

**CONSORTIUM FOR A HEALTHIER MIAMI-DADE**  
Children Issues Committee – Healthy Baby Taskforce Meeting  
Friday, March 18, 2022  
12:30 PM- 1:30 PM EST

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION NEEDED
Membership Total (12)	<p><b><u>Virtual Meeting</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tenesha Avent, March of Dimes (Co-Chair)</li> <li>2. Esther McCant, Metro Mommy Agency/Jasmine Project (Co-Chair)</li> <li>3. Lourdes Castaneda, AHEC</li> <li>4. KeTia Harris, Jessie Trice Community Health System</li> <li>5. Ashley Hettinga, Sunshine Health</li> <li>6. Cynthia Lebron, UM</li> <li>7. Suecia Mendez, Sunshine Health</li> <li>8. Zulema Santacruz, Banyan Health Systems</li> <li>9. Skye Wheeler, Human Rights Watch</li> <li>10. Islamiyat Nancy Adebisi, Florida Department of Health in Miami Dade</li> <li>11. Tamia Medina, Florida Department of Health in Miami Dade</li> <li>12. Candice Schottenloher, Florida Department of Health in Miami Dade</li> </ol>	
Welcome and Introductions	The March 2022 monthly meeting of the Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade Children Issues sub-committee (Healthy Baby Taskforce) was brought to order by Esther McCant and Tenesha Avent at 12:33 p.m. All members were welcomed and introduced themselves.	
Approval of Minutes	There was a motion to approve the January 2022 Healthy Baby Taskforce meeting minutes by Tenesha Avent, the motion was seconded by Suecia Mendez.	
Previous Action Items  HBT Work Plan Discussion & Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Taskforce had a follow up conversation on the healthy corner store initiative shared by Florida Impact last meeting. This conversation relates directly back to the new work plan strategy to promote policy, systems, and environmental changes to increase access to and equitable consumption of healthy foods statewide for Floridians of all ages.</li> <li>- A reminder was shared this initiative was launched in 2018 in Miami Gardens to increase healthier choices at small independent retailers. In 2020, the <i>Healthy Checkout</i> initiative was launched and is working to increase healthy choices at checkout in larger retailers.</li> <li>- The Taskforce continued to discuss and develop next steps in how to get involved and address access to healthier foods for pregnant mothers, fathers, children, and expectant families.</li> <li>- The Taskforce discussed they wanted to learn more about the healthy corner store initiative focus group process and what their best practices were to develop this initiative. Also, the Taskforce wants to learn more if there are any opportunities or future developments to participate in and be a part of this work.</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- It was discussed if the Taskforce could participate in a pilot study with one of the corner stores or grocery stores to see how we could lay out health education resources or healthy foods in specific areas to increase access to better nutritious options.</li> <li>- Some of the ideas that were noted during the discussion from the presentation included health education for foods that increase milk flow for breastfeeding, better food options available in and around the hospital or healthy corner store delivery services.</li> <li>- Another key point mentioned was the linkage of breastfeeding to healthy corner store available healthy food options. It was highlighted this could be a direct link referral to WIC and breastfeeding.</li> <li>- The Taskforce liaison will follow-up with Florida Impact to learn more about ways the Taskforce can support and work with this initiative.</li> <li>- Other updates were shared with the Taskforce the baby safe sleep discussions are currently being analyzed with the new software MAXQDA. Once the analysis is complete, the Department of Health will present the results to the Taskforce.</li> </ul>	
New Business  Black Maternal Health Week	<p>The Taskforce had a discussion on Black Maternal Health Week. This week is recognized each year from April 11<sup>th</sup> to April 17<sup>th</sup> to bring awareness to Black Maternal Health. It was shared from the <a href="#">Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)</a>, each year in the United States, about 700 women die during pregnancy or in the year after and another 50,000 women each year experience severe pregnancy complications that can cause serious consequences for a woman's health. From this data it is important to recognize the disparity that exists which is Black women are 3 times more likely to die from a pregnancy-related cause than White women. The Taskforce Co-Chairs shared working across various sectors will help us to work to address the factors contributing to these deaths. The Taskforce discussed creating a social media campaign to increase awareness and to educate on the importance of Black Maternal Health Week. The Taskforce partners briefly discussed a future collaboration with the <a href="#">Black Mamas Matter Alliance</a> for an upcoming virtual webinar to discuss healthy equity and environmental health injustices that pregnant mother and expectant families face.</p>	
Partner Updates	<p>Taskforce members were able to briefly share an update on their current work/initiatives/projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Banyan Health Systems:</b> An update was provided by Zulema Santacruz. She provided updates on their maternal health program and the grant they were awarded through SAMHSA. She shared they do have opportunities for those with barriers to transportation.</li> <li>- <b>DOH-Miami-Dade Tobacco Prevention &amp; Control:</b> An update was provided by Islamiyat Adebisi. She shared if anyone needs educational materials for outreach events there are Healthy Baby tobacco brochures available to distribute to the community and expectant families. There are also posters for healthcare providers available too. It was noted we would like to increase distribution of these materials as it is a part of the Taskforce workplan.</li> </ul>	

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- **Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County:** An update was shared by Candice Schottenloher. She shared the next *Healthy Happens Here* webinar will be hosted for National Nutrition Month on Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 1 p.m. and the next Eat Fresh Series Facebook Live Event will be hosted on Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 12 p.m. Additionally, the department invites you to the March of Dimes Implicit Bias Training that will be hosted on Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022. Please register [here](#).
- **Jasmine Project:** An update was shared by Esther McCant. The Jasmine Project is a federal Healthy Start Program funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The Jasmine Project serves pregnant women, infants, and families in North Miami-Dade (zip codes: 33054, 33055, 33167, 33169). She shared if you are interested in joining the Jasmine Project Community Action Network, please email Esther McCant at [Jasmineprojectcan@gmail.com](mailto:Jasmineprojectcan@gmail.com).
- **Jessie Trice Community Health System:** An update was shared by KeTia Harris. She provided an update on the breastfeeding support groups that are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday's at 3PM. To join the group, please click [here](#). She shared North Miami Ave. Church of God's Diaper Drive will be hosted on Saturday, May 7, 2022 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, please call 954-257-2536. Accepting donations from March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022 as well as partnership for day-of presentations. Lastly, BreastfeedMIAMI has started to plan for Breastfeeding Awareness Month. Please feel free to join either of the three committees: Art & Advocacy Event, Big Latch-On Community Event, and Professional Development. For more information, please contact KeTia Harris at [ksharris@jtchs.org](mailto:ksharris@jtchs.org) or (786) 322-6442.
- **March of Dimes:** An update was shared by Tenesha Avent. She shared the upcoming event dates for March for Babies: A Mother of a Movement. This movement is to fight for the health of all moms and babies. The dates for these events include April 23<sup>rd</sup> (West Palm Beach), May 7<sup>th</sup> (Broward), and May 14<sup>th</sup> (Miami).
- **Metro Mommy Agency:** An update was shared by Esther McCant. She shared a recap on the success of the *Fostering Leadership to Promote Breastfeeding in Miami-Dade* webinar that was held on Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022. She also shared a few additional updates on Breastfeed Miami. Esther McCant also shared the Broward Healthy Start Coalition will be hosting its 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Black Maternal Health Week Workshop: Improving Birth Outcomes. This year's event is scheduled for Wednesday April 13th, 2022, from 10 am- 1 pm and will be held virtually. To join, please register [here](#).
- **Sunshine Health:** An update was shared by Suecia Mendez. She shared Sunshine Health's Welcome Room is available for free to the community located at 9552 SW 160 St. Miami, FL 33157. She also shared they have presentations available on the Children Medical Services Plan operated by Sunshine

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	<p>Health. Please reach out to Suecia Mendez for more information or to book the room, please contact her at <a href="mailto:supadilla@SunshineHealth.com">supadilla@SunshineHealth.com</a>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>University of Miami:</b> An update was provided by Dr. Cynthia Lebron. She shared they are currently pending a few items for their baby friendly hospital research. She shared once it is approved and available, they would be available to present to the Taskforce.</li> </ul>	
Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m. The next Healthy Baby Taskforce virtual meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 15, 2021 from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. via the Go To Meeting platform.	