



Programs, Policy and Provider Services Committee Meeting  
November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015; 3:30 PM  
Conference Call

**Committee Attendees:** Dr. Judy Schaechter, Imran Ali, Gladys Montes (via conference call)

**Staff Attendees:** Evelio Torres, Belkis Torres, Fiorella Altare, Sandra Gonzalez, Anabel Espinosa, Kerry Allen, Jackye Russell, Lisa Sanabria, Michelle Meilan, Angelo Parrino, Pamela Hollingsworth

**I. Welcome and Introductions** **Dr. Judy Schaechter**

**II. Approval of Minutes** **Dr. Judy Schaechter**

- Motion to approve by I. Ali.
- Motion seconded by J. Schaechter.
- Motion was unanimously passed.

**III. The Neighborhood Place for Early Head Start** **Belkis Torres**

- B. Torres provided updates, including program enrollment, referrals of children and families to Jackson Health System and plans for continued development of the Early Head Start Policy Committee. Evelio and the Early Head Start team participated in a conference call with the Head Start Regional Office on November 20<sup>th</sup>, to discuss school readiness policies and procedures and enrollment and recruitment into the Early Head Start program.

**IV. Inclusion and Assessment** **Dr. Anabel Espinosa**

- A. Espinosa provided updates, including ongoing reduction in ASQ3 past due providers. ASQ3 past due numbers are down from 370 in October to 316 in November.
  - The Inclusion and Assessment department also reported on the status of implementation of recommendations from the Inclusion Work Group. The recommendations include the creation of a process flow for intake and referral for families expressing concerns about their child's development and enhancements to the School Readiness data system (known as the EFS system) to document parent concerns and children with a diagnosed disability. These actions are now complete with ELC Eligibility staff training planned for later this month.



**V. The Professional Development Institute**

**Pamela Hollingsworth**

- P. Hollingsworth provided an overview of training efforts which include Teaching Strategies Gold, which Florida now mandates as a pre and post assessment for Voluntary Pre-K (VPK) providers.
  - The Professional Development Institute also reported on Home Instruction for Parents of Pre School Youngsters (HIPPY). HIPPY continues to ramp up and hire staff. HIPPY will begin delivering services in Monroe County in January 2016.

**VI. Quality Counts**

**Fiorella Altare**

- F. Altare provided an overview of its current waitlist, which is at zero and lead a discussion of current ratings for the Learning Environment and Staff qualifications. Quality Counts is currently revising its processes.
  - The Performance Funding Pilot, a program that is testing models for tiered reimbursement for providers in high poverty communities is being run by the Office of Early Learning and implemented throughout the state of Florida. The Performance Funding Pilot is in its second year with 29 programs actively participating in Miami-Dade and 2 programs actively participating in Monroe.

**VII. Quality Assurance**

**Michelle Meilan**

- M. Meilan reported on the most recent Accountability Monitoring issued by the Office of Early Learning. The Accountability and Monitoring Report included services delivered for School Readiness Eligibility Services from January through March 2015, for VPK during the 2014-2015 program year and the Coalition's operations from July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2015.

**VIII. Sunbeatables**

**Pamela Hollingsworth**

- P. Hollingsworth discussed a possible pilot program: Sunbeatables- sun safety curriculum to teach children about sun protection. This program is a potential partnership with the MD Anderson Cancer Center (University of Texas) and the CATCH Global Foundation. The Programs Committee asked that the staff perform due diligence locally to be sure there would be no duplication of efforts. Action for the Sunbeatables pilot was tabled until the December Programs Committee Meeting.

**IX. Adjourn**

**Dr. Judy Schaechter**