



**Program Policy and Strategy Committee Meeting**  
**Monday September 26, 2022; 9 A.M.**  
**Meeting ID: 969 1137 0244**  
**Passcode: ELC082922**

## MINUTES

**Committee Attendees:** Sandi Bisceglia; Jim Haj; Denise Barrera; Mara Zapata;

**Board Attendees:** Dr. Daniel Armstrong

**Committee absentees:** Chereen Coile; Gladys Montes

**Committee Absentees:** Joycelyn Lawrence; Mara Zapata

**Staff Attendees:** Michelle Meilan; Belkis Torres; Angelo Parrino; Lisney Badillo; Ana Sejeck; Evelio Torres; Pamela Hollingsworth; Sandra Gonzalez; Fiorella A Christie; Alex Sanchez; Natalia Gamundi; Dr. Hicks; Vanessa Aguilera; Mercy Castiglione; Lisney Badillo; Cindy Cabrera; Victor Caballero; Thalia Daumy

### I. Welcome & Introductions

**Jim Haj**

- A. J. Haj called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- B. K. Gregory called roll and quorum was established with Five (5) voting members.

### II. Approval of Minutes

**Jim Haj**

- A. Motion to approve August 29, 2022 minutes
  - Motion to approve by S. Bisceglia
  - Motion seconded by M. Zapata
  - Motion unanimously passed.

### III. Early Head Start

**Belkis Torres**

- A. Attendance is at an increase from last month at 85.5%.
- B. Meals-
  - Breakfast served is up from previous month at 99.38%
  - Lunch served is down from previous month at 99.79%
  - Snacks served is down from previous month at 98.8%

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. Head Start Program Information Report
  - B. Torres reported that on August 31, the program submitted the Program Information Report (PIR) to the Office of Head Start. This is submitted annually by all programs on the same day. The PIR is a snapshot that captures the services offered by the program in the previous year. The Program Information Report slide provides a summary of the children and families served and the services they received. It also includes information on the staff Providing services.
- D. Early Head Start Health and Safety Screener
  - B. Torres explained that every Head Start and Early Head Start program must conduct a Health and Safety Screener on every site within 45 days from the start of the school year. The tool consists of 53 items that must be met.  
The two (2) Health and Safety Screener slides provide:
    - The top items found noncompliant by 25% or more of the partners.
    - The breakdown for finding by partners
- E. Partner Updates were provided by B. Torres. Two new EHS programs entered the partnership. 7<sup>th</sup> Heaven in Perrine and Jitta Bug Family Childcare Home in Liberty City.
- F. Dr. Zapata provided Policy Council Updates.

**IV. Professional Development Institute**

**Ana Sejeck**

- A. Child Development Associate (CDA) Updates were provided by Ana Sejeck. Training opportunities were discussed including Super CLASS<sup>®</sup> Saturday.
- B. Details were given on the success of the Monroe Conference Be the Star of Your own Life in Marathon.

**V. VPK**

**Cindy Cabrera**

- A. Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) Updates were provided by C. Cabrera
- B. Review of VPK Provider Readiness Rates and Plan to Improve Updates were provided by C. Cabrera. She provided a list of supports provided by the Early Learning Coalition. (Provided in Program Policy and Strategy Committee packet).

**VI. Public Comments**

**Jim Haj**

**VII. Adjourn**

**Jim Haj**