



## **ADOPTED – REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

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

**MEETING DATE and TIME:** December 8, 2022 at 9:00 AM

**MEETING LOCATION:** Virtual & Basement Conference Room – 810 Datura St., West Palm Beach, FL 33401

**PERSON PRESIDING:** Dr. Merlene Ramnon (Chair) (IP)

**REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: “Virtual” = (V) & “In-Person” = (IP):** Dr. Christine Koehn (IP) Dr. Constance Siskowski (IP), Dr. Thomas Cleare (V), Elisa Cramer (V), Inger Harvey (V), Anne Caroline Valtin (V).

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Dr. Barbara Cox Gerlock (IP), Scott Kannel (IP), Houston Tate (V), Aruna Gilbert (V), Marie Presmy (V).

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** James Green (IP), Taruna Malhotra (IP), Helene Hvizd (V), Dr. Joanna Reid-Enoise (IP), Stessy Cocerez (IP), Adam Reback (IP), Maybe Alfau (IP), Charlotte Leonard (IP), John Van Arnam (IP), Jill Singer (IP), Steve Farnsworth (IP), Josh Rapps (IP)

**DISCLOSURES:** Dr. Constance Siskowski is employed by the American Association of Caregiving Youth (AACY), which is a recipient of Financially Assisted Agencies (FAA) funding.

**CHAIR & STAFF COMMENTS:** Dr. Merlene Ramnon took a moment to thank everyone who was present in person and virtually. Dr. James Green introduced Dr. Joanna Reid-Enoise as the new manager for the Strategic, Research and Evaluation team.

### **CONSENT ACTIONS OF MEETING**

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

**Discussion:** No additions, deletions, or substitutions were made.

**Action Taken:** Motion was made to approve the agenda by Dr. Christine Koehn. Second by Dr. Constance Siskowski. All in favor, motion passed.

### **REGULAR BUSINESS**

**Agenda Item:** *3.A. Adoption of CAC/HHS Regular Committee Meeting Minutes (September 8, 2022)*

**Discussion:** No changes or suggestions to the minutes.

**Action Taken:** Motion was made to approve minutes by Dr. Thomas Cleare. Second by Dr. Christine Koehn. All in favor, motion passed.

## **REGULAR BUSINESS**

### **Agenda Item: 3.B. Behavioral Health Initiative (John Van Arman, Health Care District of Palm Beach County)**

- John Van Arman gave a presentation on the Behavioral Health initiative created by the Health Care District of Palm Beach County. The presentation provided an overview of what the Health Care District is, the services provided to the community (both as a payer and as a direct care provider through their clinics), and how the Integrated Mental Health Model is practiced in the clinics.
- John Van Arnam also discussed current outcomes and future expansions, outreach, and agreements.
- There were additional questions and discussions surrounding how community partners have been included in the initiative and how the shift will affect funding.
- Dr. James Green added that the initiative is a great stepping stone towards a health system that can actually support the county residents.
- Taruna Malhotra mentioned that a lot of additional new dollars are coming from the County to assist the Health Care District in moving forward with the initiative.

## **REGULAR BUSINESS**

### **Agenda Item: 3.C. Securing Our Future (SOFI) Economic Mobility Summit (Dr. James Green)**

- Dr. James Green summarized the SOFI Economic Summit that occurred on December 5, 2022. A quick debrief of the speakers, agenda, and the overall positive outcome of the summit was shared. The plenary session focused primarily on economic mobility in our County and various subject matter experts presented on various topics in education, technology, housing, food, and economic mobility.
- Dr. Barbara Cox Gerlock attended the summit and summarized her experience as very integrated and enjoyable.
- Dr. Merlene Ramnon and Elisa Cramer also commended the intent of the Summit and emphasized the importance of speaking with experts on the topics that can influence decision-making in our County.

## **REGULAR BUSINESS**

### **Agenda Item: 3.D. Financially Assisted Agencies (FAA) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Update (Taruna Malhotra)**

- Taruna Malhotra provided an update on the Financially Assisted Agencies (FAA) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). The county wants to expand engagement with more agencies. The County is actively looking for transportation agencies to partner with who can provide efficient alternatives. Moreover, she also mentioned to the board that the NOFO for Behavioral Health will be postponed until further notice.

## **REGULAR BUSINESS**

### **Agenda Item: 3.E. CAC Membership Matrix, Recruitment, Reappointments (Dr. Merlene Ramnon)**

- Dr. Merlene Ramnon shared her desire to remain serving as Chair of the CAC/HHS but Dr. Christine Koehn shared that she would prefer someone else step into the role.
- The committee discussed both the Chair and Vice-Chair roles. Ultimately, Dr. Christine Koehn decided to continue serving as Vice-Chair if the committee wished for her to do so.

Discussion: See bullet points above.

Action taken: Dr. Constance Siskowski made a motion to nominate Dr. Merlene Ramnon to remain as Chair. Second by Dr. Christine Koehn. All in favor, motion passed. Elisa Cramer made a motion to nominate Dr. Christine Koehn to remain as Vice-Chair. Second by Dr. Constance Siskowski. All in favor, motion passed.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Agenda Item: 4.A. Staff Information Updates**

- Stessy Cocerez gave an update on the status of the new appointments to the Board and shared that they are expected to be on the Agenda for the Board of County Commissioners meeting in January.

- Dr. James Green gave a brief update on HHS Element, sharing that the Element was approved at the BCC transmittal meeting on Monday, November 28<sup>th</sup>. The next step is for the document to be transmitted to the state for review. The goal still remains to have the Element approved by February 2023.
- Taruna Malhotra related to the Board that the County is currently taking applications for the HVAC system replacement program and those who qualify will receive up to \$15,000 towards the replacement of their HVAC system. There are currently 145 pending applications and about 200 applications have already been worked on.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

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

- Dr. Christine Koehn informed the members that the lease agreement between FoundCare and the city of Rivera Beach has been signed. The construction of the new 15,000sqf location for the FoundCare health center has already started and it is projected to open in 2024.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

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

- None.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

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

- Dr. James Green congratulated Anne Caroline Valtin on being honored by the Chambers of Health and Human Services for her work with non-profits.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

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

- Dr. Christine Koehn asked to discuss membership recruitment steps at an upcoming meeting.
- Dr. James Green suggested a Technology presentation related to what was shared during the Summit on December 5<sup>th</sup>.

**ACTIONS OF MEETING**

**Agenda Item: 5. Meeting Adjournment**

Discussion: None.

Action Taken: Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Dr. Constance Siskowski. Second by Dr. Christine Koehn. All in favor, motion passed.

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<b>DATE OF NEXT REGULAR CAC/HHS MEETING(S):</b>	January 12, 2023 (9:00 AM)	&	February 09, 2023 (9:00 AM)
<b>DATE OF NEXT EXECUTIVE CAC/HHS MEETING(S):</b>	January 12, 2023 (8:45 AM) if needed	&	February 09, 2023 (8:45 AM) if needed

*Reviewed by SC on January 10, 2023  
Prepared by Maybe Alfau on January 4, 2023*