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.

Committee Attendees: Sandi Bisceglia, Dr. Fluney, Joycelyn Lawrence, Denise Barrera, Dr. Riestra

Board Attendees: Dr. Armstrong, Gilda Ferradaz

Committee Absentees: Suzette Frazier, Jim Haj Chereen Coile

Staff Attendees: Evelio Torres, Angelo Parrino, Mercy Castiglione, Fiorella A. Christie, Lissandra Curbelo, Carolina Carrion, Belkis Torres, Michelle Meilan, Alex Sanchez, Dr. Espinosa, Pamela Hollingsworth, Andrea Penton, Lisney Badillo, Sandra Gonzalez, Mercy Castiglione, Ahmed Mitwalli, R. Hurtado, Matthew Zaldivar, Sheyla Perez, Vanessa Aguilera-Viera, Victor Caballero, Ahmed Mitwalli, Paloma Lopez, Cindy Cabrera

I. Welcome & Introductions Dr. Fluney
   A. Dr. Fluney called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
   B. K. Gregory called roll and quorum was established with five voting members.

II. Approval of Minutes Dr. Fluney
   A. Motion to approve March 27, 2023 minutes.
      • Motion to approve S. Bisceglia
      • Motion Seconded Dr. Barrera
      • Motion unanimously passed.

III. Legislative Session Wrap Up Evelio Torres
   Important updates were provided by Evelio Torres. Graphs were provided in the board packet.

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IV. CLASS® Assessments Update

Fiorella A. Christie reported the most up to date figures and important information.

V. American Rescue Plan Act Update

Fiorella A. Christie and Victor Caballero

Victor Caballero provided the latest APRA Build a Better World CLASS figures and reported:

- The Division of Early Learning (DEL) prioritized investments that will build the knowledge and skills that drive high-quality adult-child interactions. These investments extend from the newest teacher to the most experienced teachers and program directors.
- 813 early care and education partners have applied as of 04/30/23 (application deadline).
- These 813 early care and education partners represent 6,001 educators that have applied for at least one of the bonuses.

VI. Early Head Start

Belkis Torres

A detail report was provided by Belkis Torres on EHS statistics.

A. Enrollment

The program continues to be fully enrolled. The enrollment chart on the next slide is the percent of enrollment attained for the respective months. One hundred percent (100%) enrollment does not mean that all slots were filled every day during the identified month. If a vacant slot was filled within 30 days; that vacant slot will be considered fully enrolled for the month. Average number of days to fill slots were:

- February = 2 days
- March = 7 days
- April = 5 days

B. Attendance

The program has met the 85% threshold for attendance for the past three (3) consecutive months. An analysis of the absences showed that the majority of the absences were due to children being sick. Vomiting, diarrhea, and fever were some of the most reported reasons for children being sick.
C. Meals

For the 5-year project, the program established an objective to have all Early Head Start locations obtain the Breastfeeding Friendly (BFF) Designation from the Florida Health Department. All of the Early Head Start sites have obtained the designation. On May 23, 2023, Women, Infants and Children (WIC) recognized the program for our focus on promoting breastfeeding at the centers and supporting all Early Head Start sites with obtaining the BFF Designation.

VII. Resolutions

Belkis Torres

• 05302023-01 EHS COVID Policy 2022-2023
  Authorize the President and CEO to implement the Early Head Start COVID 19 Mitigation Policy as required by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services through the Administration for Children and Families Program instruction ACF-PI-HS-01.

  o Dr. Fluney asked for a motion to approve the resolution.
  o Motion seconded by S. Bisceglia
  o Motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Professional Development Institute

Ana Sejeck

A. Recap Super Saturday! On the Road. Centering Families- Bring in the Community!
B. CDA Registration
C. Program of the Year- Family Child Care Home- Danish V. Williams Family Child Care Home
D. Program of the Year – Center-Based- Grace United Learning Center-Edith Joseph Director

IX. Public Comments

Dr. Fluney

X. Adjourn

Dr. Fluney

Next Meeting:

August 28, 2023; 9 A.M.