



Minutes

Strategic Planning Retreat
October 1, 2018; 11:00 a.m.
Florida Keys Mosquito Control
503 107th Street Gulf, Marathon, FL 33050

Board Attendees: Adrian Alfonso; Theresa Axford; Rick Beasley; Maurice Kemp; Matthew Bruno; Heather Carruthers; Loreen Chant; Bob Eadie; Alan Eckstein; Jenni Roig; Gilda Ferradaz; Philip Gassman; Gladys Montes; Abilio Rodriguez; Aaron Slavens; Marisol Diaz

Board Absentees: James Haj; Gerald Schwartz; Alex Soto (excused); Iris Strachan; David Lawrence Judy Schaechter

Staff Attendees: Evelio Torres; Angelo Parrino; Milton Silvera; Pamela Hollingsworth; Fiorella Altare; Michelle Meilan; Mercy Castiglione; Jackye Russell; Ana Sejeck; Laurie Dunn; Jose Hernandez; Anabel Espinosa; Sandra Gonzalez; Ileana Vallejo; Fred Hicks; Lidia Clarke; Vanessa Aguilera; Lisney Badillo; Tammy Garcia; Alex Sanchez; Juan Castillo

General Attendees: Bob de la Fuente (Board Counsel); Carol Wick

I. Welcome and Introductions **Loreen Chant**

II. Surveys **Carol Wick**

- C. Wick reported that over 4,000 parents, 356 providers and 16 board members completed the survey.
- C. Wick stated that almost all of the comments were complimentary to the ELC.

III. Breakout Groups **Carol Wick**

- C. Wick separated the board members and staff in to three breakout out groups:
 - Neediest Children/Youngest Children
 - Provider/Educate All
 - Capacity Building/Funding
- The Guiding questions were:
 1. Why are we working to accomplish this goal?
 2. What does success look like?
 3. What are 2-4 measurable outcomes that we will see if we are successful?
 4. What will we need to put in place that is not in place right now to make that happen?
 5. Will we need more staff? If so, how many and what will we need to pay them?
 6. How will adding the new staff, processes, supplies, etc. effect overall capacity of the agency?
 7. What additional infrastructure might we need to achieve the goals outlined?



8. How much will that new infrastructure cost?
9. The plan should be three years to accomplish. If the goals will take longer than 3 years, please ensure the three-year mark is clearly outlined with additional strategies documented but not part of the three-year plan.
10. Who else should we engage to serve on this committee outside the Board and Staff?

IV. Breakout Groups Reports

- **Neediest Children/Target Neediest Areas**
 - EHS efforts to improve providers' facilities & playgrounds
 - Work with Miami Children's Initiative
 - Performance Funding Program
 - Recommendation - Assign to Program Committee to determine future actions to achieve this priority
- **Youngest Children/Age Based Rates**
 - State law requires children to remain in care until age 13
 - Reword initiative to take this into consideration
 - Provider rate increases have been based on age with the highest percentage going to those who serve the youngest children
- **Providers**
 - Improve provider selection and contracting process
 - Teacher education - 60 courses were offered to providers to gain knowledge/mastery of the Florida Core Competencies and Basic Computer tools so they can implement them in their classrooms and everyday life.
 - Quality Providers - Drive incentives to higher performing providers
 - Technical Business Assistance - Opportunities for providers to apply for micro business loans
- **Educate All/Parent Choice**
 - Develop innovative strategies to help parents choose child care programs that ensure better outcomes for their children
 - Monthly Parent Newsletters
 - Community Outreach
 - Child Care Resource & Referral
 - Eligibility provides information to parents on quality programs
 - Recommendation - Initiative needs to be better defined/quantified
- **Visibility**
 - Achieve increased visibility of the importance of early learning throughout both counties by creating child care resources and providing information
 - Community Events with community partners - Children's Trust Family Expo, Univision Health Fair, Miami Book Fair, Children's Week (Miami Children's Museum)
 - Social Media Outreach
 - Unplug & Connect Campaign
 - Metro Train Wrap
 - US 1 Banners
 - VPK Rally Monroe County - Newspaper Ads, Radio Ads, Flyers & VPK cards
- **Capacity Building/Advocacy**
 - Engage aggressively & systematically in advocacy to drive better outcomes for children



- House Bill 1091 passage, Performance Funding Project, Additional federal funding for Miami-Dade/Monroe, Early Learning Advisory Council (Adrian Alfonso is the Chair), Association of Early Learning Coalitions, Florida Chamber of Commerce/Florida Chamber Foundation, Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, Early Learning Consortium, United Way of Miami, United Way of Florida, The Children’s Trust, Florida Children's Council, The Florida Association for Child Care Management, Florida Association of the Education of Young Children, The Florida Children’s Movement
 - Exploring the establishment of political action committee
 - Recommendation - Redefine initiative and make measurable
- Capacity Building
 - Early Child Care Education Systems Building - Establish regular meetings with partners to strengthen cross-sector investments and policies for children birth through age five.

V. Public Comments

Adrian Alfonso

VI. Adjourn

Adrian Alfonso