## Consortium For a Healthier Miami-Dade

**Children Issues Committee Meeting**  
Friday, January 15, 2016  
9:30 am-11:30 am EST

<table>
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<tr>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>DISCUSSION</th>
<th>ACTION NEEDED</th>
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| Membership Total (31) | Alina Soto (Chair of Children Issues committee), Department of Children and Families  
Alfie Leon (Vice-Chair of Children Issues committee), City of Miami  
Paula Vincent, Florida Department of Health in Miami Dade County  
Hardeep Singh, Community member  
Kristyna Pena, University of Miami  
Daniella Orihuela, Patricia and Phillip Frost Museum of Science  
Julia Onnie-Hay, Alliance for a Healthier Generation  
Elena Marte, Walk Safe Program  
Faith Grant, Help Me Grow – 211  
Esther McCant, Metro Mommy Agency, Inc.  
Dona Dailey, Community member  
Lourdes M. Perez, Connect Familias  
Karina Pavone, Miami Dade College  
Catherina Chang-Martinez, Florida International University  
Short Chef, Short Chef  
Paloma Lopez-Barcena, Early Learning Coalition  
Christine Florez, The Children’s Movement of Florida  
Rebeca Ruiz, My Therapy Center  
Fiorella Altare Christie, Early Learning Coalition  
Almira Thomas-Gayle, Florida Health in Miami Dade County  
Carla Munoz, Florida Health in Miami Dade County, WIC  
Gina Gonzalez, Amerigroup  
Betty Alonso, Connect Familias  
Lourdes Perez, Connect Families  
Carina, Miami Dade College  
Nancy Vazquez, Florida Health in Miami Dade County  
Teleconference:  
Silvana Tchorbadjian, Colgate Bright Smiles Bright Futures |
<p>| <strong>Welcome and Introductions</strong> | The monthly meeting of the Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade Children Issues Committee was brought to order by Alina Soto at 9:45 AM. All members were welcomed and introduced themselves. |
| <strong>Approval of Minutes</strong> | There was a motion to approve the November 2015 Children Issues Minutes by Daniella Orihuela; the motion was seconded by Short Chef. |
| <strong>Presentation</strong> | Paula Vincent presented on the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative. The Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI) is a program that encourages and recognizes hospitals and birthing centers that offer an optimal level of care for infant feeding and mother/baby bonding. The presentation included facts about breastfeeding, steps to become a baby friendly hospital, and current initiatives in Florida. In the U.S. only 5% of babies are born in a Baby Friendly Hospital. |
|  | Alina Soto informed the committee that without breastfeeding the incidence of childhood obesity is increased which is one of the focuses of the committee. The recommendation is the creation of a subcommittee with one individual to report. The Baby Friendly subcommittee/taskforce can work to accelerate the number of U.S. Baby-Friendly hospitals. The Children Issues Committee will work to support the process of the subcommittee and implementation. Committee members were encouraged to sign up if they were interested in joining the efforts of the subcommittee. |
| <strong>Committee Update</strong> | Alfie spoke on the direction of the Committee in 2016. The theme of Wheels on the Bus is used to illustrate that everyone plays a part, and we can all put our energy toward accomplishing certain goals. The Committee is considering how to join new and older partners in addressing the top issues the Committee wants to tackle. The goal is to |</p>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Consortium Update</strong></th>
<th>develop action items for the year, and make a collective effort for everyone to be heard and serve everyone that comes to the table.</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Culture of Health Update</strong></td>
<td>The Consortium has 7 committees: Children Issues, Elder Issues, Health and the Built Environment, Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, Marketing and Membership, Tobacco-Free Workgroup, and Worksite Wellness. Elder Issues and Health and the Built Environment are interested in partnering with the Children Issues Committee. Alina Soto invited the committee to consider partners within other committees and what collaboration may look like.</td>
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<td><strong>Committee Partner Updates</strong></td>
<td>The Department of Health in Miami-Dade County has applied for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Culture of Health Program. FDOH-MD was accepted for Level 1, and submitted a second proposal to make Miami-Dade County an official Robert Wood Johnson Foundation county that is living with a culture of health. This initiative will empower the county to develop strategies for increasing and leveraging private and public investments to improve neighborhoods facing the biggest barriers to better health. The initiative is a natural fit for Miami-Dade County since is it about the impact the county can make with empirical evidence and practical solutions while being a model of a county that really cares.</td>
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<td><strong>Consortium Update</strong></td>
<td>Carla Munoz (Florida Health in Miami Dade County, WIC) mentioned that that the December Health and Resource event was a success: 805 people registered, and 400 books, 237 toys, and 395 bags of food were distributed in Homestead.</td>
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<td><strong>Committee Partner Updates</strong></td>
<td>Fiorella Altare Christie (Early Learning Coalition) mentioned that the third annual conference is on September 24th. The Coalition will present on breastfeeding topics at the Ronald Reagan High School. Quality Counts is going through a series of renewals and providers need to go through a set of standards again and standards are being revised. They are working closely with the University of Miami on the USDA Program.</td>
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<td><strong>Committee Partner Updates</strong></td>
<td>Karina Pavone (Miami Dade College) mentioned that a grant was pursued with the</td>
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**Health Foundation of South Florida. Children's Health and Movement Program (CHAMP) was awarded to provide a comprehensive approach to improving nutrition and increasing physical activity in children by targeting childcare practitioners and caregivers in Miami.**

Almira Thomas-Gayle (Florida Health in Miami Dade County, School Health) mentioned that School Health is currently providing BMI screenings in the Miami-Dade County public schools. Children are referred to health care providers if the BMI is below or above the average.

Julia (Alliance for a Healthier Generation) supports afterschool program sites throughout Miami-Dade County that serve children grades K-12 in low income communities. Their grant was renewed for another two years. Julia will be looking into sustainability during this year, and will work to help the program sites to develop a wellness team.

Betty Alonso (Connect Familias) mentioned Connect Familias is working on a grant in partnership with Miami Dade College focused on HIV prevention work. As a result of the grant, Miami Dade Medical will become a testing site in their clinic.

Elena Marte (Walk Safe Program) mentioned the use of Pedestrian Safety Curriculum and piloting it with Pre-K populations. Elena has tested 400 students this year on the curriculum. At the conclusion of the study, it is hoped that the curriculum will be mandated in Miami-Dade County Pre-K populations.

Kristyna Pena (University of Miami) works for the Early Discovery program through the Children’s Trust serves 180 children in Miami-Dade County in the areas of speech. After 12 sessions, children in the program are reading at their goal level.

Rebeca Ruiz (My Therapy Center) mentioned that over 600 children are being serviced by the Center for speech and language therapy.

Short Chef (Short Chef) mentioned that he works to fight obesity one child at a time. He...
**New Business**

None.

**Old Business**

- Newsletter – CI committee members:
  - If anyone is interested in submitting any information for the newsletter, please e-mail Nancy.Vazquez@flhealth.gov

**Upcoming Events**

- National Early Care Education and Breastfeeding Joint Networking Call: January 19, 2016

**Adjournment**

The next meeting will be held on **Friday, February 19, 2016 at the United Way, 3250 SW 3rd Ave Miami, FL 33129**. The meeting was adjourned at 11:30AM.