



**ELDER ISSUES COMMITTEE/
MAYOR'S INITIATIVE ON HEALTHY AGING AND LIVABILITY**

Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 27, 2024
Microsoft Teams



TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION NEEDED
Members/Attendees	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. George D. Akeim, University of Miami MD/MPH intern – <i>Guest</i> 2. Marjorie Aloni, Tri County Senior Resource Referral Network – <i>Chair</i> 3. Vivian Arias, Vi at Aventura 4. Tara Auclair, United Way Miami 5. Carmen Baker, Miami-Dade Public Library System 6. Cindy Brown, JCS/Lambda Living 7. Martine Charles, Alliance for Aging, Inc. 8. Nattaliah Earle, Urban Health Partnerships 9. Witson Faustin, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County 10. Mariangelli “Angie” Fernandez, Miami-Dade State Attorney Office 11. Trudy Gaillard, Florida International University 12. Frances Garcia, Miami-Dade Fire Rescue 13. Mayra Garcia, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County 14. Susan O. Holtzman, NAMI Miami – <i>Vice-Chair</i> 15. Luisana Hung Salazar, Assistance to the Elderly, Inc 16. Yvette Martinez, AARP 17. Luis Moreno, Epilepsy Alliance of Florida 18. Gloria Orlandi-Kass, Alzheimer’s Association 19. Dayamyra Perez Fernandez, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade 20. Franchine Peters, Roxcy Bolton Rape Treatment Center 21. Lili Portmann, Center for Independent Living of South Florida 22. Lymari Rivera, Mount Sinai Medical Center Eldercare (PACE) 23. Eduardo Sanchez, United Way Miami – <i>Guest</i> 24. Griselle Solorzano, Brain Center 25. Angelique M. Suarez, Senior Tech Connect 26. Allan Tavss, Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces 27. Serena Thompson, Jewish Community Services 28. Marjorie York, Community Action Agency 	

<p>Welcome and Introductions</p>	<p>Chair, Marjorie Aloni welcomed everyone and started the meeting at 2:02 PM. The meeting was held virtually via Microsoft Teams. Vice-Chair, Susan Holtzman provided general meeting guidelines for attendees which were also placed in the meeting chat, and assisted with the agenda. Attendee introductions were done during <i>Partner Updates</i>, and virtual attendees were encouraged to put their contact information/organizational updates in the chat.</p>	
<p>Review and Approval of Minutes</p>	<p>The minutes from the last meeting on January 30, 2024, were reviewed by the Committee members in attendance. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Marjorie Y. and seconded by Allan T. The minutes were approved unanimously without corrections.</p>	
<p>Previous Action Items(s)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue timeline development for work plan activities (ongoing). • The following activities under Chronic Disease, p. 12, need to be completed by <i>September 30, 2024, the Elder Issues Committee will ...</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ... <i>organize a walk to encourage elder adults to increase physical activity.</i> ○ ... <i>partner with the Children Issues Committee to increase the percentage of adults who are at a healthy weight.</i> ○ ... <i>create a campaign to increase awareness of physical activity (e.g., Parks305).</i> ○ ... <i>create a map with identified underserved areas.</i> • Walk for Your Health in 2024, the intergenerational walk event will be hosted by Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces (MDPROS) at their Arcola Lakes Park location on Saturday, April 6th, 2024, from 10AM to 12PM. The walk event is meant to encourage physical activity for older adults in collaboration with the Consortium's Children Issues Committee (CIC) so that children and their families can participate as well. It will feature a health and wellness resource fair in a dedicated space inside the park office with about ten community partners tabling to provide health resources and program service information to attendees about their organizations. The MDPROS representative and EIC member, Allan Tavss, Active Older Adults Program Coordinator, can be contacted for specific event coordination. Arcola Lakes Park, located at 1301 NW 83 Street, 	<p>Action Item(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final approved Walk event flyer sent to all Consortium member listserv in a promotional email (done on 3/6/2024), and then partners to assist with distribution of flyers within their own organizations and contacts.

	<p>Miami, FL 33147 in Liberty City area, was suggested by Allan Tavss from MDRPOS because it is in another area of need, and near Arcola Lakes Senior Center, one of MDPROS sites offering Active Older Adults programs which provide fitness, leisure, and social activities for adults 55 and older.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared onscreen, the final draft of the event flyer, “Walk for Your Health in 2024” which features the participating partner organization logos provided. DOH has provided final approval of the flyer, and Allan Tavss confirmed that MDRPOS has final approved as well. The walk and health fair flyer will be used to promote the event as part of the campaign to increase awareness of physical activity, the health benefits of regular physical activity, and promote the County’s parks and programs. After today’s meeting, EIC community liaison, Mayra Garcia, will arrange for the event flyer be emailed to the entire Consortium membership listserv to promote the event. Then community partners can help distribute the flyer to their own professional contacts and clients within their own organizations. • Allan Tavss asked if Alzheimer’s Association could bring their Brain Bus to the April 6th walk event at Arcola Lakes Park; Gloria Orlandi-Kass from the Alzheimer’s Association checked on availability and later put in the chat that the Bus is not available for that date. • Vice-Chair, Susan H., NAMI Miami, said she could bring a large inflatable (plug-in) NAMI-branded arch which they use for their own annual walk event. She will coordinate with Allan Tavss as needed for walk event on April 6th at Arcola Lakes Park. 	
<p>Executive Board (EB) Update</p>	<p>Chair, Marjorie A. provided updates from EB 2/12/24 meeting, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 cases are going down to the single digits but still not zero. There is a lot of flu and other respiratory illness and hospitalizations. We should be emphasizing the message of taking appropriate precautions and proper handwashing to reduce the spread of infection. • The project grant ended in December 2023, but pro bono work continues. Looking for private funding sources especially with the food pantries. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baptist Health system is including on patient intake questions about social determinants of health, including housing, food insecurity and transportation; Cristina Brito is gathering this data and will share resource once it is ready. 	
Legislative Report	<p>Vice-Chair, Susan H. provided legislative updates specific to older adults, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health security issues, nursing home quality, home and community-based services, family care givers, affordability of prescription drugs, telehealth and patient rights. • Communities: roadway safety, housing, transportation and disaster preparedness are the legislative priorities from AARP that reflect the needs of the aging population. • Consumer protection: adult guardianship, vulnerable adult protections, fraud, financial exploitation, and consumer protection, age discrimination digital equity and utilities. • Legislation is active right now so updates will be provided at the next monthly meeting with regards to funding for various programs for older adults. • Tara Auclair shared that the United Way advocated for additional funding for the Alzheimer's Association Brain Bus and for first responder training on dementia awareness. • Gloria Orlandi-Kass shared the link to the Alzheimer's Legislative Session Newsletter: https://www.alz.org/media/cnfl/Week-Seven-2024-Legislative-Session-Newsletter.pdf. 	
Presentation:	(There was no partner presentation this month)	<p>Action Item(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit suggestion(s) for future presentations at Elder Issues Committee meetings via email to: marjeealoni@gmail.com, Susan.Holtzman@namimiami.org, & Mayra.Garcia@flhealth.gov.

<p>Performance Measures in Need of Improvement (Work Plan Review)</p>	<p>Chair, Marjorie A. led discussion on the following in the EIC Work Plan 2019-2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The following activities under <i>Communicable Diseases & Emergent Threats</i>, p. 20, need to be completed by September 30, 2024, the Elder Issues Committee will ... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ... create a plan to work with DOH HIV/STD to create a system to increase condom distribution at senior facilities (e.g., ALFs, senior centers, skilled-nursing facilities). Florida Dept. of Health in Miami-Dade STD/HIV Prevention & Control Program is scheduled to present at EIC monthly meeting on March 26th, 2024. ○ ...invite partners (e.g., local pharmacies) to join and support their efforts to increase awareness on the prevention and control of infectious diseases. • 2024 in-person meetings/host sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3/26 (tentative) Senior Planet Miami ○ 5/28 Miami Jewish Health/FL PACE Centers (Ruby Auditorium) ○ 8/27 Jewish Community Services (JCS)/Lambda Living ○ 11/26 United HomeCare 	<p>Action Item(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue discussion and planning for these activities at future EIC meetings
<p>Recognition of Improved Performance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual SWOT analysis on 1/30/24 • 29 attendees at January meeting 	
<p>Partner Updates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Luis Moreno, Epilepsy Alliance Florida. • Cindy Brown, JCS Lambda Living, cbrown@jcsfl.org, 305-403-6515; shared that they have in person and online programs & support groups for LGBTQ and older adults; calendar: https://jewishcommunityservicesofsouthflorida.wildapricot.org/. Provided highlights of the following upcoming events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pending opening of Senior Planet Miami, on Thursdays 12-3PM will have LGBTQ seniors group. ○ 1-day trip on March 21st to the Miami Open tennis tournament (\$25 entrance) will arrange for Lyft's from JCS site in North Miami to event. ○ Started new Coffee and Conversations groups on 3rd Wednesdays of month (next one March 20th) at SAGE location. 	<p>Action Item(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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/.

- Miami Beach Pride in April will again feature a hosted senior lounge (partnering with SAGE and possibly AARP) for older adults to get healthy snacks, water and rest during event.
 - Carmen Baker, Miami-Dade Public Library System, bakerc@mdpls.org; www.mdpls.org; coordinates free community events for senior citizens; provided the following program details (go online at www.mdpls.org/events for more info):
 - Saturday, March 23rd Local Author Series with Al Kushner "Virtual Medicare: 10 Costly Mistakes You Can't Afford to Make" at California Club Branch 2-3PM.
 - Saturday, March 16th Author Series with Katherine Reay "The Berlin Letters" at Pinecrest Branch 1-2PM.
 - Stay tuned for programming for Older Americans Month in May (flower arranging, painting, writing workshop); will share info later.
 - Tara Auclair, United Way Miami, will be hosting another legislative summit with AARP Florida on Wed. May 15th (save-the-date) with focus on housing and to be held at Miami-Dade College North Campus (additional details tba); introduce guest, Eddie Sanchez, United Way Miami.
 - Allan Tavss, Miami-Dade Parks/Active Older Adults Program for ages 55+.
 - Marjorie York, shared highlights of upcoming Miami Beach Commission events, including on March 8th International Women's Day event at 5PM.
 - Witson Faustin, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County, Health Services Representative; Witson.Faustin2@flhealth.gov, 786-732-8863.
 - Franchine Peters, Program Manager, Roxcy Bolton Rape Treatment Center, 305-585-5185; available to provide sexual assault prevention and elder abuse education presentations; contact Franchine.Peters@jhsmiami.org.
 - Gloria Orlandi Kass, Alzheimer's Association Southeast Florida Chapter; website alz.org; 24/7 Helpline: 800-272-3900 for care consultation, information, and referral; shared details of two free upcoming events in March in Miami: The "Unforgettable" Play on March 16th & Community Concert on March 15th.
 - Griselle Solorzano, Social Services Manager, The Brain Center, a full neurology care clinic; gsolorzano@braincenter.org, 305-856-8940 ext.105; they have ongoing
- 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 postings for 2023 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.

Alzheimer's lay caregivers training course in English & Spanish; info shared via email as scheduled.

- Lili Portmann, Community Engagement Coordinator, Center for Independent Living of South Florida for persons with disabilities; working on disaster assistance project to help persons impacted by Hurricane Ian and other future disasters; also provide disability sensitivity trainings.
- Luisana Hung Salazar, Assistance to the Elderly, Inc., non-profit that advocates for low-income older adults in Florida; shared invite to 2024 Cuban "Casino" Night, May 3, 2024, at the Donna E. Shalala Students Center at the University of Miami.
www.residentialplaza.com/2024cubannight.
- Lymari Rivera, Director of Business Development Mount Sinai Eldercare PACE program; 786-584-5291, Lymari.rivera@msmc.com; center located in Hialeah.
- Martine Charles, Alliance for Aging, charlesm@allianceforaging.org; launching four new free community programs recently shared flyer via email, including three fall prevention programs (Matter of Balance, Tai Chi, and Bingocize), and relaunching Savvy Caregiver program; actively recruiting trainers and facilitators for these programs.
- Yvette Martinez, AARP, ymartinez@aarp.org; provided link of upcoming hybrid and in-person programming: <https://states.aarp.org/florida/events-fl>; shared details of Shred event scheduled on April 18th at Senior Planet at Wynwood (info tba).
- Angie Fernandez, Community Outreach with the Office of the State Attorney Katherine Fernandez Rundle, www.miamisao.com; 305-547-0724, fernang@miamisao.com; doing presentations on the vulnerable older adults on financial fraud and physical abuse; creating resource checklist for older adults (will share PDF resources once finalized); upcoming senior expungement event in Doral.
- Trudy Gaillard, Florida International University College of Nursing; has National Institute on Aging grant to look at barriers and facilitators of research for older adults; developed a website called AgeWell with 1200 participants through state of Florida which provides information on different research opportunities and common chronic diseases for older adults: <https://cnhs.fiu.edu/agewellregistry/>.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frances Garcia, Miami-Dade Fire Rescue, Community Assistance/Elder Links Coordinator, a referral-based program with first responders; announced sand hole collapse risk campaign in time for spring break-Twitter feed link. • Serena Thompson, LGBTQ+ Older Adult Case Manager with Jewish Community Services, sthompson@jcsfl.org; offers case management for older adults (55+), community resources & emergency financial assistance; access line 305-576-6550. • Angelique Suarez, Senior Tech Connect; www.srtechconnect.org; provide tech training for older adults on computer, tablets, and i-phones; also, an Alzheimer's Association volunteer. • Nattaliah Earle, Urban Health Partnerships (UHP), Project Manager for the Age-Friendly Initiative in Miami-Dade, nattaliah@urbanhp.org, 786-412-0469; shared invite to upcoming Shareholder's meeting in March and in-person in May (tba); looking for input on surveys for older adults. • Dayamyra Perez Fernandez, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade, Health Services Representative; Dayamyra.perezfernandez@flhealth.gov, 786-732-8849. • Susan Holtzman, NAMI Miami, shared April 20th Suicide Awareness Conference, free half-day conference; Walk for Mental Health Awareness on Saturday, May 18th at Zoo Miami is free to register to walk (fundraising optional but encourage); NAMI Helpline 305-665-2540 (9AM-5PM). • Marjorie Aloni shared that the Tri County Senior Resource Referral Network meets monthly as an opportunity for professionals who interact with elderly clients to get together and share referrals and resources; next event on March 15th at 8:30AM on topic of hospice and palliative care; RSVP: marjiecealoni@gmail.com, 305-766-2976. • 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. 	
Adjournment	Chair, Marjorie A. adjourned the meeting at 3:03 PM.	
Next Meeting	The next Elder Issues Committee meeting is planned as an in-person (with virtual join meeting option) on Tuesday, March 26, 2024, at 2:00 PM hosted at Senior Planet Miami located in the Wynwood area at 317 NW 28 th Street, Miami, FL 33127.	