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.

Strategic Planning Meeting
August 24, 2020, 3:00 pm
Zoom Meeting ID: 941 6837 0488

I. Welcome & Introductions
   Loreen Chant

II. Strategic Planning Retreat Updates
    Loreen Chant

III. Public Comments
     Loreen Chant

IV. Meeting Adjourn
    Loreen Chant
Children First

Parents / Families

Providers

Partners
Mission and Vision

Mission
To promote high-quality inclusive 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 development of Miami-Dade and Monroe County children with a priority toward the ages birth through age 5.

Vision
Children First
To ensure a comprehensive and integrated early learning system for all families and their children, birth to 5 years, ensuring high-quality programs throughout Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties, so children enter school ready to learn and succeed in life.

Early Education. Lifelong Success.
Children First: The Strategic Plan for the Early Learning Coalition of Miami Dade/Monroe
2017-2022

OUR VALUES

- CHILDREN - Children are at the heart of all we do. We believe that all children, regardless of circumstance, are capable of educational excellence and personal growth, and we are committed to ensuring school readiness and lifelong success for each one.
- COMMUNITY - We believe children are the future, and our community is an essential part of their road to success. By working together, we can promote high quality early education and support children as they become thriving, productive members of society.
- PARTNERSHIP - We value partnerships and are collaborative in all we do. We work closely with fellow service providers, families, corporations, elected officials, individuals, and the community at large to promote the importance of early learning and to secure educational opportunities for all children.
- ADVOCACY - We are a champion for children, promoting positive societal and community change. Our staff and community partners are committed to advancing early education throughout Miami-Dade and Monroe counties and are set apart by our collective passion, strength and dedication to children.
- EXCELLENCE - When it comes to early learning, quality matters. We are committed to excellence, providing quality programs and services that make a difference in our community. Designed to further the physical, social, emotional and intellectual needs of all children, our programs are innovative and offer each child an equal opportunity for a successful future.
- CUSTOMER SERVICES - We strive to meet the needs of our parents, families, providers and partners by providing comprehensive customer service in a professional, timely and courteous manner.
- EQUITY - In working with parents, families, providers, and partners, we are committed to the principle of equity and balance, so that all may benefit from the work we do, while keeping children first.

PRIORITY INITIATIVES

NEEDIEST CHILDREN
- Improve outcomes for children in our neediest communities, including children with developmental and other delays and disabilities, by improving the quality of early learning programs
  RECOMMENDATION: Assign to Program Committee.
- Identify centers in distressed zip codes and those serving children with, or at risk for, developmental delays & provide extra support for them to meet higher standards
- Increase the Number of Children serving children who have physical, developmental, sensory, and social-emotional delays and disabilities
- Offer a continuum of care throughout childhood, with a particular focus on infants and toddlers
- Age-based Rates Adjust reimbursement rates to offer incentives to serve the youngest children

PROVIDERS
- Strengthen Coalition relationship with providers and support providers meeting higher quality performance requirements
  Improve Provider Selection and Contracting Process
  Establish local provisions that support parental choice and ensure providers serving children receiving subsidies meet contract and quality requirements
- Teacher Education Increase the number of teachers with child care credentials
- Quality Providers Drive incentives to higher performing providers
- Technical Business Assistance Offer business assistance to providers in distressed areas
- Educate Providers Provide program directors/staff with training and resources to provide high quality care to all children, including children with disabilities

EDUCATE ALL
- Educate families and the community at large about the BENEFITS of quality early learning
  RECOMMENDATION: Refine definition and quantify.
- Parental Choice Develop innovative strategies to help parents choose child care programs that ensure better outcomes for their children
- Visibility Achieve increased visibility of the importance of early learning throughout both counties by creating child care resources and providing information

CAPACITY BUILDING
- Strengthen Board and Staff capacity to carry out strategic goals
  Advocacy Engage aggressively & systematically in advocacy to drive better outcomes for children
  RECOMMENDATION: Redefine/quantify.
- Early Child Care Education Systems Building Establish regular meetings with partners to strengthen cross-sector investments and policies for children birth through age five

FUNDING
- Increase public and private funding and reallocate funds to strategic goals
- Public Secure adequate resources to ensure high quality delivery to each child we serve
- Monroe County Establish a Permanent Funding Model for Social Services

FIVE YEAR STRATEGIC GOALS
- Develop widely accepted state-wide benchmarks of quality (e.g. Child assessments, accreditation, learning environment, etc.)
- Change state policy to allow ELCs to contract only with child care programs that meet state-wide quality benchmarks
- Establish the Performance Funding Program platform as the statewide quality, tiered reimbursement and pay for performance model
Break-out Groups

- Recommendation: Incorporate into existing Committees

- Program, Policy, & Strategy Committee
  - Leading for Equity
  - Capacity Building

- Provider Services Committee
  - Provider Sustaining and Strengthening

- Monroe Advisory Committee
  - Monroe County Initiatives
Provider Sustaining and Strengthening

• **Recommendation: Help Providers Maximize their Enrollment**
• Provider Services Committee to take lead
• Provide Data on Under Enrollment
  - Capacity
  - Enrollment
  - Attendance
• Child Care Safety Campaign

• **Recommendation: Identify Community Partner as Resource Clearinghouse**
• Financial Resources
• Small Business Educational Resources
• Educational, Technical, Teacher Training
• Disaster Planning and Recovery
• Expand Role of Provider Board Representatives
Virtual Programming

• **Recommendation:** Provide training and professional development to providers.
• Provide training for teachers to deliver high-quality virtual programming
  ▪ Miami-Dade and Monroe County Public Schools
  ▪ OEL guidance on Virtual Assessments
  ▪ Grant Application Module
Capacity Building

- **Recommendation: Convene Early Learning Task Force**
- Meetings among the Early Learning Coalition, The Children’s Trust, Miami Foundation, and United Way currently in place
  - Add additional partners
    - The Children’s Movement
    - Beacon Council
    - Department of Children and Families

- **Recommendation: Add Greater Miami Chamber Member to Board**
- Nominating Committee to take lead
Monroe VPK Initiative

• Conduct Monroe County Needs Assessment
  ▪ Request for Proposal to identify vendor
  ▪ Explore Special Needs Rates (Program Committee)
  ▪ Monroe County-Map of all childcare centers, poverty census track, closures and CLASS scores
  ▪ Tele-therapy for Monroe County children
    • VPK SIS
Census Tracts 2019
with 29.5% or more young children (under 6) living in households below 150% FPL
or at least 200 young children (under 6) living below 150%
Zip Code 33040, Monroe County, Florida
Communication

- **Recommendation:** Identify options to improve communication with providers.
- **Increase quantity and quality of provider communication**
  - Weekly Provider Calls to provide updates (*new*)
  - Provider Facebook Group for Directors and Owners (*new*)
  - Daily to Weekly Social Media Posts
  - Frequent e-mail news alerts
  - Weekly PDI Training Newsletter
  - Provider Corner Section on Website
  - Conch Corner Monroe Provider Monthly Newsletter