



Executive Committee Meeting
June 24, 2009; 10:00 a.m.
Conference Call

- Committee Attendees:** Octavio A. Verdeja, Jr. (attended via conference call); Yesenia Perkins (attended via conference call); Gerald K. Schwartz, Esq. (attended via conference call); Dabney G. Park, Jr., Ph.D., (attended via conference); Walter Harvey (Board Attorney)
- Committee Absentees:** Yvonne T. Johnson, M.D.
- Staff Attendees:** Evelio Torres (President/CEO); Leana Pena; Angelo Parrino; Melody Thelwell
- Other Attendees:** Irene Taylor-Wooten (attended via conference call); Jack Hartog, Gray-Robinson (attended via conference call)

I. Welcome and Introductions	Octavio A. Verdeja, Jr., Chair
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- O. Verdeja called the meeting to order.

II. School Readiness Contract Budget	Octavio A. Verdeja, Jr., Chair
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- E. Torres stated that Miami-Dade County requested an additional \$500,000 to pay for administrative costs. He stated that the ELC is currently paying Miami-Dade County \$9.7 million. He stated that in the Contract Negotiation Meeting with Miami-Dade County, the ELC informed the County that they did not have an additional \$500,000. The proposal brought to the Executive Committee is that the County could reduce their match by \$500,000 and the ELC would make up that amount using the The Children's Trust dollars as match. The County could then go to the County Board of Commissioners and seek approval to utilize the \$500,000 and put that amount into their budget as opposed to using those dollars for match. The difference between the dollars received from The Children's Trust and the dollars received from Miami-Dade County is that the dollars received from The Children's Trust is for the Quality Counts program and they impact the School Readiness program. However, the match is not cash like the dollars from Miami-Dade County. The ELC would still have the match, and still be able to draw down the federal dollars so they will not be impacted. However, there will be \$500,000 less to pay for slots which are approximately 148 fewer children served.
- E. Torres noted that the ELC was also trying to reduce enrollment because currently enrollment is very high. Over the next few months, the Program & Strategy Committee will be working on a plan to bring enrollment down. He stated that plan might very likely include dis-enrolling children, but the Committee was trying to decide how to tackle this and make a final recommendation to the Board.
- E. Torres stated that the initial proposal Miami-Dade County submitted had \$8,855,600 for Administration/Non-Direct services. Right before signing the first year contract,



\$900,000 was added. Over a three year period, the \$900,000 would remain making a total of \$2,700,000.

- I. Taylor-Wooten stated that the \$900,000 added for the three years was added to support the cost of the account clerks which was needed after implementation of the swipe cards could not be achieved.
- The following scenarios were decided by the Executive Committee for contract negotiation with Miami-Dade County:
 - Miami-Dade County will reduce their \$3.7 million dollar match by \$500,000. The ELC will use a \$500K match from The Children's Trust. Approximately 148 less children will be served.
 - The ELC does not enter into contractual agreement with Miami-Dade County with the risk of losing the \$3.2 million match from Miami-Dade County and the risk of losing floating dollars.
 - The ELC does not cut \$500K and does not enter into 4th year contractual agreement with Miami-Dade County.
 - Miami-Dade County agrees to contract the amount of \$3.2 million vs. a \$3.7 million match.
 - Miami-Dade County agrees to keep a \$3.7 million match with a standard percentage increase written into contract.
 - The ELC uses stimulus dollars to serve children and has no negotiation with Miami-Dade County. The ELC would then allow for the possibility of RFP for services.
 - ELC cuts services with Miami-Dade County.

III. Process for Hiring Board Attorney	Octavio A. Verdeja, Jr., Chair
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- O. Verdeja stated that a committee should be formed to interview candidates. Once selected, the candidate can be forwarded to the Executive Committee.
- W. Harvey stated that the Board must approve the candidate for the Board Attorney position. He stated that the Executive Committee can approve the candidate and the decision can be ratified by the Board.
- G. Schwartz stated he would take the lead on the committee to select the Board Attorney. He stated that A. Eckstein should also be on the committee.
- W. Harvey suggested that L. Piñeiro participate in the committee.
- G. Schwartz stated that with two attorneys on the committee already, it was probably best to get someone who was not an attorney to participate. He stated that Judge Lederman might be a good choice.



- E. Torres stated that Judge Lederman's schedule might make it difficult for her to participate in the committee.
- O. Verdeja stated that W. Harvey has a great history with the ELC and it will be difficult to find his replacement. He stated that he would like to interview Gray Robinson and would like to interview a few other firms as well.
- E. Torres stated that he already had an inquiry from a firm and asked how G. Schwartz would like him to handle future inquiries.
- G. Schwartz stated that the ELC should be given proposals by anyone interested.
- O. Verdeja stated that a RFP should be released.
- E. Torres stated that for legal services, a RFP is not required. Legal services are exempt from doing a RFP. He stated that an announcement advertising the position would be drafted and sent to G. Schwartz for his review before the ELC releases it.
- W. Harvey stated that he would be starting his new position with the Miami-Dade County School Board at the end of July or beginning of August. He stated that he would be willing to stick around a little longer if he was needed. He stated that in the announcement for the position, the ELC should list the areas of competency the candidates are expected to have.
- E. Torres stated that M. Thelwell of the ELC would work with W. Harvey in drafting the announcement.
- O. Verdeja stated that he would like a large firm only if they can have an attorney that can work on a personal level as W. Harvey has in the past years. He stated that W. Harvey should write a list of the areas he's worked on the most over the years.
- E. Torres stated this was a great idea. W. Harvey has assisted in many areas including employment, legislative, contracts, and real estate.

IV. Approval to Accept Funding From S. FL Workforce	Octavio A. Verdeja, Jr., Chair
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- E. Torres stated that R. Beasley from the S. FL Workforce agreed to give the ELC \$350,000 for this current fiscal year to pay for some of the children in the Transitional Childcare category.
- O. Verdeja motioned to approve the ELC to execute an agreement with the S. FL Workforce and accept the \$350,000 as an amendment to the ELC budget.
 - Motion was seconded by Y. Perkins.
 - Motion was unanimously passed.

V. Public Comments	Octavio A. Verdeja, Jr., Chair
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VI. Adjourn	Octavio A. Verdeja, Jr., Chair
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