

# FLORIDA COUNCIL ON THE SOCIAL STATUS OF BLACK MEN AND BOYS

## MEETING MINUTES

A teleconference meeting of the Florida CSSBMB, Employment & Economics Subcommittee was held on Tuesday, August 23, 2011.

### **Council Members Present:**

Lois Scott, Chair  
Shila Salem  
Matthew Gregory  
Ben Shirley  
Eddy Regnier

### **Council Members Absent:**

Gypsy Gallardo

### **Other's Attending:**

Holly Carson

### **First Agenda Item: Welcome**

Lois Scott welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the teleconference and thereafter requested roll call.

### **Second Agenda Item: Roll Call**

Roll call was executed by Council staff Tawanna Leven-Forbes.

### **Third Agenda item: Call to Order**

Lois Scott called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. and the agenda was adopted as posted.

### **Forth Agenda Item: Statement of Committee Goals**

Ms. Scott talked about having each committee member give an update and talked about doing an outline to get the report done at the next meeting.

### **Fifth Agenda Item: Sub-Committee Member Updates**

Ms. Scott asked Ms. Salem to continue the meeting in her absence due to a mandatory departmental meeting she has to attend. She gave the floor to Ms. Salem to begin her report.

Ms. Salem talked about background information she provided from the department of corrections on the Faith & Character Based Programs she stated that the programs are provided through volunteers and they vary by location.

Ms. Scott stated that Ms. Salem's information will be a major component that will be provided for the report. She stated that information that would be important for the report is the current status and the populations of the institutions.

Mr. Gregory talked about possible mechanisms for tracking inmates once they are released and follow-ups of the inmates throughout their employment history to determine the success of the program.

Ms. Scott asked for a brief overview from Mr. Gregory on his report.

Mr. Gregory talked about data that he looked at which is outside data from the Bureau of Labor statistics. He said that he found a difference when comparing employment of black workers in the public sector with those in the private sector. Mr. Gregory said that he will be focusing on how policy considerations to reduce the number of public sector positions may have a negative impact on the employment status of black men. He stated that the statistics show that the public sector has a better outlook for the employment of black men compared to the private sector. Mr. Gregory stated that one of his recommendations is to insure that in the contracts with private vendors that the employment practices they use are analogues to those in the public sector.

Mr. Shirley asked about the focus and mission of the subcommittee which would help him pull together information for the report.

Ms. Salem stated that she looked at the outline that Ms. Scott provided for the committee where she talks about the problems of the multiple barriers that the black population faces which was an avenue to address the challenges.

Mr. Shirley stated that the department of children and families make sure you have food, cash or Medicaid but the department does not take care of all the basic needs.

**Sixth Agenda Item: Timeline for the Annual Report**

Discussion is tabled for the next scheduled sub-committee meeting.

**Seventh Agenda Item: Date of Submission of 1<sup>st</sup> Draft**

Discussion is tabled for the next scheduled sub-committee meeting.

**Eight Agenda Item: Next Scheduled Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting is September 14, 2011

**Ninth Agenda Item: Adjournment**

Ms. Salem declared the meeting adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:57 a.m.