



## Membership & Public Relations Committee Meeting

Minutes

7/9/20

10am-11am

1. **Welcome, Introduction & Moment of Silence:** Eric Martinez (Co-chair, Patient Care), Greg Bowman, Steve Hoke (Chairperson, EQA), Daniel Pearce (Project Response), Rashemia Birks (Whole Family Health Center), Renella Mitchell (Midway Specialty Care Center, Outreach co-chair), Mary Sirmons (Co-chair, Prevention), Carly Pyle (Whole Family Health Center), Dawn Jones (Area 15 HAPC, Lead Agency), Monica Adelphonse (Consortia Support), Gloria Ryan (Indian River Health Dept.), Vickie Stacy (Indian River Health Dept.), Deborah McCray (Project Response), Jana (Midway Specialty Care Center)
  
2. **Review and Approval of March's and April's Minutes:** Awaiting minutes from March and April from Lead Agency, they will be sent out to members once available.
  
3. **Updates**
  - A. **Community Updates:**
    - **Ad- Hoc Community Outreach Meeting Updates:**  
*Mary (Co-chair, Prevention):*
      - a) There are currently not many outreaches or HIV testing being done in the community due to social distancing
      - b) Last community outreach was done with Ambrosia Treatment Center last month and they are now are starting allow testing to begin again.
      - c) Many community locations currently do not want testing.
  
    - **Community Provider Updates:**  
*Rashemia (Whole Family):*
      - a) Whole Family Health Center is currently offering HIV/STI testing via appointments and COVID 19 testing M-Fri 7am-6pm
      - b) Please call to set up an appointment, which are available the same day or next available date.
  
    - Jana Midway (Midway Specialty):*

- a) Midway Specialty Care Center is accepting HIV testing (walk-in) and Multi-STI Testing (appt only and for uninsured patients who are symptomatic on a case by case basis.)
- b) Days and Hours of testing are: M-Thr. 9am-5pm and Fr 9am-3:30pm Midway Road Fort Pierce, FL 34982.
- c) There limited testers out in the community. Testing is currently being done at Hands Clinic 4 days a week and at 3 recovery locations.
- d) Most facilities are not allowing people to come in due to COVID 19.
- e) Midway Primary Care Center is conducting COVID-19 testing via appointments, results are available same day.

- **Misc. Update:**

*Monica (Consortia Support/Liaison)*-New role in Health Council in Southeast FL as the Liaison between Lead Agency and Consortia. Role includes, supporting consortia with planning functions, assisting in trainings, planning and preparing reports, preparing minutes and agenda, assisting with planning activities, etc.

**B. Ryan White Client Letter (Update)**

*Eric (Co-chair, Patient Care)*-

- Clients enrolled in Ryan White program will be provided with letters detailing HRSA mandate that a fee of \$1 for services i.e. seeing medical provider, case manager, etc.
- Clients are to sign acknowledgment that they are aware of the fee with their Ryan White Agency.
- A client's inability to pay the \$1 fee will NOT cause them to be denied ANY service
- Please share the HRSA mandate with the community and clients; make clients aware that there is no need to be alarmed
- Updates with logistics of how fee will be executed will be provided once known,

**C. By-laws Update:**

*Eric (Co-chair, Patient Care)*-

- Bylaws will need to be redone; there will be an adhoc meeting in future

**D. Increase awareness – COVID-19 / Area 15 Consortia:**

- Important to share any information regarding COVID to Monica and Dawn to distribute to community
- Treasure Coast Community Health is doing COVID testing
- HRSA is absorbing costs of COVID testing, if uninsured, can fill out waiver to have cost covered, test available for as low as \$0, must register through online portal
- The city's website can possibly contain testing information and provide further guidance for testing

- Florida Department of Health St. Lucie County is distributing masks to everyone in the community; call 772-462-3800 for masks

#### 4. Open Discussion:

- **Concerns:**

*Deborah McCray (Project Response)*- voiced concerns about Facebook postings of collaboration projects with other community organization

*Mary Sirmons (Co-chair, Prevention)*- clarified that Facebook postings are for community awareness of events out in the community

- **Comments:**

*Rashemia (Whole Family)*- Voiced that Whole Family Health Center is open and inviting other organization to collaborate for HIV Testing

*Mary Sirmons (Co-chair, Prevention)*: Voiced that Florida Council an ad-hoc meeting to discuss coordination of efforts community Tool-kit; may possibly need to hold an ad-hoc meeting to discuss how Area 15 will execute the toolkit outreach during COVID pandemic

*Eric (Co-chair, Patient Care)*: The Needs Assessment template and updated bylaws are being developed by the state and will be distributed when available

*Jana (Midway)*- COVID-19 will be part of life for next 2-5 year, strive to not let HIV be left in the dust, goal is getting back to testing as normal while now including personal protect equipment.