

## MIAMI-DADE SCHOOL READINESS COALITION

Board Meeting  
March 12, 2003  
8 a.m.

United Way of Miami-Dade – Ansin Building  
3250 SW Third Ave.  
Miami, Florida 33129

### **Miami-Dade School Readiness Coalition board members present:**

Vickie Burley	Marisel Elias-Miranda	Leonie Hermantin	Patricia G. Johnson
Yvonne T. Johnson	Robert H. Kelly	Silvia La Villa	David Lawrence Jr.
Dannie McMillon	Harve Mogul	Dabney Park	Silvia M. Quintana
Jane Robinson	Lourdes C. Rovira	Cheleene B. Schembera	Gerald Schwartz
Dean Taylor	Lucia Vicencio	Barbara Weinstein	Ann-Karen Weller

### **Others in attendance:**

Carole Abbott	Hilary Abel	Jocelynn M. Adory	Ana Alfonso
Ivonne Anton	Ivette Aponte-Torres	Crystal Archable	Judith Bernhard
Rosalyn Berry	Lisa Blair	Maria E. Binelo	Jim Bostic
Norma Brieler	Lisa Challenger	Shermin Davis	Ann de las Pozas
Yesenia Diaz	Ruth Doran	Warren Eldridge	Manuel Fermin
Jona Ferrante	Michelle Fries	Deborah Harbour	Chuck Hood
Betty Key	Karen Liederman	Matty Loret de Mola	Donald Manning
Colleen Mauer	Erica Mc Kinney	Mayra E. Martinez	Yvette Medina
Susy Montalvo	Rose Mary Moreno	Ramiro S. Moreno	Alma Morua
Emily Nasca	Norman Nierenberg	Frank O'Loughlin	Ardene Patterson
Maria Paz	Ivonne Ramirez	Aquilla Richardson	Gina Romero
Bethany Sands	Ana Sejeck	Gloria Simms	Linda Soden
Ellen M. Strot	Mireya Veres	Timothy Weeks	Muriel Wong-Lundgren
Robyn Yglesias	Aygun Yeakey		

Patricia G. Johnson welcomed everyone and asked for introductions.

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Pat Johnson requested a motion for approval of the Jan. 9 minutes.

**Motion:** Gerald K. Schwartz  
**Second:** Harve Mogul  
Motion was unanimously approved.

Patricia Johnson started the meeting by informing everyone that representatives from Orange, Lake and Penelas county school readiness coalitions met with the Miami-Dade School Readiness Coalition to review some of the coalition's work, and commented that they were very impressed with the work we have conducted so far.

### **THE CHILDREN'S TRUST**

Dave Lawrence reported on The Children's Trust. He provided an update on board selection and future meetings.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Ivonne Ramirez explained the Statement of Financial Position for January 2003. For January 2003 our cash on hand was \$2.9 million, and accounts receivable was \$22 million. The reason these numbers are high is because that includes November, December of 2002 and January 2003 invoices. Our current accounts receivable to date is \$8 million, which just reflects the January invoices. Ivonne went on to point out that on the Consolidated Statement of Account we are currently under enrolled as far as the children and that's why you will see a large variance under early education. The central agencies projected that they will hit the numbers by June, and the variance will disappear within the next few months. Also, under salaries and benefits we have a surplus. These funds will be moved in the budget to Quality funds over the next few months.

Chuck Hood introduced the idea of increasing the market rate for 203 year olds. The increased rate will help absorb this fiscal year's proposed surplus. He also informed the board that the market rate could impact next year's budget by \$5 million at least.

Harve Mogul requested a motion to approve the increase of the Market Rate.

**Motion:** Harve Mogul  
**Second:** Silvia Quintana  
Motion was unanimously approved.

## **ASSESSMENT INTERVENTION PROGRAM (AIP)**

Warren Eldridge presented the initial findings of pre-assessment results prepared by the Coalition, Florida International University and George Mason University. The presentation will be posted in the Teach More Love More website.

We expect to have our post-assessment results by our Sept. 11 board meeting.

### **INTERVENTIONS:**

- ❑ **EARLY AUTHORS PROGRAM (EAP):** Lisa Blair, Executive Director of the Miami-Dade Family Learning Partnership informed the board members on the status of the EAP grant. All of the centers working with EAP have had their first assessment completed. A language assessment has also been added to incorporate a comprehensive language screening into the EAP.
- ❑ **NATURAL ENVIRONMENT EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (NEED):** Dr. Carole Abbott introduced Bethany Sands, Program Director and informed the board of the mission of the NEED program. "To ensure that all children with special needs, ages birth to 5, can access and receive appropriate services in the most natural and least restrictive environment from agencies that are qualified to provide those services." This joint program uses resources of the following:
  1. Regional Policy Council that works with the Infant Toddler Early Intervention Program.
  2. Miami-Dade School Readiness Coalition
  3. Child Development Services
  4. Family Central
  5. Miami-Dade County Public School Programs for Pre-K Children with Disabilities
  6. FDLRS – South
  7. Community Action Agency Head Start/Early Head Start
  8. Early care and education providers in our community
  9. Other community agencies and service providers (for mental health, speech/language, physical and occupational therapy)

According to the 2000 census, 145,000 children age birth to 5 live in Miami-Dade County. Currently, 51 early care and education providers (the NEED target is 70, or about 5% of all licensed care providers) have

committed to the NEED program to participate in extensive training in topics addressing children with disabilities, early childhood education curriculum strategies, behavior management and working to ensure the providers' physical environment supports inclusion. NEED will use such proven concepts as the consulting teacher model used by the public schools Pre-K Disabilities Program and substantiated by research. In the future, NEED providers will serve as mentors for other providers in a tiered level of training and level of proficiency.

❑ Labor	\$ 351,000
❑ Adaptive center materials	\$ 50,000
❑ Professional Equipment	<u>\$ 30,000</u>
	\$ 431,000

There will also be a partnership established with Infant and Toddler Early Intervention Program, who will pay up to \$117,000 on a pay for service basis.

Vickie Burley requested a motion to approve the NEED Program Accreditation Readiness Initiative.

**Motion:** Vickie Burley  
**Second:** Jane Robinson  
Motion was unanimously approved.

### **ACCREDITATION REPORT**

Ivette Aponte-Torres informed the board that as of March 8, the number of accredited facilities in Miami-Dade County is 118. Of that total, CDS has 49 facilities or 12.4 percent of its 395 contracted early care and education programs, and Family Central has 35 facilities or 14.3 percent of its 245 contracted early care and education programs.

### **ACCREDITATION TASK FORCE REPORT**

Lucia Vicencio reported to the board on the March 5 Accreditation Task Force meeting. The following issues were discussed in the meeting: (1) Intensive Intervention for Quality Initiative (IIQI), and (2) How as a community can we increase consumer awareness for quality.

The next Accreditation Task Force meeting is scheduled for April 9.

### **INTENSIVE INTERVENTION FOR QUALITY INITIATIVE (IIQI)**

Warren Eldridge shared with the board that currently we have 78 child care facilities participating in the IIQI. Family Central and CDS are both actively involved in this program. The program has 3 modes:

- 1) The technical assistance where mentors go out to different child care facilities.
- 2) Help to purchase materials for programs to get accredited.
- 3) Combine funds from Bank of America grant, The United Way of Miami-Dade and the coalition funds to create a partnership.

Aygun Yeakey was introduced as the person hired to help complete this project.

### **PRESIDENT'S UPDATE**

Chuck Hood informed the board that Willie Ivory and the Nominating Committee will be meet to propose a slate of officers for the coming year. At this meeting, there will also be discussion on amending the by-laws to reflect that starting on July 1, 2003 the term of service will be changed from 2 years to 3.

Chuck also invited everyone to attend a Tri-County coalition meeting being held on March 25 at the Broward County School Readiness Coalition.

Dave Lawrence informed the board that it is his intention not to serve as an officer of the coalition board. He stated that he will continue to be an active member.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Patricia Johnson informed the board of our meeting schedule from May 20, 2003 – January 15, 2004.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.**