



# Minutes

**ELC Provider Services Committee Meeting**  
**September 30, 2021, 2:00 p.m.**  
**Zoom Meeting ID: 996 0517 3979**  
**Passcode: ELC0930**

**Committee Attendees:** Rick Beasley, Chereen Coile; Jenni Roig; Loreen Chant; Jane McQueen; Eileen Fluney; Daniel Armstrong

**Staff Attendees:** Evelio Torres; Angelo Parrino; Jackye Russell; Belkis Torres; Pamela Hollingsworth; Sandra Gonzalez; Mercy Castiglione; Johnetta Nuby-Powell; Ana Sejeck; Marine Allen-Tucker; Diana Lane; Lisney Badillo; Eilin Orozco; Alex Sanchez; Michelle Meilan; Lillian Amador; Paloma Lopez-Barcena; Ileana Vallejo; Thalia Daumy; Yadira Aguilar; Vanessa Aguilar-Viera; Maria Schrack; Natalia Gamundi; Alyssa Linares; Donna Bronigan; Isha Sanders; Vernise Casimir

**General Attendees:** Suleika Reyes; Bob de la Fuente; Lorena Suarez; Priscila Hazrun

**I. Welcome & Introductions**

**Rick Beasley**

R. Beasley called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Quorum was established with seven (7) voting members.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

**Rick Beasley**

- A. Motion to approve August 26, 2021 Minutes.
  - o Motion to approve by E. Fluney.
  - o Motion seconded by L. Chant
  - o Motion unanimously passed.

**III. New Initiatives**

**A. Employment of Individuals with Disabilities**

**Dr. Daniel Armstrong**

Discussion continued on plans to engage individuals with disabilities in the workforce and early childhood education field. It was stated that key partnerships with agencies that serve these constituents are needed to move this initiative forward.

**B. Early Childhood Apprenticeship Program**

**Pam Hollingsworth**

P. Hollingsworth provided an update on the Apprenticeship Program. It was shared that the Apprenticeship program leaders have decided on a salary of \$15 an hour and the goal is to launch in the beginning of 2022.

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.





**C. Early Childhood Internship Program**

**Pam Hollingsworth**

P. Hollingsworth provided an update on the Internship Program. The program will still launch in November 2021.

**IV. Early Education Partners Roundtable**

**Provider Representatives**

**A. Family Child Care Home Discussion**

E. Torres shared that the Coalition continues to provide opportunities for our valued Family Child Care Home representatives to join the roundtable discussion.

**B. Program-Based Discussion**

J. Roig shared retention of qualified early education professionals and enrollment is still an ongoing challenge. E. Fluney included that community education partners such as Miami-Dade College are looking to place qualified and trained students in child care centers.

**C. General Discussion**

There was significant discussion related to the state's plan that guides the School Readiness program and the need to advocate for changes to the plan that would revise the Federal Poverty Level eligibility guidelines and how provider reimbursement rates are set. Mr. Torres indicated that education initiatives are the priority for the next legislative session.

**V. Public Comments**

**Rick Beasley**

**VI. Adjourn**

**Rick Beasley**