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.

ELC Provider Services Committee Meeting  
March 25, 2021, 2:00 p.m.  
Zoom Meeting ID: 964 5114 5685  
Passcode: ELC0325

I. Welcome & Introductions  
   Rick Beasley

II. Approval of Minutes  
   Rick Beasley
   A. Motion to approve December 17, 2020 Minutes.

III. CEO Updates  
    Evelio Torres
   A. New Normal: Limited Cohort Size (pages 4-6)  
   B. Provider Reimbursement Rate (Page 7)  
   C. Provider Bonuses (Page 10)

IV. Introductions: Provider Representatives  
    Evelio Torres

V. Provider Roundtable  
   Provider Reps.

VI. Proposed Special Needs Rate (Pages 13-16)  
    Anabel Espinosa

VII. Professional Development Institute  
    Pam Hollingsworth
   A. Training (Pages 17-31)

VIII. Public Comments  
    Rick Beasley

IX. Adjourn  
    Rick Beasley
Provider Services Committee Meeting  
December 17, 2020; 2:00 PM  
Zoom Meeting ID: 996 2215 2517  
Passcode: ELC1217

Committee Attendees: Loreen Chant, Jane McQueen, Jenni Roig; Rick Beasley; Eileen Fluney

Absent Committee Member:

Staff Attendees: Evelio Torres; Angelo Parrino, Jackye Russell, Vanessa Aguiler;  
Amy Tongson, Johnetta Ruby; Yasmin Acevedo; Ileana Vallejo;  
Lisney Badillo; Sandra Gonzalez; Victor Caballero; Jose Hernandez;  
Vanessa Bongiorno; Belkis Torres; Paloma Barcena

General Attendees: Bob de la Fuente; Alfredo Perez; Max Bellon; Abilio Rodriguez;  
Milagros Martija

I. Welcome and Introductions  
   Rick Beasley

II. Approval of Minutes  
   Rick Beasley
   - Motion to approve by L. Chant.
   - Motion seconded by J. McQueen.
   - Motion unanimously passed.

III. Milagros Martija Large Family Day Care Home  
    Bob de la Fuente

- B. de la Fuente stated on 11/03/20, the revised reconciliation report was emailed to provider. Revised Overpayment Amount Calculated was $5,831.24. Provider replied stating that the reconciliation amount is incorrect and asked for a review hearing.

- After reviewing the case and hearing the provider testimony, the committee requested that ELC staff meet with the provider once again to explain the overpayment. If this meeting did not resolve the provider’s concerns then the committee upholds the amount owed that ELC staff identified in their reconciliation report.
o Motion to approve by L. Chant.
o Motion seconded by J. Roig.
o Motion did unanimously pass.

IV. Provider Representative Chamber Membership

Evelio Torres

- E. Torres stated that the ELC will offer chamber memberships to the three provider representatives. J. Roig and E. Fluney will join the Latin & Miami Chambers, L. Chant will join the Greater Miami Chamber and Jenni is a member of the Coral Gables Chamber. For the Monroe County chambers, we will ask Monroe Advisory Committee members to attend and then report to the board.

V. Provider Representative Engagement

Evelio Torres

- E. Torres stated that the provider representatives would hold panel discussion at the weekly provider meeting. An email was created, myproviderreps@elcmdm.org to facilitate communication between providers and their representatives. We also have also made provider concerns/topics a standing agenda item at our monthly Provider Services committee meetings. This will enable providers to bring any concerns they may have before the committee.

VI. Public Comments

Rick Beasley

VII. Adjourn

Rick Beasley
Points in bold MUST be followed; other recommendations are strongly suggested.

Emergency Order 20-20 was originally implemented at 11:59pm on April 9, 2020. As amended by subsequent Emergency Orders, these general guidelines and requirements should be followed by all residents and businesses.

- People must follow the social and physical distancing and facial covering and personal protection equipment (PPE) guidelines as defined by our Emergency Orders, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and consistent with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and other regulatory guidelines:
  - Six foot distance between people; plexiglass or other partitions do not substitute for social and physical distancing in restaurants, casinos and other indoor entertainment venues.
  - Wear facial coverings at all times in public, with certain exceptions.
  - Wash hands and/or use hand sanitizer often

- Facilities must implement certain procedures:
  - enhanced sanitizing of all common areas and frequent touch points
  - placement of trash containers for face masks and other personal protective equipment (PPE) near exits and entrances and other common areas
  - comprehensive cleaning of facilities must be performed each night and include thoroughly disinfecting all frequent touch points and emptying all trash receptacles using solid waste bags that are double-bagged and securely sealed
  - posting CDC signage in publicly trafficked locations emphasizing measures to “Stop the Spread of Germs” and to exercise social responsibility
  - upgrading or installing ventilation per OSHA guidance
  - designating quarantine rooms for infected individuals and deep clean after use
  - installing hand sanitizer at entry points and through site
  - training all personnel in new operating protocols and modifications to existing codes of conduct to deal with COVID 19 issues

- Businesses and workplaces must implement certain procedures
  - food and beverages must be consumed when seated and may not be consumed outside of designated eating areas
  - There shall not be a sustained decibel level above 90 at any given time at restaurants, bars and other entertainment venues
  - designing work group shifts to minimize contacts between employees and ensure easier tracking and tracing, as possible, and implement staggered breaks to reduce large group gatherings
  - avoiding meetings of more than 5 participants and encouraging virtual meetings
  - reducing seating in breakrooms and common areas to ensure minimum 6’ physical distance
  - allowing non-core functions to work from home, as possible
  - implementing testing programs for high risk employees
• establishing clear reporting protocols based on leading (e.g., thermometer temp spikes, thermal scanning spikes, increased absenteeism) and lagging indicators (e.g., staff health visits above pre-defined rate, community spread in retailer locale) to help prevent spread of cases
• posting a contact email address and/or telephone number for employees and customers to contact if they have questions or concerns
• encouraging participation in contact tracing by employees
• Any establishment that has an on-site employee or contractor who tests positive shall close until one of the following conditions is met:
  • the establishment is deep-sanitized and employees who were in close contact with the positive employee or contractor have been tested and cleared by a medical professional as being COVID-19 free or do not report to work for 14 days after the date the positive employee or contractor was last onsite; or
  • 14 days from the date such employee or contractor was last onsite at such establishment if deep-sanitization is not performed.
• Where an establishment has multiple floors or structures, or has a square footage in excess of 10,000 square feet, only those structure(s), floor(s) or area(s) where the infected person was present are required to be deep-sanitized as a condition of re-opening, and only those employees working in such structure(s), on such floor(s), or who came into contact with the positive employee or contractor must be tested or must not report to work for 14 days after the date the positive employee was last on-site.
• Under no circumstances shall an employee or contractor who has tested positive report to work at an establishment until that employee is cleared by a medical professional as being COVID-19 free.
Suspend visits and tours of facilities for anyone other than children served and staff during operational hours. Allow staff from DCF and DOH to inspect facilities when necessary.

Modify interior spaces to maximize physical distancing, including installation of barriers, modification of furniture and layouts, and segmentation of common areas to ensure the separation of groups of not more than 12 children as long as the space provides no less than 36 square feet of usable floor space per child.

Ensure physical distancing among staff and groups of no more than 12 children.
- Stagger breaks, meals, program activities
- Prohibit staff from gathering in communal space-break rooms and common areas.

Establish strict density measures to ensure that groups are no greater than 12 children and can maintain separation and social distancing requirements.

Revise facility capacity, accordingly, ensuring that there are separate spaces for groups of no greater than 12 children.

As much as possible, maintain 6 feet distance between children unless accommodations are warranted for very young children or children with disabilities.

Restrict mixing, have the same group of children stay with the same staff each day, including during mealtimes.
Early Learning Coalition Board of Directors Meeting

March 01, 2021

Resolution: 03012021-02

---

**Action Requested:** Authorize the President and CEO to increase the Coalition's maximum provider reimbursement rates as indicated on the rate table attached to the background section of this resolution.

**Fiscal Impact:** An approximate amount up to $4,700,000.00 per fiscal year.

**Funding Source:** Florida Department of Education Office of Early Learning

**Strategic Goal:**
- ☑ Neediest Children
- ☑ Youngest Children
- ☑ Educate All
- ☑ Providers
- ☑ Internal Capacity
- ☐ Funding

---

RESOLUTION: 03012021-02

AUTHORIZE THE PRESIDENT AND CEO TO INCREASE THE COALITION'S MAXIMUM PROVIDER REIMBURSEMENT RATES AS INDICATED ON THE RATE TABLE ATTACHED TO THE BACKGROUND SECTION OF THIS RESOLUTION.

WHEREAS, the Board of the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe, Inc. (the “Board”) has been apprised of the program goals through the attached narrative, hereby incorporated by reference and the Finance Committee is in agreement with the goals described therein;

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee recommends approving this action and has presented said action to the Board for adoption and approval;

WHEREAS, the Board approves the adoption of this action;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board to authorize the President and CEO to increase the Coalition’s maximum provider reimbursement rates as indicated on the rate table attached to the background section of this resolution.


The foregoing resolution and attachment was offered by ___________, who moved its approval. The motion was seconded by ___________, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows: ____________________.

The vote was recorded as listed in the attached roll sheet.

The chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 1st day of March 2021.

EARLY LEARNING COALITION
OF MIAMI-DADE/MONROE, INC,

By: ___________________________
Board Secretary
Historically, Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties have depressed rates compared to the rest of the state. The purpose of the increase is to bring the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe, Inc. (ELC) maximum rates more in line with the providers published private rates. The local estimate is based on current provider self-reported market rates. The Department of Education requires that the maximum possible range be included in the request just in case market conditions change. See below the proposed Coalition Max Rates Table.

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Action Requested: Authorize the President and CEO to send a letter to Department of Education’s Office of Early Learning requesting authorization to use surplus funds to grant a one-time special additive for pandemic relief to qualified providers.

Fiscal Impact: An approximate amount of $12,000,000.00 which is subject to availability of funding.

Funding Source: Florida Department of Education Office of Early Learning

Strategic Goal:
- [ ] Neediest Children
- [ ] Youngest Children
- [x] Providers
- [ ] Internal Capacity
- [ ] Educate All
- [ ] Funding

---

RESOLUTION: 03012021-01

AUTHORIZE THE PRESIDENT AND CEO TO SEND A LETTER TO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION’S OFFICE OF EARLY LEARNING REQUESTING AUTHORIZATION TO USE SURPLUS FUNDS TO GRANT A ONE-TIME SPECIAL ADDITIVE FOR PANDEMIC RELIEF TO QUALIFIED PROVIDERS.

WHEREAS, the Board of the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe, Inc. (the “Board”) has been apprised of the program goals through the attached narrative, hereby incorporated by reference and the Finance Committee is in agreement with the goals described therein;

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee recommends approving this action and has presented said action to the Board for adoption and approval;

WHEREAS, the Board approves the adoption of this action;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board to authorize the President and CEO to send a letter to Department of Education’s Office of Early Learning requesting authorization to use surplus funds to grant a one-time special additive for pandemic relief to qualified providers.
The foregoing resolution and attachment was offered by ___________, who moved its approval. The motion was seconded by ___________, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows: ________________.

The vote was recorded as listed in the attached roll sheet.

The chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 1st day of March, 2021.

EARLY LEARNING COALITION
OF MIAMI-DADE/MONROE, INC,

By: __________________________
Board Secretary
Background:

Miami-Dade County continues to have a local ordinance in effect that caps the group size of student cohorts at 12. This limits the number of children that can be in a classroom and requires providers to use more classrooms to serve fewer children; resulting in increased costs and decreased revenue. In Monroe County, providers continue to face the challenge of finding enough qualified teachers to open up additional classrooms in order to serve more children. In addition, see below the table that reflects Miami Dade and Monroe depressed rates compared to the other listed coalitions.

A one-time special additive for pandemic relief to qualified providers would help defray the expenses that providers are continuing to confront as they try and recover from the financial burdens generated by the pandemic.

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<th>Base grant funding per program up to $6,000</th>
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<td>2. Open for business as of Feb. 1st 2021</td>
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<td><strong>Criteria</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. <strong>Up to $4000</strong> - Gold Seal Accreditation or CLASS score</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. <strong>Up to $3000</strong> - Serving infants or toddlers and/or special needs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Provider does not have to have current infant and toddler enrollments, but must have an infant, toddler or 2-year-old rate on the private pay rate schedule in the provider portal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Provider must have “yes” on question “is your program equipped to care for children with special needs”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Special Needs Rate

School Readiness & Children with Developmental Delays/Disabilities
(7)(a) Reimbursement for Children with Special Needs.

A child care provider may be reimbursed by the coalition at a higher rate if:

- Caring for any school readiness child with special needs requiring additional care beyond services required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

- To receive a special needs rate, **a child care provider must submit a list of the special needs services it is providing for each special needs child, in addition to the routine school readiness services expenditure.**
(7)(b) Reimbursement for Children with Special Needs.

- A special needs rate shall be reimbursed for a school readiness child that has:
  - A documented physical, mental, emotional, or behavioral condition that requires a higher level of care in the child care setting.
  - The special need child’s condition must be validated by a licensed health, mental health, education or social service professional other than the child’s parent or person employed by the child care provider.
Who is eligible?

Eligible Providers

- Complete BPIECE Support Services
  - Director/Owner
  - At least one (1) teacher
- Submit four (4) CEU Certificates for ELCMDM Inclusion Trainings
  - Including You In
  - Discovering the Spectrum
  - The Journey Starts with You
  - Where the Wild Things Aren't
- Complete and submit Special Needs Rate Application for each eligible child

Eligible Children

- Children who are eligible for the Special Needs Rate are:
  - Enrolled and attending eligible provider
  - Recipients of School Readiness funding
  - Ages birth – kindergarten eligibility
  - Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) or Individualized Family Support Plan (IFSP)

*Contact the Warm-Line for more details!
Strategic Plan Priority Initiative:

• Educate All
• Neediest Children
• Providers
The Professional Development Institute

- International Accreditors for Continuing Education and Training (IACET)
- Educational Institution/Issues Continuing Education Units (CEU’s)
- 100% on line course work
- Mostly synchronous format
- Courses offered in English and Spanish
- Weekly Newsletter
- Monthly calendar/online registration at https://trainings.elcmdm.org
Virtual Synchronous Trainings for Teachers, Administrators and Parents Workshops
(English and Spanish Available)

Register at:
http://trainings.elcmdm.org/
Extended professional development support services for PDI students. You can call or email the PDI Helpdesk or join an interactive session with one of our experts to access:

- Training Support
- Technical Assistance
- Answers to all your questions

Training and Development Specialists have dedicated office hours to enrich your professional learning.

Contact us at: pdihelpdesk@elcmdm.org
Assistance Available in English and Spanish
UPCOMING CDA® COURSES

Starting Week of May 17th 2021
• Child Development Associate Credential (CDA®) for Infant and Toddlers (Ages Birth- 3yrs.) Spanish
• Child Development Associate (CDA®) Credential for Preschool English

Register today at: http://trainings.elcmdm.org/
Early Childhood Conference (Yearly)

It Takes a ‘Virtual’ Village
Early Childhood Conference
April 23rd and 24th

2021.

Register:
Early Learning Coalition Miami-Dade/Monroe - Training (elcmdm.org)

Simultaneous Translation in Spanish Available
Specialized Trainings

Creative Curriculum
All Age Levels Training

GOLD ASSESSMENT
Training

CLASS & MMCI
All Age Levels Training
For more details on how to obtain access please contact the Professional Development Institute email at: professionaldevelopment@elcmdm.org
Preschool Development Birth through Five Renewal Grant (PDG-R)

The Preschool Development Birth to Five Renewal Grant (PDG-R). Through the initial Preschool Development Birth to Five grant, Florida has been working to implement measures that build on existing framework and infrastructure to increase the quality, alignment and efficiency of Florida's early childhood care and education mixed-delivery system of programs and services.

Expected outcomes of the grant include:

- Improving data-driven system coordination and policy decisions
- Increasing family access and engagement
- Creating a high-quality comprehensive system of early childhood care and education
- Providing equitable access to quality
- Quality improvement and professional development
ELCMDM PDG-R Initiatives

Professional Development
- HighScope Training to build internal capacity in both age levels (Infant/Toddler and Preschool)
- Creative Curriculum Cloud Subscriptions for Early Childhood Providers (Infant Toddlers and Preschool in English and Spanish)

Mental Health and Social Support
- Trauma and Resilience Certification for Early Childhood Educators
- Social and Emotional Learning Curriculum
- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Trainings
- Mindfulness and Restorative Practices Training

PDG-R 2021 Budget: $927,171.50 PD ($300,900.00) MH ($626,271.50)
MyTeachingStrategies™ CLOUD Subscriptions

Teachers and caregivers will obtain access to explore the Creative Curriculum® in depth and learn how to plan individualized routines and experiences that are responsive to young children’s needs and that support their development and learning in all areas.

As of this moment the Professional Development Institute has distributed 264 subscriptions in both age levels (Infant/Toddler and Preschool).

115 Subscriptions Available for distribution in both age levels
Becoming a Mindful Educator with the Professional Development Institute is a fun and experiential training for educators that will help them teach age-appropriate mindfulness practices, games, activities, and skills based on social-emotional learning.

Sessions available in English and Spanish

Dates:
- March 27th English
- April 2nd Spanish
- April 9th English
- April 23rd Spanish

JOIN US in one of our “Becoming a Mindful Educator” sessions to earn one of the mindfulness kits we have crafted for you and earn In-Service Hours.
The Social and Emotional Learning Curriculum includes five core competencies: Self-Awareness, Responsible Decision-Making, Self-Management, Social Awareness, and Relationship Skills as defined by the framework from the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL).

Participants attending these series will have the opportunity to obtain an Instill SEL Curriculum for their classroom and 1.0 CEUs after completion.
Children First Equity and Inclusion Training Series

The Professional Development Institute has curated an Equity and Inclusion training series starting with an interactive panel and five diverse sessions with a select group of experts for each area.

Speakers:
- Higher Ground for Us All
- The Developing Mother
- YES Institute

Training Sessions:
- Who? Me? Biased? But I'm Kind to all kids!: Intro to Implicit Bias
- Gender Continuum: Reducing Bias & Forwarding Inclusion
- Unconscious Bias in Learning Environments
- Introduction to Restorative Practices in the Early Childhood Classroom
- Becoming a Mindful Educator

Each session will be followed by a 2 hour Learning Lab

Participants who complete the series receive 2.8 CEU’s and a DEI kit for their classroom.
PDI Contact Information

Visit our website: trainings.elcmdm.org

Email us: professionaldevelopment@elcmdm.org or pdihelpdesk@elcmdm.org

Call us: 305 646-7220 ext. 2350, 2320 or 2511