



CONSORTIUM FOR A HEALTHIER MIAMI-DADE

Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Committee Meeting
 Tuesday, February 21st, 2023
 2:00 PM – 2:32 PM



TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION NEEDED
Membership Total (30)	<p><u>Vice-Chair:</u> Catherine M. Wilhelm, West Kendall Baptist Hospital Beth Ruhmann, Baptist Health South Florida Blanca Ceballos, United HomeCare Carmen Teixeira, Alliance for Aging Clara Garcia, United Way Miami Dennise Nicola, Florida PACE Centers Emmy Nieto, Century Risk Advisors Indiana Lanzas, United Way Miami Jessica Mulroy, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County Kindra Johnson, Arts a L Laurie Varona, Florida Department of Health Lisa Agate, Aetna Healthcare Luis Ferrer, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County Lynne Kunins, Flipany Mayra Garcia, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County Melody Velez, United Healthcare Michael Crisanto, Charlie Health Michelle Fundora, Health Choice Network Michelle Mejia, Baptist Health South Florida Mimi Chacin, Common Threads Rachel Roberts, Florida Department of Health Rosa Novo, Miami-Dade County Public Schools Saradjine Batrony, SB Pro Writing Services, LLC Sayidat Balogun, The ALS Association Florida Chapter Susan Holtzman, Miami-Dade County, Office of the Mayor Tenesha Avent, March of Dimes Tiffinie Bratcher, Aetna Healthcare Trudy Gaillard, Florida International University</p>	



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	<p>Virginia Munoz, Florida Department of Health Yarislevy Silva, Miami-Dade AHEC (786) 229-8275, call-in community member</p>	
<p>Welcome and Introductions</p>	<p>The Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Committee meeting was brought to order by Catherine Wilhelm at 2:00pm. New members had an opportunity to introduce themselves.</p>	
<p>Approval of Minutes</p>	<p>There was a motion to approve the January 2023 Health Promotion and Disease Prevention minutes by Clara Garcia; the motion was seconded by Susan Holtzman.</p>	
<p>Executive Board Update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The new Executive Board co-chairs were announced during the last meeting. Leyanee Perez and Cristina Brito will be co-chairing the committee. ▪ The Executive Board had a brief update on COVID-19 and shared that although patients are still being seen at the hospital, Miami-Dade County is in the green threshold. This is great news in terms of community spread. ▪ Planning for the Consortium’s 20th Anniversary Annual Event is underway and more updates will be shared in the future. A planning taskforce has been formed, please contact us if you are interested in participating. 	
<p>Member Spotlight</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AgeWell research registry, Florida International University presented by Dr. Trudy Gaillard. The research study looks at healthy aging and barriers to research participation among culturally diverse adults, specifically focusing on African American, Caribbean, and Hispanic, Latino, and Latin X adults. Interviews are held for adults 65 years and older and a family member 25 to 64 years of age to ask them about whether they've ever participated in research and if one generation has a greater influence than the other. As well as what kind of research would they be interested in participating in. This research was funded by the National Institute of Aging during the pandemic, older adults were trained on how to use the Zoom platform to complete the study. Now, they are working on creating a research registry called AgeWell. The purpose of the registry will be to educate older adults and their family members about what research is and provide research opportunities being offered by the National Institute of Aging, National Institute of Health, and other research being conducted throughout the state of Florida. The research program is a tri-institutional endeavor with collaborators at FIU, University of 	

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Florida, and the University of Central Florida. Some of the barriers they are finding are that even though older adults have cellphones they are sometimes unable to download the app to sign up for the registry. They will rearrange the budget and hire community health workers to help spread the word about the registry. The goal is to engage older adults in an equitable way so that it applies to all segments of society with adults from different cultures. They found during their focus groups, regardless of participant ethnicity, participants talked about the Tuskegee experiment and how things were unfair. Part of the research was also to educate them on the IRB and how they must approve the stud and that research is not only about providing a blood sample but also participating in listening sessions and completing surveys to provide their opinions.

Some of the links on the registry include studies on mild cognitive impairment, physical activity, and nutrition studies. They have been reaching out to universities in the state of Florida and asking researchers for their flyer and contact information. It is an ongoing process where they are constantly building the registry. The title of the grant was Intergenerational Influence. It focused on whether if one generation was able to influence another to participate in research. Most of the older adults said, even though they spoke with their children or family members about health, about research, they were independent and made their own decisions.

- *ALS Association (Miami-Dade and Monroe counties) presented by Sayidat Balogun.*
 Established in 1985, the ALS Association is the only national nonprofit organization fighting ALS on every front. Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, commonly known as Lou Gehrig's disease, is a progressive neurodegenerative disease affecting the motor neurons in the brain and spinal cord that control voluntary muscular movements like chewing, talking, walking, swallowing. There's no cure for ALS and it is most diagnosed between the ages of late 40s some mid-60s. It's very common among veterans and it's also been seen in development in athletes later in life. Life expectancy after the diagnosis is 2 to five years. The association is leading the way in global research, aiding people with ALS through a nationwide network of chapters, coordinating multidisciplinary care through certified clinical care centers, and fostering government partnerships. The association's mission is to discover treatments and a cure for ALS, and to serve, advocate for, and empower people affected by ALS to live their lives to the fullest. The association offers comprehensive support and resources for people and their caregivers and loved ones. The goal for their local care services is to create informed,



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	<p>empowered, and well-cared work for ALS associations and their community.</p> <p>The Association has 13 multidisciplinary clinics throughout the state of Florida, and we collaborate with some of the best ALS physicians to help ensure the best specialized care. In Miami, the ALS certified clinic is the University of Miami's ALS Center. Their unique model brings together a team of eight different medical physicians including gastroenterologists, neurologists, pulmonologists, speech therapist, respiratory therapists, dietitians.</p> <p>All services and programs provided by care services with the ALS association are free of charge and are funded solely through fundraising efforts. Some of the services provided to patients living with ALS and who are registered with the association include: use of durable medical equipment through the equipment loan program like power wheelchairs, patient lifts, ramps, hospital beds, walkers, shower chairs, etcetera. They also offer quarterly grants, a statewide caregiver, webinars, monthly support groups and our annual Hope and Help symposium and a host of statewide and national resources.</p> <p>With the support of over 40,000 people living with ALS, their families, and communities, they secure resources to support treatment and research for the entire community. Their nationwide network of staff and advocates are essential to their efforts at the federal, state, and local levels and advancing their mission in Florida. The ALS Association works federally and locally to advocate on all fronts. Board members, staff, and advocacy specialists in Tallahassee have made progressive strides in urging legislators to make decisions that will positively impact the lives of people living with ALS.</p> <p>In 2021 and 2022, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis approved \$1,000,000 in state funding for the Bittner Plante ALS initiative of Florida. This initiative provides support for people living with ALS seeking treatment at any of our association certified treatment centers including the University of Miami and ALS clinic. On May 13th, 2023, they will be having the walk to defeat ALS Miami at Tropical Park. May is ALS Awareness Month. For more information, contact: sayidat.balogun@als.org or visit: www.donate.fl.als.org/miami.</p>	
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, March 21st, 2023. The meeting was adjourned at 2:32 PM. 	