



**Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys
Committee on Improving Foster Care and Family Issues**

Meeting Minutes

8/8/08

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Attendees

Lillian Lima, Chair
Rev. Dr. Albert Simpson, Jr.
Dr. Eddy Regnier
Christopher Norwood
Charles Calaman
Terria Flakes
Darrell Hardge
Vanessa Hargrave
Xavier Ingram
Frederic Jones
Natasha Jones
Antonio Noreray

Staff

Fredrica Doctor

Item#1: Opening

- Call to Order given by Chairman Lima at 9:12 a.m.
- Chairman's Welcome
- Roll Call

Item#2: Old Business

- Review previous meeting minutes
 - Chairman Lima informed the committee that the topic of judicial barriers of fatherhood initiatives maybe an added component to the subcommittee's report. Will work collaboratively with Levi Williams and Chairman Norwood to bring awareness about the systematic changes to child custody and support legislation in this year's subcommittee report.
 - Chairman Lima stated that she spoke with the Florida's Office of Economic & Demographic Research and they said that the U.S. Census Bureau does not publish any comparable data for Florida.

Item#3: Subcommittee Report Draft Discussion

- Chairman Lima distributed subcommittee's draft for participants to overlook as well as to provide input relating to foster care, fatherhood initiatives, etc...
- Chairman Lima also informed participants to submit research materials / inquires that are relative to the subcommittee's report to Fredrica Doctor for review

Item#4: Public Questions/Comments

- Subcommittee should inquiry about the following:
 - Model programs such as "Educate Tomorrow" which promote the importance of higher education access for foster care children

- Non-custodial parent
- The effects of foster care and adoption as it relates to bi-racial children

Item#5: Adjournment at 10:10 a.m.



**Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys
Legislative Review Committee**

Meeting Minutes
8/8/08
9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Attendees:

Christopher Norwood
Torey Alston
Barbara Cohen Pippin
Dr. Donna Elam

Staff:

Rick Nuss

Item #1: Opening

- Call to Order given by Christopher Norwood at 9:07 a.m.
- Chairman's Welcome
- Roll Call

Item#2: Old Business

- Review previous meeting minutes
 - Subcommittee chairs submit legislative issues/concerns to Dr. Commedore
 - Continuous monitoring of legislation being filed for the 2009 legislative year coordinate with Ms. Pippin
- Subcommittee's goals discussion
- Research strategies
 - HIV/AIDS testing – staff to submit Dr. Liberti's HIV / AIDS PowerPoint presentation to the Health and Legislative Review Committees. In addition , follow-up regarding the testing practices throughout the state with Representative Thurston's legislative committee and Dr. Elam
 - Draft a letter to FDLE requesting statistical data of the sealing and expunging of juveniles' record

Item#3: Subcommittee Report Draft Discussion

- Dr. Elam will be presenting annual report guidelines to the council during the meeting.

Item#4: Public Questions/Comments

Item#5: Adjournment at 9:46 a.m.



**Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys
Committee on Improving Educational Outcomes**

Meeting Minutes

8/8/08

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Attendees:

Chairman Christopher Norwood
Levi Williams
Senator Frederica Wilson
Representative Perry Thurston, Jr.
Dr. Adeola Fayemi
Dr. Donna Elam
Darrell Hardge
Vanessa Hardgrave
Terria Flake
Frederic Toney
Charles Calaman
Barbara Cohen Pippin
Frederic Jones
Natasha Jones

Staff:

Fredrica Doctor

Item#1: Opening

- Call to Order given by Chairman Norwood at 10:38 a.m.
- Chairman's Welcome
- Roll Call

Item#2: Old Business

- Review previous meeting minutes
- Subcommittee's goals discussion
 - Career Academies
 - Training and recruitment of black male teachers
 - Cultural competency for all educators
 - Disciplinary Outcomes
 - Juvenile Justice education for black males
 - After-school care and summer school funding
- Research strategies
 - Career Academies – a small learning community within the confounds of a high school; career team curriculum – curriculum is designed around specific career(s)
 - Cultural competency
 - Dr. Elam gave the subcommittee a brief cultural competency overview
 - The history of cultural competency... it did not begin within the field of education but within the medical field during the 1980's.

- Educators have to be proficient with regards to teaching content no matter the color, race, or ethnicity of a child.
- A cultural competency educator models that of a special education educator who obtains data about their students in order to cater to their individual learning / cultural needs.
- Models and training are a crucial component to teaching educators about the relevancy of cultural competency in the classroom.
 - “Children of the Rainbow”
 - “What cultures are we referring to when we discuss cultural competency?” (Levi Williams)
 - The perception of the black culture has changed dramatically.
- Recommendations
 - Implement 8 hours of instructional time for children who are in the VK-Preschool program
 - Encourage the legislature to implement a cultural competency state-wide policy.
 - Encourage parent involvement in early learning and pre-k stages.
 - Promote pre-k teachers to be culturally and linguistically competent
 - Black history and cultural competency advocate and/or representative within each school district

Item#3: Subcommittee Report Draft Discussion

- Will be discussed during next subcommittee teleconference.

Item#4: Presentation

- Deola Fayemi, Director of the Office of Equity and Access distributed and discussed PowerPoint handouts that addressed
 - Male Achievement Indicators
 - Disciplinary Outcomes
 - Career Academies (HB 7078)
 - Training and Recruitment of Black Male Teachers and Cultural Competency
 - There seems to be a lack of accountable when it comes to cultural competency.
 - Juvenile Justice Education
- Fredric Toney, Director of Career Services discussed such programs as Career Exploration, STEM, TRIO, and Mapping the Future of Black Males that Miami-Dade College offer to African American students.

Item#5: Public Questions/Comments

- Chairman Norwood requested to see military policies as it relates to recruitment education requirements.

Item#6: Adjournment at 12:15 p.m.



Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys
Committee on Improving Health Outcomes
Meeting Minutes
8/8/08
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Attendees:

Dr. Eddy Regnier, Chair
Lillian Lima
Rev. Dr. Albert Simpson, Jr.
Curtis Burns
Dr. Pamela Green

Staff:

Rick Nuss

Item#1: Opening

- Call to Order given by Chairman Regnier at 10:30 a.m.
- Chairman's Welcome
- Roll Call

Item#2: Old Business

- Review previous meeting minutes
- Subcommittee's goals discussion
 - Drug use as a health issue
 - Recommendation: Develop a state policy that addresses drug addiction as a disease and refer criminal behavior to the judicial system or alternative treatment centers especially for non-violence offenders
 - Obesity
 - Cultural connection
 - Promote and provide vendors with incentives to provide healthy food choices to local grocery and fast food chains within the black community
 - Lack of exercise – promote physical fitness
 - Learned Helplessness – to be discussed
 - Mental health issues that can lead to violence
 - depression
 - domestic violence
 - Referred to "power" model – an imposed preventative measure to combat domestic violence.
 - drug abuse
 - stress
 - Education
 - What message are advertisers sending to children and parents in promoting a healthy lifestyle within the black community?
 - Dispel the myth or fear behind physician's visits
 - Promotion of nutrition in grade school

- Research strategies – Subcommittee will research the following state and national fitness model programs
 - Governor's physical fitness challenge
 - Dr. Ian Smith's 50 pounds challenge

Item#3: Subcommittee Report Draft Discussion

- **Subcommittee to address the solutions / recommendations for the following issues in this year report:**
 - Substance Abuse
 - Poor Nutrition
 - Cultural Lifestyle
 - Obesity
 - Mental Health Issues (Is there a connection between mental health and behavior?)
 - Health Benefits
 - Proper dental care
 - Personal hygiene
 - Exercise : short – term and long-term effects
 - Promote less dependency on emergency care and more reliance on preventative care
 - Public Awareness
 - Health care access
 - Incentives for vendors
 - Past or future state legislation that addresses the promotion of physical fitness among youth

Item#4: Public Questions/Comments

Item#5: Adjournment at 12:00 PM



**Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys
Committee on Improving Economic Outcomes**

Meeting Minutes
8/8/08
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Attendees:

Torey Alston, Chair
Dr. Eddy Regnier
Lillian Lima

Staff

Rick Nuss

Item#1: Opening

- Call to Order given by Chairman Alston at 12:00 p.m.
- Chairman's Welcome
- Roll Call

Item#2: Old Business

- Review previous meeting minutes
 - Dr. Birken and Chairman Alston divided the four high level subcommittee's goals thus developing sub-goals.
 - Subcommittee draft outline was submitted August 1, 2008. Final draft will be tentatively submitted by September 1, 2008 upon further direction by Dr. Elam, annual report coordinator, and Chairman Norwood.
- Reviewed the following committee's goals
 - Encourage public institutions to provide employment opportunities for individuals with criminal histories.
 - Promotion of economic opportunities with public dollars and outreach initiatives.
 - Identify access to capital for black men and boys, thus modeling financial literacy programs.
 - Identify employment and training for black men and boys and identify barriers to entry in both urban and rural areas.
- Research strategies
 - Staff recommended that subcommittee research the funding initiatives and youth employment opportunities of Florida based organizations, Mankind, Inc. and Community Coalition.

Item#3: Subcommittee Report Draft Discussion

- Tentatively submit a final draft to full council and Dr. Elam by September 1st.

Item#4: Public Questions / Comments

Item#5: Adjournment at 12:30 PM



**Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys
Committee on Improving Criminal Justice**

Meeting Minutes

8/8/08

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Attendees:

Levi Williams, Chair
Christopher Norwood
Senator Frederica Wilson
Representative Perry Thurston, Jr.
Rev. Dr. Albert Simpson, Jr.
Dr. Donna Elam
Darrell Hardge
Vanessa Hardgrave
Terria Flakes
Kionne McGhee
Guy A. Wheeler
Dr. Pamela Green
Charles Calaman
Pamela Jones

Staff:

Fredrica Doctor

Item#1: Opening

- Call to Order given by Chairman Williams at 12:25 p.m.
- Chairman's Welcome
- Roll Call

Item#2: Old Business

- Review previous meeting minutes
- Subcommittee's goals discussion
 - Gangs
 - Mental health and drug courts
 - HIV/AIDS
- Research strategies

Item#3: Presentations

- Kionne McGhee, Assistant State Attorney, Miami-Dade Office of the State Attorney 11th Judicial Circuit discussed the following:
 - Differentiate between ex-offenders and ex-convicts
 - Ex-offender is someone who has been arrested no matter what happened to their case; ex-convict is someone who had a conviction for a felony.
 - It is crucial that employers become aware of these differences when deciding to hire ex-convicts / ex-convicts.
 - Sealing and Expunging Records

- Katherine Fernandez Rundle, Miami-Dade State Attorney, has developed a campaign to help individuals expunge their records
 - Sealing – the covering up of an individual's plea in court; requestor cannot see individual's record without a court order
 - Expunge – removal of a dismissal, no cost, or no action on an individual's record, if requestor would like to see an individual's records, he/she would have to go the court and provide a reasonable rationale for the disclosure of record
 - Exceptions for sealing and expunging of records
 - Individual has to disclosure his/her arrest to state agencies i.e. DCF, military, federal government...
 - If an individual has a conviction they cannot have their record sealed or expunged; however, if an individual would like to get conviction removed from their record, he/she would have to petition the court
 - Recommendations
 - The development of legislation that would delay the fingerprinting process to FDLE databases.
 - Change verbiage on employment applications from “conviction” to “arrest”
 - Campaign Awareness
 - Partner with ACLU, public defender office, community centers, and churches
 - Identify individuals who qualify to have their records sealed or expunged
 - Currently, have processed 2,000 applicants' applications from districts 1, 2, and 3 (Miami-Dade).
- Guy A. Wheeler, CEO/President of Guy A. Wheeler Group of Broward County discussed the following:
 - Drug Courts
 - Overview – In 1970, there were 200,000 drug courts; today, there are over 2.2 million drug courts
 - Provide an alternative preventive method for nonviolent drug offenders to receive drug treatment
 - Recommendations
 - Develop an awareness campaign
 - Promote cultural competency in the judicial system
 - Consider split sentencing for non-violence offenders i.e. 5 years sentence, 2 years served / 3 years judicial monitoring

Item#4: Subcommittee Report Draft Discussion

- To be discussed during the full council meeting.

Item#5: Public Questions/Comments

Item#6: Adjournment at 1:17 PM



Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys
Full Council Meeting
Miami Gardens City Hall
Council Chambers
Meeting Minutes
8/8/08
3:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Attendees:

Christopher Norwood, Chair
Torey Alston
Darrell Hardge
Vanessa Hargrave
Lillian Lima
Representative Perry Thurston, Jr.
Dr. Eddy Regnier
Rev. Dr. Albert Simpson, Jr.
Levi Williams, Esq.
Senator Frederica Wilson

Staff:

Fredrica Doctor
Cynthia Guerra
Rick Nuss
Dr. Donna Elam

Item#1: Opening

- Call to Order was given by Chairman Norwood at 3:25 p.m.
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Chairman's Welcome
- Roll Call

Item#2: Welcome

Welcoming remarks were given by the following:

- The Honorable Shirley Gibson, Mayor of Miami Gardens
 - Chairman Norwood asked Senator Wilson to give the audience an overview of the council's purpose and the newly established DSO. Senator Wilson requested that the past chairman, Levi Williams, serve as the chairman for the DSO.
- The Honorable Oscar Braynon II
- Reverend Keith Butler, Assistant to Mayor Carlos Alvarez
- Minister Mohammad, Nation of Islam
- Matthew Boyd, Miami Gardens Police Chief

Item#3: Direct Support Organization / HB 1395

- Cynthia Guerra, Regional Deputy Attorney General, discussed the following

- Brief legislative duties / purpose overview of the DSO outlined in Florida statute, 16.615 and 16.616.
- Chairman Norwood asked that Ms. Guerra follow-up with designee's appointment that was submitted for General McCollum's consideration.
- Ms. Guerra informed the council that a soft deadline of September 30, 2008 will be given to appointing entities to submit their appointees for the DSO. In addition, Ms. Guerra assured Chairman Norwood that the General's appointees will be made during this time.
- Chairman Norwood asked Ms. Guerra to follow-up with appointing officers for the DSO's board membership. .

Item#4: Budget Overview

- Rick Nuss, Bureau Chief, Criminal Justice Programs discussed the following:
 - This fiscal year budget was reduce from \$100,000 (last year's budget) to \$50,000; resulting in the loss of one staff member
 - Budget's allocations are as follow: \$32,000 for staff salaries; \$18,000 for travel expenditures, office supplies, etc...
 - Current statute allows for the council to solicit fund
 - Mr. Williams: "If a corporation wanted to donate \$2500 to the DSO, would they be able to?" Mr. Nuss confirmed that a corporation would be able to donate funds which would be received in the OAG's finance department then disburse into the council's budget.
 - Senator Wilson: "General McCollum would personally seek that the council was absorb into his office funding due to the short fall in the state budget's allocation."
 - Mr. Nuss conveyed that he was not made aware of the aforementioned conversation between Senator Wilson and General McCollum.
 - Mr. Nuss: Line Item: 1302 is a \$4.5 million dollars appropriation to the grants and aids special aid category to minority community crime prevention programs from General Revenue which funds the Urban League (\$3.2 million dollars), Mankind, Inc. (\$1 million dollars) and Community Coalition (\$1 million dollars).
 - Mr. Nuss recommended that during the upcoming legislative year and through legislative support that the Council seeks to receive funds from the grants and aids appropriations.
 - Senator Wilson and Representative Thurston will take up the aforementioned legislation during the next fiscal budget year.
 - Mr. Nuss reiterated that the council can accept donations while waiting for the establishment of the DSO. In addition, Ms. Guerra reiterated that the council can apply for other public grants.

Item#5: 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

- Donna K. Elam, Ph.D., Council Annual Report Coordinator, discussed the following methodology for the 2008 Annual Report
- Report Guidelines Presentation
 - General history of the issue of your subcommittee (this could be national)
 - Florida's background of the issue
 - Identify model programs in the state
 - Recommendations
 - If you any questions about any area of your report please submit them to staff; guidelines will be subcommittee to council by the weekend.
- Research inquires are due by August 22, 2008.

- Submit to Ms. Doctor. Dr. Elam emphasized that research requests can be ongoing as each subcommittee begins to develop their report.
- Subcommittee chairs' conference calls:
 - Dr. Elam would like to set up conference calls with each subcommittee chair with the university. Please submit your availability to Fredrica. In addition, staff would like to request an individual meeting with each chair in which Dr. Elam and her staff will travel to the destination of each subcommittee chair.
- Committee Chairs' Report and Deadlines
 - Final Annual report draft will be submitted to the council by November 19, 2008 during the next full council meeting. This meeting will be a "working" council meeting to discuss the draft.
 - Chairman Norwood reiterated that the council will meet in Orlando November 19, 2008 to partake in a working council meeting (no subcommittee meetings will take place during this time) in order to discuss the final draft.
- Subcommittee's Chair Report
 - Chairman Torey Alston – Improving Economic Outcomes
 - Submitted a detailed outline to all subcommittee members. In addition, subcommittee agreed to an internal deadline of September 1, 2008 to submit their first report draft to the council. Subcommittee's primary goals are:
 - Encourage public institutions to provide employment opportunities for individuals with criminal histories;
 - Promotion of economic opportunities with public dollars in outreach initiatives
 - Identify access to capitol for black men and boys thus modeling financial literacy programs; and identify employment and training opportunities for black men and boys; in addition identifying barriers in both urban and suburban communities.
- Chairman Levi Williams – Improving Criminal Justice
 - Additional issues that may be included within the report
 - Restitution, duplicating Miami's model programs, drug courts,
 - Final report:
 - Mental health and drug courts,
 - HIV/AIDS – the impact on inmates / criminal justice system,
 - Zero Tolerance juveniles being direct filed into the juvenile justice system,
 - Gang initiatives
- Chairman Lillian Lima – Improving Foster Care and Adoption Issues
- Initial draft has already been submitted to the council.
 - Final draft report will address:
 - Fatherhood initiatives
 - Transition services with an emphasize in employable training programs for youth aging out of foster care
 - Relative care / kinship care services with an emphasis on increase amount for relative care givers.
 - Pending topic of judicial barriers on how they affect fatherhood initiatives. Will submit any new data or research inquires to Fredrica by August 22, 2008.
- Dr. Eddy Regnier – Improving Health Status
 - Draft's focal points – Silent killers in the black community
 - Diabetes

- High blood pressure
 - Substance abuse
 - Mental health
 - Obesity
- Dr. Regnier emphasized that the first report focus was on dilemmas; the focus for this report will be about solutions such as:
 - implementing health education to students in teaching about proper nutrition and the affects of drugs
 - access to health care – mobile units in urban area to screen for blood pressure and diabetes
 - Obesity – create legislation that makes it profitable to vendors in order to bring health foods into the black community
 - Substance abuse, domestic violence, and mental health treatments
 - Impact of substance abuse in the black community – recreational and problematic use and drug dealers
- Chairman Norwood reiterated the key goals of the Improving Educational Outcomes
 - Career Academies;
 - Training and recruitment of black male teachers,
 - cultural competency within the teaching profession,
 - juvenile education,
 - after-school care and summer school programs,
 - revisit the impact of early learning – universal pre-k programs

Item#6: Follow-up

- Ms. Doctor submitted a sample of the community participant policy (via electronically) for the council's consideration.
- In addition, she asked that members submit any suggestions via email before the form is place onto the council's website.

Item#7: Upcoming Meetings – The following subcommittees' teleconference / full council meeting schedule was discussed and reviewed by the council:

- September - Subcommittee teleconferences – 2nd week (dates/times TBA)
Full Council teleconference – 3rd week (dates/times TBA)
- October- Subcommittee teleconferences – 2nd week (dates/times TBA)
Full Council teleconference – 3rd week (dates/times TBA)
- November - Full Council Meeting – in Orlando
(In conjunction with 2008 MatchMaker Conference and Trade Show November 19 -21)
- December- Full Council Teleconference – 2nd week (date/time TBA)

Item#8: Presentations

- Modesto E. Abety, President and CEO, The Children's Trust / Health Connect, presented the following documents and power point presentation that highlighted the following:
 - Putting the Pieces Together for our Children
 - Annual Report; (refer to p. 26)
 - Greatest investment is after-school programs which implement the following:
 - Physical programs
 - Literacy programs
 - Social skills development
 - Health and nutrition information
 - Prevention programs
 - Youth violence programs
 - Developed to address community shootings

- Transition to adulthood programs
- Health Connect
 - Community – ensure that children are eligible and enrolled into health services
 - Early years – targets first time mothers, ensure that they receive adequate prenatal care, family coaching, home visits, and access to health care services.
 - Teens – health in the public schools
 - Benefits
 - Improve retention rates
 - Improve immunization rates
 - Provide eyeglasses
 - Dr. Regnier: “Is Health Connect a state-wide program?”
 - Modesto: “Health Connect is a program of the Children’s Trust, voter referendum gives the trust the authority to levy ½ million dollars on property which generates 100 million dollars.”
 - Dr. Regnier: “What happens when you have a short fall in revenue?”
 - Modesto: “Due to budget cuts, our budget of \$162 million has been cut to \$140 million, next year we are expecting to lose another \$20 million.”
 - Dr. Simpson: “How can this program be implemented in Jacksonville, where does the funding come from?”
 - Modesto: “Funding comes from voters on a county to county basis. Senator Wilson informed Dr. Simpson that Senator Tony Hill is trying to implement this program in Jacksonville.”
- Jacqui Colyer, Permanency & Prevention Director, Our Kids of Miami-Dade/Monroe, Inc. discussed the following with the council
 - Our Kids of Miami-Dade/Monroe, Inc is based on a community leadership model which provides foster care and adoption services to Miami-Dade and Monroe counties.
 - Prevention component
 - Keep children out of the child welfare system
 - Unified case service training in home services
 - Partner with Kinship Care and The Children’s Trust
 - Typical service population: 10 years old black males
 - Offered services and benefits of prevention
 - Transition youth services
 - Independent Living
 - Maximize the use of technology
 - Improve medical care
- Ms. Colyer recommended that the council preview the “Heart Gallery” which allows for one to see the faces of Florida’s foster care youth. She reiterated that there are 1,278 black boys in foster care. In addition, she expressed a desire to work with the council in supporting the legislation for One Church, One Child.
- Roderick Beasley, Executive Director, South Florida Workforce discussed the following with the council:
 - South Florida workforce is the largest workforce out of 24 workforces in the state; they provide information for employment training. In addition, they receive funding from the US department of Labor and have partnered with The Children’s Trust, 5000 Role Models Program, and Miami-Dade State Attorney’s Office in providing employment initiatives to youth during the summer and providing job fairs for ex-offenders.

- Mr. Beasley is working collaboratively with assistant state attorney, Kionne McGhee, in drafting legislation that would provide employers with a tax credit incentive to hire ex-offenders and to educate employers about federal bonding programs. In addition, Mr. Beasley recommended that inmates receive training while serving time in prisons
- Mr. Altson: In your opinion, what are the historical barriers in hiring black males?
 - Beasley: Education, transportation, criminal background, and lack of work skills
- Alison Austin, CEO, Belafonte Tacolcy Center discussed the following with the council:
 - The Belafonte Tacolcy Center is a 41 years old community base organization in which specializes in leadership programs for the youth of Liberty city. In addition, we also offer outdoor suspension programs in an effort to address the school suspension rate among middle and high school students.
 - Tot truancy is on the rise among pre-k students; the Tacolcy center has partnered with local elementary schools to address this issue. It has been reported that pre-k students are missing 60 days out of 180 days in school.
 - Mr. Williams: “Why is tot truancy an issue?”
 - Ms. Austin: “Parents are ill-equip to raise their children due to lack of resources as well as schools’ lack of interest in providing assistance to their students’ parents.”
 - Zulu Warrior program
 - Mentoring program for 8 – 12 years old boys
 - Purpose: Becoming protectors of the community
 - Ms. Austin asked Mr. Tyler, Zulu staff member, to comment about the success of the program. Mr. Tyler shared his experience working with the Zulu warriors program and explained that the program centers on education, cultural awareness, and sport awareness. In addition, Mr. Tyler emphasized that they are looking for men to give young boys manhood training.
- Karl Brown ,Miami-Dade General Magistrate , discussed the following with the council:
 - Pending legislation has it relates to SB 2532 provision changes:
 - Redefining the terms “non-custodial / custodial parent
 - Consenting affidavit – by operation procedure, 60 days to withdraw or to challenge it.
 - Parental plan has to be put in place
 - Chairman Norwood: “Who pays for the parenting plan, if the parents cannot agree?”
 - Magistrate Brown: “The court would institute it and can pay for it at this time.”
 - Chairman Norwood: “Does a parenting plan have to be conducted by a psychologist?”
 - Magistrate Brown: “Yes, however it depends on the situation as it relates to family court and child support and the amount of resources that a family have.
 - Mr. Williams: “What role will the tender-age doctrine play to this provision change to the law?”
 - Magistrate Brown: “There are no presumptions with this legislation; legislation is of equal footing?”
 - Dr. Regnier: “How do bring awareness to black males about these legislative changes to the law?”
 - Magistrate Brown: “The best promotion would be through a body such as the Council or service organizations.”

- Mr. Williams: “Does the courts provide a monitoring mechanism for those black males who are supporting their children; however the support that is being received by mother is not being utilized for the benefit of the child?”
- Magistrate Brown: “The court does not ask how funds / support are being spent; however they can provide a monitoring mechanism, but it may be a long road.
- Dr. Regnier: “How do lawyers and judges become educated to the systematic changes in the law?”
- Magistrate Brown: “They are required to take CLE courses which detail legislative updates.”
- Morris Copeland, Deputy Director, Miami-Dade Juvenile Services Division, presented the DMC- Civil Citation power point presentation to the council:
 - Chairman Norwood: “What misdemeanor is mostly displayed by youth?”
 - Mr. Copeland: “Primarily retail theft than Zero Tolerance violations.”
 - Mr. Copeland informed the council that 35 law enforcement chiefs corporate in the civil citation program.
 - Chairman Norwood: “What happens to a child once he/she receives a civil citation?”
 - Mr. Copeland: They would receive the same consequences as an arrest if the child was to be arrested
 - Restitution
 - Community Service
 - Full scale sanctions
 - Civil citations have to sign off by state attorney’s office.
- Carlos Martinez, Public Defender – Elect, discussed the following with the council:
 - Mr. Martinez asked the council to review “Charting a Path to Redemption” with the hopes of receiving legislative support.
 - Public Defender Office
 - Representing people – court room
 - Disrupting the prison’s pipeline – particularly in the schools with regards to misdemeanors.
 - Reigning in government spending on prisons
 - \$309 million dollars are being spent on \$10,000 prison beds
 - Funds are being allocated for substance abuse program and/or inmates in violation of their probation.
 - Economic issues: “Breaking through the “Class” ceiling”
 - Mr. Martinez informed the council that one records cannot be sealed or expunged once it enter into the FBI database.
 - Recommends that the civil citation program be implemented within every county in Florida in order to reduce disparities among minorities.
 - In addition, Mr. Martinez has offered the following recommendation for the council’s consideration:
 - Florida cabinet should pass legislation so that there is clemency for juvenile offenses.
 - Protect juvenile records
 - Norwood: “Will your office cease to represent clients in certain cases due to budget cuts?”
 - Mr. Martinez: “Due to the high case loads that attorneys are experiencing; we have asked the court to give the public defender office the authority to not take on any more cases and appoint private attorneys to clients who do get the public defender because they are entitled to representation. We are currently

- accepting capitol, death penalty, and capitol sexual battery cases; however we are not accepting non-capitol felon cases; due to their less serious nature.
 - Dr. Simpson: “What is the primary offense that comes across in your office?”
 - Mr. Martinez: “Drug possession – 40%.
 - Mr. Martinez informed the council that there is a need for two more drug court judges to help reduce substance abuse problem and cause for prevention. He asked that council take in consideration the Miami-Dade drug court model as of their recommendations.
- George E. Ellis, Jr., President and CEO, Miami’s Rivers of Life, Inc. and the Chair of the Judicial Circuit 11th Juvenile Justice Board discussed the following with the council:
 - Miami’s Rivers of Life is a faith-based organization aim at the youth of DJJ and DCF.
 - Help youth to have a renewed spirit through love and charity.
 - Mr. Ellis reiterated that the community need to partner with faith based organizations in order to get out the wall of bureaucracy.
 - Faith network advocacy program provides support for their targeted families.
 - Take our youth out of an environment of poverty
- John Dixon, Executive Director, Metro-Miami Action Plan Trust discussed the following with the council:
 - Frame work for the socio-economic report began in 1984 with 200 recommendations from the mayor of Miami-Dade county.
 - Report addresses the disparities in the black community with regards to education, health, economic, affordable housing, and crime etc...
- Kareem J. Coney, Director, Black Male College Explorers Program, Florida Memorial University presented a power point presentation entitled Explorers Programs: “Investing in the Future for the Future”
- Ophelia Sanders, Specialist, at Career Pathways and Ready to Work discussed the following with the council:
 - Career Academies – small learning community within a high school; curriculum is taught by teacher who represent different subject and career fields
 - College prep. Curriculum with a career theme which enables students to see the correlation between academics and the workforce
 - Partnerships with community, employers and local colleges who bring in resources to improve motivation and students’ achievement.
 - Learning environments that are different from traditional academic and career technical education because they prepare high school students for both colleges and careers.
 - Ms Sanders reiterated that academic component(s) should align with their career objectives.
 - Benefits of career academies:
 - Increase in teacher’s satisfaction
 - Decrease in the absenteeism and the dropout rates
 - Increase in students’ performance
 - Increase in students’ self-esteem
 - Increase in student’s engagement with the learning process
 - Greater responsibility shown by students to participate in the learning process
 - Increase emphasis on teamwork
 - Learning environment replicates the work place

- Increase employer's satisfaction when students transition into the workforce.
 - Broward county has 3 career academies
 - Academy of Finance; 1,730 students – 84 African American males
 - Academy of Hospitality and Tourism; 188 students – 47 African males
 - Academy of Information Technology; 470 students – 74 African American males
- Geri Corcilla, Academy Career Coordinator, Atlantic High School discussed the following with the council:
 - Palm Beach is the only county in the state that does not offer vocational centers.
 - Parents watch out for the bail-out question from children; do not accept the bail-out question with regards to going to college.
 - Where are the trades? Mr. Corcillia is in charge of the construction academy is Delray Beach.
 - "FCAT does not equate with learning." Atlantic High School was voted the 157th best high school in the nation; however, received a grade of "C" from FCAT.
 - Mr. Corcilla instills the three O's to his students: Ownership, Obligation, and Opportunity.
- Nizam Ishmael, Lieutenant, Miami-Dade Police Department, presented a power point presentation to council entitled "Don't let Alcohol be your Last Taste of Life."

Item#9: Adjournment at 7:30 p.m.