

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION NEEDED
<p>Membership Total (13)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tenesha Avent, March of Dimes (Co-Chair) 2. Diana Alvarado, The Children’s Movement of Florida 3. Viviana Alvarado Pacheco, The Women’s Fund Miami-Dade 4. Michelle Berkovits, UM North Dade Early Steps 5. Suecia Mendez, Sunshine Health 6. Marya Meyer, The Women’s Fund Miami-Dade 7. Rocio Velazquez, The Children’s Movement of Florida 8. Melody Velez, United Healthcare 9. Andrea Villalba Torres, WIC 10. Queen Holden, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County 11. Zadymon Moore, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County 12. Candice Schottenloher, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County (Committee Liaison) 13. Nicolette Siringo, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine (Intern) 	
<p>Welcome and Introductions</p>	<p>The February 2025 monthly meeting of the Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade Healthy Baby Taskforce was brought to order by Tenesha Avent at 12:43 p.m. All members were welcomed and introduced themselves.</p>	
<p>Approval of Minutes</p>	<p>There was a motion to approve the January 2025 Healthy Baby Taskforce meeting minutes by Melody Velez, and the motion was seconded by Candice Schottenloher.</p>	
<p>Previous Action Items Health Observance Months & Partner Discussion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Taskforce has begun to plan for this year and ensuring the health observances related to maternal child health are noted to help in planning ideas for future meetings, health fairs, and/or community events. A packet with a list of observance days and months were handed out at the beginning of the meeting. • March is National Nutrition Month. For this month, BreastfeedMIAMI confirmed for the Taskforce to present the <i>Healthy Baby, Healthy Corner Store</i> Palm Card and Business Wallet Card designs. This event will be instrumental for the community, and we wanted to say thank you to members for all of the efforts in making this happen. • Black Maternal Health Week (April 11-17) was announced as a reminder to the partners that we can plan to do something as a group or join existing efforts. Tenesha Avent invited members to share if they had anything planned for this week. She noted Metro Mommy Agency has an amazing guide for Black Maternal Health Week on her website with a lot of events and happenings which we will send out once it is created and live. 	

<p>Maternal Child Health Policy Action Discussion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Taskforce really wanted to uplift that week and encourage members to participate. We are thinking about doing a social media campaign to promote on the Consortium social media pages and would appreciate members help with creating content (pictures from prior years, work you are doing, etc.) • A reminder was shared to the partners if they are interested in providing any updates on upcoming observance months going forward to please reach out so we can plan to highlight or have Taskforce assist with these efforts. • Tenesha Avent led the discussion on the importance of policy related to maternal child health. She highlighted local changes and implications such as obstetric departments closing. Last year, the North Shore Department closed, and that community is still feeling the impact. We wanted to raise awareness on some of those challenges our local communities are facing as a result of these changes and cuts. Last meeting, we had an insightful conversation on how we would like to learn more on what is going on and how to educate ourselves for upcoming legislative session. Rocio Velazquez shared that the Children’s Movement of Florida’s website has an Advocacy tab which has updates on the 2025 FL Legislative Meetings that pertain to early childhood, or alternatively you can sign up for their email listserv. The sessions officially start on March 4, 2025. Relevant bills are highlighted on their site as well. • The Taskforce leadership is working to have a presentation in April or May by Marya Meyer with the Women’s Fund Miami-Dade on their infant and maternal data dashboard. They are working to schedule a presentation by Dr. Cynthia Lebron to share on the breastfeeding needs in our community from the BreastfeedMIAMI efforts on research being conducted. • Lastly, we are working to also schedule an update through the Children Issues Committee from the Florida Health Justice Project and see how we can assist them and become more engaged into the work they are doing. We want to encourage utilizing partners’ expertise and leaning on each other. 	
<p>New Business Healthy Baby Taskforce Workplan Brainstorm Save the Date</p>	<p>During our next meeting on Friday, March 21, 2025, the work plan will be shared. This meeting will serve as a time to brainstorm ideas, discuss, and review the status of the Taskforce work plan. Tenesha Avent invited members to come prepared with ideas, updates, and next action steps. She shared that moving forward she wants meetings to be action oriented. Tenesha Avent asked members how they felt about shifting from quarterly to bi-annual reporting, given a change in requirements from the state.</p> <p>During the Maternal Child Health Policy in Action conversation, Taskforce partners discussed the importance of policy related to maternal child health as the legislative session is approaching. This discussion was the beginning of the Taskforce efforts in trying to understand what other partners are doing in Miami-Dade surrounding policy work. The Taskforce also discussed they would like to have subject matter experts to come and present to the group for the members to learn more and how to align our efforts with joining efforts or if Taskforce should take the lead on a policy issue.</p>	<p>Schedule Florida Health Justice Update and Women’s Fund presentation.</p>

	<p>Diana Alvarado of Children’s Movement of Florida discussed her thoughts on one factor contributing to high preterm birth rates. She discussed that Miami-Dade and Broward have the highest rates of C-sections at 48%. Healthy People 2030 focuses on decreasing rates of unnecessary C-sections, so we discussed methods of how to address this including informing women of safe delivery, learning about the indicators of C-section, how insurances approve C-section, etc. This was one example discussed about where we can identify gaps and see where organizations work overlaps and how we can help each other.</p> <p>A few key points of what this Taskforce can focus on were suggested by members:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Outreach to other collaboratives in the county as they need to know Taskforce and Consortium exists, as we want offices to be working in collaboration towards the same goals 2. Addressing Safe Sleep campaign and clarifying the message being conveyed to families 3. Paid Family Leave – Highlight results on the benefits of paid family leave and how much support our community members are receiving to educate our organizations and institutions and implement changes 	
<p>Next Steps</p>	<p>The Healthy Baby Taskforce partners will continue to plan for 2025 by reviewing the Health Observance Resource List. The Taskforce leadership will work to schedule with the lead partners for the month to ensure we have a presentation scheduled or an update for the observance month. This will also provide an opportunity for the Taskforce to align efforts with the partners to expand our community reach together.</p> <p>Discussion was also had about creating a collaborative link/site that has one location that houses all resources from various organizations from the coalition in one place.</p> <p>Our final CHIP meeting is scheduled for this spring and maternal/child health may be a high priority area. Candice Schottenloher encouraged members to show up to that meeting and shed light on some of these important issues. The Well-being survey has also been updated to incorporate more relevant questions related to maternal and child health.</p>	
<p>Partner Updates</p>	<p>Due to time constraints, partners were encouraged to email Candice with any updates on behalf of the Healthy Baby Taskforce members.</p>	
<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>The meeting adjourned at 1:43 p.m. The next Healthy Baby Taskforce meeting will be held virtually on Friday, March 21, 2025, from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.</p>	