

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION NEEDED
<p><b>Membership Total (44)</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dr. Cristina Brito, United Way Miami (Committee Chair)</li> <li>2. Tenesha Avent, March of Dimes (Committee Vice Chair and Taskforce Co-Chair)</li> <li>3. Eunice Mesumbe, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County (Committee Liaison)</li> <li>4. Talli Menchion, Easter Seals/Early Steps</li> <li>5. Jeffrey Hurst, Department of Children and Families (DCF)</li> <li>6. Esther Louis, Metro Mommy Agency/ MOMCHA Program</li> <li>7. Stephanie Thomas, City of North Miami</li> <li>8. Gilda Ferradaz, Department of Children and Families</li> <li>9. Catherine Toms, Health Care Without Harm</li> <li>10. Monique Corker, Aetna, CVS Health</li> <li>11. Danielle Leys, Parent to Parent of Miami</li> <li>12. Dr. Philene Toledo, Home Heart Florida</li> <li>13. Karem Rodriguez, Florida Foster Care Review</li> <li>14. Ileana Pino, Miami Dade College (MDC)</li> <li>15. Marie-Carmelle Lindley, Arts A L, Inc</li> <li>16. Alexandra O'Keefe, Girl Scouts of Tropical Florida</li> <li>17. Joyce Granda, Jackson Health System</li> <li>18. Maria Sol Acosta, Community Care Plan</li> <li>19. Elizabeth Sara Bocanegra, CAMAT Program University of Miami</li> <li>20. Leiann Palma, RHISE at Jackson's The Women's Hospital</li> <li>21. Hayly Ojeda, Hope for Miami</li> <li>22. Teronna Maddox, University of Miami Hospital and Clinics</li> <li>23. Julie Katz, Nicklaus Children's Hospital</li> <li>24. Susan Churchill, Nicklaus Children's Hospital</li> <li>25. Dr. Maria Milla, Nicklaus Children's Hospital</li> <li>26. Praveena Saxena, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County</li> <li>27. Michelle D'Ambrosio, Project Bridge (Intern)</li> <li>28. Juliet San Juan, Connect Familias</li> <li>29. Danielle Barratteau, DCF Office of Licensing</li> <li>30. Lina Menendez, Epilepsy Alliance Florida</li> <li>31. Suecia Mendez Padilla, Sunshine Health</li> </ol>	

**CONSORTIUM FOR A HEALTHIER MIAMI-DADE**

Children Issues/Oral Health Committee

Friday, March 20, 2026

10am-11:30a.m. EST



	<p>32. Candace Williams, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County  33. Zadymon Moore, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County  34. Dana Klein, Gheorg  35. Debra Dhaity, Children's Movement Florida  36. Leah Jayanetti, ICU baby  37. Val Butler, AIM -The Women's Fund Miami-Dade  38. Isabel Afanador, Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe  39. Heather Baker, Healthy Start Coalition Miami- Dade (HSCMD)  40. Melody Velez, United Health Care  41. Natalie Anderson, Nicklaus Children's Hospital  42. Raysa Perez, Amigos for Kids  43. Stefanie Gaspard, Liberty Dental Plan  44. Taylor Roberts, Foster Care Review</p>	
Welcome and Introductions	The March 2026 monthly meeting of the Children Issues Oral Health Committee was brought to order by Dr. Cristina Brito at 10:03 a.m. All members were welcomed, and introductions were made.	
Approval of Minutes	There was a motion to approve the Children Issues Committee February 2026 meeting minutes by Isabel Afanador, and the motion was seconded by Dana Klein.	
"Patient Centered Medical Homes." Presentation.	"Patient Centered Medical Homes" presentation by Dr. Maria Milla and Susan Churchill from Nicklaus Children's Hospital. What is the Patient-Centered Medical Home? Why does it matter for our community? How does it improve care for children and families?	Share slide deck with members following the meeting.
Executive Board Update	<p>The executive board recently met in person on Monday, March 9, 2026.  The board had a presentation by Urban Health Partnerships provided by Dr. Andrea Iglesias and Olga Tomasello. Dr. Andrea and Olga provided an overview of their Community-Driven Health Planning Initiative and discussed potentially collaborating with the Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade.  The Board continued the conversation on optimal health and addressing drivers of health. The Board reviewed the Strategic Workplan and discussed reviewing to determine if there were any suggestions or revisions to add. Additionally, the Healthy weight/physical activity/nutrition objectives and strategies will be discussed and built out at next meeting.  Revisions to the Consortium Bylaws were discussed with the inclusion of timeline of requests and approvals needed from the Board and DOH for grant/funding opportunities.</p>	

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	The Board welcomed Lymari Rivera, the Worksite Wellness CO-Chair to Executive Board and Praveena Saxena, the Healthy Start Data Management Program Manager, to the Office of Community Health and Planning.	
Healthy Baby Taskforce Update	<p>The Taskforce last met virtually on Friday, March 20, 2026, right after the Children’s Issues Committee meeting at 12:30 pm. During this meeting, Taskforce engaged in discussions to develop their social media strategic plan. Each partner shared a little bit about what strategies their individual organizations are currently doing in the social media space and their capacity to support some of the work that the Healthy Baby Taskforce is doing to engage their online audience. This is to promote/raise awareness on health observances, community events and resources that could benefit our community. The Black Maternal Health Week (BMHW) was highlighted as Health Observance from April 11 to 17, 2026.</p> <p>In this meeting, members were reminded of the next biannual reporting phase 2 of the FHB/Healthy Baby Taskforce FY 25-26 Work Plan Development, spanning from January 1 to June 30, 2026 due by COB Monday, July 6, 2026. The Taskforce also reviewed their new Florida Healthy Baby FY 25-26 priority areas which include Well Woman 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.</p>	
Previous Action Items	In this meeting, the Children Issues Committee had a presentation on “Patient Centered Medical Homes” presented by Dr. Maria Milla and Susan Churchill from Nicklaus Children’s Hospital. Also, Dr. Cristina Brito shared major updates from the executive board. Healthy Baby Taskforce updates were shared by Tenesha Avent.	Share the final approved 2025-2030 Work Plan to members following the meeting.
2025-2030 Children Issues Work Plan Development	During this meeting, members reviewed their final 2025-2030 Work Plan. There was a motion to approve the 2025-2030 Children Issues/Oral Health Committee Work Plan Development by Gilda Ferradaz, and the motion was seconded by Heather Baker. The final approved Children Issues/Oral Health Committee 2025-2030 Work Plan was also shared with members following the meeting. As a reminder, the 2025-2030 CHIP Priority Areas include Access to Care, Chronic Disease Prevention, Behavioral & Mental Health, Maternal Child Health, and Healthy Weight/Physical Activity/Nutrition.	
Partner Updates	<b>Nicklaus Children’s Hospital:</b> For broader Nicklaus Children’s and Office of Community Health questions, please reach out to the following contacts, Julie Katz- <a href="mailto:julie.katz@nicklaushealth.org">julie.katz@nicklaushealth.org</a> , Dr. Maria Milla- <a href="mailto:maria.milla@nicklaushealth.org">maria.milla@nicklaushealth.org</a> , Nicklaus Children’s Pediatric Care Center - 305-669-6505.	Share Partner Updates email to Members following the meeting.

**Sunshine Health:** Suecia Padilla shared updates as they have every first Wednesday of the month their Breastfeed support in collaboration with the Women, Infant and Children's (WIC) program at their Community Connection Center in the welcome room located at 9552 SW 160 St. Miami FI 33157. Also, their next diaper distribution will be on Tuesday, April 28, 2026, at Noon (12 pm).

**Healthy Start Coalition of Miami- Dade (HSCMD):**

- Next Fetal Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) Community Action Group (CAG) Meeting will be on Thursday, March 26, 2026, at 10:00 am. FIMR Project of Miami-Dade County works to better understand the issues associated with fetal and infant mortality and to develop strategies that improve local perinatal systems of care. Email Heather Baker at [hbaker@hscmd.org](mailto:hbaker@hscmd.org), to be added to the FIMR CAG email list. FIMR CAG registration link: [https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/q07gKWILSDS9ZvSM\\_HYy1w](https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/q07gKWILSDS9ZvSM_HYy1w).
- Updates on their moving crib project which is a community initiative to increase awareness of infant safe sleep practices. They recently created a trilingual poster and brochure for this initiative. Also, the rotating moving crib project which featured at the Jackson North Medical center from the month of February and part of March during the Patient Safety Week will now be featured at three WIC clinics for the remainder of the Fiscal year 2026. Afterwards, it will be available again starting in July 2027. If any partners are interested in hosting the moving crib to please contact Heather Baker at [HBaker@hscmd.org](mailto:HBaker@hscmd.org).
- Also, their team Dad coaches were invited to host a breakout session during the City of North Miami's Second Annual Black Maternal Health Symposium on Saturday, April 11,2026.

**The Women's Fund Miami-Dade (WFMD):** Upcoming WFMD Impact Collaborative - From Risk to Resilience: Maternal Health and Hypertension Insights on Thursday, April 9, 2026. RSVP: <https://womensfundmiami.org/event/april-impact-collaborative-from-risk-to-resilience-maternal-health...>

**University of Miami:** The Child and Adolescent Mood and Anxiety Treatment (CAMAT) Program at the University of Miami, offers free and low-cost mental health services for youth. Learn more here: <https://camat.psy.miami.edu>.

**March of Dimes South Florida:** In partnership with Memorial Healthcare System, March of Dimes South Florida invites you to the "Healthy Nutrition During Pregnancy" webinar

featuring Dr. Shery Goril on Tuesday, March 31, 2026, from 12-1 p.m. Register [HERE](#). To order FREE Low Dose Big Benefits educational materials- [Low Dose Big Benefits Consumer Education Materials](#). Save the date for their upcoming March for Babies' event at Zoo Miami on Saturday, May 16, 2026. Flyers were shared.

**Florida Department of Health (FDOH):** FDOH is now offering a Telehealth Maternity Care Program to prenatal and postpartum services and care for women throughout their pregnancy and up to one year after birth at no cost. View link [Telehealth Maternity Care - Florida Department of Health](#). Jackson Memorial Hospital is the provider who will be offering the services locally.

**Florida Department of Children and Families:** April is Child Abuse Prevention Month - Get free educational materials at [Order Materials | PreventChildAbuseFL](#).

**Metro Mommy Agency/ MOMCHA Program:**

- Coming up is the Black Maternal Health Week, happening annually from April 11 to 17 of 2026. If hosting any events, please list them in their publication through the SoFlo Black Maternal Health Week Guide 2026 link by Tuesday, March 31, 2026 - <https://form.jotform.com/260744339553058>.
- During the upcoming months, Metro Mommy Agency will be hosting their mentorship meetups on the fourth Saturday of the month. This event will create a space for their doulas to have access to wellness activities that will help to calm their central nervous system and teach their clients also how to do the same. They invite community partners who would like to sponsor that event to contact Esther Louis at [metromommyagency@gmail.com](mailto:metromommyagency@gmail.com) and also connect with her on LinkedIn [Here](#).

**Tobacco- Free Workgroup Committee (TFW):** TFW shared updates from the University of Miami Area Health Education Center (AHEC) as they are conducting a gift card incentive program specifically for tobacco users who enroll and attend their Group Quit sessions. The program will run until the end of the Fiscal year, June 30, 2026. Flyer was shared with members for more details.

**United Way Miami:** Baptist Health recently awarded United Way Center for Financial Stability a grant to help specifically families who have medical bills and prescription medication expenses. They can assist up to \$500 in medical bills and up to \$1500 in Social

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	<p>Determinants of Health (SDOH). Awaiting approval. Please contact the Center for Financial Stability at 3056467171.</p> <p><b>Other Helpful Resources Shared in Committee Meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade Invitation to Join. To become a member, please complete the membership form <a href="#">here</a>. To learn more, check out the Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade website at <a href="https://www.healthymiamidade.org/">https://www.healthymiamidade.org/</a></li> <li>• Miami diaper bank- <a href="https://www.miamidiaperbank.com/">https://www.miamidiaperbank.com/</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Home   Tree of Life Parenting Center   United States</a></li> <li>• Jackson's Telehealth Maternity Care program in Miami Dade - <a href="#">Telehealth Maternity Care Program   Jackson Health System</a></li> </ul>	
<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>The meeting adjourned at 11:24 a.m. The next meeting will be hosted <b>virtually</b> through Microsoft Teams on Friday, April 17, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.</p>	<p>Create next meeting invite and send reminder.</p>