## Membership Total

(28)

| **Chair:** Alina Soto, Department of Children and Families  
**Vice-Chair:** Alfie Leon, City of Miami  
Cheryl Lorie, Florida Health in Miami Dade County, WIC  
Carla Munoz, Florida Health in Miami Dade County, WIC  
Fiorella Altare Christie, Early Learning Coalition  
Lourdes Perez, Connect Familias  
Gina Gonzalez, Amerigroup  
Christina Sudduth, Florida Impact  
Lisseth Guerra, Florida Health in Miami Dade County  
Gina Menge, Miami-Dade Public Library System  
Cristina Brito, United Way Miami-Dade  
Short Chef, Short Chef  
Wil Ayala, Early Learning Coalition  
Paloma Lopez-Barcena, Early Learning Coalition  
Tatiana Canelas, Early Learning Coalition  
Osa Ikhile, University of Miami  
Melissa Hernandez, Florida Health in Miami-Dade County  
Lourdes M. Perez, Connect Familias  
Maria Negahbani, Florida Health in Miami-Dade County  
Jennifer Harless, FLIPANY  
Julia Onnie-Hay, Alliance for a Healthier Generation  
Nicole Marriot, Health Council of South Florida  
Rachelle Theodore, Florida Health in Miami-Dade County  
Britney James, Florida Health in Miami-Dade County  
Nancy Vazquez, Florida Health in Miami-Dade County  
Teleconference:  
Almira Thomas-Gayle, Florida Health in Miami Dade County  
Faith Grant, Help Me Grow – 211 |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Welcome and Introductions</th>
<th>The monthly meeting of the Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade Children Issues Committee was brought to order by Alina Soto at 9:35AM. All members were welcomed and introduced themselves.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Approval of Minutes</td>
<td>There was a motion to approve the January 2016 Children Issues minutes by Short Chef; the motion was seconded by Carla Munoz.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Business: Top 3 Issues to Push</td>
<td>Alina Soto (Chair) explained that the “Wheels on the Bus” conversation occurs periodically with the committee working to meet the goals and needs of the community. Alina noted that all committee members work in one way or another to benefit children, and the committee is intended to support and honor the efforts of its members. The last initiative that the committee was a part of occurred 2 ½ years ago. The committee selected 5 child care centers and created programs focused on improving nutrition and increasing physical activity. The committee was very proud of their accomplishments and believed to have reached their deliverables. It is now time for the committee to decide what to do in the community. Alina explained that during the last meeting the Little Havana community was a suggested focus. The committee was encouraged to discuss their concerns and suggestions. Alfie Leon (Co-Chair) explained that the February meeting of the committee usually involves the beginning of a process to identify partners and focus on key issues to tackle. The “Wheels on the Bus” illustrates that every member of the committee is important in order to move forward. The last initiative, the Pilot Program, focused on the following areas of concern: oral health, access to care, parental engagement, and physical activity and healthy eating. The Pilot Program served as the model for the current initiative under the Partnership to Improve Community Health (PICH) grant.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The goal is to develop an initiative that can eventually be rolled out countywide.

Alfie and Alina encouraged committee members to consider the work they are currently doing in the community and identify 3 overarching goals. As a result of these goals, the committee anticipates improving the health in the community. A draft work plan was disseminated to the committee members as context for the brainstorming session.

“Wheels on the Bus” brainstorm session:
- Expecting mothers (WIC/Short Chef)
  - nutrition and diet do’s & don’ts
- Resource connection (Connect Familias)
  - literacy
  - application assistance
  - undocumented individuals
- Food insecurity
  - faith based connection
- Clearinghouse
  - 211 or 311 equivalent
  - awareness
  - resources
- Receptiveness
  - overcoming fear and apprehension
- Mental health
  - fear and stigma
- Building trust with families
  - identify community/institutions with trust (Publix, Sedanos, Navaro)
- Community health ambassadors
- Parent/child therapy – behavior
- Mental health (Early Learning Coalition)
- Migrant population
| Committee Partner Updates | Maria Negahbani (Florida Health in Miami-Dade County) mentioned that the Worksite Wellness committee serves to assist in establishing and promoting healthy environments in the workplace. Cristina Brito (United Way Miami-Dade) stated that request for proposals will begin soon. The United Way will have a partnership with the Education Fund to work on child obesity by developing school gardens. Melissa Hernandez (Florida Health in Miami Dade County) serves as the liaison for Worksite Wellness. Melissa mentioned the Liberty City Healthy Hub is providing free bio-metric screenings to the public. Tatiana Canelas (Early Learning Coalition) mentioned that they are recruiting childcare centers in the southwest area not involved with Quality Counts. Quality Counts offers a wide variety of supports and incentives to the providers participating in the program. Paloma Lopez-Barcena (Early Learning Coalition) mentioned that the Children First Conference is scheduled for September 24, 2016. The conference focuses on research based and best practices designed to enhance and improve educational opportunities for all young children. Proposals are welcome. Wil Ayala (Early Learning Coalition) explained that the coalition is in its fourth year of a project where 180 childcare centers have received training on physical activity, nutrition, and screen time and breastfeeding support. The coalition also recently received the Health Foundation of South Florida grant where 160 centers will be educated on how to conduct structured physical activity to ensure at least 60 minutes of rigorous activity per day. Nicole Marriot (Health Council of South Florida) stated that the Health Council can provide data about the community. HCFS are the evaluators of the Partnership to Improve Community Health grant. The goal is to evaluate all activities done under the grant and ensure that they are well documented for the CDC. |
Julia Onnie-Hay (Alliance for a Healthier Generation) mentioned that the Alliance was subcontracted by Lets Move to provide technical assistance around Healthy Eating and Physical Activity (HEPA) policy implementation. The Alliance is currently working with 80 after school programs in the county.

Gina Gonzalez (Amerigroup) stated that the Connect Familias Happy Baby program will kick off in March. The organization has identified 74 soon to be mothers and 54 children who will benefit from the program. Obstetricians and pediatricians are currently needed to make the information more accessible to the community.

Jennifer Harless (FLIPANY) mentioned that Florida Introduces Physical Activity and Nutrition to Youth (FLIPANY) has a number of programs involved in nutrition education, healthy cooking, and physical activity.

Christina Sudduth (Florida Impact) stated that the organization works at the advocacy and outreach level for the children nutrition program. They work to ensure access to child nutrition programs in and out of schools.

Carla Munoz (Florida Health in Miami Dade County, WIC) mentioned WIC serves women who are pregnant, breastfeeding or postpartum, infants, and children up to age 5. WIC provides free nutrition education, nutritious foods, and breastfeeding support. Currently, WIC has a participation caseload of 72,000 women, children, and infants. There are 15 locations in Miami-Dade County.

Cheryl Lorie (Florida Health in Miami Dade County, WIC) mentioned that breastfeeding awareness and education is being brought to the Liberty City community in order to see changes in initiation and duration. Hospitals in the Homestead area are using the peer counselor model.

Gina Menge (Miami-Dade Public Library System) gave an update on the storytelling campaign that has events to bring the community back to the library. Summer reading will focus on nutrition and fitness.
**Children Issues Committee Meeting**  
**Friday, February 19, 2016**  
**9:30 am - 11:30 am EST**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Short Chef (Short Chef) mentioned that he has been active in the community educating kids about proper nutrition.</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PICH Update</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The objective of the Partnership to Improve Community Health (PICH) grant is to increase physical activity in childcare settings and schools, improve nutrition in those environments, and create physical activity as an alternative to screen time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Old Business</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newsletter – CI committee members:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o If anyone is interested in submitting any information for the newsletter, please e-mail <a href="mailto:Nancy.Vazquez@flhealth.gov">Nancy.Vazquez@flhealth.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Upcoming Events</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Hack the Fat: February 20-21, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Adjournment</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The next meeting will be held on <strong>Friday, March 18, 2016 at The Center for Excellence, 3250 SW 3rd Ave Miami, FL 33129.</strong> The meeting was adjourned at 11:35AM.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>