

CONSORTIUM FOR A HEALTHIER MIAMI-DADE

Children Issues/Oral Health Committee

Friday, July 17, 2026

10am-11:30a.m. EST

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION NEEDED
Membership Total (42)	1. Dr. Cristina Brito, United Way Miami (Committee Chair) 2. Tenesha Avent, March of Dimes (Co-Chair) 3. Eunice Mesumbe, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County (Committee Liaison) 4. Lilia Bandrich, United health Care 5. Alexandra Davis, Healthy Start Coalition Miami- Dade (HSCMD) 6. Carla Sabugo, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County WIC 7. Melody A Espinozacordova, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County 8. Dr. Liz Bocanegra, University of Miami CAMAT Program 9. Raysa Perez, Amigos for Kids 10. Danielle Barratteau, DCF Office of Licensing 11. Jeffrey Hurst, Department of Children and Families (DCF) 12. Julie Katz, Nicklaus Children's Hospital 13. Praveena Saxena, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County 14. Zadymon Moore, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County 15. Val Butler, AIM -The Women's Fund Miami-Dade 16. Lorie, Cheryl A, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County WIC 17. Michelle Espinosa, United Way Miami 18. Violet R Ryland, Department of Children and Families (DCF) 19. Ileana Vallejo, Early Learning Coalition Miami- Dade 20. Candace M Williams, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County 21. Rob Collins, Miami Foundation 22. Lina Menendez, Epilepsy Alliance Florida 23. Maria Sol Acosta, Community Care Plan 24. Debra Dhaity, The Children's Movement Florida 25. Dana Klein, Gheorg 26. Natasha Patricia Lawson, University of Miami 27. Talli Mention, Easter Seals/Early Steps 28. Marena Bajo, Great Dental plans 29. Christelle Cesare, RHISE at Jackson's The Women's Hospital 30. Dr. Rebecca Bulotsky Shearer, University of Miami – The Ideas Consortium 31. Dr. Victoria Orrego Dunleavy, University of Miami	

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	32. Andrea Hickson, NICU Alumni 33. Sandra P Echeverry-Varona, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County 34. Cindy Deroy, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County 35. Ruth-Ann Bennett, Overtown OCYC 36. Keyashden Simmons, Vizcaya 37. Nicole Bortnik, The Chat Lab 38. Teronna Maddox, University of Miami 39. Leonor Auson, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County 40. Ana Gabriela Robleto, University of Miami 41. Suecia Mendez Padilla, Sunshine Health 42. Dayamyra Perez Fernandez, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County	
Welcome and Introductions	The July 2026 monthly meeting of the Children Issues Oral Health Committee was brought to order by Dr. Cristina Brito at 10:04 a.m. All members were welcomed, and introductions were made.	
Approval of Minutes	There was a motion to approve the Children Issues Committee May 2026 meeting minutes by Tenesha Avent, and the motion was seconded by Jeffrey Hurst.	
"Jackson's Telehealth Maternity Care program in Miami Dade" Presentation	"Jackson's Telehealth Maternity Care program in Miami Dade" presented by Christelle Cesare from RHISE at Jackson's The Women's Hospital. Following the presentation, there was a Q&A discussion on how committee members could support this program.	Share presentation slide deck with members.
Executive Board Update	The Executive Board held their in-person meeting on Monday, June 8, 2026, and last met virtually on Monday, July 13, 2026. The Board continued the conversations on optimal health and addressed the drivers of health. Also, the Board continued to discuss potential impacts of the important legislative updates and proposed solutions. In addition, the Consortium website now has the updated 2026 Electronic Form Request under "Forms". However, updates to the Consortium website are currently on hold due to the transition of the webmaster from the agency. DOH-Miami-Dade has received updated directives from the state and is currently navigating some of the changes during the new fiscal year. Shared also were highlights of the Cultivating Care Community Fair Wellness Day at the Grove and the Age Friendly Initiative- Community Gathering held on Sunday, June 28, 2026, at Oak Grove Park.	

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Healthy Baby Taskforce Update	The Healthy Baby Taskforce met virtually on Friday, July 17, 2026, through Microsoft Teams following the Children Issues Committee meeting at 12:30 pm. During this meeting, they had a presentation on “The Honeycomb House” organization and highlights of their Maternal and Infant Health Fair held on Saturday, May 30, 2026, by Eliana Ramos. Taskforce also continued discussions on their social media engagement efforts to uplift monthly health observances. Report 2 of the FHB/Healthy Baby Taskforce FY 25-26 Work Plan spanning from <i>January 1 to June 30, 2026, has been completed and was submitted to the State on Monday, July 13, 2026.</i> Taskforce will begin developing their new work plan for FY26-27.	
Previous Action Items	The Children Issues Committee met virtually on Friday, July 17, 2026, through Microsoft Teams. In this meeting, Dr. Cristina Brito shared major updates from the executive board. Healthy Baby Taskforce updates were shared by Tenesha Avent. The committee continued conversations about contributions to the 2025-2030 work plan. Dr. Cristina Brito shared major highlights on the Florida Kids Count Data profile for 2026 compiled by the Annie Casey Foundation and updates on the new Spectrum Alert. In addition, Tenesha Avent reminded members of swimming vouchers offered to families that the County provides to prevent drowning. Also, members were encouraged to submit monthly articles for the consortium newsletters.	
Next Steps	Develop a structured monthly reporting survey designed to collect member contributions and updates to the progress of the 2025-2030 work plan.	Create survey link to share with members monthly.
2025-2030 Children Issues Work Plan Indicators	• By September 30, 2030, the committee will collaborate to organize presentations on access to health care resources. • By December 30, 2027, the Children Issues/Oral Health Committee and Healthy Baby Taskforce will increase the number of medical partnerships with pediatric providers and children's medical homes in Miami-Dade County from 0 to 1. • By September 30, 2030, the Children Issues/Oral Health Committee will collaborate and connect partners to share resources and support efforts to access health care and community-based services in the community. • By September 30, 2030, the Children Issues Committee will host and/or support a minimum of one community event to educate on healthy communities, nutrition, and physical activity. (e.g. cooking demonstration for awareness months, “Know Your Numbers” Pop-Up Health Stations: Free checks for blood pressure, A1C, cholesterol, BMI, and waist, nutrition tailored education).	

New Business	A presentation from the Tobacco Free Workgroup (TFW).	Follow up on presentation materials.
Partner Updates	Reducing Hypertension in Postpartum Women Through Interventions and Supportive Education (RHISE): Christelle Cesare from RHISE at Jackson's The Women's Hospital gave a presentation on Jackson's Telehealth Maternity Care program in Miami Dade. Here is the coverage map: https://www.floridahealth.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Telehealth_Provider_coverage_10212025.pdf Child and Adolescent Mood and Anxiety Treatment (CAMAT) Program: Dr. Liz Bocanegra shared the CAMAT website for referrals (free mental health services for kids/teens): https://camat.psy.miami.edu/index.html Healthy Start Coalition Miami- Dade (HSCMD): They will be hosting a Prematurity Symposium on Wednesday, November 18, 2026, at the FIU Modesto campus. Currently, they are planning a program with presentations regarding breastfeeding, causes and prevention of prematurity, preeclampsia and high-risk pregnancies. Also, they are in the process of developing sponsorship opportunities for anyone interested in supporting the symposium. More details to come so please save the date. DOH-Miami-Dade Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program: Carla Sabugo shared on WIC's upcoming 15th Annual Breastfeeding Awareness Family Day Event on August 22, 2026, at Doral Legacy Park. Please reserve here. Updated flyers will be shared with members. For WIC Appointment call 786-336-1300 and WIC Breastfeeding Helpline 786-336-1336. For WIC eligibility information, please visit this link. For questions on WIC enrollment, partnership or outreach events, please email carla.sabugo@flhealth.gov. United Way Miami: Dr. Cristina Brito share information on the Florida Kids Count Data profile for 2026 compiled by the Annie Casey Foundation. Please visit links here and here. Also shared were updates on the new Spectrum Alert. Visit link here to learn more. Upcoming is the Children's Movement Virtual Round Tables- First 1,000 Days Florida. For more details, please see link. United Way Miami has an open role for Program Officer (Education). See job description details here.	Share Partner Updates email to Members following the meeting.

	The Children's Movement Florida: Debra Dhaity shared information regarding The Children's Movement Florida's 2026 Legislative Debrief. Please see link for more. Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF): Jeffrey Hurst shared DCF now has only six licensed Miami-Dade County Public School (MDCPS) sites approved with an exempt status to serve three-year-olds with early learning education. Also shared was that the Superintendent of Miami-Dade County Public Schools offered some of their available space to providers or early learning educators to support this initiative. Florida Department of Health (FDOH): The Community Health Action Team (CHAT) with the Office of Community Health and Planning (OCHP) shared on their Journey to Wellness Rx prescription. See link here. March of Dimes: Upcoming is their mom and baby Wellness event on Saturday, August 8, 2026, at the Simply Healthcare storefront in Hialeah. Diapers and healthy food will be distributed. Flyers are forthcoming. For more details email Tenesha Avent at TAvent@marchofdimes.org. The Ideas Consortium: Dr. Rebecca Shearer shared they have updated findings from their parent kindergarten community survey that includes a lot of health-related information. More details will be shared during an upcoming meeting. Overtown Children and Youth Coalition (OCYC): OCYC operates a maternal mobile clinic in partnership with The Southern Birth Justice Network (SBJN). They host five (5) mobile unit stagings monthly at the following three (3) locations: the Lotus House, the Overtown Youth Center and the Camillus Health Concern. Please refer anyone in need of those services to one of their staging unit locations. Other Helpful Resources Shared in Committee Meeting Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade Invitation to Join. To become a member, please complete the membership form here. To learn more, check out the Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade website at https://www.healthymiamidade.org/ Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade Community Health Event Request form: https://www.healthymiamidade.org/forms/community-health-event-request-form.html#gsc.tab=0	
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Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m. The next meeting will be hosted In-person on Friday, August 21, 2026, at United Way Miami (Ryder Room) from 10:00 a.m. to Noon (12:00 p.m.).	Create next meeting invite and send reminder.
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