



ELCHC Service Delivery & Efficiency Committee Meeting

Thursday, May 15, 2025 @ 3:00 pm

6302 E. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Suite 100 Tampa, FL 33619

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85402541218?pwd=xXSZ1GFTZHDhRv0yra66brF2bBny8i.1>

Meeting ID: 854 0254 1218

Passcode: 505690



Service Delivery & Efficiency Committee Meeting Agenda Packet

Thursday, May 15, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Jae

A. Roll Call/Quorum Verification

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. Jae

Individuals wishing to address the Early Learning Coalition of Hillsborough County Board of Directors must complete a Public Comment Request Card and submit it to the official recorder prior to the noticed start time of the meeting. Said comments will be limited to three (3) minutes per individual on a first-come, first-serve basis, and only at such time as is identified on the official meeting agenda for public comment.

III. ACTION ITEM

A. Jae

A. Approval of April 3, 2025 Meeting Minutes - 3

IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Jae

V. CEO REPORT

Dr. Frederick
Hicks

A. Legislative Update

B. Children's Summit

C. Day of Play

D. Summer Bridge: VPK Performance Update

VI. LEGAL UPDATE

P. Quin, Esq.

A. Addition of an additional Provider Representative on the SD&E Committee

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Jae

A. Next Day of Play is scheduled for Saturday, June 7 from 10:00 am-12:00 noon
Location: Victor Crist Community Complex inside the University area
CDC

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A. Jae

Thursday, April 3, 2025 at 3:00 pm
6302 E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Ste. 100,
Tampa, Florida 33619
Hybrid

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Facilitator: Dr. Lise Fox, Vice Chair

Committee Members Present:

Dr. Larissa Baia, Annette Eberhart*, Dr. Lise Fox, and Commissioner Gwen Myers*

Committee Members Absent:

Amanda Jae

Board Members Present:

Tracye Brown*

ELCHC Staff:

Stacey Francois, Martha Aguiar, Dr. Fred Hicks, Rebecca Salgado*, Sabrina Ruiz* and Nancy Will

Other Attendees:

Dennis Hebert, Mary Hancock, Marie Hammond, and Paul Quin

*Indicates attendance via Zoom.

CALL TO ORDER

Quorum Verification

Noting a quorum was present, Committee Chair, Amanda Jae, called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no Public Comment

ACTION ITEM

A. Approval of the January 30, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Dr. Larissa Baia made a motion to approve the January 30, 2025, meeting minutes. Annette Eberhart made a second. The motion carried unanimously.



DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Director's Community of Practice (CoP)

Stacey Francios, Director of Program Initiative & Education introduced Martha Aguiar, Early Childhood Workforce Coordinator who shared the following with the committee:

Ms. Aguiar shared that upon her joining the coalition she saw the need to connect providers with one another. Ms. Aguiar shared that a survey was sent out in 2022 about what they would like to see in the way of a structured gathering time for providers, 154 providers responded to the survey. Ms. Aguiar stated this large number of providers completing the survey demonstrated the need the community had in being able to speak to their peers and share in their challenges, wins and build comradery.

- The first meeting was held in 2024 with in-person and virtual options and was attended by ~30 providers.
- American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) dollars are no longer available therefore meetings are no longer held at the Early Learning Coalition of Hillsborough County's (ELCHC) office.
- The first center to host was Love & Glory and was accompanied by a light dinner
- The last meeting was held at American Youth Academy with a dinner provided by the host.
- CoP is completely voluntary
- A map of Hillsborough County was shared with the committee with indications of where meetings have been hosted and marked with sites for future meetings.

There was a committee discussion on how CoP was advertised to the provider community. Ms. Aguiar shared dates, times and locations are included in Provider Notes, word of mouth and phone calls that are made. Ms. Annette Eberhart, Board Member and committee member, shared she attended the last meeting of the CoP and found it to provide great resources and was able to meet many providers that she may not have otherwise been able to meet.

CEO Report

Dr. Fred Hicks, CEO of the ELCHC highlighted the following briefly due to time:

Listening Sessions

Dr. Fred Hicks, Chief Executive Officer, ELCHC shared to date he has visited 3 out of the 5 scheduled listening sessions. Dr. Hicks shared the top concerns of the provider community he has heard from the sessions so far:

- Legislative concerns-any budget shortfalls and how it would affect individual centers considering that ELCHC owes providers \$1.6 million for Gold Seal accreditations and high-quality classroom scores.
- Department of Education (DOE)
 - Dr. Hicks shared that many providers are concerned with what they are hearing on the news and other forms of news platforms and how this will affect the families they service.
 - Dr. Hicks shared that he was able to explain that ELC's do not fall under the DOE umbrella but rather Health and Human Services (HHS).
 - Dr. Hicks shared that providers were concerned especially after learning that 5 Head Start offices were being closed.

- Insurance Rates
 - Dr. Hicks shared that many providers are struggling with higher premiums due to the active 2024 Hurricane season.
 - Dr. Hicks also shared for home centers insurance rates are also increasing because adjusters are learning that children are being cared for at homes and view this as an added level of potential liability.

Retreat News

Dr. Hicks shared he had recently met with investment business leaders at possibly bringing more early learning centers in areas of the county where little to none currently exist.

Children's Summit 2025 Update (Save the date September 18, 2025)

Dr. Hicks reminded committee members about the upcoming Board of Directors retreat on Saturday, February 1, 2025. Dr. Hicks thanked Dr. Larissa Baia, President of the Hillsborough Community College for her work in assisting in securing the location for the board retreat.

Provider Transparency Tool

Dr. Hicks demonstrated the transparency tool to the committee.

There was committee discussion on the possibility of adding another provider on the Board of Directors as Dr. Hicks shared this topic was one that was brought up at the listening sessions.

Mary Hancock, with Mary Go Round used her time to share how home centers are different than private centers and the need to have representation on the ELCHC Board of Directors. Ms. Hancock also shared that when she served on the ELCHC Board of Directors she represented both family childcare home and private centers. She shared her experience from her time on the board that she felt inadequate to represent family childcare homes as they vary greatly from large centers. Ms. Hancock also stated that the number of School Readiness children differs greatly between the two types of centers family childcare homes and large centers.

Marie Hammond, with Shining Stars Preschool Academy shared with the committee the importance of having an additional provider voice on the Board of Directors. Ms. Hammond shared that she would prefer that the person that may sit on the committee not be from a faith-based or private for-profit family childcare home.

Alison Fraga, Chief Development Officer, explained the data as to children served from family childcare homes to large center to faith-based and public schools are on the ELCHC website in the annual report.

Dr. Hicks reminded all in attendance that the ELC board make up was not an easy by-law change but rather a change that would need to take place at the state level as the composition of the board was determined by the state and set in Florida State Statute.

Dr. Larissa Baia made a motion to add a provider seat to the Service Delivery & Efficiency committee with voting rights only at the committee level. Commissioner Gwen Myers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

There was committee discussion about setting up a nominating committee for this new seat on the committee.

Alison Fraga, Chief Development Officer, shared with the committee the entire election process including that the ELCHC is required to have open nominations and that include a bio, CV/resume and headshots of all candidates and they are advertised on the ELCHC website for several weeks for providers to have their say in who represents them on the ELCHS Board of Directors. Ms. Fraga shared the candidates with the most votes win the two seats as described in the Florida Statute which is outlined in the ELCHC by-laws.

There was continued conversation about the set-up that is already built out as Ms. Fraga explained for the nomination and election of this new seat of the Service Delivery & Efficiency Committee.

Commissioner Myers shared that the nominating committee would establish the process and procedures for this selection process.

Paul Quin, Board Attorney, shared that the above motion needed to be tabled so that he could further investigate the ability of this motion as the SD&E committee is a standing committee and only ELCHC Board of Directors are permitted to serve on this committee per the ELCHC's by-laws.

Commissioner Gwen Myers made a motion to take to the Board of Directors that a seat be added to the Service Delivery & Efficiency Committee with voting rights only at the committee level seeking to achieve representation of all sectors of the provider community: family providers, for profit, and faith based. Dr. Larissa Baia seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Lise Fox announced the following upcoming events.

Day of Play scheduled for June 7 from 10:00 am-12:00 noon at Victor Crist Community Complex inside the University area CDC.

The Service Delivery and Efficiency Committee will hold their next regular meeting on Thursday, May 15, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Lise Fox called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:07 pm.

Dr. Larissa Baia made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Gwen Myers made a second. The motion carried unanimously.

X

Robert Hyde
ELCHC Board of Directors, Secretary