



**Together
for Children**

HOMESTEAD/FLORIDA CITY/NARANJA

**Coalition Meeting
April 28, 2022
10:30 a.m.**

- **Introductions**
 - **Name, Organization, Committee**
- **Review and Approval of Minutes**
- **Action Plan**
 - **Committee Reports**
 - **Updates to Membership**
 - **TFC Ambassador Report**
- **Voting Membership Position Openings**
- **TFC Partner Spotlight**
- **Countywide Updates**
- **Area(s) of Prioritization**
- **Announcements/Celebrations**
- **Public Comment**

Meeting Commenced: 10:34 am
Meeting Adjourned: 11:25 am

Present:

Alisha Reyes
Anne Casimir
Brandy Ramirez
Carlos Pildain
Jenifer Bailey
Johanna Ralsten-Cox
Mery Dominguez
Oscar Munoz

Absent:

Flor Arzuaga
Maydelinne Velasquez
Vanessa Vilchez
Virginia Munoz
Zahirah Calloway

Introductions

Review and Approval of Minutes

- Brandy Ramirez made a motion to approve the March meeting minutes, Carlos Pildain seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Action Plan Updates

- Brandy Ramirez shared that MAC has been doing multiple events with parent workshops and Citrus has been doing community events to promote foster care. She requested that all committee members send their information in for the month's report. Mery Dominguez shared that there were 34 families reached out to and 300 connected with in outreach through brochures. There were three events with approximately 65 people at each event.
- Johanna Ralsten-Cox shared that the Empowering Youth Committee is having their Provider Lunch next Friday for all that provide services for youth and families. The event will be held at the Women's Club in Homestead on May 5 at 10:30 am- 12:00 pm; the link was shared in the chat. The focus will be on summer services and there will be breakout sessions for providers. Alisha Reyes shared that partners should prioritize summer opportunities for youth and that they should be sent to Mery Dominguez so that she can disseminate that information.
- Anne Casimir shared that there was a meeting on April 5 and noted that the reporting numbers include both coalitions in the south. She requested more participation in the committee. There were 82 parents participating in parent activities (conferences, home visits, meetings, etc.). There were 34 referrals made.
- Mery Dominguez shared that she has been meeting with different members, local CIS staff and is updating the website with TFC partner flyers.

Together for Children's mission is to strengthen families, empower, and protect our community's youth.
Only as one can we break the cycle of youth violence.

TFC Partner Spotlight

- Dr. Diana Santangelo shared that MJ Wright, a mother who lost her son to gun violence at the Orlando Pulse Nightclub shooting, has partnered with RJT (Restoring Joy and Trust) in the offering of three scholarships to assist in paying for any costs associated with post-high education. These scholarships are for any Miami-Dade County resident who has been impacted by gun violence. It was requested that all spread the word of the application and noted that everyone has been sent information on these scholarships through the TFC News & Resources listserv. To learn more, email MJ Wright at mwright1960@me.com
- It was determined that Johanna Ralsten-Cox will present on KIX next month and Pray in Pink (breast cancer services) will present in June.

Countywide Updates

- Dr. Diana Santangelo shared that all neighborhood-level Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary positions updates were reported to the Board of Trustees. The only coalition pending voting is the Overtown coalition; voting will be done at their next coalition meeting. All were reminded that each neighborhood coalition's Chair and Vice Chair represent their coalition at the countywide Board of Trustees and Secretaries serve as alternates.
- All were reminded the monthly reporting needs to be sent to each committee's lead on a monthly basis for compilation and submission of requested information.

Areas of Prioritization

- Alisha Reyes shared that summer engagement and internship programs are important in making sure that students are engaged and safe over the summer months. Brandy Ramirez shared that it is important to gather the information in regard to what number of slots are available to parents.
- Jenifer Bailey shared that she is working on a joint crime watch for Florida City and Homestead and requested to work with Anne Casimir. Alisha Reyes requested to participate and connect with Miami-Dade Crime Watch. It was discussed that this could be used as a community engagement and prevention event.

Announcements

- Mery Dominguez shared information on the Safe Homes Smart Parties pledge. <https://www.informedfamilies.org/campaigns/safe-homes-smart-parties?hsLang=en>
- Homestead Middle School Virtual Resource Fair is May 17th at 5:30 pm. Register to participate at <https://forms.gle/vaanzStqqpGMnoPn7>
- Jenifer Bailey shared that there will be Homestead Art in the Park on May 28 at Blakey Park that other partners can be a part of. Citrus is partnering and working on a toy distribution and Kimberly Lopez requested locations where there can be collection boxes.

Together for Children's mission is to strengthen families, empower, and protect our community's youth.
Only as one can we break the cycle of youth violence.

- There will be a community event in August for Pretty in Pink which is a health resource fair free to the community; organizations are invited to participate. A flyer will be shared with all.
- There is a National Day of Prayer and the school board approved this observance in schools for those who select to do so. <https://www.miamiyfc.com/pray>
- Jeanne Tamargo shared information for students and adults to register for the scavenger hunt at <HTTP://INFORMEDFAMILIES.ORG/SCAVENGER>. The organizations with the most participants will get a party.
- Youth Co-Op has a partnership with Old Navy for summer jobs and mentoring programs in addition to programming for immigrants.
- Alisha Reyes shared the Drug Take Back program link.
- Marcus Moore shared information on student luncheons and Acceleration Academy services.
- Haitian Heritage Month is coming up and links were shared for ideas to celebrate with youth and families. <https://www.therealhaiti.com/blog/happy-haitian-flag-day-may-18th-activities-and-ideas-for-home-and-the-classroom#:~:text=Haitian%20Flag%20Day%20is%20celebrated,month%20of%20Haitian%20Heritage%20Month>.

Together for Children's mission is to strengthen families, empower, and protect our community's youth.
Only as one can we break the cycle of youth violence.