

CONSORTIUM FOR A HEALTHIER MIAMI-DADE

Tobacco-Free Workgroup Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 30th, 2024, 9:30am

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION NEEDED
Members Present	Bill Amodeo, Chair, All Star Media Rosa Nova, Administrative benefit director, Miami-Dade County Public Schools Jennifer Santieteban, Supervisor, Miami-Dade County Public Schools Ana Carolina Sale, MD MPH Student, University of Miami Asma Aftab, Director, University of Miami John Michael Pierobon, Concern Citizen Lourdes Castaneda, Program Manager, University of Miami AHEC Marilyn Roman, Executive Director, Miami Dade AHEC Julio Esplugas, City of Hialeah Yara Stanziola, Citrix Health Network Natalie Gray, Research Fellow, Pharmacy School at Larkin Olatokunbo Osibogun, Assistant professor at the department of epidemiology, Florida International University Yolanda McBeath, advisor, Southwest High School Islamiyat Adebisi, Director, Office of Community Health, and Planning Jason Dahn, Health Coordinator, Miami VA Laurie Varona, Senior Health Educator, Florida Department of Health Candace Williams, Program Manager, Florida Department of Health	
Welcome and Introductions	The Tobacco-Free Workgroup Meeting was brought to order by the Chair, Bill Amodeo, at 9:38am. All members were welcomed and introduced themselves.	
Review and Approval of Minutes	The minutes from the Tobacco-Free Workgroup meeting held on July 29th, 2024, were reviewed. No changes to the minutes were noted. Candace Williams made the motion to approve the minutes and Bill Amodeo seconded the motion. Members of the Tobacco-Free Workgroup unanimously approved the minutes from July 29th, 2024.	
Partner Updates	John Michael wrote a few op-eds that were published in the Sun Sentinel that compared big marijuana to big tobacco. He has also written 2 other essays that were published in the Miami Herald and many other newspapers throughout the state.	
Executive Board Updates	The focus is on the Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP) Community Partner Assessment (CPA) Survey to help guide them on best	

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	<p>practices on serving Miami-Dade County community members. This survey allows providers, community members, and county representatives their input into strategies need to better serve the community for this next coming year. Another focus was on food drives to provide parents with healthy foods for their children returning to school. Upcoming elections for the Consortium Chair and Vice Chair for the 2025-2026 term were announced, with details on nominations and the election process to follow.</p>	
<p>Previous Action Items</p>	<p>Subcommittee Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tobacco-Free Environments Subcommittee – The subcommittee met on July 30th, 2024, to discuss several important topics. These included addressing indoor vaping infractions, reviewing new bills being introduced in the upcoming legislative session, examining Amendment 3, and planning for the 2024 Intercoastal Clean-up. The discussions aimed to develop strategies for managing vaping violations, understand the implications of new legislation, and organize efforts for the environmental clean-up initiative. • Policy & Surveillance Subcommittee –The subcommittee met to identify enforcement gaps and explore new surveillance strategies. They focused on guidelines for vaping and alternative tobacco products, aiming to enhance policies and implement robust monitoring systems to reduce tobacco use and improve public health. • POS Task Force – The POS Task Force met on August 12th, 2024, to discuss issues related to mobile smoke shops. The meeting included discussions with key decision-maker such as the Office of the Mayor, about zoning initiatives in Miami-Dade County. These discussions aimed to develop strategies for regulating mobile smoke shops and ensure effective implementation of zoning laws to protect public health. • Youth & Young Adult Subcommittee – The subcommittee met to discuss recruiting at local colleges and universities, specifically their social organizations on campus. The discussions aimed to increase the young adult’s involvement and diversity throughout the county while educating and encouraging them to stand against smoking and vaping. 	

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	<p>Amendment 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ballot Title is as follows “Adults Personal Use of Marijuana”. This initiative would amend Article X, Section 29 of the Florida Constitution. • The proposed ballot summary is as follows: Allows adults 21 years or older to possess, purchase, or use marijuana products and marijuana accessories for non-medical personal consumption by smoking, ingestion, or otherwise; allows Medical Marijuana Treatment Centers, and other state licensed entities, to acquire, cultivate, process, manufacture, sell, and distribute such products and accessories. Applies to Florida law; does not change, or immunize violations of, federal law. Establishes possession limits for personal use. Allows consistent legislation. Defines terms. Provides effective date. Amendment 3 needs 60% majority to pass and we are looking at 53% approval. <p>Point of Sale</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provider staff will be training the youth and community members to implement a county-wide surveillance that SWAT will take the lead on. Hope for Miami and City of Hialeah EPI SWAT groups will be targeting tobacco retailers within certain zip codes near their parks and schools. They will be checking for the “Corrective Statement” above the Powerwall. It must be visible by the consumer. • The Chair discussed promoting the harms and dangers of tobacco and nicotine products by placing a QR code on drink coasters. These coasters will be created and distributed to smokefree bars and restaurants throughout the county. • Provider staff discussed the prevalence of ZYN Products being sold to the youth, specifically in certain municipalities throughout the county. • To address the issue of mobile smoke shops allowing youth and young adults access to tobacco products, a comprehensive approach is needed. The workgroup discussed a strategy for advocating other municipalities to make the same policy changes. First, review and ensure existing regulations include mobile vendors, and implement strict licensing and permitting 	
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	<p>processes. Enforce rigorous age verification, using government-issued IDs and age verification software. Establish location restrictions to keep mobile smoke shops away from schools, parks, and areas frequented by minors, with defined minimum distances. Conduct regular compliance checks, imposing penalties for violations. Launch public awareness campaigns to educate the community about the risks and encourage reporting violations. Develop vendor training programs on legal requirements and proper age verification. Work with policymakers to close regulatory loopholes and involve stakeholders in the policy development process. Explore technological solutions like geo-fencing and real-time tracking to ensure compliance. These measures will create a robust framework to prevent youth and young adults from accessing tobacco products through mobile smoke shops.</p> <p>Smokefree Multiunit Housing (SFMUH)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residents are complaining about marijuana smoke seeping into their units, highlighting the need for property managers to be educated on managing this type of violation. It is suggested that property managers adopt a comprehensive definition of smoking and vaping to address this issue effectively. This includes explicitly including marijuana in non-smoking policies and implementing measures to prevent smoke from infiltrating neighboring units. Property managers should be trained on enforcement strategies, such as clear communication of policies to residents, regular inspections, and prompt response to complaints. Installing proper ventilation systems and sealing gaps between units can help mitigate the spread of smoke. By adopting a broad and clear definition of smoking and vaping, property managers can create a healthier living environment for all residents. <p>Tobacco-Free Public Spaces</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Intercoastal Cleanup is be held on September 21st, 2024, from 9am to 11am at Virginia Key Dog Park across the street from Mast Academy in Key Biscayne. Tallahassee has made it part of our workplan and is now under TFPub. The Department of Health is inviting all 	
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	<p>Consortium members to come out and support the day alongside our SWAT members and advisors. This is a great time to show our support to smokefree free parks and beaches and our youth that come out every year to make change. The link will be placed in the chat.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade (FDOH) publicly recognized The City of Miami-Beach, Coral Gables, City of Hialeah, City of Aventura, City of Doral, City of Miami, and Miami-Dade for implementing smokefree parks and beaches policy in 2024. • Providers and partners are reaching out to City of Hialeah Gardens and Miami Lakes about implementing a smokefree policy within the park system. <p>SWAT Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SWAT youth had their Annual SWAT training on September 18 at the University of Miami and hosted the training for their community clubs at Milander Park in the City of Hialeah. The youth engaged in the environmental impacts of tobacco and vaping. • City of Hialeah and Hope for Miami have SWAT presence within their community organization. • SWAT currently has 16 clubs operating with the Miami-Dade County Public School which include Jose Marti MAST Academy, Barbara Goleman Senior High School, Hialeah Gardens High School, Hialeah Gardens Middle School, Miami Central Senior High School, Miami Jackson Senior High School, Miami Lakes Middle School, Miami Palmetto Senior High School, Southwest Miami Senior High School, William H. Turner Technical Arts High School, Homestead High School, Robert Morgan Senior High School, Miami Norland Senior High School, Hope For Miami and two clubs with the City of Hialeah. <p>Essay Contest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Essay Contest is open to anyone under 21 years of age to submit an essay on tobacco prevention. If the essay is published in a major Florida 	
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	<p>newspaper, they will receive a \$100 gift card. The Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade and the Tobacco-Free Workgroup will continue to promote the contest to the Miami-Dade Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT) Chapter and community partners.</p> <p>Cessation Access</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YMCA is in the process of implementing a cessation access referral system, and the Barry University has been engaged to implement a referral system. 	
<p>Upcoming Events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not a Lab Rat Day – October 16, 2024 • Tobacco-Free Workgroup Training – October 29, 2024 • Elder Issue Presentation October 29, 2024 	
<p>Adjourn</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting was adjourned by chair, Bill Amodeo, at 10:30am. • The next Tobacco-Free Workgroup meeting will be held on November 18th, 2024. 	