

CONSORTIUM FOR A HEALTHIER MIAMI-DADE
Children Issues/Oral Health Committee Meeting
Friday, May 16, 2025
10 a.m. to 12 p.m. EST

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION NEEDED
Membership Total (8)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr. Cristina Brito, West Kendall Baptist Hospital (Committee Chair) 2. Isabel Afanador, Early Learning Coalition of Miami 3. Michelle Berkovits, University of Miami, School of Medicine 4. Neseayah McFarlane, Healthy Start Coalition of Miami-Dade (HSCMD) 5. Juliet San Juan, ConnectFamilias 6. Maria Sol Acosta, Community Care Plan 7. Chelsea Wilkerson, Girl Scouts of Tropical Florida (Presenter) 8. Candice Schottenloher, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County (Committee Liaison) 	
Welcome and Introductions	The May 2025 monthly meeting of the Children Issues Oral Health Committee Meeting was brought to order by Cristina Brito at 10:14 a.m. All members were welcomed, and introductions were made.	
Approval of Minutes	There was a motion to approve the April 2025 minutes by Isabel Afanador, and the motion was seconded by Neseayah McFarlane.	
Girl Scout – State of the Florida Girl Report Presentation	Chelsea Wilkerson, CEO, Girl Scouts of Tropical Florida , presented to the committee on Girl Scouts and the State of the Florida Girl Report. This report raises awareness about the well-being of girls in Florida, focusing on their physical health, academic performance, emotional wellness, and social well-being. It was highlighted Girl Scouts uses primary data sources like the U.S. Census, CDC, and Florida Department of Education to analyze health outcomes for girls. The goal is to understand and address the unique challenges girls face to ensure they reach their full potential, without comparing Florida to other states. There are four key pillars the report focuses on which include physical health, academic performance, emotional wellness, and social wellbeing. During the presentation, various health indicators focus on these topic areas. The Miami Girl Coalition is uniting to ensure every girl in Miami can thrive. It was shared they are piloting a coalition of Miami-based organizations committed to advancing opportunities for girls, from safety & well-being, education & early learning, to workforce development. If interested in being a part of the Miami Girl Coalition, please email Aokeefe@gielscoutsfl.org .	Send materials
Executive Board Update	The Executive Board update was provided by Dr. Cristina Brito. The Executive Board met virtually on Monday, May 12, 2025. During this meeting they discussed and approved the Consortium's digital brochure, which has since been submitted to the Florida Department of Health Communications team for final approval. Once approved, the brochure will be disseminated in English, with plans to translate it into Spanish and Haitian Creole to ensure broader accessibility. The brochure is	

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	<p>designed as a concise, visual resource for members to share information about the Consortium and its committees, especially during introductory conversations or outreach events. Printing of the brochure was also discussed.</p> <p>As shared last meeting, there are two opportunities with Miami Homes for All that was shared (1) if you know of any community centers and/or churches with available space to host workshops classes and (2) there will be discussion on Welcome Home Kits and was items will be needed for donations. As a follow up from the last committee meeting, a list was shared, and some items were brought in and donated today by members. It was noted this will be an opportunity for in-person meetings for us to collect items and donate to the Welcome Home Kits.</p> <p>The Consortium Event Planning Taskforce has begun to convene. The Taskforce has discussed the purpose of the event, tentative date/time, Miami Vice theme, venue locations, and reviewed past promotional and event materials. Yesterday the Planning Taskforce attended a site visit to Miami Vineyard to tour the venue. Updates were shared on the site visit and this in-kind opportunity. Please contact your committee liaison if interested in signing up to be a part of the Taskforce. Lastly, the Board had a presentation by Dream in Green, on Food Sharing, Recovery, and Waste in our community as well as on Recyclepedia. These are efforts they are working to address food security and environmental sustainability in our community. Please see partner updates for more information.</p>	
Healthy Baby Taskforce Update	<p>The Healthy Baby Taskforce is a sub-committee of the Children Issues Committee. Candice Schottenloher shared that the Taskforce held a virtual meeting in April that included a presentation on The Taskforce had a presentation on a Count the Kicks project. Olivia Ceavers, FIU Doctoral Candidate presented her dissertation research focused on reducing stillbirths and improving pregnancy outcomes among Black pregnant people in South Florida. The title of her project is The Feasibility and Acceptability of the Count The Kicks mobile application among Black Pregnant People in South Florida Project. Other items discussed were the success of events that were held for Black Maternal Health Week and presentations they will be having in the future. The Taskforce will meet later today at 12:30 p.m. following Children Issues. The Taskforce will have a presentation by The Women's Fund of Miami-Dade on the Alliance for Infant and Maternal Health (AIM) Miami-Dade.</p>	
<p>Previous Action Update</p> <p>Health Observance Updates</p>	<p>Last month, the committee discussed various health observance months. Dr. Brito invited committee members to share any updates for May health observances. It was mentioned May is Mental Health Awareness Month. Michelle Berkovits provided updates for Mental Health Awareness Month by sharing various trainings the Florida Association for Infant Mental Health (FAIMH) hosted for this month and that were upcoming. Visit the FAIMH events calendar to learn more about upcoming events. A reminder was shared with the partners to think of future</p>	

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	observances they would like to focus on or have a presentation at a future meeting, to please let the committee leadership and liaison know to see how they can coordinate for the members.	
Recognition of Improved Performance	<p>The committee highlighted the following work plan objective for improved performance: By September 30, 2024, the Children Issues Committee will develop an educational awareness campaign on asthma, safety, heat and sun protection. Over the last 5 years, the committee has continuously shared updates and done work surrounding this objective.</p> <p>For Swim Safety, there were a few updates that were shared as committee members continue to promote water, sun and swim safety in our community. The West Kendall Baptist Hospital (WKBH) Splash Day event is upcoming on this Sunday, May 18, 2025, Splashing Safely: Water Safety Tips for Parents of Children with Autism will be hosted on Tuesday, May 20, 2025 in which they we will be raffling swimming lessons scholarships to children and information will be provided on swim and sun safety to the community. Another event in support of water safety that was shared was the upcoming Nicklaus Children's and Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation & Open Spaces Department, Summer Safety Splash event to be held on May 31, 2025, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Oak Grove Park. Flyers were shared for all events. Additionally, Dr. Brito shared more than 3,400 students attended 8 webinar sessions to learn more about sun safety and heat resiliency. More updates will be shared next month.</p>	
Performance Measures in Need of Improvement (Work Plan Review)	<p>The committee has three remaining work plan activities that are behind. During this meeting, the committee focused and discussed the following two of work plan activities the need improvement.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. By September 30, 2024, the Children's Issue Committee will increase education to childcare providers about food allergies. The committee plans to broaden this objective to include children's overall health. Updates will be shared when available. 2. By September 30, 2024, the Children's Issue will fund a children's book related to Alzheimer's disease and related dementia. Progress is delayed due to staffing changes at the Alzheimer's Association. The committee will revisit once a local contact is re-established. 	
New Business CHIP Annual Meeting Updates	An announcement was shared to Save the Date for the upcoming Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) Annual Meeting. This meeting will be hosted at FIU North Campus at the Wolfe University Center on Monday, June 23, 2025. This will be a full day event. It was noted during this meeting, attendees will review the results of the Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP) assessments that will help inform the 2025-2030 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). Participants will vote on the new 2025-2030 CHIP priority areas. More details will be shared once available and promotional materials are approved.	

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Partner Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade: An update was shared by Dr. Brito and Candice Schottenloher on the available Consortium resources. These include the Consortium Directory, Community Event Request (CHER) Form, and the Consortium Membership Form. • ConnectFamilies: An update was shared by Juliet San Juan. She shared the Community Baby Showers <i>Healthy Mommy</i>, <i>Healthy Baby</i> are free for expecting moms and mom's of newborns under 11 months. She shared during the baby showers they have presentations in which they learn about important topics of prenatal and postnatal care, breastfeeding, and the stages of child development. The baby showers are hosted on Saturday's from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more information, please email HMHB@ConnectFamilies.org. • Dream in Green: An update was shared by Dr. Brito on behalf of Barbara Martinez-Guerrero. The Executive Board had a presentation on the Dream in Green community efforts related to addressing food security, waste and composting. A tour of the Recyclepedia website was shared during the meeting to committee members to show these current efforts and gain feedback. It was noted if interested in providing feedback on the website and especially the interactive games, it was recommended to complete the Recyclepedia Platform Survey. • Healthy Start Coalition of Miami-Dade (HSCMD): An update was shared by Neseyah McFarlane. She shared the 2024-2025 FIMR Action Plan priority areas were all met. For 2024-2025, 47,000 educational materials were distributed through the HSCMD. The 2025-2026 FIMR Action Plan has been created and is under review. Other updates were provided that the Connect Program was expanded with CHI and next steps will include with Baptist. Lastly, the Moving Crib Project is still available for host sites to participate in displaying the safe sleep moving crib display especially in hospital settings. 	
Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 11:59 a.m. The next Children Issues Committee meeting will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams on Friday, June 19, 2025, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	