



ELC Provider Services Committee Meeting
Monday July 24, 2023; 2 P.M.
Meeting ID: 832 6925 2264
Passcode: 854419

MINUTES

Committee Attendees: Chereen Coile, Dr. Fluney, Jenni Roig; Dr, Maite Riestra, Rick Beasley, Loreen Chant, Dr. Daniel Armstrong

Staff Attendees: Evelio Torres, Angelo Parrino; Fiorella A. Christie; Victor Caballero; Mercy Castiglione; Sheyla Perez; Vernise Casimir; Dr. Anabel Espinosa; Pamela Hollingsworth; Ana Sejeck; Lisney Badillo; Thalia Daumy; Alex Sanchez; Vanessa Aguilera-Viera; Sandra Gonzalez; Belkis Torres; Dolores Mendez; Vanessa Aguilera-Viera; Pam Malval; Ana Sejeck; Laurie Dunn; Ana Rodriguez; Jacqueline Dominguez; Paloma Lopez-Barcena;; Michelle Meilan; Sandra Gonzalez; Debbie Rodriguez; J. Lara; Jenelle James; Laurie Bravo; Jessica Parra; Laurie Dunn; Lismay Diaz; Gabriela Cortez; Iliana Vallejo; Danish Williams; Cindy Cabrera; Ahmed Mitwalli; Fiorella A. Christie; Liliana Ponzoa, Donna Brongian, Debora Rodriguez

General Attendees: Bob de la Fuente;; Priscila Hazrun; Loren Suarez, Demitrio Perez, Bethel Baptist Christian, Little Red School, Mari Hervia, Judith Brown, Ester Campbell, Ruby White, Daisy Suita, Ryan, Maria Elena Delgado, Cawanna Watson, Steves Academy, Lina Perez, Linda Tejada, Tim Bower, Anna-Montessori Academy of the Upper Keys, Antoinette Patterson, DEL-Karla Sotelo-Blanco, Poorab Kapadia, Children's Choice, Thumbelina, Lien

I. Welcome & Introductions

Rick Beasley

- A. Rick Beasley welcomed everyone.
- B. K. Gregory called roll and quorum was established with seven voting members present.

II. Approval of Minutes

Rick Beasley

- A. Motion to approve June 22, 2023 minutes.

Motion to approve by Dr. Armstrong
Motion seconded by C. Coile
Motion unanimously passed

Mission: To promote high-quality school readiness, voluntary pre-kindergarten and after school programs, thus increasing all children's chances of achieving future educational success and becoming productive members of society. The Coalition seeks to further the physical, social, emotional and intellectual needs of Miami-Dade and Monroe County children with a priority toward the ages before birth through age 5.



Before the Provider hearings commenced, Evelio Torres provided an update on the upcoming application to the Department of Education for Discretionary funds. He explained that the local initiatives must be reasonable, allowable and necessary. Examples were provided.

III. Provider Hearings

Bob de la Fuente

- **Children's Choice Academy**

The Committee carefully reviewed the case, and based on the non-compliance item listed below, as well as, the evidence presented by the Partner, the Committee has made the following decision regarding the eligibility to contract with the Coalition:

Item of non-compliance:

- The facility received a composite score of 3.67 on their School Readiness Program Assessment score.

The Committee has made the final determination to not renew the Children's Choice Academy 2023-2024 School Readiness Provider Contract due to the above-mentioned item of non-compliance. The Partner will be re-eligible to apply for services in 6 months, effective January 24th, 2024; ONLY if Partner completes required training (BPIECE), pays for its own unofficial assessment, and scores at least a 4.00. If Partner does not comply with the requirements the revocation will be until the 2024-2025 Program Year, at which time Partner will be re-eligible to apply for services.

- **Thumbelina Learning Center V**

The Committee carefully reviewed the case, and based on the non-compliance item listed below, as well as, the evidence presented by the Partner, the Committee has made the following decision regarding the eligibility to contract with the Coalition:

Item of non-compliance:

- The facility received a composite score of 3.59 on their School Readiness Program Assessment score.

The Committee has made the final determination to not renew the Thumbelina Learning Center V's 2023-2024 School Readiness Provider Contract due to the above-mentioned item of non-compliance. The Partner will be re-eligible to apply for services for the 2024-2025 Program year.

- **Lien Comesana Family Home**- On Hold
- **Miami Beach Learning Academy**- On Hold



- **The Teaching Heart Foundation**

The Committee has carefully reviewed the case, and based on the non-compliance item listed below, as well as, the evidence presented by the Partner, the Committee has made the following decision regarding your eligibility to contract with the Coalition:

Item of Non-Compliance:

- At the time of the audit, May 24, 2023, more than 40% of the current month parental Sign-in/ Sign-out sheets were out of compliance.
 - Not signed for the month of May
 - Pre-signed for the week- Partner uses Parental Authorization Form to sign in/out children. 23 children were signed in/out by a teacher; no authorization form was found
 - Children are being transported in/out by bus driver, though teacher is signing in/out instead of the bus driver.
 - No Identification of the Bus Driver and no Attendance Log submitted or recorded from the Bus Driver.
 - Missing more than 2 weeks of signature
- 5 children were marked absent from 3/20/2023 to 3/24/2023 on the School Readiness attendance sheet but claimed on the Federal Food Program Attendance
- Failure to Implement the provisions in the Rilya Wilson Act and At-Risk-Children
 - Child T.L. was absent the entire month on the SR attendance form; partner claimed child present on the Federal Food Program Attendance
 - N. B. (BG1) was marked present on the SR attendance form from February 2023 through March 2023. Child was removed from foster parent effective 2/9/23 to another county.

The Committee has made the final determination to terminate The Teaching Heart Foundation's 2023-2024 School Readiness ("SR") Provider Contracts effective September 1st, 2023 due to the above-mentioned item of non-compliance. The Partner will be re-eligible to apply for services for the 2024-2025 Program year, contingent upon completing training for Rilya Wilson Act and other appropriate trainings as determined by the Coalition. If Provider is approved to provide services for the 2024-2025 Program year, Provider shall be immediately placed on a Corrective Action Plan of the new



contract which will include but not necessarily be limited to the required implementation of a comprehensive technology system to track and report attendance subject to the Coalition's approval.

IV. Informational Items **Bob de la Fuente**

- Maranatha Child Development- Pending DCF report
- Excelsior Prep Academy Preschool - Pending DCF report

III. Communications **Michelle Meilan**

- Summary of Partner Meeting Presentations were provided by Coalition staff.

V. Early Education Partners Roundtable **Provider Representatives**

- A. Family Child Care Home Discussion
 - Dr. Perla Almodovar
 - Danish Williams
 - Alma Diaz
- B. Program-Based Discussion
 - Jenni Roig (Private Provider Representative)
 - Dr. Eileen Fluney (Faith-Based Provider Representative)
 - Dr. Daniel Armstrong (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Program Representative)
- C. General Discussion

VI. Public Comments **Rick Beasley**

VII. Adjourn **Rick Beasley**

Next Provider Services Committee Meeting: September 28, 2023; 2 P.M.