



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

April 5, 2021; 8:00 a.m.

Zoom Meeting ID: 963 1698 3897

Passcode: 04052020

Board Attendees: Adrian Alfonso; Rick Beasley; Bob Eadie; James Haj; Gerald Schwartz; Iris Strachan; Aaron Slavens; Sandi Bisceglia; Chuck Mohr; Gladys Montes; Joycelyn Lawrence; Lisa Taylor; Eileen Fluney; Marisol Diaz; Jane McQueen; Alex Soto; Loreen Chant, Raeann Bacchus; Daniel Armstrong; Stephanie Scuderi

Board Absentees: Matthew Bruno, Jenni Roig

Staff Attendees: Evelio Torres; Angelo Parrino; Lisney Badillo; Pam Hollingsworth; Ana Sejeck; Fiorella Christie; Mercy Castiglione; Diana Lane; Victor Caballero; Belkis Torres; Ileana Vallejo; Adelina Gross; Cassie Alaniz; Laurie Dunn; Anabel Espinosa; Erika Erched; Sandra Gonzalez; Alex Sanchez; Jose Hernandez; Michelle Meilan; Lissandra Curbelo

General Attendees: Bob de la Fuente (Board Counsel); Dave Lawrence; Richie Tandoc; Mara Zapata; Dr. Denisse Barrera

I. Welcome and Introductions

Adrian Alfonso

- A. Alfonso called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- L. Sanabria called roll and a quorum was established with twenty (20) voting members.
- A. Alfonso stated that the ELC staff continued to hold weekly provider meetings via Zoom to provide updates from the different ELC departments. The March meetings had various community partners presenting on upcoming events and trainings.
- A. Alfonso stated that the next meeting on May 3 is an Executive Committee Meeting. While he encourage board members to attend, it is not mandatory.
- A. Alfonso thanked Gerald Schwartz and Bob Eadie for their participation on our board. Both will leave the board after the May meeting and he thanked them for their dedication and hard work. A. Alfonso stated that B. Eadie had agreed to stay on the board as an ex-officio member representing Monroe County.
- A. Alfonso stated that the Florida Department of Health in Miami Dade County had appointed Dr. Denisse Barrera to serve as the County health department designee. He welcomed her to the board but stated that her official term will begin in May.



- M. Diaz stated that the Nominating Committee interviewed the following applicants:
 - Private-Sector Member
 - Mara Zapata – Beyond the Mark Consulting, LLC
 - Richie Tandoc – Sanson, Kline, Jacomino & Tandoc, LLP
 - M. Diaz stated that after much discussion, the committee decided to vote on two new appointments and the other applicants would remain under consideration and selected at a later time. The Committee voted to approve the nomination of Richie Tandoc as a private sector member and Mara Zapata as the community at large member.
 - A. Alfonso moved to approve the nomination.
 - A. Soto seconded the motion.
 - Motion passed unanimously.
- A. Alfonso assigned Mara Zapata to the EHS Policy Council and the Program & Policy Committee. Richie Tandoc was assigned to the Governance & Bylaws Committee.
- A. Alfonso stated that at the March 25 Finance Committee Meeting Octavio Verdeja present the ELC's latest audit. A. Alfonso stated that it was a clean audit, no findings.
- A. Alfonso stated that the ELC collaborated with the Miami Children's Museum to celebrate Children's Week. More than 500 families and children took part in a drive-thru event at the museum, where they received donated food boxes from Farm Share and books and early literacy materials from the ELC.

II. Approval of Minutes

Adrian Alfonso

- A. Alfonso called for the approval of the meeting minutes from February 2021.
 - G. Schwartz moved to approve the minutes.
 - A. Soto seconded the motion.
 - Motion passed unanimously.

III. Finance Committee Report

Adrian Alfonso

- B. Eadie stated that the Finance Committee met on March 25 and approved resolutions:
 - A. Resolution 04052021-01 - Authorize the President and CEO to submit the 2021-2022 Early Head Start grant reapplication to the Office of Head Start in the amount of \$10,812,913.00 for the 04HP000226 program grant and, if approved, receive and use the funds for their intended purpose.



- Motion to approve resolution by B. Eadie.
 - Motion seconded by J. McQueen.
 - Motion unanimously passed.
- B. Resolution 04052021-02 - Authorize the President and CEO to submit a School Readiness Plan amendment to the Florida Office of Early Learning for approval to implement the 2021-22 Florida Office of Early Learning Sliding Fee Schedule.
- Motion to approve resolution by B. Eadie.
 - Motion seconded by S. Scuderi.
 - Motion unanimously passed.

The following Resolutions were added after the finance committee met:

- C. Resolution 04052021-03- Authorize the President and CEO to release a Request for Proposal (RFP) for External Auditing Services.
- Motion to approve resolution B. Eadie.
 - Motion seconded by S. Scuderi.
 - Motion unanimously passed.
- D. Resolution 04052021-04 - Authorize the President and CEO to amend the Early Learning Coalition's Budget for fiscal year 2020-2021.
- Motion to approve resolution by B. Eadie.
 - Motion seconded by A. Alfonso.
 - Motion unanimously passed.
- E. Resolution 04052021-05 - Authorize the President and CEO to submit an application to the Office of Head Start for Early Head Start COVID funding in the amount of \$225,727.00 and, if approved, receive and use the funds for their intended purpose as specified in ACF-PI-HS-21-01.
- Motion to approve resolution by S. Bisceglia.
 - Motion seconded by A. Soto.
 - Motion unanimously passed.
- B. Eadie stated that the financials continue to reflect a surplus. This is due to the transition from paying on enrollment to attendance and the enrollment rate is low. Many coalitions are expecting to end the year in a surplus. B. Eadie stated that E. Torres was in Tallahassee meeting representatives advocating for the provider bonuses and the rate increase.
 - B. Eadie stated that there is a surplus in VPK also due to low enrollment rates. This is a statewide problem.



- B. Eadie stated that the reconciliation snapshot is now reflecting under 30 providers under the disputed category.
- B. Eadie stated that the Snapshots were presented and there is no waitlist in Miami-Dade or Monroe County. Children are brought in children every two weeks in Miami-Dade and daily in Monroe.
- B. Eadie stated that there were no charges on the EHS credit card report.

IV. Policy Council Committee Report

Kisline Timothee

- A video by K. Timothee was played.

V. Programs, Policy & Strategy Committee Report

Gladys Montes

- G. Montes stated that the Programs, Policy & Strategy Committee met on March 29 and discussed the following items:
 - EHS enrollment, attendance and meal programs were reviewed and accepted.
 - The EHS Grant Application was reviewed and approved. G. Montes stated that most changes made were due to adjustments for the pandemic.
 - Motion to approve grant by G. Montes.
 - Motion seconded by G. Schwartz
 - Motion unanimously passed.
 - G. Montes stated that two incidents of alleged child abuse in EHS center were reported. G. Montes stated that both are under investigation and have been reported to DCF.
 - Professional Development Institute
 - In 2021, and moving forward, the Professional Development Institute will sponsor one virtual conference, yearly. This years It Takes a 'Virtual' Village Early Childhood Conference will be held on April 23rd and 24th, 2021
 - PDI had its first group of CDA graduates. A total of 46 Students completed 120 hours of training and completed a professional resource file.
 - The Equity Institute Lead With Equity
 - Internal – Anti-Bias and Leadership Training/YES Institute, 21 Day Racial Equity and Social Justice Challenge, OEL/Equity Mentor, ELCMDM Board Directives
 - External – Outreach to Coalitions, Children First Equity and Inclusion Series, Gender Stereotyping and Anti Bullying, Anti-Bias Classroom Certificates and Kellogg Racial Equity 2030 Partnership.

VI. Provider Services Committee Report

Rick Beasley

- R. Beasley stated that the Provider Services Committee met on March 25. At this meeting, providers were given the opportunity to have a round table discussion with their provider representatives.



- R. Beasley stated that the meeting began by discussing several issues that were at the top of the providers' radar; limited cohort size, provider reimbursement rates, provider bonuses, proposed special needs rate and PDI available trainings.
- R. Beasley stated that E. Torres gave an update on the ongoing efforts of the Miami-Dade County Mayor's office to explore changing the current group cohort size from a maximum of 12 children. A decision has not yet been made, but there is ongoing discussion on the impact on providers and the best way to move forward.
- R. Beasley stated that after the updates, the three provider representatives (Jenni Roig, Dr. Eileen Fluney and Dr. Daniel Armstrong) were introduced and providers were given the opportunity to ask questions.

VII. CEO Report

Evelio Torres

<https://www.elcmdm.org/Content/Uploads/elcmdm.org/files/Meeting%20Packages/CEO%20Report%2004-2021%20final.pdf>

VIII. Public Comments

Adrian Alfonso

IX. Adjourn

Adrian Alfonso