

Health Care Advisory Board

Date: March 6, 2024

Time: 1:00 pm

Members Present Erica Barnard, Joseph Benton, Frank Catalanotto, Scott Darius , William Garst, Aaron Jarvis, Krista Ott, Lindsey Redding, Shayna Rich, Catherine Striley

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Bill Garst at 1:06 pm.

Members Present: Bill Garst, Aaron Jarvis, Leah Vail-Compton, Eric Barnard, Frank Catalanotto, Catherine Striley, Krista Ott,

Members Absent: Scott Darius, William Warrick, Shayna Rich, Lindsey Redding

Staff Present: Tom Tonkavich, Jaye Athy, Tyler Yeadon

Guests: Cherisse Britton

2. Approval of the Agenda

Frank Catalanotto moved approval of the agenda. Second: Aaron Jarvis motion passed unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes

Frank Catalanotto moved approval of the previous meeting minutes. Second: Catherine Striley motion passed unanimously.

4. Old Business

Cherisse Britton gave a presentation to the Board giving information and updates on the CHW program

Q&A:

- Are referrals tracked? Yes
- Were any dental? Yes
- Was Acorns one of the sites? Yes

- What educational classes are available? Healthy eating, nutrition, and physical activity.
- More information on Find Help? CHW and UF are partnering to try and create/maintain a resource guide. There are the common issues of staying up to date, Find Help does help in this regard. CHW agencies were verified to be on Find Help with none removed. There is a way to track referrals through Find Help.
- Any activities related to behavioral health or mental health? No, CHW does not have an agency focused on that area yet, but it is in the process
- Difference between WIOA and Non-WIOA placement and payment? All candidates go to CareerSource for screening, WIOA acceptance is based on their background. Lower income or lesser skilled individuals will generally be accepted into WIOA, if not they will tap into CHW funding for wage subsidization.
- Is there a dollar cap on subsidizing or variation of payment plans? Still under review, dependent on budget
- Do other Counties have similar programs? Its more popular in the southern counties where they benefit from Spanish speaking CHWs, but Alachua has the opportunity to be the CHW center for Northern FL
- How are CHWs trained in Insurance uses, applications, etc.? Insurance training is part of the 3-6 month self-led online curriculum
- Do the Clients the CHW serve have computer literacy to be able to use Find Help? The CHWs are trained in computer literacy in the curriculum in order to help the patients

Next steps for CHW program:

- Schedule BetterYou2.0 updates
- advocate for more funding
- Bill Garst mentioned a CHW and Pharmacy collaboration program that is in the planning stages

Concerns from Board:

- Level of recruiting for positions

- No upward mobility path for careers
- Answer: Pastor Duncan has interested recruits; orientation sessions are held to recruit. 6 are enrolled, 7 pending and in talks with others. 10 is seen as a successful number. Working on agencies to receive CHW before increasing numbers.

5. **New Business**

Program Updates:

- Bill Garst – Union County had only 1 pharmacy in the entire county, CVS, until Spires grocery store opened a Pharmacy this week.
- Erika Barnard – CHA is still working on reports and data, WeCare quality improvement project is to improve the follow through that patients who qualify for the early detection program.
- Krista Ott– Hired a second paramedic for the CRP, got extra funding through Community Block Development grant, Healthy Afternoon program had increased attendance next meeting at West Side Park.
- Catherine Striley– RX Food Prescription program will receive an update, new Food Pantry set to open, Free skin cancer screening coming up April 27th at UF
- Tom Tonkavich– Syrine Exchange Project last Friday was the soft opening of the program, Florida Harm Reduction network partnered with Out of Harms Reach to start the program and create the reporting and monitoring procedures. Hoping to have them come present to HCAB
- Frank Catalanotto– Department houses an oral cancer center that will be rebranded to have community advisory and expand to more oral health issues than just oral cancer.
- Aaron Jarvis– Dr. Butler is coming to talk about a Florida Blue Award next meeting. Primarily focused on the East side of Gainesville. On a community engagement council for the hospital, trying to get more engagement with the community from the hospital perspective.
- Jaye Athy– This board has some expiring positions, applications are due. There is a position for an agency representing low-income patients, an email blast was sent to CHOICES and other agencies, but if anyone knows someone who could fill the position, please tell them to apply. Dr. Butler will speak at the next meeting about the Food Pharmacy primarily

on the East Side and also update on the East Side Medical Center. New CAPP RFA parameters went to the BOCC last week, agencies will not be eligible for CAPP and CHOICES they must pick one or the other, Board voted to fund Peaceful Paths separately for their loss and they will not be in consideration for CAPP, CHW salaries could be funded through CAPP programs if they apply

Concerns brought up with Medical Insurance signups in the County that are predatory or malicious in nature often times at a kiosk in a store or sold over the phone.

7. Adjournment

Frank Catalanotto moved to adjourn at 2:05 pm Second: Leah Vail-Compton motion passed unanimously.