



# Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting  
December 5, 2011; 8:00 am  
ELC Board Room

**Board Attendees:**

Octavio A. Verdeja Jr. (Chair); Yvonne T. Johnson, M.D. (Vice Chair) (attended via conference call); Gerald K. Schwartz, Esq. (Secretary); Modesto E. Abety-Gutierrez; Daniel Armstrong, Ph.D. (Treasurer); Theresa Axford; Roderick Beasley; Yolanda Borroto; Gina Cortes-Suarez, Ed.D; Alan Eckstein, Esq.; Shaleen Fagundo; Esther Jacobo; Comm. Barbara J. Jordan; David Lawrence, Jr.; The Hon. Cindy S. Lederman; Jane McQueen (attended via conference call); Harve Mogul; Yesenia Perkins; Lucy C. Piñeiro, Esq. (attended via conference call); Ann Karen Weller, R.N., B.S.N.; David Williams, Jr.

**Staff Attendees:**

Evelio C. Torres, CEO (attended via conference call); Leeana Pena; Angelo Parrino; Blythe Robinson; Mary Williams (attended via conference call); Fred Hicks; Jackye Russell; Milton Silvera; Melody Thelwell; Sandra Gonzalez; Pam Hollingsworth; Mercy Castiglione; Jose Hernandez; Aileen Martinez; Christine Hughes

**General Attendees:**

Doug Blomberg, Wesley House (attended via conference call); Linda Carmona-Sanchez, AECE; Rochelle Boreland, Commissioner Barbara Jordan; Matty Loret de Mola, Learning Care Group; Maritza Alonso, Miami-Dade County; Milagros Santos, Children Around the World; Meagan Heller, United Way; Ardene Estrada, Miami-Dade County; Marie Woodson, Miami-Dade County; Marisol Elias Miranda, MDCPS; Wendy Solomon, Family Central; Evelyn Jordan, Miami-Dade County; Phyllis Saunders, Miami-Dade County

<b>I. Welcome and Introductions</b>	<b>Octavio A. Verdeja, Jr.</b>
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- Chairman Octavio A. Verdeja, Jr. called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- Leeana Pena called roll and a quorum was established with 17 voting members.
- O. Verdeja stated that included in the Board packet, are the ELC news alert, Parent Link newsletter.
- O. Verdeja announced that if anyone has a conflict of interest, to please ask L. Pena for a conflict of interest form.
- D. Lawrence provided the Board with a Children Movement's update.
- O. Verdeja congratulated D. Armstrong on becoming the President of the American Cancer Society.



- O. Verdeja stated that this was the Annual Board meeting. Officer selection takes place at this meeting. With that being said, Y. Johnson's term has expired as Vice Chair. O. Verdeja appointed C. Lederman as the next Vice Chair.
  - G. Schwartz moved to approve the appointment.
  - Motion was seconded by H. Mogul.
  - Motion was unanimously passed.
- O. Verdeja state that in light of the Vice Chair position being changed, that Y. Johnson would now serve as the new Co-Chair to the Program and Strategy Committee along with D. Williams.
- O. Verdeja presented G. Ferradaz with an award for being an outstanding community partner.
- O. Verdeja presented Liberty Academy with an award for being a great example of what we can do for quality in an underserved community.
- O. Verdeja presented ELC staff member F. Altare with an award. P. Hollingsworth stated that Fio is a guiding light in her department. She is a powerhouse and watching her grow has been an inspiration.
- D. Lawrence asked how Fio is continuing her education.
- F. Altare started in early childhood. With the help of ELC, she is trying to obtain her bachelor's degree.
- O. Verdeja stated that the 2012 Board schedule would remain the same. Meetings would take place the first Monday of every month with no meeting in January and July.
- E. Torres provided an update on the construction work taking place at the ELC.

## **II. Approval of Minutes**

**Octavio A. Verdeja, Jr.**

- O. Verdeja called for a motion to approve the November 7, 2011 meeting minutes.
  - A. Eckstein moved to approve the minutes.
  - Motion seconded by Y. Johnson.
  - Motion unanimously passed.

## **III. Nominating Committee Report**

**Yvonne T. Johnson, M.D.**

- Y. Johnson stated that the Nominating Committee met and acted upon D. Lawrence's recommendation to have Magaly Abrahante appointed as an ex-officio Board member.
  - A. Eckstein moved to approve the recommendation.
  - Motion was seconded by G. Schwartz.
  - Motion was unanimously passed.

## **IV. Executive Committee Report**

**Octavio A. Verdeja, Jr.**



- Motion to ratify the Executive Committee’s decision to approve Resolution 102611-01.
  - A. Eckstein moved to approve the motion.
  - Motion was seconded by H. Mogul.
  - Motion was unanimously passed.
  
- Motion to ratify the Executive Committee’s decision to approve Resolution 102611-02.
  - A. Eckstein moved to approve the motion.
  - Motion was seconded by Y. Johnson.
  - Motion was unanimously passed.

<b>V. Finance Committee Report</b>	<b>Daniel Armstrong, Ph.D.</b>
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- A. Parrino reported on behalf of D. Armstrong.
  
- A. Parrino reviewed the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures and the snapshots.

<b>VI. Program &amp; Strategy Committee Report</b>	<b>David Williams, Jr. &amp; The Hon. Cindy S. Lederman</b>
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- C. Lederman stated that the Committee is trying to determine what the prerequisites should be to obtain School Readiness funds. A sub-committee is meeting and we should have a suggestion in a few months.

<b>VII. Monroe Advisory &amp; Provider Services Committee Report</b>	<b>Alan Eckstein, Esq.</b>
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- A. Eckstein stated that this was a joint meeting. S. Fagundo served as Chair for this meeting. T. Axford was introduced, and E. Torres provided an update on the legislative session. New Quality Counts initiatives in Monroe were also introduced.
  
- A. Eckstein stated that questions were raised regarding the Board member seat rotations. We are seeking more information from the Health Department and the Community College regarding their interest. We should have more updates for the next meeting.

<b>VIII. CEO Report</b>	<b>Evelio C. Torres, CEO</b>
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- Please refer to [www.elcmdm.org](http://www.elcmdm.org) for the presentation.
  
- Quality Counts presented Quality Counts 2.0. Please refer to [www.elcmdm.org](http://www.elcmdm.org) for the presentation.
  
- E. Torres thanked L. Carmona-Sanchez for the pies she provided to the Board meeting.

<b>IX. Public Comments</b>	<b>Octavio A. Verdeja, Jr.</b>
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<b>X. Adjourn</b>	<b>Octavio A. Verdeja, Jr.</b>
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