

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION NEEDED
Member Attendees	1. Rose Anderson, Larkin University* 2. Valentina Ayala, Alliance for Aging, Inc. 3. Elizabeth Bezos, MD Senior Placement 4. Cristina Brito, United Way Miami 5. Rebeca Capogreco, WellMed Charitable Foundation* 6. Martine Charles, Alliance for Aging, Inc. – <i>Presenter & Host</i> 7. Marla Cocalis, StudentsCare* 8. Rob Collins, The Miami Foundation* 9. Olivia DeCastro, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County* 10. Sabine Dessources, Dessources Therapeutic Touch, Inc. 11. Maria Diaz, MD Senior Placement Solutions 12. Nattaliah Earle, Urban Health Partnerships – <i>Vice-Chair</i> 13. Witson Faustin, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County* 14. Mariangelli “Angie” Fernandez, Miami-Dade State Attorney Office 15. Mayra Garcia, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County 16. Vanessa Garcia Azzam, Miami-Dade County 17. Natalie Gray, Western Atlantic University School of Medicine* 18. Natalie Herradon, Jewish Community Services of South Florida 19. Tia Irish, Positive Eyes – <i>Guest</i> 20. Enid Lorenzo, MD Senior Placement Solutions – <i>Guest</i> 21. Yanet Marino, Jewish Community Services of South Florida 22. Lisa Mele, Alliance for Aging, Inc./Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC) – <i>Guest</i> 23. Lina Menendez, Epilepsy Alliance Florida* 24. Barbara (Barby) Morales, United Senior Consultants 25. Dayamyra Perez Fernandez, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade* 26. Louisenie Remy, Jackson Health Roxcy Bolton Rape Treatment Center* 27. Lilliana Rey, Alliance for Aging, Inc./SHINE 28. Delia Romero, Interim Healthcare of Miami*	

	29. Lily Suazo, Jewish Community Services of South Florida 30. Alecia Tramel-McIntyre, Positive People Network Inc. 31. Laurie Varona, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County* 32. Kristen Weddle, First Quality Medical Supplies, Inc. *attended virtually	
Welcome and Introductions	Chair, Dennise Nicola, was unable to attend the meeting due to an unexpected circumstance. In her absence, Vice-Chair, Nattaliah Earle, led the meeting. Attendee introductions were done during <i>Partner Updates</i>, and virtual attendees were encouraged to put their contact information and any organizational updates/announcements in the chat. The in-person/hybrid meeting was hosted at Alliance for Aging, Inc., 760 NW 107 Avenue, Suite 112, Miami, FL 33172 with virtual join option via Microsoft Teams made available for those unable to attend in person. The meeting started at 2:02 p.m..	
Review and Approval of Minutes	The minutes from the last meeting on July 28, 2026, were reviewed by the Committee members in attendance. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Elizabeth B. and seconded by Alicia T-M. The minutes were approved unanimously without corrections.	
Previous Action Items(s)	• <i>By September 30, 2030, the Elder Issues Committee will have a minimum of four presentations per year on key health topics for older adults including best practices, model programs, and services for this population and/or their caregivers. (Access to Care, activity #1, page 1)</i> • <i>By September 30, 2030, the Elder Issues Committee will increase education on mental health conditions for older adults... (Mental Health, activity #11, page 4)</i> • <i>By September 30, 2030, the Elder Issues Committee will host and/or support social activity/event(s) for older adults at senior living facility(s) or other gathering sites (e.g., meal sites). (Mental Health, activity #12, page 4)</i>	Action Item(s): • Continue to plan hosted and/or supported... social activity/event(s) for older adults at senior living facility(s) or other gathering sites (e.g., meal sites). (Mental Health, activity #12, page 4)

Executive Board (EB) Update	Vice-Chair, Nattaliah E. provided the updates from the last EB meeting held on 8/10/2026, including: • The Board continues the conversation on optimal health and addressing the drivers of health. • The Board is awaiting developing topics from the 2027 Legislative Session. • Updates to the Consortium website are currently on hold due to the transition of the webmaster from the agency. • The Board welcomed Candace Williams, the Government Operations Consultant III as she will now oversee the Optimal Health Team and Zadymon Moore, the Health Education Program Manager who will supervise the CET Team, to the committee.	
Legislative Report	Vice-Chair, Nattaliah E. provided legislative updates related to older adult population, and invited others to share their own updates and/or impacts to their organizations. Discussion included the potential impact of legislature regarding property tax reduction which could in turn impact funding of public services (e.g., parks, STS transportation, home care services, etc.), as well as, changes to SNAP benefits.	
Presentation: <i>The Alliance for Aging Delivers</i>	EIC partner and member, Martine Charles, MPH, Director, Planning and Population Health, Alliance for Aging, Inc., gave a 15-minute presentation, <i>The Alliance for Aging Delivers</i>. The presentation highlighted programs and services offered by the Alliance. The goal is to <i>provide information and access to quality services for older adults that help keep them at home and in their communities</i>. The Alliance connects clients to services for meals, recreation, adult day care, personal care, legal help, transportation and more. They offer free health and wellness community programs for older adults in English and Spanish, such as, Tai Ji Quan: Moving for Better Balance, Fit & Strong, Chronic Disease / Diabetes Self-Management, and Live, Learn, Grow. For additional information and programming, visit the Alliance for Aging website, www.allianceforaging.org. Along with their website, the following resources were shared:	Action Item(s): • Email your suggestion(s) for future Elder Issues Committee meeting presentations to: DNicola@miamijewishhealth.org, Nattaliah@urbanhp.org, & Mayra.Garcia@flhealth.gov.

	Main phone number: 305-670-6500; Elder Helpline: 305-670-HELP; Toll Free: 1-800-96-ELDER (35337); SHINE: 305-671-6356; office Hours: 8 am to 5 pm, M-F. With the consent of the presenter, a follow-up email was sent to all EIC members after the meeting on 8/26/26 with the presenter's contact information, and presentation slides.	
Performance Measures in Need of Improvement (Work Plan Review)	Today's presentation by Martine Charles, MPH, Director, Planning and Population Health, Alliance for Aging, Inc., will be reported towards the following work plan activity(s): • <i>By September 30, 2030, the Elder Issues Committee will have a minimum of four presentations per year on key health topics for older adults including best practices, model programs, and services for this population and/or their caregivers. (Access to Care, activity #1, page 1)</i> Vice-Chair Nattaliah E. also led follow-up discussion on the following measure to plan a social activity/event for older adults: • <i>By September 30, 2030, the Elder Issues Committee will host and/or support social activity/event(s) for older adults at senior living facility(s) or other gathering sites (e.g., meal sites). (Mental Health, activity #12, page 4)</i> These were the suggestions discussed at today's meeting on August 25, 2026: • The following two events are confirmed: ○ Wed. Sept. 23, 2026, at South Miami Senior Center (congregate meal site), set-up 10:30 AM, event time 11 AM to 12 PM. ○ Thurs. Oct. 22, 2026, at North Miami Beach Library, set-up 9:30 AM, event time 10 AM to 11 AM. • Plans include having a fun, engaging activity for the seniors already gathered at the facilities identified (e.g., educational bingo); give away prizes for the seniors donated by partner organizations; have one resource	

	table where participating organizations can place their information for older adults to self-access. • Angie F. from the State Attorney's Office shared details about an educational BINGO game themed on Scam Prevention for older adults. She mentioned that she will share the BINGO card and facilitator guide with questions on common scams. She said that she can facilitate the activity on September 23rd event at South Miami Senior Center, but may not be available for the second planned event on October 22nd. • Melina Sosa, Miami Market President, Senior Tech Connect had been invited to attend this meeting, but was not present. In last month's July meeting, EIC member, Angelique Suarez, Senior Tech Connect, had said they could do <i>a Tech Bingo class and bring prizes for seniors</i> and in follow-up email, had introduced us to her colleague, Melina Sosa to facilitate the Bingo activity. <u>Post-meeting note</u>: on 9/2/26, Committee liaison, Mayra G. spoke to Melina Sosa on phone and sent f/u email to confirm offer to facilitate <i>Phrase Tech Bingo</i> at next social activity event planned for Oct. 22nd event at North Miami Beach Library. The following additional suggestions were discussed at previous EIC meetings: July 28, 2026: • The following two events are confirmed: ◦ Wed. Sept. 23, 2026, at South Miami Senior Center (congregate meal site), set-up 10:30 AM, event time 11 AM to 12 PM. ◦ Thurs. Oct. 22, 2026, at North Miami Beach Library, set-up 9:30 AM, event time 10 AM to 11 AM. • Plans include having a fun, engaging activity for the seniors already gathered at the facilities identified (e.g., educational bingo); give away prizes for the seniors donated by partner organizations; have one resource	
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	table where participating organizations can place their information for older adults to self-access. • Dennise N. sent targeted emails to EIC members who had expressed interest and/or suggested activities for the social events during previous meetings or via follow-up email. • Dennise N. will draft a recap after today's meeting to send to all EIC members for any other suggestions and/or volunteers to participate. Angelique Suarez, Senior Tech Connect, shared in the chat that they can participate in person and <i>do a Tech Bingo class and bring prizes for seniors.</i> June 30, 2026 • Karaoke activity • Music and movement activity suggested by Rose A. • Coffee and Doughnut Social, Ice Cream Social, ESL classes to bring engagement suggested by Fabimaelsie J. • Angelique Suarez with Senior Tech Connect offered a class on digital scam prevention and scams targeting seniors. • Lilliana Rey, SMP Specialist, Alliance for Aging, offered to do a presentation on Medicare Fraud; contact: reyl@allianceforaging.org; phone 305-670-6500, x11268. • Rebecca C. of WellMed Charitable Foundation offered her senior site location for future events • Sheila Gutierrez offered possible Vizcaya membership giveaway, and said she could facilitate an sensory experience on a garden topic (e.g., make an herbal tea bag) May 26, 2026 • Nattaliah provided updates that the Miami-Dade Age-Friendly Initiative Wellness Day at Oak Grove Park on Sunday, June 28, 2026, from 8AM to 3PM (TBA), has sufficient community partners committed to participate at	
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	the event, however, EIC could support by helping promote the event for older adults and their families. • Dennise encouraged members to put their name & organization in the chat if they would like to be part of an EIC hosted and/or support social activity/event(s) for older adults at senior living facility(s) or other gathering sites. The following six members expressed interest during the meeting in the chat: • Lymari Rivera, Mount Sinai Eldercare PACE, lymari.rivera@msmc.com. • Sheila Gutierrez, Vizcaya Museum and Gardens, sheila.gutierrez@vizcaya.org. • Martine Charles, Alliance for Aging, charlesm@allianceforaging.org. • Mariangelli (Angie) Fernandez, State Attorney's Office, fernang@MiamiSAO.com. • Lissette Becerra (guest, not a registered member), SurfMed, lbecerra@surfmed.com. • Blanca Ceballos, United HomeCare, bceballos@unitedhomecare.com; can support with information for seniors and their family caregivers regarding the GUIDE and ADI programs. • Rose Anderson, Larkin University, randerson@larkin.edu emailed her interest in becoming "more involved in future initiatives and community activities that support older adults and caregivers." • Dennise suggested sending a list of potential places where we could host such an event so the interested members can choose. April 28, 2026 • Cristina Brito with the United Way of Miami, and Co-Chair of the Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade (Consortium) suggested the EIC could support an event being organized by Miami-Dade Age-Friendly Initiative for a Wellness Day at Oak Grove Park on Sunday, June 28, 2026, from 8AM to 3PM (TBA), along with support of Food & Nutrition for All and	
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	the Consortium Executive Board. The event will feature a food giveaway, and partner organizations could promote their programs and services via tabling. It was agreed that this event would be an effective way to provide some type of social activity for older adults already gathered in one location. • Jennifer DeGruccio said the Parkinson's Foundation would be <i>happy to help promote and participate</i> this event and could <i>do an exercise demo or a morning stretch</i>. Suggested <i>each vendor should be asked to donate a gift card, so it helps you have raffle items</i>. • Dennise suggested drafting a survey to email to EIC member listserv to collect ideas and sponsor organizations to help with food, volunteers, raffle prizes, etc. March 31, 2026 • Host event(s) at ○ County's congregate meal sites at Senior Centers (Susan H., NAMI Miami-Dade County). ○ Arcola Lakes Senior Center, 8401 NW 14 Ave, Miami, FL 33147, operated by MDPROS (Nattaliah E., UHP). ○ Miami Lakes City Hall (Anna O., Right at Home Miami Lakes); provided contact: Rosario Navarro, 786-417-5996, Rrass89@aol.com. ○ Sculpture Garden for older adults in partnership with Miami Design District could host; they have activities, like yoga & art in the park, or partner presentations; English, Spanish & Haitian Creole (Carmen Ramos-Watson B/Adaptable). • Possible activities suggested: ○ Presentations on Medicare Fraud Prevention by Lilliana Rey, Alliance for Aging; could host a raffle for a few seniors of promotional items.	
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Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 25, 2026

In person/hybrid Microsoft Teams 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

	○ Miami Dementia Care & Cure Initiative Taskforce is hosting a 1-hour Memory Café at Aventura Branch of MDPLS in May; Alliance would like to participate in planning (Martine Charles, Alliance for Aging). • Updates on vaccines & any aspect of vaccination by Gordon M. Dickenson, M.D., UM School of Medicine.	
Recognition of Improved Performance	• 32 total attendees at virtual monthly meeting on 7/28/26 • Mental health for older adults presentation by StudentsCare addressing social isolation and loneliness through intergenerational relationships on 7/28/26	
Reminders	• Next monthly meeting will be virtual on Tuesday, September 29, 2026, 2:00-3:00 p.m. via Microsoft Teams. • Remaining 2026 monthly meetings: ○ Virtual meeting on Tues., October 27 at 2 p.m. ○ November and December meetings to be cancelled • Join the Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade online at www.healthymiamidade.org/membership, and/or share this invite with others who may be interested in participating.	Action Item(s): • The Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade is a collaboration between the Florida Department of Health and community partners/organizations promoting health in Miami-Dade County; register to become a member for free online: https://www.healthymiamidade.org/membership/.
Partner Updates	• Presenter: Martine Charles, MPH, Director, Planning and Population Health, Alliance for Aging, Inc., charlesm@allianceforaging.org; visit website: www.AllianceforAging.org; Main phone: 305-670-6500; Elder Helpline: 305-670-HELP; Toll Free: 1-800-96-ELDER (35337); SHINE: 305-671-6356; office hours: 8 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday. • Rose Anderson, Assistant Professor & Director of Community Outreach, Larkin University-PA Program, randerson@larkin.edu, 754-777-2642.	Action Item(s): • EIC members who are subject matter specialists in healthy lifestyles and health promoting topics for older adult population are asked to volunteer to submit written article and/or social media

- Valentina Ayala, Alliance for Aging, Inc., shared *Aging Well Free Health & Wellness Community Programs* flyer; call 305-671-1276 for additional info.
- Elizabeth Bezos, Chief Administrative Officer, MD Senior Placement Solutions, elizabeth@mdseniorplacement.com.
- Cristina Brito, Senior Director, Community Impact, United Way Miami, Britoc@unitedwaymiami.org; also, the Co-Chair of the Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade's Executive Board, and the Chair of the Children Issues Committee.
- Rebeca Capogreco, WellMed Charitable Foundation, rcapogreco@wellmed.net, 786-257-5856.
- Martine Charles, Director Planning and Population Health, Alliance for Aging, Inc., charlesm@allianceforaging.org; for information about older adult programs, email Programs@AllianceforAging.org.
- Marla Cocalis, StudentsCare, nonprofit that trains college students to volunteer with isolated seniors; Marla@Students-Care.org.
- Rob Collins, The Miami Foundation, 305-357-2088, rcollins@miamifoundation.org; shared upcoming Nov. 19th *Give Miami Day* online link <http://www.givemiamiday.org> so nonprofits can register and/or update their profile for fundraising; for questions, contact givemiamiday@miamifoundation.org.
- Olivia DeCastrom Health Services Representative, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County, olivia.decastro@flhealth.gov, 786-732-8860.
- Jennifer De Gruccio, Community Education & Outreach, Parkinson's Foundation, www.parkinson.org/florida, jdegruccio@parkinson.org.
- Sabine Dessources, LMT MA#44065, owner of Dessources Therapeutic Touch, Inc., dessources.therapeutic@gmail.com, 786-227-0614; shared they provide compassionate touch massage for elderly, and skincare services (mobile).
- Maria Diaz, MD Senior Placement Solutions, maria@mdseniorplacement.com.

postings for 2026 calendar year; please confirm your interest, topic suggestions via email to liaison: Mayra.Garcia@FLHealth.gov.

Written submissions are *due by 15th of month prior to publish month*.

- Nattaliah Earle, Collective Impact Manager, Urban Health Partnerships (UHP), nattaliah@urbanhp.org, 786-412-0469.
- Witson Faustin, Health Services Representative, Office of Community Health & Planning, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County, Witson.Faustin2@flhealth.gov, 786-732-8863.
- Angie Fernandez, PIO Community Outreach, Office of the State Attorney Katherine Fernandez Rundle, www.miamisao.com, 305-547-0724.
- Mayra Garcia, Community Liaison for the Elder Issues Committee (EIC)/Senior Community Health Nursing Supervisor, Office of Community Health & Planning, FL Department of Health in Miami-Dade County, Mayra.Garcia@FLHealth.gov; shared the following resource and event info:
 - EIC trilingual *Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Community Resources* available for download online [here](#). This handout includes the 10 early warning signs of dementia and community resources.
 - *HIV & Aging Day Luncheon* on Friday, September 18, 2026, 11:30AM at Senior Planet.
- Vanessa Garcia Azzam, Program Director, Miami-Dade County Elder Affairs Advisory Board; vanessa.azzam@miamidade.gov.
- Natalie Gray, Pharm.D., Western Atlantic University School of Medicine, NGray@wausm.education, 214-532-2713.
- Natalie Herradon, Jewish Community Services of South Florida (JCS), Nherradon@JCSFL.org, 786-505-3125; JCS provides services for seniors both in congregate and in-home settings, case management support, mental health counseling, and 211/988 Contact center.
- Tia Irish, Positive Eyes.
- Enid Lorenzo, MD Senior Placement Solutions, Enid@MDSeniorPlacement.com.
- Yanet Marino, Jewish Community Services of S. Florida, ymarino@jcsfl.org.
- Lisa Mele, Alliance for Aging, Inc./Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC).

	• Lina Menendez, Community Resource Specialist, Epilepsy Alliance Florida, LMenendez@eafla.org. • Barbara (Barby) Morales, President, United Senior Consultants, barby.m@unitedseniorconsultants.com. • Dayamyra Perez Fernandez, Health Services Representative, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County; shared information about the Journey to Wellness Rx Prescription Pads Request Form Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade. • Louisenie Remy, Roxcy Bolton Rape Treatment Center, Louisenie.remy@jhsMiami.org; call the Helpline for more information: 24/7 Helpline: 305-585-RAPE (7273). • Lilliana Rey, Senior Medicare Patrol Specialist, SHINE, 305-786-1947, 305-670-6500 x11268, ReyL@AllianceForAging.org. • Delia Romero, Business Development Manager, Interim Healthcare for Miami, dromero@interimhealthcare.com. • Lily Suazo, Senior Services Program Administrator, Jewish Community Services of South Florida, lsuazo@jcsfl.org. • Alecia Tramel-McIntyre, CEO, Positive People Network, Inc., positivepeoplenetwork11@gmail.com. • Laurie Varona, Tobacco Prevention Program, Florida Department of Health Miami-Dade County, Laurie.Varona@flhealth.gov. • Kristen Weddle, Administrator, First Quality Medical Supplies, Inc., Kristen@Fqmedical.com.	
Adjournment	Vice-Chair, Nattaliah E. adjourned the meeting at 3:20 p.m..	
Next Meeting	The next Elder Issues Committee meeting will be held virtually on Tuesday, September 29, 2026, 2:00-3:00 p.m. via Microsoft Teams and will feature a presentation about Suicide Awareness for Older Adults by Rev. Lisa LeSueur Suicide Prevention Initiative Coordinator, NAMI Miami-Dade County.	