



# Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting  
October 6th, 2014; 8:00 a.m.  
ELC Board Room

- Board Attendees:** Adrian Alfonso (Chair); The Hon. Cindy S. Lederman (Vice Chair); Lucy C. Piñeiro, Esq. (Secretary); Gilda Ferradaz (Treasurer); Magaly Abrahamante, Ed.D (via conference call).; Charles Auslander; Theresa Axford; Roderick E. Beasley; Dr. Tina Carroll-Scott; Shaleen Fagundo; Philip Gassman; Helene J. Good (via conference call);; David Lawrence, Jr.; Harve Mogul; Dr. J. Abilio Rodriguez; Gerald K. Schwartz, Esq.; David Williams, Jr.; Dr. Mara Zapata; Robert Eadie; Commissioner Heather Carruthers
- Board Absentees:** Russell Benford
- Staff Attendees:** Evelio Torres (President/CEO); Angelo Parrino; Lisa Sanabria; Jackye Russell; Pamela Hollingsworth; Fred Hicks; Mercy Castiglione; Fiorella Altare; Sandra Gonzalez; Christine Hughes; Melissa Fernandez; Ana Rodriguez; Trudy Azarsepandan; Kerry Allen; Diana Lane;
- General Attendees:** Santiago Echemendia, Shutts & Bowen LLP; Marisel Elias-Miranda, MDCPS; Sarah Brazier, Liberty Academy; Emounte Banks, Room 2 Bloom; Silvia Palenzuela, MDCPS; Maria Riesha, MDCPS; Jess Scher, United Way; Anthony Marin, Dorta Law; Sarah Zuban, MDC Preschool; Juanita Walker, Sheyes Learning; Chris Van Dam, Wonder Sprouts, Matias Dorta, Dorta Law; Carlos Garcia, GSK; Jackie Romillo, Family Central; Susan Galceran, CHN; Yolanda Berroto, MDC Preschool

## I. Welcome and Introductions

Adrian Alfonso

- A. Alfonso called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- L. Sanabria called roll and a quorum was established with eighteen (18) 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 Lisa Sanabria for a form.
- A. Alfonso introduced this meeting's Board Member Spotlight: Shaleen Fagundo.
  - S. Fagundo stated that her background consists of maternal child health planning. She worked for The Children's Trust until 2009, she then went on to work full time at her childcare center in Allapattah. She stated as a child care provider she feels she is part of one of the most precious time in a child's life.
- A. Alfonso stated the following items were included in this month's Board packet:
  - The 2015 Children's Movement of Florida Legislative Agenda:  
Alfonso stated a copy of the agenda was in the packet and included many issues that the board all care deeply about. The agenda supported funding increases to the VPK and School Readiness programs, and included a request for continued funding for Parent Skill Building through Help Me Grow. The goal is to continue to expand Help Me Grow services to create a statewide platform providing parents with the latest information about their children's development. The Early Learning Coalition will use Help Me Grow to assist parents as part of their Child Care Resource and Referral operation. There is



also a request to extend KidCare coverage to include children of “lawfully residing” immigrants. Adrian asked the board to review the full agenda and stated that Dave will more than welcome any assistance the board can provide.

## **II. Approval of Minutes**

**Adrian Alfonso**

- A. Alfonso called for the approval of the meeting minutes from November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014.
  - G. Ferradaz moved to approve the minutes.
  - M. Zapata seconded the motion.
  - Motion was passed unanimously.

## **III. Finance Committee Report**

**Adrian Alfonso**

- Resolution 10292014-01 authorizes the President and CEO to receive funds from the Office of Early Learning Child Care and Development Block Grant Trust Fund for Early Learning Performance Funding Pilot Project grant/contract.
  - Motion to approve resolution by L. Lederman.
  - Motion seconded by T. Axford.
  - Motion was unanimously passed.
  
- Resolution 10292014-02 authorizes the President and CEO to negotiate and execute the contract for Certified Early Learning Coaching services with University of Florida, Board of Trustees listed within the background section of this resolution.
  - Motion to approve resolution by D. Lawrence.
  - Motion seconded by R. Beasley.
  - C. Auslander declared a COI.
  - Motion was unanimously passed.
  
- G. Ferradaz stated that the financial statements are showing a deficit for School Readiness, which is due to CCEP funding. Until monies are dispersed, OEL has asked the Early Learning Coalition to use the School Readiness funds. Once the Early Learning Coalition receives this funding, they will no longer show a deficit. VPK is showing a surplus, this is normal for this time of year.
  
- G. Ferradaz stated at the last meeting a surplus in the Refugee funding was showing ELC staff has contacted Career Source and the appropriate referrals are being made.
  
- Slot utilization: Wait list in Miami Dade is at 12,875, this increase is normal for this time of year. Monroe county wait list remains at 0, all capacity issues have been resolved.

## **IV. Program Policy & Provider Services Committee Report**

**David Williams**

- D. Williams stated that on September 24th, 2014 The Wonder Sprout was served with a Notice of Termination. On October 6th, 2014 a grievance was filed by Chris Van Dam, attorney for the The Wonder Sprout. The proposed recommendation from board attorney S. Echemendia was:
  - Deny Grievant’s reimbursement requests pending the conclusion of the audit, and reconsider such reimbursement requests upon the completion of the audit.
  
  - Deny Grievant’s request to reinstate the Contract between ELC and Grievant.



- Motion to approve resolution by D. Lawrence.
- Motion seconded by R. Beasley.
- Motion was unanimously passed

- C. Van Dam gave a short presentation asking the board members to reverse the decision and to make full payment. C. Van Dam also stated that The Wonder Sprout Childcare has closed down. D. Lawrence stated that until final audits are complete no payments can be made.

**V. Florida Early Learning Poll**

**Harve Mogul/ Jess Scher**

- The presentation is available at the following link:  
[http://www.elcmdm.org/about\\_us/Board/BOD/board\\_minutes.htm](http://www.elcmdm.org/about_us/Board/BOD/board_minutes.htm)

**VI. CEO Report**

**Evelio C. Torres, CEO**

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**VII. Public Comments**

**Adrian Alfonso**

**VIII. Adjourn**

**Adrian Alfonso**