



**Together
for Children**

HOMESTEAD/FLORIDA CITY/NARANJA

**Coalition Meeting
September 22, 2022
10:30 a.m.**

- **Introductions**
 - **Organization & Committee**
- **Review and Approval of Minutes**
- **Action Plan**
 - **Committee Reports**
 - **TFC Ambassador Report**
- **Position Openings**
 - **Voting Members**
 - **Countywide Committees**
- **TFC Feedback Poll**
- **TFC Partner Spotlight**
- **Countywide Updates**
- **Area(s) of Prioritization**
- **Announcements/Celebrations**
- **Public Comment**

Meeting Commenced: 10:36 am
Meeting Adjourned: 11:35 am

Present:

Alisha Reyes
Anne Casimir
Carlos Pildain
Jenifer Bailey
Johanna Ralsten-Cox
Mery Dominguez
Virginia Munoz

Absent:

Brandy Ramirez
Flor Arzuaga
Oscar Munoz
Vanessa Vilchez
Zahirah Calloway

Introductions

Review and Approval of Minutes

- Anne Casimir made a motion to approve the August meeting minutes, Jenifer Bailey seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Action Plan

- Mery Dominguez reported that 377 parents and 93 families were served through the Strengthening Families Committee. There were 6 workshops provided and there were 850 pamphlets/literature distributed in the community.
- Johanna Ralsten-Cox noted that multiple members from the Empowering Youth Committee have difficulty with the meeting time. It was determined that the last Monday of the month would be the best fit for committee members at 10:30 am.
- Anne Casimir shared that the Protecting Youth Committee had 26 parents participate in One Stop services. JSD did not have any referrals over last month.
- Mery Dominguez shared that she attended six events and two parents were connected to behavioral health services for their children. She also shared that a program was proposed with Homestead Middle School and flyers and information regarding TFC member services were shared throughout the community. She shared that there are upcoming in-person parent workshops conducted in Spanish, please reach out for more information.

Voting Membership Position Openings

- It was noted that there are two youth and one parent voting membership opportunities. Flyers were shared in the chat. Jenifer Bailey shared that she has a parent that volunteered for the parent position and that next month she can participate in the meeting.

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

- Carlos Pildain shared the M-DCPS One Stop mission of student re-engagement with placement and wraparound support. The names of all staff members were shared. One Stop specialists work with the Department of Juvenile Justice and assess students, in addition to offering assistance to re-enroll students and/or provide a different educational pathway. There are also wraparound services provided for the student and the family. He shared that building relationships is central to the work of One Stop and making sure students are receiving needed services and provided support in their educational pathway. He also shared that in the south, they have been partnering with Homestead Soup Kitchen. He noted that in this coalition, they are partnering with Be Strong but they are looking for more support in Homestead as many clients are in Homestead.

TFC Feedback Poll

- There was a TFC feedback poll, results included the following (17 respondents):
 - How long have you been an engaged member of TFC?
 - 2 participants first meeting, 3 participant less than one year, 2 participant 1-2 years, 3 participants 2-3 years, 7 members 4+ years
 - Do you feel you can explain the purpose of TFC?
 - 10: yes; 3 somewhat; 4 no
 - Do you know who your TFC Ambassador is for this coalition?
 - 11 yes, 4 no, 2 not sure
 - Do you understand the role of the TFC Ambassador?
 - 8 yes, 5 no, 4 somewhat
 - Do you think a TFC member orientation would be helpful?
 - 16 yes, 1 no
 - Are you actively engaged in a TFC Committee in this coalition?
 - 10 yes, 3 no, 4 would like to/needs more info

Countywide Updates

- Dr. Diana Santangelo shared that the Board of Trustees subcommittee recommendations were approved at the August meeting. The recommendations to begin the hiring process for the TFC Neighborhood Coalition Coordinator position were approved and all TFC members received the job posting. Additionally, the proposed amendment to add the Resource Room as the fiscal agent for TFC in the Rules and Procedures Document was approved.
- The TFC Countywide Resource Guide includes 60 TFC member organizations and has been sent to all as a resource. It was requested that any organization that did not complete the google survey submit their organization's information for the next iteration of the resource.
- Dr. Diana Santangelo shared that the Empowering Youth Committee leads are working to develop a survey to better assess youth perspective regarding school and community safety.

Areas of Prioritization

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- Jenifer Bailey reiterated that resources for families that have children with autism was brought up last month and that there was a resource event held to provide such resources.

Announcements/Celebrations

- Informed Families Parent Peer Group is Sept. 24 from 9 am to 12:30 pm. Register in advance for this meeting:
https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwocumspzwvGN0v0inL__B-8KYBjAOG9nTF
- Jenifer Bailey shared that yesterday evening there was a council meeting which Alisha Reyes led the organization of to share prevention efforts to protect students. She congratulated her on this effort and will share the link in the WhatsApp chat.
- Lupita De La Cruz shared that an ordinance was passed and starting October 1 there can be community member IDs which can be given to undocumented and formerly incarcerated. Seeds of Resistance will provide more information on this effort and trainings are available for volunteers. Branches is the designated organization that will issue IDs. Please email for more information at gdelacruz@afsc.org
- Family Day is September 26 and Red Ribbon Week is October 23-31, please reach out to Jeanne Tamargo for more information.

Public Comment

- There was no public comment.