



MEETING MINUTES

BROWARD COUNCIL

DISTRICT #12

08/09/2022

1:00 PM, ET

8333 W. McNab Road. Suite 231. Tamarac, FL 33321

COUNCIL MEMBERS			
John Cavoto	Present X	Ifthekar Rafiq	Present X
Blanca Merchan	Present X	Ann Garfinkel	Present X
Don Henry	Present X	Terressea Smith	Present X
Paul Wilson	Present X	Fred Narayanan	Present X

OTHER OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM REPRESENTATIVES	
NAME	TITLE
Gloria T. Freyre	District Ombudsman Manager
Elizabeth Cole	Administrative Assistant

GUEST NAME	ORGANIZATION
none	

OPEN SESSION

- Called to order at 1:05PM
 - Open Session Statement 1:06PM
- Quorum Established: X Yes
Minutes Approved: X Yes 05/10/22

UPDATES/REPORTS

- Gloria Freyre, district ombudsman manager welcomed the attendees to the Council meeting and updated the council with the following information:
- Three new potential volunteers are already to approve initial training. Two more in the process.
- New State Ombudsman wants us to push to complete 100% of the assessments. We are going to do it. We are projecting to finish by Sept 15th if collectively we do 12-15 assessments per week for the next 6 weeks.
- We still have 73 assessments to complete the 303 facilities. From today to Sept 15th, we are making an extra effort to be on the field every day, and will inform the volunteers if any of their assigned facilities have been completed by the staff.
- The current assessment form has been revised and reduced to one page, front and back. Will be effective next Ombudsman year starting October 1st, 2022.
- Covid situation in the community. Gloria Freyre shared her field experience from last two weeks. Covid numbers are still rising in Broward County, and almost all big facilities are

experiencing or had experienced outbreaks serious enough to return to having Covid isolation units, and restriction of visitation. Ombudsman Ann Garfinkel shared with the Council that prior to entering the facilities she calls and ask what the current situation with the virus is, and if there are any restrictions in place. Gloria Freyre, encouraged the volunteer to go to the field, however using common sense, and personal protective equipment as needed.

- Gloria Freyre also shared with the council how several volunteer ombudsmen are currently working to provide technical assistance to Resident Councils in several facilities, stressing the importance of Resident Councils as wonderful and powerful advocacy tools.
- Ombudsman Terressea Smith suggested that the Council should devote an upcoming meeting to share common problems found during the assessments.

TRAINING

- KEPRO, Beneficiary and Family Centered Care Quality Improvement Organization Presentation.
- A hand-out was provided, and the Council had a good discussion regarding KEPRO's services, benefits, and advocacy.
- Q & A
- Ombudsman Terressea Smith shared with the Council the main differences between Medicare & Medicaid reimbursement and the impact on LTC facilities.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next Council meeting scheduled for September 13th, 2022, at 1:00PM

NEW BUSINESS

- **None discussed.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS (limited to 5 minutes each)

- None

ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting adjourned at 2:15 PM.