

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION NEEDED
<p>Membership Total (17)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr. Cristina Brito, United Way Miami 2. Tenesha Avent, March of Dimes (Committee Vice Chair and Taskforce Co-Chair) 3. Esther Louis, Metro Mommy Agency (Taskforce Co-Chair) 4. Candice Schottenloher, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County 5. Eunice Mesumbe, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County (Committee Liaison) 6. Zadymon Moore, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County 7. Debra Dhaity, The Children’s Movement Florida 8. Leah Jayanetti, ICU baby 9. Val Butler, The Women’s Fund Miami-Dade 10. Destiny Witherspoon, Abby Care 11. Monica FilsAime, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County 12. Viviana Alvarado, The Women’s Fund Miami-Dade 13. Michelle Denise Berkovits, University of Miami 14. Wallman Shai, Abby Care 15. Queen Holden, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County 16. Dr. Catherine Toms, Green Cars for Kids 17. Dr. Otovo Okezi, Florida International University 	
<p>Welcome and Introductions</p>	<p>The January 2026 monthly meeting of the Healthy Baby Taskforce, was brought to order by Esther at 12:35 p.m. All members were welcomed, and introductions were made.</p>	
<p>Approval of Minutes</p>	<p>There was a motion to approve the Healthy Baby Taskforce November 2025 meeting minutes by Leah Jayanetti, and the motion was seconded by Dr. Cristina Brito.</p>	
<p>Previous Action Items</p>	<p>During this meeting, it was highlighted that the December 2025 meeting was approved to be canceled during the merged Children Issues and Healthy Baby Taskforce November 2025 meeting. Tenesha continued conversations on following the theme of no longer working in the silos, following the call to action on the importance of collaborative efforts from crucial partner organizations that focus on Maternal and Child health like, Florida Association for Infant Mental Health (FAIMH), Miami Chapter, Healthy Baby Taskforce, AIM, Mayor’s Blue Ribbon Commission, Breastfeed MIAMI, and the Children’s Issues Committee to have more aligned goals for the FY 25-26 as well as inviting leaders from the various organizations to take Action Steps.</p>	

<p>Community Concerns Conversation & Health Observance Updates</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Health Observance Month Highlight</p> <p>January: Cervical Cancer Awareness Month and National Birth Defects Awareness Month February: Black History Month and National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (2/7/2026) March</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Women’s History Month ○ National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day - 3/10/2026 ○ National Endometriosis Awareness Month ○ National Nutrition Month - 3/1/2026 <p>April</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ STD Awareness Month ○ National Infertility Awareness Week - 4/21 – 4/27 ○ Black Maternal Health Week – 4/11 – 4/17 <p>May: Maternal Mental health and Extreme Heat Awareness Activities.</p> <p>The draft 2026 Health Observance months discussed during the meeting was shared with members. Esther Louis and Tenesha Avent proposed if any member or partner was interested in or maybe leveraging and leading social media posts efforts for any of the monthly health observances and if possible, with the opportunity to bring back Facebook live conversations and short interviews, would be a good opportunity to really engage members in uplifting the health observance months and also getting them involved in the Taskforce as well as the work their individual organizations are doing. Candice Schottenloher alongside the Co-Chairs shared how in the past the Taskforce conducted Facebook Live events to give the members some ideas to brainstorm and think about new ways they would like to focus their efforts on maternal child health observances. Esther shared some Instagram tips on content creating and that she had a studio space available at no cost for members to use. Additionally, Val Butler shared there could be an opportunity for Taskforce partners to be a part of future impact collaborative events they host. For example, it was noted maybe for April for Black Maternal Health Week. Lastly, it was also noted from Leah Jayanetti that possibly the Taskforce could think about hosting the live event through Instagram as this may reach more of our target audience.</p> <p>During this meeting, Tenesha opened the floor for discussions to get feedback on how Taskforce can support members and partners in the work their individual organization is doing.</p>	<p>Brand and include Logo on Health Observance Month document.</p> <p>Discuss further whether hosting events could be on a partner’s social media page or Consortium’s platform.</p>
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<p>FHB/Healthy Baby Taskforce FY 25-26 Work Plan Development</p>	<p>The Taskforce has also been reviewing the new Florida Healthy Baby FY 25-26 priority areas which include Well Woman Care, Maternal Mortality and Morbidity, Infant Mortality, Dental or Oral Care, and Children’s Medical Homes. The Taskforce will focus on Infant Mortality and Children’s Medical Homes. A high-level update was provided that there has been a change in the reporting periods for the Florida Healthy Baby (FHB) - Healthy Baby Taskforce FY 25-26 Work Plan. The reporting frequency has changed from quarterly to bi-annually with reporting periods. The reporting periods are noted below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Report 1: July 1 – December 31, 2025, was due by COB Tuesday, January 6, 2026. ○ Report 2: January 1-June 30, 2026, is due by COB Monday, July 6, 2026. <p>The FY 25-26 updated FHB Action Plan and Quarterly Progress Reporting Tool file was shared with members.</p>	<p>Send calendar invite reminder for Reporting period 2 to members to complete Work Plan activities by COB Monday, July 6, 2026</p>
<p>Partner Updates</p>	<p>The Women’s Fund Miami- Dade</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Women’s Fund Miami- Dade is currently doing a virtual informative programming on Impact Collaborative where it’s open to the community on the 1st Thursday of every month. They cover a range of topics currently focusing now on Human Trafficking. They have also, in the past, covered topics on Maternal Health and have one on Child Care coming up soon. https://womensfundmiami.org/impact-collaboratives/ <p>Helpful Resources Shared in Taskforce Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hope Florida link: https://hopeflorida.com/ • Hope Fair Housing Center link • Consortium Member Directory <p><u>Metro Mommy Agency</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hypnobirthing classes: https://www.metromommyagency.com/shop • Free Metro Mommy Agency classes Register in advance for this meeting: Zoom Meeting Registration • 30-minute Call for Champions Webinar hosted by Metro Mommy Agency January 29, 2026, and January 30, 2026. Please email Esther McCant at metromommyagency@gmail.com. <p><u>University of Miami – Early Steps Program</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The following full-time staff position for a bilingual English/Creole Child Development Specialist is currently available with the North Dade Early Steps Program at the University of Miami Mailman Center for Child Development. Please share with potential 	

CONSORTIUM FOR A HEALTHIER MIAMI-DADE

Healthy Baby Taskforce Meeting

Friday, January 16, 2026

12:30 pm- 1:30 p.m. EST



	<p>candidates for this position and reach out with any questions to Michelle Berkovits at mberkovits@med.miami.edu.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Development Specialist (Infant Toddler Developmental Specialist/ITDS): Position R100088628 (Bilingual English/Creole Required): https://careers.miami.edu/us/en/job/R100088628/Child-Development-Specialist-H • Save the Date and Join the North Dade Early Steps Program at the University of Miami Mailman Center for Child Development on April 1, 2026, for their next Mailman Center Innovation & Connection Conference - Supporting the Whole Child with Unilateral Hearing Loss: An Interdisciplinary Look. For more details, please email Michelle Berkovits at mberkovits@med.miami.edu. <p>United Way Miami</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • United Way Miami has open positions in Marketing, Social Media Manager and Coordinator and Communications Associate Director. Contact Dr. Christina Brito at britoc@unitedwaymiami.org for more information. 	
Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 1:34 p.m. The next meeting will be hosted in-person on Friday, February 20, 2026, at the United Way Miami (Ansin Building, Ryder Room) from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.	