

# Rochester Area Task Force on AIDS, Inc.

Finger Lakes Health Systems Agency

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## Services /Advocacy

June 7, 2007

### Minutes

**Services Members Present:** Jane Hallinen, Wendy Mancuso, Ruben Rodriguez, Isabel Rosa, Lela Seals, Patricia Terziani, Danielle Wade.

**Staff:** Pat Zacharias.

#### **Review of Minutes:**

Ron Skwieralski was at the last meeting as was Calvin Twoguns. Calvin moved that the minutes be approved with those changes and Wendy seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

#### **Agency Updates:**

- **Catholic Charities** is looking for a bilingual case worker.
- **ACHC**

#### **Joint Meeting**

##### **Meeting with DSS:**

Trilby reported on a meeting she had with Rick Marcasi, the counsel for DSS. She advised him of the problems HIV+ clients have been experiencing. People certified as disabled or caretakers cannot be sanctioned.

It was suggested that we send a letter with 3 or 4 good examples with people's names or Medicaid numbers.

There is a 30 day grace period for reopening a case. People with HIV/AIDS should have a broader time frame.

##### **Community Forum:**

Trilby informed us what to expect at the forum. She attended one downstate. Anyone wishing to speak has to register their question before hand. One question Trilby suggested that should be asked is why isn't there a representative from the Department of

Corrections at the table. A few people have expressed an interest in going. RATFA will look into renting a van. It appears more people are available to go to Buffalo than Syracuse.

**Medicaid Churning:**

Cherri Hawkins announced that she would be on medical leave for two months but someone at her office will be collecting and entering the Medicaid Churning data. Huther Doyle and McCree/McCuller are piloting the new form.

**Advocacy**

**In District Visits:**

Roberto will set up some visits during the summer. He suggested that when talking to the legislators we raise the issues for next year's budget. We discussed the importance of having PWAs be part of the contingent that does the visiting.

Pat suggested that she ask Wade Norwood to do a training on Advocacy to educate us all on effective ways to get our point across.

**Next Meeting:**

There will be no meeting in July. Next meeting will be August 2.