



Board of Directors Meeting
December 2nd, 2013; 8:00 a.m.
ELC Board Room

Board Attendees: Adrian Alfonso (Chair); The Hon. Cindy S. Lederman (Vice Chair); Gilda Ferradaz (Treasurer); Lucy C. Piñeiro, Esq. (Secretary); Charles Auslander; Marisel Elias Miranda on behalf of Magaly Abrahante, Ed.D.; Theresa Axford; Roderick E. Beasley; Dr. Tina Carroll-Scott; Commissioner Heather Carruthers; Lucia Davis-Raiford; Mary Vaden Brock on behalf of Robert Eadie; Holly Estes; Shaleen Fagundo; Philip Gassman; Helene J. Good; Eric Knowles; David Lawrence, Jr.; Lisa Martinez; Dr. J. Abilio Rodriguez; Gerald K. Schwartz, Esq.; David Williams, Jr. (attended via conference call); Dr. Mara Zapata

Board Absentees: Eric Knowles; Harve Mogul

Staff Attendees: Evelio Torres (President/CEO); Angelo Parrino; Leeana Sanchez; Christina Vila; Jackye Russell; Pamela Hollingsworth; Fred Hicks; Bethany Sands; Mercy Castiglione; Fiorella Altare; Jose Hernandez; Aileen Martinez; Sandra Gonzalez; Kendra Link; Christine Hughes; Melissa Fernandez; Ana Rodriguez; Kerry Allen

General Attendees: Bob De La Fuente, Tew Cardenas; Michele Watson, Watson Policy Solutions; Abby Thorman, TSG; Vic Ferrante, MDCPS; Peter Gorski, The Children's Trust; Terry T. Rutherford, TOUCCH/MCI; Melissa Clements, Children's Forum; Cynthia Hereford, Shining Light CDC; Rachel Spector, The Children's Trust; Lisa Pittman, The Children's Trust; Shawna Pointville, Excel Kids Academy; Katherine Mitchel, Skipper Chucks; Wendy Salomon, Family Central; Emounte Banks, Room to Bloom

I. Welcome and Introductions

Adrian Alfonso

- A. Alfonso called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- L. Sanchez called roll and a quorum was established with nineteen (19) voting members.
- A. Alfonso stated that if anyone has a conflict of interest on any item coming before the Board, to declare the conflict and see L. Sanchez for a conflict of interest form.
- A. Alfonso introduced this meeting's Board Member Spotlight: C. Lederman.
- C. Lederman stated that as the Board of Directors, we have an opportunity to not fail the children, but to actually change their lives. We can design a system of learning, to overcome some if not all the deprivation they face. A chance many do not have but they can have tomorrow. C. Lederman stated she has a great respect for providers, although they never get compensated enough. We've seen excellent centers, and have some terrible ones. The children in quality centers experience the best hours of their lives there. She is more excited about the potential we have in our hands today, and the legacy we can leave. We can join the states in this country, like North Carolina, that have set aside politics and set the courage to do what we need to do for our children. Everyone on this Board understands the importance of child development. Let's leave a legacy today.



- A. Alfonso stated the following items were included in this month's Board packet:
 - ELC News Alert
 - ELC Parent Link
 - 2014 Proposed Board Meeting Dates
 - D. Lawrence requested that the April 2014 meeting be held on April 14th.
 - Toys for Toys Program
 - Tickets For Charity Program
 - News Article: Preschools Accused of Bias

- A. Alfonso congratulated the University of Florida's Lastinger Center for Learning which recently received a multi-million award from the Stranahan Foundation.

- A. Alfonso congratulated Evelio Torres for being recognized by Our Kids of Miami-Dade and Monroe during this year's National Adoption Day celebration.

II. Approval of Minutes

Adrian Alfonso

- A. Alfonso called for the approval of the meeting minutes from November 4th, 2013.
 - M. Zapata moved to approve the minutes.
 - G. Ferradaz seconded the motion.
 - Motion was passed unanimously.

III. Finance Committee Report

Gilda Ferradaz

- G. Ferradaz reviewed the financials.

- G. Ferradaz reviewed the snapshots for Miami-Dade and Monroe.

IV. Program Policy & Provider Services Committee Report

**The Hon. Cindy S. Lederman
Shaleen Fagundo
David Williams, Jr.**

- C. Lederman stated that The Program Policy and Provider Services Committee met on November 26th, 2013. We discussed the overview of research citing the critical importance of early childhood learning experiences for children, especially vulnerable children and those receiving school readiness subsidy. We also discussed the challenge that providing and maintaining a high quality environment is for childcare providers. We reviewed market rates and an analysis across Miami-Dade and Monroe and other Florida counties. A model for tiered reimbursement beginning with Accreditation and Gold Seal was laid forth. Many providers attended the meeting and participated in a rich discussion.

V. Public Comments

Adrian Alfonso

VI. Adjourn

Adrian Alfonso