

Inclusion Work Group Notes: 02.12.2016

In attendance: Rachel Spector, Lisa Sanabria, Evelio Torres , Pam Hollingsworth, Angelo Parrino, Jackie Romillo, Mara Zapata, Tina Carroll-Scott, Abilio Rodriguez

Via conference call Gilda Ferradaz, Philip Gassman

Approval of Minutes: Mara Zapata moved, Abilio Rodriguez seconded. Approved

Anabel outlined that as per F.S. providers can be paid a special needs differential

Evelio stated that Miami Dade County was paying a differential to a group of providers in the past but realized that there was no documentation of the services the children enrolled in these programs were receiving. Evelio stated that before reinstating this practice the Coalition would have to establish a monitoring protocol.

Helene stated that the workgroup has been consistent and firm in its recommendation that the differential should not be given to any provider. "We do not know who it's going to, what the needs are of the children, and whether there is a substantive relationship between child need and services provided".

21 referrals have come from CCRR. These were not included to totals.

Alain stated referrals to FDLRS come from the Warm-Line, Head Start. , and from redetermination packet which is forwarded to the inclusion department. The parents are asked if the child has been diagnosed, if not then referred to FDLRS. Providers that accept the special needs differential have not been verified. Evelio states it is a challenge to educate parents on questions to ask.

483 children with special needs have been identified. A breakdown of special needs by coalition should be gathered.

Anabel mentioned a Cornell study: 1.6% of children under 4 and 3%. of children 5-15 have specials needs. Evelio asks that we work to identify a target number.