



Programs, Policy and Provider Services Committee Meeting
February 24th, 2015; 3:30 PM
Conference Call

- Committee Attendees:** Shaleen Fagundo; Abilio Rodriguez; The Hon. Cindy Lederman; Robert Eadie; Charles Auslander; Mara Zapata, Rick Beasley, Tina Carroll-Scott;
- Staff Attendees:** Angelo Parrino; Le Chau; Lisa Sanabria; Sandra Gonzalez; Yesenia Reyes
- Committee Absentees:** David Williams; Helene Good
- General Attendees:** Santiago Echemendia, Esq.

I. Welcome and Introductions **The Hon. Cindy Lederman**

II. Future Leaders Academy of Kendall **Santiago Echemendia, Esq**

- Future Leaders – 3 class 2 Violations. The providers were asked to bring proof that they are working on correcting the fire violation to the Programs Committee meeting and they did provided this proof. The recommendation was as follows, they are to be put on probation for 6 months, and probationary period begins after final approval by board. During the duration of this probation they are not to receive any class 1 or 2 violation, if they do contract will be terminated and they will not be able to appeal this termination.
- The committee is recommending a 6 month suspension
 - Motion to approve by C. Auslander
 - Motion seconded by M. Zapata.
 - Motion was unanimously passed.

III. Adhere Academy **Santiago Echemendia, Esq**

- Adhere Academy – Application for School Readiness was denied original owner was on the USDA disqualified list. The daycare was sold to her sister in law. We asked for documentation proving the sale was at arm’s length and these documents were never received. Recommendation is to not accept the new contract.



- The committee is recommending we do not accept new contract.
 - Motion to approve by C. Auslander
 - Motion seconded by M. Zapata.
 - Motion was unanimously passed.

IV. Smart Starts Day School

Santiago Echemendia, Esq

- Smart Starts – 3 class 2 violations the provider has made the appropriate corrections. The recommendation was as follows, they are to be put on probation for 6 months, and probationary period begins after final approval by board. During the duration of this probation they are not to receive any class 1 or 2 violation, if they do contract will be terminated and they will not be able to appeal this termination.
- The committee is recommending a 6 month suspension.
 - Motion to approve by M. Zapata
 - Motion seconded by C. Auslander.
 - Motion was unanimously passed.

V. Genesis Childcare Academy

Santiago Echemendia, Esq

- Loss Prevention has reason to believe that client Barbara Perdomo, who is also contracted with the ELC as a Provider under Genesis Childcare Academy, knowingly omitted her true and accurate income during her application process which resulted in receiving services she was not entitled to. (Income does not seem reflect what she is actually reporting).
- The Coalition is required to report to the Department of Financial Services, for further investigation, cases where there is sufficient reason to believe that the Provider has knowingly provided or submitted fraudulent information. The Provider understands that knowingly providing false information, omitting requested information, signing inaccurate attendance documents or failing to promptly report changes that will directly affect eligibility as a school readiness funded provider, may result in a requirement to refund unauthorized payments and/or a discontinuance of further participation in the SR program. The Coalition may suspend or terminate the Provider from participation in the SR program when it has reasonable cause to believe that the Provider has committed fraud. If suspended, the Provider shall remain suspended until the completion of any investigation by the Office of early Learning, the Department of Financial Services, or any other state or federal agency, and any subsequent prosecution or other legal proceeding.
- The committee is recommending termination.
 - Motion to approve by C. Auslander
 - Motion seconded by M. Zapata.
 - Motion was unanimously passed.



VI. Higher Learning Resource Center

Santiago Echemendia, Esq

- Higher Learning Resource Center Inc. was audited by VPK monitor, Post Attendance Monitor, and Fiscal Review manager. Discrepancies were found. E-mail was submitted and certified mail was sent to Tammie Howard regarding "Notice of Termination" for School Readiness and VPK services for Higher Learning Resource Center Inc for the following reasons 1) The provider was found to be non-compliant with the lead teach requirements on January 27, 2015 during VPK monitoring. Teresa Spencer was found to be serving the role of lead teacher. Lead teacher, Tammie Howard, was out on a personal matter. Ms. Spencer has not been approved for the role of lead teacher by the ELC. 2) On January 27, 2015, the Post Attendance Monitor(s) and the Fiscal Review Manager audited Provider's records for the School Readiness and Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) Programs. The audit revealed numerous discrepancies School Readiness Parental sign-in/sign-out forms and the VPK long forms. 3) Upon further review, the discrepancies showed 90% of the School Readiness Parental sign-in/sign-out forms and the VPK long forms were non-compliant with applicable program policies and procedures. Grievance was received by Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade and Monroe regarding "Notice of Termination" for Higher Learning Resource Center, Inc.

- The committee is recommending termination.
 - Motion to approve by C. Auslander
 - Motion seconded by M. Zapata.
 - Motion was unanimously passed.

VII. Adjourn

The Hon. Cindy Lederman