

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION NEEDED
Membership Total (43)	1. Dr. Cristina Brito, West Kendall Baptist Hospital (Committee Chair) 2. Tenesha Avent, March of Dimes (Committee Vice Chair) 3. Violet Ryland, DCF 4. Lasonya Rodgers, Humana 5. Jeffrey Hurst, DCF 6. Taylor Roberts, Florida Foster Care Review (FFCR) 7. Teronna Maddox, UM 8. Gilda Ferradaz, DCF 9. Fong Loo, Fit Kids of America 10. Melody Velez, United Healthcare 11. Vanessa Madrazo, NAMI Miami-Dade County 12. Michelle Espinosa, United Way Miami 13. Suecia Mendez Padilla, Sunshine Health 14. Hayly Ojeda, Hope For Miami 15. Helen Vuku, FIU 16. Isabel Afanador, ELC Monroe/Miami-Dade 17. Neseayah McFarlane, Healthy Start Coalition of Miami-Dade (HSCMD) 18. Maria Sol Acosta, Community Care Plan 19. Natalie Anderson, Nicklaus Children's Hospital 20. Julie Katz, Nicklaus Children's Hospital 21. Debi La Belle, The Education Fund 22. Talli Menchion, Easterseals/Early Steps 23. Val Butler, The Women's Fund Miami-Dade 24. Leiann Palma, RHISE at Jackson's The Women's Hospital 25. Dr. Angela-Perla Almodovar, Early Childhood Initiative of America 26. Carla Sabugo, DOH-Miami-Dade WIC Program 27. Tara Pawlikowski, Humana 28. Danielle Leys, Parent to Parent of Miami 29. Sofia Mino, Kristi House 30. Michelle Denise Berkovits, UM 31. Lavegas Engram, Sunshine Health	

CONSORTIUM FOR A HEALTHIER MIAMI-DADE
Children Issues/Oral Health Committee Meeting
Friday, August 15, 2025
10-11:30 a.m. EST

	32. Leah Jayanetti, ICU Baby 33. Kenya Snowden, SASC Health and Wellness 34. Rocio Velazquez, The Children's Movement of Florida 35. Kelsey Jo Evans, Camp Boggy Creek 36. Dana Klein, Gheorg 37. Islamiyat Nancy Adebisi, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County 38. Zadymon Moore, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County 39. Simisola Olowodola, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County 40. Dayamyra Perez Fernandez, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County 41. Chiara Spinzi, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County 42. Candice Schottenloher, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County (Committee Liaison) 43. Vicki Zou, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County	
Welcome and Introductions	The August 2025 monthly meeting of the Children Issues Oral Health Committee Meeting was brought to order by Cristina Brito at 10:05 a.m. All members were welcomed, and introductions were made.	
Approval of Minutes	There was a motion to approve the July 2025 minutes by Isabel Afanador, and the motion was seconded by Jeff Hurst.	
Executive Board Update	The Executive Board update was provided by Dr. Cristina Brito. The Executive Board recently met virtually on Monday, August 11, 2025. The Board had two important presentations by NAMI Miami-Dade County and the Florida Health Justice. The 22nd Annual Consortium Event & Worksite Wellness Awards will be on Friday, September 19th, 2025, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Milander Center for Arts and Entertainment in Hialeah. Registration is required; more details will be provided once registration is open. For sponsorship information, please contact Leyanee Perez (Leyanee.Perez@americanhealthyweight.org) and Kate Edelson (Kate@namimiami.org). The Event Planning Taskforce has been meeting since April to plan the event. If you are interested in being on the Taskforce, let Candice know so you can be added to the listserv. As a reminder, the Board has approved the digital brochure as well as DOH Communications. This is now going to be shared with the Consortium members to invite new members and interested partners to join the Consortium. There were also discussions once approved, to translate in Spanish and Creole. Lastly, the Board also continues the conversation on optimal health and addressing the drivers of health.	
Healthy Baby Taskforce Update	The Healthy Baby Taskforce is a sub-committee of the Children Issues Committee. The Taskforce last met virtually in July. Last meeting, the partners continued the conversation on the current funding landscape and how it is affecting the partners and communities they serve. The Taskforce reviewed the new Florida Healthy Baby FY 25-26 priority areas which will include Well Woman	

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	Care, Maternal Mortality and Morbidity, Infant Mortality, Dental or Oral Care, and Children's Medical Homes. The Taskforce will focus on Infant Mortality and Children's Medical Homes. Later in this meeting, we will further discuss Children's Medical Homes as well as in the Taskforce meeting to further develop their FY 25-26 work plan. The Taskforce today will have a follow up presentation on the Alliance for Infant and Maternal Health (AIM) initiative by Val Butler, Project and Grants Manager, Alliance for Infant and Maternal Health Miami-Dade of The Women's Fund Miami-Dade to share some updates on Alliance for Infant and Maternal Health (AIM) initiative. The Taskforce will meet later today at 12:30 p.m. following Children Issues.	
Previous Action Update Health Observance Updates	The committee continues to review the upcoming quarterly health observances that relate to children's health and well-being. For more updates on upcoming events, please review the Partner Updates section further in the meeting minutes.	
Recognition of Improved Performance Work Plan Success	Dr. Brito highlighted the committee's success of the 2019-2025 work plan in which 45 of 48 committee activities have been met. There are three remaining committee activities that have not been met on the work plan but will be transferred to the new 2025-2030 work plan. The committee took a moment to commend themselves for all of the hard work they have been able to do since the inception of the workplan. It was shared in the next committee meeting, they will review the work plan to see which activities the committee would like to continue over the next 5 years and also develop new activities to focus on building further impact.	
Performance Measures in Need of Improvement (Work Plan Review)	The committee has three remaining work plan activities that are behind. During this meeting, the committee was reminded of the following two work plan activities that need improvement. 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 2025-2030 Children Issues	A high-level recap of the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) Annual Meeting was shared with the Children Issues Committee members. This meeting was hosted at FIU North Wolfe University Center on Monday, June 23, 2025. There was a total of 116 attendees. During this meeting, the Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPPP) assessment results were shared, and community members had the opportunity to vote and discuss the issues	Complete Menti activity for Maternal Child

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Work Plan Development	impacting health and wellness in Miami-Dade County. During this meeting, a total of five priority areas were selected. The new 2025-2030 CHIP Priority Areas will include Access to Care, Chronic Disease, Behavioral & Mental Health, Maternal Child Health, and Healthy Weight/Physical Activity/Nutrition. The new priority areas will assist with the development of the new 2025-2030 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) and the Consortium Committee 5-year work plans. The committee had a discussion on the community concerns related to children's health and wellbeing. Data was also shared during this meeting to evaluate and discuss opportunities for new committee activities. The Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade's Community Engagement and Optimal Health Team facilitated alongside Dr. Brito a Menti activity with the committee members. The committee was able to brainstorm and come up with ideas for Access to Care, Chronic Disease, and Behavioral & Mental Health. During the October meeting, the committee will complete this activity and review Maternal Child Health, and Healthy Weight/Physical Activity/Nutrition areas. The findings from today's meeting will be compiled and reviewed during the November meeting.	Health, and Healthy Weight/Physical Activity/Nutrition at next meeting.
Partner Updates	• Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade: The 22nd Annual Event and Worksite Wellness Awards will be hosted on Friday, September 19, 2025, at the Milander Center. More details will be shared on how to register once event page is live. All Committee members were invited to attend. A reminder was shared on the available Consortium resources. These include the Consortium Directory, Community Event Request (CHER) Form, and the Consortium Membership Form. • DCF: Gilda Ferradaz shared The Children's Trust Expo events were well attended. Jeff Hurst shared updates on his team's current focus of the teacher and administration for Easterseals, Headstart, and the ELC to ensure each of these roles has a good understanding of their responsibilities. • DOH-Miami-Dade WIC: Updates were shared by Carla Sabugo. August is National Breastfeeding Month. The upcoming 14th Annual Breastfeeding Awareness Family Day will be held August 23, 2025, at the Doral Legacy Park Community Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be a lot of exciting activities, giveaways and workshops. Families can sign-up and RSVP here. During this event, there will be recognition by the county and the City of Doral. She shared there are 2,300 registered and currently have over 50 partners part of the event as well as 15 partners on the waitlist. The is the 14th Latch-a-Thon and will kick-off at 10:45 a.m. Rocio Velazquez also highlighted the importance of system wide collaboration through BreastfeedMIAMI, WIC, and La Lecha League. • Easterseals/Early Steps: An update was shared by Talli Menchion. She shared the next playgroup will be tomorrow August 16, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at the Coral Reef library. Flyers will	

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	be sent following meeting. For any questions, please contact Talli Mension at tmention@fl.easterseals.com. • Healthy Start Coalition of Miami-Dade: The next FIMR CAG Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 20, 2025. Meeting details will be shared out with the partners. shared the Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) Substance Exposed Newborn (SEN) NAS/SEN program has been funded again for this fiscal year. This program is intensive care coordination. It's linkage to housing and employment services and it's peer support services. For pregnant and postpartum mothers who are at higher risk of poor outcomes related to substance use. This is a partnership between the Healthy Start Coalition, Miami-Dade, and Thriving Mind South Florida with funding through DCF dollars. Lastly. The Moving Crib Project is currently at South Miami Hospital and if you are interested in being a host site, please contact Neseyah McFarlane. • Hope for Miami – Project Bridge: Hope for Miami hosted their annual Back to School Drive on August 9, 2025. • NAMI Miami-Dade County: Vanessa Madrazo shared the Pathways-to-Hope Conference will be held on Friday, August 22 and Saturday, August 23, 2025, which will bring together clergy, faith leaders, mental health professionals, peers, government officials, youth leaders, funders, and community-based organizations for one shared mission. Registration link was shared. • Kristi House: Sofia Mino shared they hosted The Healing Sanctuary's first-ever Back-to-School Community Open House in Homestead on Saturday, August 9, 2025. They reached over 400 attendees and had over 30 exhibitors. • Sunshine Health: Suecia Mendez Padilla shared a current grant opportunity and upcoming Diaper Distribution on August 26, 2025. Flyers and link were shared. • The Women's Fund Miami-Dade: Val Butler shared the next Alliance for Infant and Maternal Health Miami-Dade (AIM) meeting will be in September. • West Kendall Baptist Hospital: Dr. Brito shared updates on Baby Boot Camp which was hosted on August 9, 2025. Dr. Brito also shared the Taste of West Kendall Donation Drive is currently taking place. This is where we incentivize the donations by sharing out coupon sheets with partners who are providing donations. These donations support Project Up Start students and some non-profits with back-to-school supplies too. Dr. Brito also noted she would be transitioning her role back to the United Way Miami. • United Way Miami: Dr. Brito shared United Way Miami was able to distribute 1,000 backpacks and this year focused on the importance of training and professional development for providers. This was supported through two service events that were hosted.	
Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m. The September meeting will be cancelled due to the hosting of the 22nd Annual Consortium Event & Worksite Wellness Awards on Friday, September 19,	

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	2025. The next Children Issues Committee meeting will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams on Friday, October 17, 2025, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	
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