

Minutes

Early Learning Coalition of Broward County, Inc.

Community Partners System Gathering

7/21/08

10:00 a.m.

6301 NW 5th Way, Suite 3400

Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33309

Attendees:

Stacy Angier, Ellen Breslow, Ana Bueno, Willie Cameron, Sharon Cohen, Claudia Dean, Ethel Edwards, Ilene Gevirtz, Yanick Goutier, Mark Gross, Jill Gelman, Andrea JohnBaptiste, Louise Marine, Oma Megbuluba, Ilene Miller, Julia Musella, Anita Platt, Gilbert Rincon, Wendi Siegel, Chris Sieber, Charlene Swanson, Carol Wasserman, Mary Jean Woika, Andrea Zabel,

Staff in Attendance:

K. Lee Tirpak, Director of Program Operations, Janice Carter, ECE Program Specialist, Leticia Strasser, ECE Program Specialist, Marcie Westover, CRRD Assistant, Inez Webb, Administrative Assistant

I. Welcome and Call to Order

K. Lee Tirpak

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m.

II. Introductions

Self-introductions were made.

III. Review and Approve Agenda

The agenda was approved by consensus.

IV. Review and Approve Minutes – 7/21/08

The minutes were approved by consensus with no correction.

V. Presentation

Andrea McDowell-
JohnBaptiste**1. Black Infant Health Practice Initiative (BIHPI)**

Ms. JohnBaptiste was made welcome and introduced to the partners. Hand-outs included posters, flyers and copies of the Power-Point presentation given to the attendees. Ms. JohnBaptiste began the presentation by drawing attention to the disparity in infant mortality between Blacks and Whites, which has been identified in the community. Reference was made to the Power-Point presentation highlighting the following areas.

- Quantitative Data Analysis, detailing the trends, indicators and Peri-natal Point of Risk (PPOR) and identifying where these occur.
- Qualitative Data Analysis and Focus groups targeting certain issues.
- Community Engagement involving Fetal Infant Mortality Community Action Group (FIRM CAG), community involvement and community mobilization.
- A snapshot of Broward county provided details demonstrating the following:
 - The increase in teen birth rate under the age of 19 years old.
 - Certified health indicators in 2006: Pre-term Birth, Low Birth weight, Very Low Birth Weight, Teen Pregnancy, Infant Mortality, Fetal Mortality.
 - Fetal and Infant Mortality: Deaths in the Maternal Health/Pre-maturity category. The greatest disparity in infant mortality between Black and White women, and identifying that the largest number of deaths occurs for Blacks between 20-24 years old and for Whites between 30-35 years old.
 - The use of Quantitative and Qualitative Data Analysis, and Community Engagement: Trends by ethnic groups indicated racial disparity in health care.
 - Peri-natal periods of risk: Total fetal-infant mortality rate: 11.6 for Blacks versus 5.4 for Whites; the largest number of deaths is among non-Hispanic Blacks.
 - Resources: Mom Care and Kid Care programs, WIC, Health Clinics, Florida Family Health line and First Call for Help-2-1-1 which are available to the community.

Question: Do we really know the effect that this is having on our community?

Answer: Booklets, flyers containing detailed information are readily available. Community outreach includes “A Baby Shower for a Brighter Future” which will be held on Friday, August 1, 2008.

Question: Which group do we need to educate?

Answer: Black women under 19 years old and Whites 30 years and older should be targeted. Causes of death include untimely follow up on illnesses and non-immunization of infants.

Question: Who are the professionals working with patients?

Healthy Start federal and state mandated universal program is for all pregnant women that work with parents as they are discharged from the hospital. The state program offers free screening to women when they enter into pre-natal care; questions are asked and ultimately a score over 6 determines that there is a risk for poor outcome. Child birth education, parenting support and breastfeeding education are core

services provided; efforts are also made to link them to other agencies. Except for two Broward County hospitals, all others do offer post-natal screening.

Question:

How is this being implemented in the high schools?

Answer:

Marcia Bynoe with the School Board of Broward County is extremely instrumental in implementing this process at the high schools. Packets are put together for the schools, of course sending the right message, directing teen-agers to seek prevention methods. Groups work with a 3-team parent center in the county to provide the education and support needed; Healthy Start can stay involved with the child up to 3 years old.

Question:

What is being done to address absence of health care?

Answer: Healthy Start Coalition works through community liaison who visit physician offices and clinics. Ideally feed-back from the Focus group help to determine the factors involved. Healthy Start has identified Attorney groups to also work with immigrant population.

Suggestion

Create a way to help parents choose the Physicians who participate in the Healthy Start Program, so they can benefit from the pre-natal screening.

2. Coalition 101 Course presented by K. Lee Tirpak, Early Learning Coalition of Broward County, Inc.

Ms. Tirpak presented on flow chart, beginning with an explanation of the Early Learning Education (ECE) Legislative funding process.

- **Funding:** The Federal Government distributes funds to the State Legislature. The Legislature makes laws governing Early Care and Education funding.
- Money is given to the community through various Departments: Agency for Workforce One/Office of Early Learning (AWI/OEL), Department of Children and Families (DCF), Department of Health (DOH) and Department of Education (DOE). Funds are issued to the Coalition for the Voluntary Pre-kindergarten (VPK).
 - Agency for Workforce Innovation (AWI) oversees two programs: Early Learning and Workforce. The Early Learning Coalitions distribute School Readiness (SR) and Voluntary Pre-kindergarten Program funds.
 - Children's Services Council of Broward County receives funds through local taxing avenues, some of which is earmarked for ECE.
 - Local communities and other organizations such as United Way and Wachovia provide match funds to draw down additional Child Care Executive Partnership Program funds and other Federal funds to serve working families.

- **Services:** The Early Learning Coalition procures services for the early learning system every 3 years. The state ensures that the funds used for child care are used properly by meeting Florida Statute 411, and for VPK by meeting Florida Statute 1002 with some local control.
 - Procured services are provided by local agencies who proposed services and contract with the Coalition until the next procurement cycle (2010):
 - Family Central, Inc. (FCI) provides Child Care Resource and Referral, and Family Education and Supports services to Broward County, the front door to access services in the Early Care and Education System; locate families who are in need of financial assistance in order to afford childcare; also work with Workforce One, Childnet and Broward Sheriff Office to identify children who need childcare funds for safe living.
 - Financial assistance to eligible families (according to F.S. 411 and F.S. 1002) is also determined and provided by FCI through Eligibility, Determination and Application Processing; the Coalition sets enrollment priorities.
 - The Broward County Commission, Child Care Licensing and Enforcement Section carry out quality assurance services of SR and VPK centers/homes as described in F.S. 411 and F.S. 1002 and designed by the Coalition (5-star rating).
 - Quality Improvement Supports are offered by both FCI and Broward County Public School (BCPS) to participating Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS).
 - Child Screening and Assessment is identified in F.S. 411, and is available to all families receiving SR funded services and those waiting for financial assistance.
- **Partnerships:**
 - Broward County Commission, Child Care Licensing & Enforcement Section
 - Family Central, Inc.
 - Broward County Public Schools
 - Children's Services Council of Broward County
 - Department of Children and Families
 - Department of Housing
 - Department of Education
 - Colleges and Universities
 - Nova Southeastern University
 - Broward Community College
 - Florida Atlantic University
 - Providers
 - Families
 - Wachovia
 - United Way of Broward
 - Childnet
 - Workforce One
 - Municipalities
 - Professional Organizations

- BAEYC
- NBCDI
- Foster Grand Parents
- Broward Libraries
- Foundations: A.D. Henderson
- And more are added regularly

Action Items:	Person Responsible	Deadline

VI. System Celebrations and Updates

Child Care Center

The Director of Baby Boomers attended a wonderful Reggio conference in Boulder; people from pre-schools world-wide (New Zealand, Canada, Spain, Italy and throughout the USA) attended. Everyone shared the same problems, such as health, staffing, parental partnering, etc. As a result Baby Boomers will share what was learned in a free workshop to providers in the spring.

Department of Health

A Symposium will be held on August 25, 2008, at Broward County Health Department based, on records of low 2 years old immunization.

Nova SouthEastern University

- One Goal conference (hand-out) Reminder on Development Calculator Renewal Directors Credential – December 28, 2008.
- Department of Children and Families (DCF) asked to make people aware of the Credential Calculator to determine the renewal date for the Director’s Credential. The first deadline of December 31, 2008, is fast approaching. Of 1,900 in the system, only 900 renewals have been recorded. (A hand-out was provided).
- Under the heading “What’s News” on www.myflorida.com/childcare, there is Training News regarding the newest on-line training course. Guide to Record Keeping is a three-hour course that became available on July 1, 2008, hand-outs were provided.

Family Central, Inc.

- VPK conference August 2, 2008
 - Approximately 200 registered; open to all teachers in Broward county
 - Need volunteers and donations of items for goody bags
- Thanks to the Coalition the curriculum items donated are ready for distribution next week
- Additional VPK standards class added for new VPK teachers.
- VPK Certificates issued for fall enrollment is 10,899.
- VPK Billboard is on the Turnpike.
- Volunteers needed to stuff goody bags on Wednesday, July 30, 2008, at 3:00pm.

Broward County Child Care Licensing & Enforcement

- Referring to Charlene Swanson’s comments, clarity was given regarding Progressive Discipline State Ordinance 65C-22 & 65C-20, issued for Class 1-3 Violations which lead to Administrative fines. Regarding sanctions as it relates to the Gold Seal status, the language is now added to the new state standards.
- The County’s Ordinance is greater and different from the state and will not be changed, however at some point the County is looking at translating their Ordinance into the same format; the state is moving forward with their automated process.
- Training
The Child Care Quality Technicians from Broward had reliability trainings with North Carolina/ ERS Authors representatives June 23-27, 2008. We are confident that the Broward technicians using the ITERS, ECERS and FCCERS know their job well.

The Early Learning Coalition of Broward, Inc.

- Community Partners System Gathering is cancelled for August.
- September’s meeting we will look at the accomplishments in 2008; partners were asked to write the things that they would like the Coalition to focus on in terms of quality improvement.

Action Items:	Person Responsible	Deadline

VII. Old Business

Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline

	VIII. New Business	Partners
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IX. Public Comments	Partners
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Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:

X. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Next Meeting: September 17, 2008

These minutes contain the action items of the Community Partner Systems Gathering. They do not contain all items discussed. A tape recording of the meeting is held in the Coalition office. Submitted by: Inez Webb