



**Together
for Children**

HOMESTEAD/FLORIDA CITY/NARANJA

**Coalition Meeting
May 26, 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: 10:36 am
Meeting Adjourned: 11:28 am

Present:

Alisha Reyes
Anne Casimir
Carlos Pildain
Jenifer Bailey
Mery Dominguez
Oscar Munoz
Virginia Munoz

Absent:

Brandy Ramirez
Flor Arzuaga
Johanna Ralsten-Cox
Maydelinne Velasquez
Vanessa Vilchez
Zahirah Calloway

Introductions

Review and Approval of Minutes

- Jenifer Bailey made a motion to approve the April meeting minutes, Carlos Pildain seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Action Plan Updates

- Mery Dominguez shared that the Strengthening Families Committee participated in two community events with over 100 people in attendance.
- Alisha Reyes shared that Empowering Youth Committee held their Provider Brunch which covered challenges and is focusing on provider collaboration. The committee is working to make sure that summer program information is being shared so that families can engage their children during the summer months.
- Anne Casimir shared that the Protecting Youth Committee worked with over 100 parents in both coalitions in the south. She noted that there were 27 organizations participating in case management and referrals and that 25 families accepted services.
- Mery Dominguez shared that the TFC Ambassadors are sharing information on the Art Walk. There are now two Parent Representatives that participated in the countywide committee: Janet Marrero and Patty Agosto.

Voting Membership Position Openings

- It was noted that there are two Youth Representative and one Parent Representative positions that need filled. It was noted that Maydelinne Velasquez will be stepping down as a voting member as she is graduating. Mery Dominguez shared that there are two students that are interested in participating and that she will follow up with them.

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.

Countywide Updates

- Dr. Diana Santangelo shared that the April and May Board of Trustees meeting was combined and the meeting date is today at 3:00 pm. She shared that the countywide TFC Youth Committee is working in tandem with the NAACP Youth Committee to plan a Youth Summit in the Miami Gardens area this August and that all TFC members are welcome to participate. The TFC Parent/Caregiver Committee is focusing on mental health concerns, specific to adult access and representation. It was noted that the P/G/RH coalition is collaborating to do the backpack giveaway with a parent focus on mental health. Alisha Reyes asked for Mery Dominguez to work with the Strengthening Families Committee to plan a backpack giveaway for the Homestead/Florida City/Naranja Coalition. She also shared that it would be good to do a countywide zoom as a follow up to address parents and mental health.

Areas of Prioritization

- Alisha Reyes said that those that would like to discuss the shooting in Texas should feel free to share their thoughts. She noted that the Police Department held trainings and is part of the Shield Network, as is the City of Miami. Dr. Diana Santangelo shared that there are multiple layers to school shootings and gun violence and noted that many students live with shootings in a day-to-day basis. Carlos Pildain shared that he has a student that was recently shot and the family has nowhere to go and therefore had to return to the home. Dara Quesada shared that Group Violence Intervention staff can help with relocation and requested that he reach out for assistance. Lupita de la Cruz shared that families need trauma-response centered therapy and support. Multiple members shared their own stress and sadness surrounding the recent school shooting and the complexity of the issue. It was also discussed that it is not clear how to seek help to provide resources to a student or share suspicious behavior. Carlos Pildain shared that Banyan Health provides crisis services <https://banyanhealth.org/service/mobile-response-team/>. It was requested that this issue be brought to the attention of the Board of Trustees.

Announcements

- The Art Walk is this Saturday from 1-5 pm, please reach out to Jenifer Bailey for more information.
- The PAL Summer Camp flyer was shared in the chat, please reach out to Alisha Reyes for more information.
- SOS will have a Health Fair on June 11 and it was requested that the flyer be shared with all.

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