral Science Research; there was a flier (copy on file) in the meeting materials with details.

VI. Standing Business

▪ Elections

Ms. Waterman's term as chair has ended and Dedra Brown will become chair, leaving the chair elect position vacant. Jocelyn Jauregui is the only member qualified for the seat; members voted to accept a ballot with Ms. Jauregui as the nominee for chair elect.

Motion to accept the chair elect ballot with Jocelyn Jauregui as the chair elect nominee.

Moved: George Tamayo

Seconded: Dedra Brown

Motion: Passed

Ms. Jauregui was unanimously elected.

▪ Passing of the Gavel

Members thanked Ms. Waterman for chairing the committee for the past two years. Ms. Waterman then passed the gavel to Dedra Brown who chaired the remainder of the meeting.

▪ Community Events Update

The Partnership hosted a table at the 4th Annual "Silence is Death" March & Expo on February 5th. Sandra Jones reported that there was not a large turnout but the event was excellent.

The Partnership also hosted a table at the Miami-Dade College Medical Center Campus Health Fair on February 20th; George Tamayo announced that it was a great event. Ms. Bontempo reported that asking HIV/AIDS and Ryan White Program related questions at the table was an excellent educational tool. She also noted that the Partnership table will be closer to the testing van(s) at next year's health fair.

There is a Miami Heat game on March 6th to raise awareness of HIV/AIDS in honor of the National Week of Prayer for Healing AIDS; a portion of ticket sales will be donated to Churches United for HIV Prevention. There is a flier (copy on file) with details in the meeting materials.

Members reviewed the recruitment events update flier (copy on file). On April 17th, there are two events being held in different parts of the County; members decided that the Partnership should host tables at both. Ms. Bontempo suggested that if there are no Partnership applications to vote on, that the committee cancel their April meeting and attend recruitment events instead. If the committee decides to do this it is important that each member makes a commitment to participate in at least one event. Staff will contact members and create a tentative schedule to be discussed in March.

VII. New Business

▪ HOPWA Hearings Report

Marlen Hernandez attended the Housing Opportunities for Persons Living With AIDS (HOPWA) public hearing at the Caleb Center earlier this month. Since the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) now requires the program to cover the full cost of utilities for clients, there is a severe strain on funds. At the hearing, it was announced that no one from the current waitlist has been placed due to the financial constraints.

Ms. Hernandez reported that she spoke about the Partnership at the hearing and sent applications to several interested candidates.

The Section 8 waitlist opened the prior week and Sembrando Flores assisted in distributing applications.

▪ Question and Answer Session

A guest asked what the Miami-Dade HIV/AIDS Partnership is and what it does. Ms. Bontempo explained that the Partnership is the planning council for the Board of County Commissioners responsible for allocating Ryan White Federal funds. It is important that people who are receiving the services are well represented on the planning council. Behavioral Science Research staffs the Partnership and committees and conducts quality management for the Ryan White Program. The Community Coalition Committee is responsible for recruiting members for the full Partnership and its committees. Ms. Hernandez announced that any interested candidates can ask staff for applications and attend the New Member Orientation from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on March 17th; there is a flier (copy on file) with details in the meeting material. Staff emphasized that even if one does not meet the requirements to become a member, one may attend the meetings as a guest.

There is a continued concern of how to best reach clients particularly since many clients do not have access to computers and most of the Partnership's communication is through email and the website. Ms. Jones suggested regular mailings to people who do not have access to email. She explained that it would be very helpful in keeping people informed of Partnership and committee activities. Ms. Bontempo explained that mailings are currently sent on a per request basis and that case managers are asked to post or hand out all important fliers. All Ryan White agencies are asked to post Partnership calendars and fliers for clients to read. Also, staff should look into posting fliers at public libraries.

Members discussed that there are always issues regarding lack of care in South Dade brought to the table, however there is a lack of representation of South Dade clients on the Partnership. It was stressed that client participation makes a difference in how a message is heard and how decisions are made by the planning council. It was suggested that the committee set goals for improving participation.

Ms. Brown showed everyone the new t-shirts designed by the committee; shirts will be distributed to members after the meeting.

For additional information, the Partnership's website, www.aidsnet.org, is a good reference and staff is available by phone.

VIII. Announcements

No announcements.

IX. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is March 29th, 2010 at Concept House.

X. Adjournment

Ms. Brown called the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.