



Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting
February 1st, 2016; 8:00 a.m.
ELC Board Room

Board Attendees: Adrian Alfonso (chair); Imran Ali; Tina Carroll-Scott; Robert Eadie (treasurer); David Lawrence Jr; Dr. Judy Schaechter; Alan Eckstein; Dr. Mara Zapata; Rick Beasley (via conference call); Abilio Rodriguez; Shaleen Fagundo, Alexander Soto; Lucy Pineiro (via conference call); Gladys Montes; Gerald Schwartz; Theresa Axford; Russell Benford (via conference call); Gilda Ferradaz; Philip Gassman; Magaly Abrahamante; Helene Good; Heather Carruthers (via conference call)

Board Absentees:

Staff Attendees: Evelio Torres (President/CEO); Angelo Parrino; Lisa Sanabria; Jackye Russell; Fred Hicks; Wilfredo Ayala; Mercy Castiglione; Fiorella Altare; Dr. Anabel Espinosa; Ileana Vallejo; Kerry Allen; Molly O'Doherty; Jose Hernandez; Juan Castillo; Paloma Lopez-Barcena; Tatiana Canelas; Miranda James; Lisney Badillo; Michelle Meilan; Sandra Gonzalez; Pamela Hollingsworth; Lidia Clarke; Belinda Jeanty-Gauthier; Victor Caballero; Isabel Afanador; Nichelle Calhoun; Jenifer Hernandez; Cindy Lozada; Johanna Miranda; Sandra Marrero; Janette Vargas; Marie Jose

General Attendees: Santiago Echemendia, Shutts & Bowen LLP; Jackie Romillo, Citrus; Gail Gregg, FIU; Juanita Walker, Sheyes of Miami; Shelia Dudley, Room 2 Bloom; Sarah Brazin, Liberty Academy; Rachel Spector, TCT; Emmounte Dante, Room 2 Bloom; Melissa Clements, Forum; Claudia Gonzalez, PAAST; Janisse Schwepp, HFSF; Shawn Pointville, Excel Kids Academy; Eddie Berrones, Le Jardin; Malory Roger, A New World Academy; Audelia Marty, Le Jardin; Dr. Claudia Uribe, Cherry Blossom

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 seventeen (17) voting members.
- A. Alfonso stated that if anyone has a conflict of interest on any item coming before the Board, to declare the conflict and see Lisa Sanabria for a form.
- A. Alfonso stated that the Senate Bill 248 by Sen. René García and House Bill 89 by Rep. José Félix Díaz focused on removing Florida's 5 year waiting period for lawfully residing immigrant children. The Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 states the option to cover lawfully residing immigrant children through Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program without enduring the five-year waiting period that applies to most public assistance programs for immigrants. Extending coverage to these children is likely not only to improve their health outcomes, but also to reduce the cost of uncompensated care in the health system as a whole. Low-income immigrant children who are insured are more likely to receive preventive health care and less likely to use hospital emergency rooms. Providing timely care for children who are otherwise eligible and will eventually be enrolled in the KidCare program will help children succeed in school and avoid costly ER care and hospital bills.



- A. Alfonso stated that beginning with the 2014-15 VPK Provider Kindergarten readiness rate cycle the Office of Early Learning has enhanced the log in security for the VPK Readiness Rate website. These changes allow for greater security for each provider's secure home page on the website.

On December 23, 2015 OEL mailed an individual letter to each private provider. Each letter contains three important pieces of information for accessing the readiness rate website

- - nine-digit registration ID
 - - four- or five-digit provider ID
 - - provider's zip code
- A. Alfonso congratulated David Lawrence Jr. on behalf on the board as he was appointed to the Florida Agriculture and Mechanical University Board of Trustees by Governor Rick Scott.
 - A. Alfonso congratulated CareerSource South Florida for its 8th consecutive year of receiving clean audit results. As a result of the many years of clean audits, CSSF has been classified as a "low-risk entity", meaning that the organization is financially sound and has appropriate internal controls governing all aspects of its operations.
 - A. Alfonso discussed the trio that fraudulently designating children as "At-Risk" in referrals to the county's former child development services division. These individuals have been sentenced:
 - Ana Marcano, entered a plea and was sentenced to two years of community control (house arrest) followed by ten years of probation on charges of Organized Scheme to Defraud and Uttering Forged Instruments.
 - Scarlette Jarquin and her husband Allan Diaz entered pleas and agreed to cooperate with prosecutors in the case against Marcano. Jarquin was sentenced to two years of community control (house arrest) followed by five years of probation on a charge of Organized Scheme to Defraud. Diaz was sentenced to one year of probation on a charge of Petit Theft.
 - A. Alfonso introduced Claudia Gonzalez as the new Audit Committee Chair.
 - A. Alfonso announced that there would be three presentations:
 - Steven E. Marcus presented on the Health Foundation of Florida.
 - Dr. Melissa Clements presented on the Miami-Dade Quality Counts Workforce Study.
 - The children from Hanan's Child Care Academic gave a special performance.

II. Approval of Minutes

Adrian Alfonso

- A. Alfonso called for the approval of the meeting minutes from November, 2015.
 - A. Eckstein moved to approve the minutes.
 - J. Schaechter seconded the motion.
 - Motion was passed unanimously.

III. Finance Committee Report

Bob Eadie

- Resolution 01272016-01 Authorize the President and CEO to negotiate and execute an amendment to add all funding sources to the contracts listed in the background section of this resolution for Quality Materials. Fiscal Impact: This resolution shall have no fiscal impact on contract amount. Funding Source: All Funding Sources
 - Motion to approve resolution by G. Schwartz
 - Motion seconded by A. Eckstein
 - Motion was unanimously passed.



- Resolution 01272016-02 Authorize the President and CEO to negotiate and execute a contract with the Department of Financial Services for services described in the background section of this resolution. The total amount of this contract is subject to availability of funding. Fiscal Impact: \$125,000.0. Funding Source: All Funding Sources.
 - Motion to approve resolution by M. Zapata
 - Motion seconded by T. Axford
 - Motion was unanimously passed.

- Resolution 01272016-03 authorize the President and CEO to negotiate and execute an amendment for Early Head Start Program budget to receive supplemental funding. Fiscal Impact: The total contract amount increase is by \$550,000.00 which is subject to the availability of funding. Funding Source: Administration for Children and Families/Department of Health & Human Services
 - Motion to approve resolution by I. Ali
 - Motion seconded by J. Schaechter
 - Motion was unanimously passed.

- Resolution 01272016-04 authorize the Board to approve the Early Head Start Program Budget Balance of Funds in effect from February 1, 2016 through July 31, 2016. Fiscal Impact: The total amount of the six month budget is \$5,809,355.00; \$4,647,484.00 for Operations and \$1,161,871.00 in Training and Technical Assistance. Funding Source: Administration for Children and Families/Department of Health & Human Services
 - Motion to approve resolution by A. Eckstein
 - Motion seconded by J. Schaechter
 - Motion was unanimously passed.

- Resolution 01272016-05 Authorize the President and CEO to receive and execute the grant agreement with the Health Foundation of Florida. Fiscal Impact: The grant is in an amount of \$160,089.00, over 24 months, subject to approval for legal sufficiency and form. Funding Source: Health Foundation of South Florida
 - Motion to approve resolution by J. Schaechter
 - Motion seconded by H. Good
 - Motion was unanimously passed.

- Resolution 01272016-06 Authorize the President and CEO to use School Readiness funding to pay the approved \$20,000.00 increase in the Miami-Dade Family Learning Partnership, Inc. contract (PSA15-50). Fiscal Impact: See attached Resolution 12012015-02. Funding Source: School Readiness
 - Motion to approve resolution by A. Eckstein
 - Motion seconded by J. Schaechter
 - Motion was unanimously passed.
 - D. Lawrence was not present during this motion to approve resolution

- Resolution 01272016-07 Authorize the President and CEO to receive funds from the School Board of Miami Dade County Teenage Parent Program grant/contract. Fiscal Impact: The contract is in the amount of \$500,000.00 for fiscal year 2015 - 2016, subject to approval for legal sufficiency and form. Funding Source: Miami Dade County Public Schools
 - Motion to approve resolution by A. Eckstein
 - Motion seconded by H. Good
 - Motion was unanimously passed.

- B. Eadie reviewed the finance statement and stated that it was business as usual and that trends are on a normal tract as compared to other fiscal years.



- E. Torres stated that the ELC is looking closely at the School Readiness enrollment so not to over enroll children.
- E. Torres stated the number of children on the wait list is cleared out every month and is maintain at 0.

IV. Programs and Policy Committee Report

Dr. Judy Schaechter

- The topic of discussion was in reference to the current enrollment which is 590 children 285 are dually enrolled (EHS and School Readiness), 305 are enrolled in EHS only. The Early Head Start Grant requires 43% of children to be dually enrolled, this percentage has been surpassed.
- The referrals made to Jackson are a total of 670, 404 are children enrolled in EHS and 270 are the parents or siblings of EHS children.
- The Parent Committee has been established and the first meeting was held 01/11/16. The Policy council meeting was held on 01/28/16.
- EHS partnership interagency meeting, meets with Miami Dade County and United Way:
 - Presentation on School Readiness determination and eligibility model
 - The ELC's expansion of the Providers Assessment Portal to include EHS children
 - Transition options for children
 - Meet and greet activities for EHS staff across partnerships
 - Possible unified placement and waitlist for EHS children
- Quality Counts currently has 422 providers in the program, out of those being served 343 are priority and 79 are non-priority.
- Out of the accredited providers: 227 are centers, 18 are family homes, 7 are Head Start and 6 are RCMA.
- The waitlist is currently at 0.
- Star rating will be establish again and the requirement of teachers having a high-school diploma will be removed hence increasing the star ratings. QC will continue to offer scholarships for teachers to obtain there High School diploma.
- This division of the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe encompasses all types of facilitated learning opportunities. They incorporate a variety of approaches to professional development, including consultation, coaching, and communities of practice, lesson study, mentoring, reflective supervision and technical assistance. Provide comprehensive training on emergent literacy, language development and classroom interactions. Additionally the Professional Development Institute provides instructor led VPK courses required by state legislation. Lastly the Professional Development Institute serves as a clearinghouse for, speakers, educators, and advocates to promote trainings on our community training calendar.
- Florida laws requires all private and public VPK providers to administer pre- and post-assessments to all children attending a VPK program. PDI has held 13 trainings and had a total 140 attendees.
- The Hippy program in Monroe County has a funding level \$110,000 blended, the fiscal cycle runs July- June and there are 50 TANF/SR eligible children. The HIPPY program in Collier County has a funding level of \$80,000, the fiscal cycle runs July- June and there are 45 TANF eligible children.
- The trainings PDI offer included new hire orientation, BG 1, 3, 5, and income fee schedules /care levels respectively. All department new hires were invited to attend as well as any support specialist identified by their supervisor. Twenty (20) staff attended the trainings which included 3 new hires. Each training was observed by a Family Support Lead.



Participants demonstrated through assessment and scores over 90% indicate that learning gains were made. 100% of the training evaluations report that learning objectives were met.

- Dr. Espinosa reported that the amount of past due ASQ's is down 201, children past due is 521. The Inclusion team has hired someone who is calling all providers that are past due to help them correct any issue they may have. Withholding payments for past due ASQ's will begin in February.
- The Warm Line is a telephone number to provide assistance and consultation about the inclusion of children with developmental delays and children who are at risk for disabilities. A service to assist providers and parents concerned about a child's development. The Warm line assists School Readiness children as follows:
 - Citrus Health Network provides ASQ-3 follow-up inclusion services to children (birth to kindergarten eligibility) enrolled in School Readiness whose ASQ-3 results indicate a concern or risk for developmental delay. Referral to Help Me Grow children enrolled in School Readiness who are Kindergarten eligible or older.
- Non-School Readiness children are assisted as follows:
 - The Inclusion Team provides follow- up inclusion services to all children (birth to kindergarten eligibility) enrolled in early care settings whose parents or providers indicate a concern or risk for developmental delay via the ELC Warm Line. Referral to Help Me Grow if the child is between the ages of birth to Kindergarten eligibility not in early care setting for children who are Kindergarten eligible or older.
- OEL Reporting Requirements for the Warm line are as follows:
 - Reporting Templates come directly from OEL, Activity Log, Technical Assistance, Calls, and emails, on site follow up, Trainings, Internal and external trainings categories by Topic, Narrative (optional). All data necessary to meet OEL Reporting Requirements is on the Warm Line Log which is archived by Quarter on the Coalition secured network drive (N Drive)
- A Childhood Obesity Prevention Project has been established and reports that nearly 1/3 of U.S children and adolescents are overweight or obese, and 1 in 3 Miami-Dade County preschool children in subsidized childcare are overweight. Research has found that many preschoolers in childcare settings are not meeting the recommended guidelines of 2 hours of unstructured and structured physical activity daily. This project will Coordinated Approach to Child Health (CATCH) Train-the-Trainer Academy in techniques of structured physical play, Portable play equipment for each site, Onsite technical assistance, Family activities to promote structured physical activity. The funder of this project is the Health Foundation of South Florida. The grant was awarded on December 24, 2015, it will run for 2 years and the funded amount is \$160,069 (\$80,034.50 yearly). The expected launch date is March 01, 2016 and the target service recipients are 165 ECE centers, 4,950 preschoolers and families in the locations of Miami-Dade North & South, Greater Miami and Broward
- The Sunbeatables project was also discussed but was tabled for the time being as an analysis of future projects must be discussed.

V. Legislative Committee Report

Alexander Soto

- A. Soto discussed the following House and Senate Bills that were of concern to the ELC:
 - SB 156 (Identical to HB 133)-After-school Programs: Deletes legislative intent provision regarding certain not-for-profit organizations and background screening for such organizations; defines term "not-for-profit organization"; requires certain employees of not-for-profit organizations to meet certain background screening requirements; creates study group.
 - SB 248 (Similar to HB 89)-Medical Assistance Funding for Lawfully Residing Children: Defining the term "lawfully residing child"; revising eligibility for Florida Kidcare program to conform to changes made by the act; clarifying that undocumented immigrants are excluded from eligibility; providing eligibility for optional payments for medical



assistance and related services for certain lawfully residing children; clarifying that undocumented immigrants are excluded from eligibility for optional Medicaid payments or related services, etc.

- SB 536 -After-school child Care Programs: Requiring the Department of Children and Families to create a tiered after-school licensure program; requiring the department to adopt rules to implement the tiered after-school program; requiring the department to initiate rulemaking to implement the program by a certain date; requiring the department to submit a report to the Governor and Legislature by a certain date, etc.
- SB 1068 (Similar to HB 7021) Education: Revising the duties of the Just Read, Florida! Office; revising requirements for school improvement plans and early warning systems; revising core curricula requirements for certain teacher preparation programs to include certain reading instruction and interventions; requiring candidates for an educator certificate in certain areas to demonstrate competence in specified areas, etc.
- SB 1394 (Compare HB 7063) Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles: Providing that provisions prohibiting a driver from following certain vehicles within a specified distance do not apply to truck tractor-semitrailer combinations under certain circumstances; requiring the driver of every other vehicle to take specified actions if a utility service vehicle displaying any visual signals or a service patrol vehicle displaying amber rotating or flashing lights is performing certain tasks on the roadside; revising the renewal period for certain motor vehicles subject to registration, etc. Also exempts child care providers from having to adhere to safety seat requirements when transporting children.
- SB 1420 (Similar to HB 1125) Eligibility for Employment as Child Care Personnel: Prohibiting certain job applicants from employment with a child care facility, etc.
- SB 1612 Voluntary Education Prekindergarten Program: Revising requirements for prekindergarten instructors employed by a private prekindergarten provider; revising requirements for the pre- and post-assessment administered to students enrolled in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program, etc.
- HB 89 (Similar to SB 248) Florida Kidcare Program: Provides eligibility for optional payments for medical assistance & related services for certain lawfully residing children; clarifies that undocumented immigrants are excluded from eligibility for optional Medicaid payments or related services.
- HB 1259 (Identical to SB 1612) Voluntary Education Prekindergarten Program: Revising requirements for prekindergarten instructors employed by a private prekindergarten provider; revising requirements for the pre- and post-assessment administered to students enrolled in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program, etc.
- HB 7021 Relating to Reading Instruction: Revising the duties of Just Read, Florida! Office, requiring certain schools to include specific information in the school improvement plan and to implement an early warning system for students that meet certain criteria, revising the emergent literacy course to include specific reading instruction, requiring the OEL to approve specific VPK assessments, requiring VPK students to receive specific reading instruction, etc.
- HB 7053 Child Care and Development Block Grant Program: Expands list of entities that have access to child abuse records for approving providers of school readiness services; requires school readiness program providers to provide DCF & local licensing agencies with access for inspection purposes; requires certain child care providers to submit affidavit of compliance with licensure requirements of ch. 402, F.S., & federal law; provides criteria for exemption from disqualification for employment with school readiness program provider; revises duties of OEL; revises provisions relating to child & parent eligibility for school readiness programs.



VI. CEO Report

Evelio Torres

http://www.elcmdm.org/about_us/Board/minutes/Board/CEO%20report/CEOR02012016.pdf

VII. Public Comments

Adrian Alfonso

- S. Dudley commended the ELC on the efficiency the North Service Center is attaining.

VIII. Adjourn

Adrian Alfonso