



**Early Learning Coalition**  
Of Indian River, Martin and Okeechobee Counties, Inc.

## PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

April 5, 2018

ELC Main Office  
10 SE Central Parkway, Suite 200, Stuart, FL

<b>Present:</b>	Barbara Clowdus Rhi Forker (via teleconference)	Pat McCoy (via teleconference)
<b>Excused:</b>	Shonda Hunter	Donna Rivett
<b>ELCIRMO Staff:</b>	Migdalia Rosado	Pat Houston
<b>Others:</b>	William Laughlin (via teleconference) Steve Newman (via teleconference)	Natalie Sanders (via teleconference)

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### I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:18 a.m. by Chair, Barbara Clowdus. The meeting continued for information purposes until a quorum could be established.

### II. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA - None

### III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA – *Action was taken upon establishing of a quorum.*

*Motion to adopt the agenda was made by Pat McCoy, seconded by Rhi Forker and passed.*

### IV. CONSENT AGENDA

#### A. Program Minutes – March 1, 2018 – *Action was taken upon establishing of a quorum.*

*Motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Pat McCoy, seconded by Rhi Forker and passed.*

*The order of the agenda was changed.*

### VI. NEW BUSINESS

#### C. Fundraising - Partnerships

Mr. Laughlin and Mr. Newman provided an overview of the subject which was addressed at the April 2<sup>nd</sup> Finance Committee meeting, with the intention of ELCIRMO's Committees working together to identify areas where funding is needed. Discussion focused on past and ideas for future quality initiatives. The Finance Committee would spearhead fundraising events to accommodate those needs, and ELCIRMO would incorporate partnerships with other agencies to enhance services for all involved.

#### Follow-up items:

- List of needs
- Possible partnerships
- List of foundations/funders

### V. OLD BUSINESS

#### A. Update – Reaching Underserved Communities

The Committee continued to discuss the possibility and logistics of the Okeechobee School District transporting children in the underserved communities to the area child care centers. Discussed starting incrementally with providers that are along the established bus routes. Issues to be worked out include identifying the number and location of those with the need, including the homeless, home schooled, as well as young children not currently receiving services, installing

and uninstalling car seats in buses each day, and the need for wrap-around care. Okeechobee School District is interested in continuing to pursue this endeavor.

*Pat McCoy joined the call at 8:36 a.m. and a quorum was established. The agenda returned to the action items.*

ELCIRMO staff will develop a survey to be sent to all the school districts, non-profits, partner agencies, and preschools to identify the number of students that could be involved in the program. Ms. Sanders suggested data may be available through the health department, EOC, or wait list.

**Follow-up items:**

- Develop survey to preschools
- Concentrate on Okeechobee County
- Continue to identify children and where they are

**B. Data Gathering – Provider Survey: Early Childhood Workforce**

A copy of the survey addressing turnover and workforce credentials was included in the agenda packet. The survey will be forwarded to all child care providers for their completion.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)**

**A. Quality Initiatives** – Ms. Houston discussed the provider stipends being offered to school readiness child care providers for the infant/toddler and birth to five populations.

**B. Discussion – Article – “MIT Brain Study”** – Ms. Houston commented on the article that was included in the agenda packet, which encourages caregivers to engage in back-and-forth conversation with their child. Mr. Newman suggested the link be included in the board packet. It was also suggested that it be provided to providers and included in ELCIRMO’s newsletter.

Ms. McCoy announced the Okeechobee Reads Literacy Summit is being held on May 1.

**D. Program Updates** – Ms. Houston provided the following updates:

- PFP – Completed first MMCI training, one of 7 cohorts.
- ELCIRMO was awarded the VPK Completer’s Program from the Martin County Board of County Commissioners for the second year, an 8-week program addressing summer slide.
- ELCIRMO applied for a grant through the United Way of Martin County for a literacy coach, entitled Facilitating Language Development in Young Children.
- Impact 100 Indian River will be awarding their grant this month. ELCIRMO partnered with Tykes and Teens in submitting a grant, and are a finalist at this time.

**VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Follow-up items listed above.

*Ms. Sanders left the call at 9:23 a.m.*

**VIII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS** – Ms. Clowdus made suggestions for future Touch-a-Truck events. Discussed having an ELCIRMO booth to include information for parents about child development, including the importance of talking to children. Ms. Rosado suggested that Ms. Clowdus’ comments be provided to the Fundraising Committee. Vouchers were issued for School Readiness children to 14 providers in needy neighborhoods in Martin County for the event.

**IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

***Approved 8/2/18***

Barbara Clowdus, Chair

BC/lt