

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION NEEDED
Membership Total (28)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr. Cristina Brito, West Kendall Baptist Hospital (Committee Chair) 2. Tenesha Avent, March of Dimes (Committee Vice Chair) 3. Isabel Afanador, Early Learning Coalition of Miami 4. Dr. Angela-Perla Almodovar, Early Childhood Initiative of America 5. Katie, Hope for Miami – Project Bridge 6. Michelle Berkovits, University of Miami, School of Medicine 7. Debi La Belle, The Education Fund 8. Andrea Hickson, NICU Alumni 9. Jeff Hurst, Department of Children and Families (DCF) 10. Dana Klein, Gheorg 11. Danielle Leys, Parent to Parent of Miami 12. Teronna Maddox, UM 13. Neseyah McFarlane, Healthy Start Coalition of Miami-Dade (HSCMD) 14. Tamia Medina, UHealth 15. Talli Menchion, Easterseals/Early Steps 16. Karem Rodriguez, Florida Foster Care Review 17. Violet Ryland, Department of Children and Families (DCF) 18. Carla Sabugo, DOH-Miami-Dade WIC 19. Juliet San Juan, ConnectFamilias 20. Maria Sol Acosta, Community Care Plan 21. Catherine Toms, Green Cars for Kids 22. Melody Velez, United Healthcare 23. Islamiyat Nancy Adebisi, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County 24. Sandra Echeverry-Varona, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County 25. Zadymon Moore, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County 26. Dayamyra Perez Fernandez, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County 27. Candice Schottenloher, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County (Committee Liaison) 28. Candace Williams, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County 	

CONSORTIUM FOR A HEALTHIER MIAMI-DADE
Children Issues/Oral Health Committee Meeting
Friday, June 20, 2025
10-11:30 a.m. EST

Welcome and Introductions	The June 2025 monthly meeting of the Children Issues Oral Health Committee Meeting was brought to order by Cristina Brito and Tenesha Avent at 10:05 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 Juliet San Juan.	
Executive Board Update	<p>The Executive Board update was provided by Dr. Cristina Brito. The Executive Board met in-person at the Health Council of South Florida on Monday, June 9, 2025. During this meeting, it was announced the Consortium's digital brochure was approved by the Florida Department of Health Communications team. The digital brochure can now be disseminated in English. There are plans to translate the brochure into Spanish and Haitian Creole to ensure broader accessibility. The brochure is 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. The digital brochure was presented to the committee members to review as they will be receiving to disseminate at community meetings, health fairs and events.</p> <p>The Consortium Event Planning Taskforce has begun to convene. Dr. Brito provided updates on the sites visits to the potential venues (Miami Vineyard and Milander) we are looking to host the Annual Event and Worksite Wellness Awards. The next planning meeting will be on Tuesday, June 24, 2025. Please contact your committee liaison if interested in signing up to be a part of the Taskforce.</p>	Share digital brochure with promo email.
Healthy Baby Taskforce Update	The Healthy Baby Taskforce is a sub-committee of the Children Issues Committee. Tenesha Avent shared that the Taskforce held an in-person meeting in May that included a presentation by The Women's Fund Miami-Dade on the Alliance for Infant and Maternal Health (AIM) Miami-Dade project. This presentation was presented by Viviana Alvarado and Marya Meyer. 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 Postpartum Support International (PSI).	
Previous Action Update May – July Health Observance Updates	<p>The committee continues to discuss monthly relevant health observances for the quarter. Dr. Brito invited committee members to share any updates from the month of May to July. The following updates were shared by the partners. Additional updates can also be found below in the Partner Updates section below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NICU Alumni shared they host a virtual support group meets on the third Wednesday of each month. More updates can be found in the Partner Updates section. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The next West Kendall Baptist Hospital Baby Boot Camp will be hosted on Saturday, August 9, 2025. • ConnectFamilias reported in June they hosted a community baby shower for expecting and new moms. A total of 30 moms attended the community baby shower. Juliet San Juan also noted some of the mothers did not know about the WIC program and so they were able to connect them and share more on this program. • Breastfeed MIAMI hosted the 10 Days of Connection event <i>Bared & Beautiful: The Art of Breastfeeding Open Mic and Exhibition</i> on Friday, May 9, 2025, from 5:30 to 8:00 pm at the United Way Center for Excellence. This was a successful event. • An update was shared on a WIC event hosted in the south in which they had 30 moms, and 18-prenatal (first time) moms present. This takes place on the second Friday of each month. <p>A reminder was shared with the partners to think of future 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.</p>	
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. Dr. Brito provided a few key event highlights of success for National Water Safety Month.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Kendall Baptist Hospital (WKBH) Splash Day event was hosted on Sunday, May 18, 2025. She highlighted for this event they have grown their partnerships to more than 20 partners for this event. Many of the partners are Children Issues Committee members. • Splashing Safely: Water Safety Tips for Parents of Children with Autism was hosted on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, in which they raffled swimming lesson scholarships to children and provided information on swim and sun safety to the community. She shared they were able to increase the number of scholarships this year from 100 to 150 scholarships to be able to provide to students in Project Upstart facing home insecurity and to children with special needs through the collaboration with Parent to Parent of Miami. • Nicklaus Children's and Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation & Open Spaces Department, Summer Safety Splash event was hosted on May 31, 2025, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Oak Grove Park. • Dr. Brito shared more than 2,400 students attended 8 webinar sessions to learn more about sun safety and heat resiliency. Additionally, Dr. Brito shared a recap video for National Water Safety Month. 	

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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. Dr. Brito shared the Alzheimer's Association has a new staff person and she will be working to re-establish connection with them. More updates will be provided once partner meeting occurs. 	
New Business Community Concerns Conversation	<p>Dr. Brito and Tenesha Avent led a discussion with the committee members to share current updates on the funding landscape. These updates are being shared to raise awareness of current funding updates on surrounding programs part of organizations you may be working with on related to other key community initiatives. The partners discussed and shared their current experiences as well as potential opportunities to see how to link community residents to needed services during this time. The resources Dr. Brito shared included HHS Grants Terminated and Grant Watch.</p> <p>A reminder shared the upcoming Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) Annual Meeting will be hosted at FIU North Campus at the Wolfe University Center on Monday, June 23, 2025. It was shared 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. Dr. Brito reminded the committee this is an opportunity to participate and discuss the most pressing community concerns in Miami-Dade.</p>	
Partner Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade: A reminder was shared on the available Consortium resources. These include the Consortium Directory, Community Event Request (CHER) Form, and the Consortium Membership Form. • DOH-Miami-Dade WIC: An update was shared by Carla Sabugo. WIC continues to provide families with food assistance every month, although we have a monthly caseload of 70,000 women, infants and children. We have approximately 15,000 pregnant, breastfeeding, postpartum women who qualify for WIC and aren't taking advantage of the WIC Program. We are one of the few social service programs that do not require citizenship, legal status or are part of the public charge. The WIC breastfeeding helpline number is (786) 336-1336. Also, the new income guidelines were updated federally yesterday (this occurs every June), the new guidelines are on the WIC landing page: www.miamidadewic.org. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easterseals/Early Steps: An update was shared by Talli Menchion. She shared her organization is hiring for Service Coordinators (SCs). If you know of anyone who might be interested, please contact her. • Hope for Miami – Project Bridge: An update was shared by Katie. Project Bridge will be hosting a Youth Mental Health training this upcoming week on Thursday, June 26, 2025, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Event flyer was shared during meeting. • NICU Alumni: An update was shared by Andrea Hickson. She shared they host a virtual support group meets on the third Wednesday of each month. This is a space where you can gain insights, access resources tailored to this unique phase of parenthood and connect with others who share similar experiences. To learn more, please visit the parents groups page. • Parent to Parent of Miami: An update was shared by Danielle Leys on the support groups they offer to families that have a child with a disability. The second Thursday of every month, they have virtual support groups specifically for Black, Haitian, and Caribbean parents. They just started the virtual Spanish support group for parents every 4th Thursday of the month at 6:00 PM. So, the first one for the Spanish groups starts on June 26, 2025. • The Women's Fund Miami-Dade: Tenesha Avent shared updates on behalf of The Women's Fund Miami-Dade on their upcoming July 2025 Impact Collaborative: Too Hot to Handle: Reproductive Health in an Overheating Miami - The Women's Fund Miami-Dade and their recently hosted Advocacy Training 106 - Replay - The Women's Fund Miami-Dade. • University of Miami, School of Medicine: An updated was shared by Michelle Berkovits. For North Dade, they are also hiring for Service Coordinators (SCs) and for a Creole Speaking ITDS. 	
Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m. The next Children Issues Committee meeting will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams on Friday, July 18, 2025, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	