

CONSORTIUM FOR A HEALTHIER MIAMI-DADE

Healthy Baby Taskforce Meeting

Friday, March 20, 2026

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

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION NEEDED
Membership Total (15)	1. Esther Louis, Metro Mommy Agency/ MOMCHA Program (Committee Chair) 2. Eunice Mesumbe, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County (Committee Liaison) 3. Dr. Cristina Brito, United Way Miami 4. Talli Menchion, Easter Seals/Early Steps 5. Praveena Saxena, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County 6. Maria Sol Acosta, Community Care Plan 7. Viviana Alvarado, The Women's Fund Miami-Dade 8. Suecia Mendez Padilla, Sunshine Health 9. Candace Williams, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County 10. Michelle Denise Berkovits, University of Miami – Early Steps Program 11. Zadymon Moore, Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County 12. Kenya Snowden, SASC Health and Wellness 13. Heather Baker, Healthy Start Coalition Miami- Dade (HSCMD) 14. Melody Velez, United Health Care 15. Taylor Roberts, Foster Care Review	
Welcome and Introductions	The March 2026 monthly meeting of the Healthy Baby Taskforce was brought to order by Esther at 12:32 p.m. All members were welcomed, and introductions were made.	
Approval of Minutes	There was a motion to approve the Healthy Baby Taskforce February 2026 meeting minutes by Dr. Cristina Brito, and the motion was seconded by. Zadymon Moore.	
Previous Action Items	In this meeting, Taskforce leader engaged members to discuss further how we can develop our social media strategic plan. Each member present during this meeting was prompted to share a little bit about what strategies their organization is currently doing in the social media space and capacity to support some of the work that the Healthy Baby Taskforce is doing to engage online audience. Feedback comments from partners in this regard were discussed. It was deliberated that we could leverage each partner's networks to support social media engagement to raise awareness on health observances, community events and resources that could benefit our community. Some partners in their capacity stated they can promote, by collaborating on social media posts while other members were open to sharing with their email list. Health Observance Month Highlight	Share Health observances document with members.

Community Concerns Conversation & Health Observance Updates	April Black Maternal Health Week (BMHW): April 11 to 17, 2026 During this meeting, partners/ members were encouraged to sign up and volunteer as lead partners for certain health observance and monthly topics. The 2026 health observance monthly calendar sign-up form was also shared with members. In this regard, Esther Louis from Metro Mommy Agency/MOMCHA Program signed up to lead health observance in the month of April for the Black Maternal Health Week coming up from April 11 to 17, 2026. Taskforce members were asked to share if they had any activities planned for Black Maternal Health Week.	
FHB/Healthy Baby Taskforce FY 25-26 Work Plan Development	Taskforce liaison gave a recap of the presentation highlighting phase 1 report (July 1 – December 31, 2025) submitted January 6, 2026. Members were reminded of the next biannual reporting phase 2 of the FHB/Healthy Baby Taskforce FY 25-26 Work Plan Development, spanning from <i>January 1 to June 30, 2026, due by COB Monday, July 6, 2026</i>. Partners were also encouraged to increase participation in this phase 2 reporting process. <i>Reporting tool was shared with members.</i> Taskforce reviewed their 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.	Share reporting tool with members.
Partner Updates	The Women's Fund Miami-Dade (WFMD): Upcoming WFMD Impact Collaborative - From Risk to Resilience: Maternal Health and Hypertension Insights on Thursday, April 9, 2026. RSVP: https://womensfundmiami.org/event/april-impact-collaborative-from-risk-to-resilience-maternal-health... Metro Mommy Agency/ MOMCHA Program: - Coming up is the Black Maternal Health Week, happening annually from April 11 to 17 of 2026. If hosting any events, please list them in their publication through the SoFlo Black Maternal Health Week Guide 2026 link by Tuesday, March 31, 2026 - https://form.jotform.com/260744339553058. - During the upcoming months, Metro Mommy Agency will be hosting their mentorship meetups on the fourth Saturday of the month. This event will create a space for their doulas to have access to wellness activities that will help to calm their central nervous	Share Partner Updates email to Members following the meeting.

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	system and teach their clients also how to do the same. They invite community partners who would like to sponsor that event to contact Esther Louis at metromommyagency@gmail.com and also connect with Esther on LinkedIn Here. ○ Metro Mommy Agency will be hosting their Childbirth Education (CBE) classes weekly on Tuesdays from 12:00 pm to 1 pm in English and from 1:30 pm in Haitian Creole. Next event will be on Tuesday, March 24, 2026. Please register in advance for this meeting Here. ○ Also, every other Thursday, March 26, 2026, being the next one, will be hosting their breastfeeding support group. Register Here. ○ Updates as one of their community members, The Running Edge will be one of their partners during Black Maternal Health Week. They have their runs coming up Saturday, April 11, 2026, early in the morning. ○ In addition, on Sunday, April 12, 2026, Metro Mommy Agency will be hosting a walk with Girl Trek, to keep people moving during Black Maternal Health Week. Healthy Start Coalition of Miami- Dade (HSCMD): ○ Next Fetal Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) Community Action Group (CAG) Meeting will be on Thursday, March 26, 2026, at 10:00 am. FIMR Project of Miami-Dade County works to better understand the issues associated with fetal and infant mortality and to develop strategies that improve local perinatal systems of care. Email Heather Baker at hbaker@hscmd.org, to be added to the FIMR CAG email list. FIMR CAG registration link: https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/g07gKWlSDS9ZvSM_HYy1w. ○ Updates on their moving crib project which is a community initiative to increase awareness of infant safe sleep practices. They recently created a trilingual poster and brochure for this initiative. Also, the rotating moving crib project which featured at the Jackson North Medical center from the month of February and part of March during the Patient Safety Week will now be featured at three WIC clinics for the remainder of the Fiscal year 2026. Afterwards, it will be available again starting in July 2027. If any partners are interested in hosting the moving crib to please contact Heather Baker at HBaker@hscmd.org. ○ Also, their team Dad coaches were invited to host a breakout session during the City of North Miami's Second Annual Black Maternal Health Symposium on Saturday, April 11, 2026.	
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	University of Miami - Early Steps Program: Updates as they will be hosting their Innovation and Connection Conference - Supporting the Whole Child with Unilateral Hearing Loss: An Interdisciplinary Look on Wednesday, April 1, 2026, via zoom platform. Please see Meeting Registration - Zoom Florida Department of Health (FDOH): FDOH is now offering a Telehealth Maternity Care Program to prenatal and postpartum services and care for women throughout their pregnancy and up to one year after birth at no cost. View link Telehealth Maternity Care - Florida Department of Health. Jackson Memorial Hospital is the provider who will be offering the services locally. Sunshine Health: Suecia Padilla shared updates as they have every first Wednesday of the month their Breastfeed support in collaboration with the Women, Infant and Children's (WIC) program at their Community Connection Center in the welcome room located at 9552 SW 160 St. Miami FL 33157. Also, their next diaper distribution will be on Tuesday, April 28, 2026, at Noon (12 pm) in partnership with Tree of Life. Health screenings will be provided by the Health Council of South Florida (HCSF).	
Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 1:28 p.m. The next meeting will be hosted <u>virtually</u> through Microsoft Teams on Friday, April 17, 2026, from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.	Create next meeting invite and send reminder.