

CONSORTIUM FOR A HEALTHIER MIAMI-DADE

Tobacco-Free Workgroup Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 29th, 2025, 9:30am

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION NEEDED
Members Present	Dr Zinzi Bailey, Chair, University of Minnesota Bill Amodeo, All Star Media Natalie Gray, Research Fellow, Pharmacy School at Larkin Audlyn Emmanuel, Intern, Florida Department of Health Laurie Varona, Senior Health Educator, Florida Department of Health Candace Williams, Program Manager, Florida Department of Health Olatokunbo Osibogun, Florida International University Alan Benoit, Program Director for Hope for Miami Castaneda, Lourdes Q, Clinical Program Manager, University of Miami Zadymon Moore, OPS Senior Health Educator, Florida Department of Health Rosa Novo, Tenesha Avent, March of Dimes, Director of MCH Collective Impact Nakeisha Hendricks, Senior Health Educator, Florida Department of Health Yara Stanziola, HOPE Program Manager, Citrus Health Network Dr. Mari C Rodriguez, Founder of Imans Light Foundation	
Welcome and Introductions	The Tobacco-Free Workgroup Meeting was called to order by Dr. Zinzi Bailey at 9:32 AM, with all members welcomed and introduced. All members were invited to introduce themselves and answer the ice breaker question.	
Review and Approval of Minutes	The minutes from the Tobacco-Free Workgroup meeting held on May 27 th , 2025, were reviewed. No changes to the minutes were noted. Dr. Zinzi Bailey made the motion to approve the minutes. Candace Williams motioned to approve the minutes and Laurie Varona seconded the motion. Members of the Tobacco-Free Workgroup unanimously approved the minutes from May 27 th , 2025.	
Partner Updates	During the partner updates, AHEC announced that the incentive program for tobacco cessation ended on June 30 th . For one session, participants received \$50 and for multisession participants received up to \$125. The program is planning to restart the incentive again, however, not sure on a specific date. At the Healthy Baby Taskforce, they have more events in the making. They have flyers for upcoming events and will be sent to members soon. The Imanslightfoundation will host an	

CONSORTIUM FOR A HEALTHIER MIAMI-DADE

Tobacco-Free Workgroup Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 29th, 2025, 9:30am

	event on October 18th, 2025 to provide workshops on vaping, marketing for vaping, and its negative impacts. The event this year will be hosted at Miramar City Center. Hope for Miami has a plan to host event in October called Community's talk. The plan for the event is to have a human anatomy exhibit and discuss and demonstrate the effect of substances on it. Partners for the event include the American Heart Association. Plan for this event is to also add a lung anatomy set up as well. Location for the event is pending.	
Executive Board Updates	No significant updates from E-board due to Executive E-board meeting being cancelled.	
March of Dimes & Healthy Baby Taskforce Presentation (Guest Speaker)	Tenesha Avent delivered an informative presentation on the March of Dimes and its mission-driven programs. She emphasized the organization's commitment to improving the health and well-being of mothers and babies, with a particular focus on education and support. Key areas of concern addressed included preterm birth, birth defects, and infant mortality. During the session, Ms. Avent highlighted several programs offered by the organization that aim to tackle these issues. Additionally, she provided an overview of the Healthy Baby Taskforce, outlining its mission, goals, and introducing 13 strategic initiatives designed to support maternal and infant health. The presentation concluded successfully with an engaging and insightful Q&A session.	
Previous Action Items	Tobacco Retail Licensing Analysis The analysis is currently ongoing, with comparisons being conducted across various counties in Florida to assess the relationship between tobacco retail licensing and youth vaping rates. Preliminary findings indicate a general decline in youth vaping statewide, with a particularly notable decrease observed in Broward County. Further analysis will focus on Broward County to identify strategies that may help replicate this trend in other areas, including Miami-Dade County. One potential contributing factor to the reduced vaping	

CONSORTIUM FOR A HEALTHIER MIAMI-DADE
 Tobacco-Free Workgroup Meeting
 Meeting Minutes
 Tuesday, July 29th, 2025, 9:30am

	rates in Broward County is believed to be the increased education and awareness efforts targeted toward students. TFW Subcommittees - An overview of the various Tobacco-Free Workgroup Subcommittees was presented on screen. A QR code was shared to facilitate subcommittee sign-ups. CHIP 2025-2030 - Tenesha Avent provided a summary of the discussions from the breakout sessions. The transition from the 2019–2025 priority areas to those for 2025–2030 was reviewed, with many areas showing significant overlap. Action Plan FY 25-26 - There is a need for more participation in county meeting - Will be discussed in September’s meeting in more detail.	
New Action Items	Partnership Recruitment - Working with All-Star Media to distribute posters throughout the city. Point of Sale, Surveillance, and Mobile Smoke Shops - Miami-Dade County is home to 7,024 tobacco retailers, with concentrations varying by city and region. Of this total, the City of Miami, Miami-Dade, and unincorporated Miami-Dade account for 1,897 retailers, while the City of Hialeah follows with 795. Miami Beach has 602 retailers, Doral 213, and North Miami 206. In the southern part of the county, Homestead has 146 and Florida City 57. North Miami Beach has 139, while South Miami and Coral Gables have 132 and 51 respectively. These figures do not include mobile tobacco trucks or vending machines, which may further increase availability. Miami-Dade has also seen growth in point-of-sale retailers and mobile smoke shops, which often operate near schools, parks, and community events, raising concerns about youth exposure and regulatory oversight. To address and	

CONSORTIUM FOR A HEALTHIER MIAMI-DADE

Tobacco-Free Workgroup Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 29th, 2025, 9:30am

	monitor this issue, surveillance training will be provided in the future. As part of this work, the concept of Photo Voice will also be introduced; Photo Voice is a participatory research method that empowers community members to capture their experiences and perspectives through photography, using images and narratives as tools for storytelling, education, and policy change. Training on Photo Voice will help providers and youth document tobacco-related issues in their communities and use these visual stories to inform policy change. This approach, combined with surveillance efforts, will be strengthened by engaging the Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT) group, allowing youth voices and community-driven evidence to support local prevention strategies.	
Upcoming Events	• Intercoastal Beach Cleanup – September 20, 2025 • Annual SWAT Training – September 24, 2025	
Adjourn	The next Tobacco-Free Workgroup meeting is scheduled for September 30th, 2025. Members were encouraged to continue contributing ideas for future initiatives and to stay involved through active participation in subcommittees. Upcoming plans and action steps will be further explored in future meetings. Attendees were invited to complete a short survey to indicate their interests and identify specific areas they would like to support or help promote. New members have been added to the distribution list and will receive regular updates via email. Subcommittee enrollment remains open with no cap on participation, though members are encouraged to commit to at least one group. The meeting closed with gratitude for everyone's engagement and a shared sense of momentum moving forward. Chair Dr. Zinzi Bailey adjourned the meeting at 10:52 a.m.	