

**CONSORTIUM FOR A HEALTHIER MIAMI-DADE**

Children Issues Committee Meeting

Friday, October 18, 2024

10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. EST



<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION NEEDED</b>
<p>Membership Total (41)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tenesha Avent, March of Dimes (Vice Chair)</li> <li>2. Belinda V. Jeanty, Early Learning Coalition of Miami Dade/Monroe</li> <li>3. Heather Baker, HSCMD</li> <li>4. Lilia Bandrich, United Healthcare</li> <li>5. Paola Calderon, Common Threads</li> <li>6. Michelle Espinosa, United Way Miami</li> <li>7. Gilda Ferradaz, DCF</li> <li>8. KeTia Harris, JTCHS</li> <li>9. Andrea Hickson, NICU Alumni</li> <li>10. Jeff Hurst, DCF</li> <li>11. Rachel Janvier, Urban Strategies Inc.</li> <li>12. Maria Catalina Jaramillo, HES</li> <li>13. Dana Klein, Gheorg</li> <li>14. Debi La Belle, The Education Fund</li> <li>15. Esther McCant, Metro Mommy Agency</li> <li>16. Vanessa Madrazo, NAMI Miami-Dade</li> <li>17. Tamia Medina, UHealth</li> <li>18. Sofia Mino, Kristi House</li> <li>19. Beverly Montgomery, Easterseals/Early Steps</li> <li>20. Dr. Ruby Natale, UM</li> <li>21. Joanne Palenzuela, UM</li> <li>22. Leiann Palma, RHISE at Jackson's The Women's Hospital</li> <li>23. Karem Rodriguez, Florida Foster Care Review</li> <li>24. Solina Rulfs, UF/IFAS Extension</li> <li>25. Marta Cristina Salazar Grande, UM</li> <li>26. Cristiane Rocha, Colgate BSBF</li> <li>27. Carla Sabugo, DOH-Miami-Dade WIC</li> <li>28. Darria Stafford Williams, United Way Miami</li> <li>29. Lakisa Smith, USI</li> <li>30. Dr. Cynthia Unuigbe, Sleep &amp; Cradle Solutions</li> <li>31. Lauren Villalba-Cruz, Miami-Dade County Child Abuse Death Review (CADR) Team</li> <li>32. Kristin Wallin, Kidokinetics</li> <li>33. Saliyha Webb, NAMI Miami-Dade</li> <li>34. Islamiyat N. Adebisi, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade</li> </ol>	

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	<p>35. Louis Correa, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade (Intern)</p> <p>36. Witson Faustin, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade</p> <p>37. Jack Lin, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade (Intern)</p> <p>38. Natouchka Murray, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade</p> <p>39. Dayamyra Perez Fernandez, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade</p> <p>40. Candice Schottenloher, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade (Committee Liaison)</p> <p>41. Candace Williams, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade</p>	
Welcome and Introductions	The October 2024 monthly meeting of the Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade Children Issues Committee was brought to order at 10:05 a.m. by Tenesha Avent. All members were welcomed and introduced themselves.	
Approval of Minutes	There was a motion to approve the October 2024 Children Issues meeting minutes by Beverly Montgomery, the motion was seconded by Heather Baker.	
Healthy Kids, Healthy Future Presentation	Solina Rulfs and Whitney Thames of the UF/IFAS Extension Family Nutrition Program presented the Healthy Kids, Healthy Future curriculum presentation. During this presentation, a UF/IFAS Extension Family Nutrition Program overview was shared as well as what the Family Nutrition Program (FNP) is and how FNP supports policy, systems, and environment (PSE) in Early Childcare. During this presentation, Solina Rulfs also shared an overview on the Healthy Kids, Healthy Future curriculum. A brief introduction was shared on the Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care which is known as GoNAPSACC. Other items highlighted were the focus areas as well as the Healthy Habits For Life educational materials and the ongoing FNP PSE Support.	Share slides and presenter contact info
Healthy Caregivers-Healthy Children (H2C) Presentation	<p>A recap was shared regarding ongoing efforts to support the Healthy Caregivers, Healthy Children program presented by Dr. Ruby Natale and Joanne Palenzuela. The program focuses on reducing obesity in young children through role modeling and healthy habits in childcare centers. The committee discussed the importance of implementing the curriculum more broadly in childcare centers across Miami-Dade County.</p> <p>The program standards included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Encouraging water as the primary beverage in childcare centers.</li> <li>2. Limiting juice to once per week and reducing high-sugar snacks.</li> <li>3. Expanding physical activity time for children to meet recommended guidelines.</li> <li>4. Efforts to ensure that the curriculum accommodates children with special needs.</li> </ol> <p>The committee will continue to discuss tracking these activities and follow up on expanding implementation in more centers.</p>	Share slides and presenter contact info.
Executive Board	Tenesha Avent and Candice Schottenloher provided updates on the Executive Board to the committee. The Board met virtually on Monday, October 7th, 2024. During this meeting, discussions focused on	

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Update	<p>the Consortium’s efforts to refine the elevator speech and health agenda message aimed at engaging policy stakeholders and elected officials in the work of the Consortium. These efforts are aimed at increasing visibility and enhancing support for the ongoing health initiatives.</p> <p>Additionally, the Board continues conversations surrounding COVID-19, optimal health, and addressing the social drivers of health. This remains a core focus for all Consortium committees. Further updates include the announcement of upcoming Consortium elections for the 2025-2026 term, with the nomination period set for November 12th to November 19th, 2024. The confirmation of nominees will take place from November 20th to 27th, and the elections will be conducted via survey from December 2nd to December 9th, 2024. Members are encouraged to participate in this process to ensure continuity in leadership and vision.</p>	
Healthy Baby Taskforce Update	<p>The Healthy Baby Taskforce update was provided by Esther McCant. The Healthy Baby Taskforce last met virtually in August. During the meeting, the Taskforce continued discussions on aligning efforts with the Jasmine Project to improve preterm birth prevention strategies, focusing on collaborating on initiatives for breastfeeding, safe sleep, and reducing preterm birth rates. A significant focus was on developing a coordinated dissemination plan for the Healthy Baby, Healthy Corner Store Palm Card and Business Wallet Cards, now available in English, Spanish, and Creole. The cards are ready for community outreach, and partners discussed ideas on where and how to distribute them effectively. Taskforce partners have also been attending various community events, including the "Art of Breastfeeding" event and the Healthy Start Home Visitation Program initiatives, supporting families in Miami-Dade County.</p>	
Recognition of Improved Performance	<p>During the meeting, Tenesha Avent took a moment to recognize the efforts of the committee and its partners. She acknowledged the great work done in supporting the Healthy Caregivers, Healthy Children program and the significant progress made in engaging childcare centers with healthy lifestyle initiatives. The committee was thanked for their continued dedication to improving community health, particularly in the areas of nutrition and physical activity in childcare settings.</p>	
New Business Meeting Logistics Conversation	<p>Tenesha Avent reminded committee members about the upcoming in-person meeting scheduled for Friday, November 15th, 2024, at United Way Miami, which will include the annual potluck gathering. No virtual option will be available for this meeting. Committee members are encouraged to attend in person, and a sign-up sheet for potluck contributions will be shared ahead of time. There will also be a brief meeting in December to make up for canceled meetings earlier in the year.</p>	
Partner Updates	<p>Committee members were able to briefly announce their current work/initiatives/ projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Kristi House:</b> Sofia Mino provided an update that Project Gold, which previously offered housing and services for girls who are survivors of human trafficking, has now expanded its services to include boys. This project aims to support young survivors of human trafficking.</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Healthy Start Coalition of Miami-Dade:</b> Heather Baker announced that the funding for the Moving Beyond Depression program has been renewed by the Children's Trust for the fiscal year 2024-2025. Additionally, funding from Sunshine Health for the purchase of portable cribs and car seats for families in the Healthy Start Home Visitation Program was renewed as well.</li> <li>• <b>BreastfeedMiami:</b> Carla Sabugo shared updates on the "Art of Breastfeeding" brunch and exhibition scheduled for, October 19th, 2024, at the Betty T. Ferguson Center from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. This free event features food, art from local artists, and talks from breastfeeding experts.</li> <li>• <b>DOH-Miami-Dade WIC Program:</b> Carla Sabugo also announced that the 11th Annual Homestead Health and Resource Fair will take place on Saturday, December 7th, 2024, at the Florida City WIC Center. The event will include free toys, food from Farm Share, and various resources for the community. Sponsorship opportunities are available for organizations interested in participating.</li> <li>• <b>Colgate Bright Smiles, Bright Futures:</b> Cristiane Rocha shared that Colgate is offering free dental screenings and oral health education for children up to 12 years old. Their mobile unit is available for events, and they are currently accepting bookings for 2025.</li> <li>• <b>Common Threads:</b> Paola Calderon introduced Common Threads, a nonprofit organization focused on nutrition education and cooking classes for children and caregivers. She expressed excitement about being a part of the committee and working toward similar goals of raising healthy children in Miami.</li> <li>• <b>NAMI Miami:</b> Vanessa Madrazo announced the Real Minds Mental Health Film Festival, which will be held on Sunday, October 20th, 2024, at the Moss Center in Cutler Bay. The festival will showcase short films about mental health and raise awareness to combat stigma.</li> </ul>	
Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 11:32 am by Tenesha Avent. The next Children Issues Committee meeting will be held on Friday, November 15, 2024, in-person at United Way Miami from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., with no virtual option for the potluck gathering.	