

The Health Council of South Florida (Council) is one of eleven local health councils created by FS 408.033 to coordinate health services planning across the state. Insofar as the Health Council of South Florida has determined that health services are and must be based on a foundation of ethics, our strategic goals emphasize reducing disparities in access to care, improving health promotion, and minimizing the effects of HIV/AIDS, with an emphasis on Miami-Dade and Monroe counties (District XI). ^[1] The Council's legislative priorities for action by Florida legislators during the 2012 Legislative Session are therefore:

^[1]*Ethical standards to Promote the Health of the Community: A white paper on community health, February 2003*

HEALTH COUNCIL FOCUSED LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Local Health Councils

MAINTAIN level funding of local health councils statewide to a minimum of \$999,999 (\$90,909 to each of the 11 councils) as provided in FY 11-12.

Residents and health care providers in Miami-Dade and Monroe counties have derived substantial benefits from the Council serving as the preferred partner for strategic and community-based planning.

For the past five years, the Health Council has maintained a favorable 88% program expense ratio allocated to direct program activities.

Statewide, local health councils generate a Return on Investment (ROI) of over \$62.00 for every \$1.00 invested.

AIDS Insurance Continuation Program (AICP)

MAINTAIN level funding at \$12.1 M to sustain current enrollment levels.

AICP is a federal matching funds program. The program's current overall cost-effectiveness or Gross Value Added Ratio is \$5.69 for every \$1.00 invested. In FY 2009-2010, AICP provided private health care services for 2,662 clients throughout Florida.

Over the past five years, the total estimated AICP cost savings to Medicaid was \$56.2 M.

In 2010, 31% of AICP clients disenrolled from the program and returned to the workforce due to improved health.

*The Health Council of South Florida invites you to visit **Miami Matters** for your data needs. This resource is a dynamic, interactive web-based information system that provides easy to understand health, environmental, and other quality of life indicators for Miami-Dade County.*



www.MiamiDadeMatters.org

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To be the source of unbiased health data; quality program planning; management and evaluation; strong community partnerships in Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties; and targeted healthcare policy at the local, state, and national levels.

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HEALTH COUNCIL OF SOUTH FLORIDA: 2012 COMMUNITY ALIGNED LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

ACCESS TO CARE

- **KidCare Program**

Prevent disenrollment and **support** cost-effective, targeted enrollment, particularly school-based efforts provided through the sharing of data from the free and reduced lunch program to Florida Healthy Kids and the Department of Children and Families.

- **Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged**

Maintain funding of the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund through allocations from the State Transportation Trust Fund.

- **Volunteer Health Care Provider Program**

Support efforts to **maintain** funding for the Volunteer Health Care Provider Program, which grants sovereign immunity to free clinics and the volunteer health professionals who serve in them.

In 2010, 11,193 licensed healthcare professionals and 8,004 staff volunteers provided healthcare services for 459,203 patient visits with a total value of \$182,893,704. This includes in excess of \$99.3 million in donations from grants and gifts from various entities to many community and faith-based organizations.

- **Scope of Practice for Practitioners**

Support efforts to expand the scope of practice for all licensed health professionals, allowing them practice to the full extent of their education and training (i.e. advanced registered nurse practitioners, physician assistants).

Enabling nurse practitioners and physician assistants to practice at their full scope of training could possibly save \$339 million dollars to the State of Florida.

- **Rural Health**

Maintain state funding of rural health networks at current levels and **support** rural health network initiatives geared towards providing access to comprehensive primary care for residents of Monroe County.

Support legislation and funding to promote increased availability of health professionals interested in rural practice and to address issues of availability of healthcare and healthcare planning in Monroe County.

HEALTH PROMOTION / DISEASE PREVENTION

- **Health Disparities**

Maintain Closing the Gap funding to support linguistically and culturally competent strategies designed to reach emerging majority and underrepresented populations.

- **Healthy Behaviors**

Support state legislation that integrates nutrition standards, physical activity requirements, and limitations to screen time in child care centers as part of licensing requirements.

Obesity is the #1 healthcare problem in the U.S. and costs the healthcare system billions each year.

Support the allocation of funding of school crossing guards to promote active transportation (walking and biking) and ensure safe and secure routes to schools in Miami-Dade and Monroe counties.

The state of Florida has the highest pedestrian death rate in the nation. Miami-Dade County currently exhibits the 4th highest number of child pedestrian injuries per 100,000 residents among populous counties in Florida.

LEGAL/REGULATORY

- **Assisted Living Facilities**

Monitor the recommendations from the Assisted Living Workgroup and any legislation for Assisted Living Facilities to ensure the protection, welfare, and care of those in need in our community.

- **Certificate of Need (CON)**

Oppose further efforts to eliminate the Certificate of Need program and any other deregulation proposals that would impair quality and/or raise the cost of medical care in South Florida.

HEALTH COUNCIL OF SOUTH FLORIDA: 2012 COMMUNITY ALIGNED LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

LEGAL/REGULATORY (CONT'D)

- **Personal Injury Protection (PIP)**

Maintain the requirement that every vehicle owner and driver on the road have \$10,000 worth of Personal Injury Protection (PIP) insurance coverage.

Support efforts to decrease fraudulent claims processed and approved through Personal Injury Protection (PIP).

Approximately 43% of adults aged 18-64 years do not have health insurance in Miami-Dade County. The liability shift from auto insurance to health insurance will drive up health insurance premiums. Hospitals could lose up to \$10,000 in reimbursement for injured motorists who have no other health insurance. These losses would be passed on to insured patients. Florida Hospital Association has 17 hospitals in Florida that would lose \$30 million per year. Injured motorists without PIP and/or health insurance could be faced with high medical bills and medical debt.

- **Volunteer Licensure Requirements**

Pursue efforts to alter and simplify the requirements for retired/active military physicians, and any other licensed practitioners, who are licensed in another state to obtain a Florida limited volunteer license to practice solely in a free clinic.

- **Background Screening**

Encourage efforts to create a comprehensive background screening system that, while ensuring the protection of vulnerable populations, does not excessively burden volunteers, employers and employees and does not impede the ability of well-meaning volunteers and legitimate nonprofit agencies to provide critically needed assistance to people in their communities.

SAFETY

- **Distracted-Driving**

Support legislation that would prohibit and penalize drivers for engaging in any non-driver activity with potential for distraction from the primary task of driving which markedly increases the risk of a traffic accident. The three main types of distractions are: visual, manual, and cognitive.

In 2009, over 5,000 drivers were killed and an estimated 448,000 plus people were injured in accidents reported to have involved distracted driving.

- **Red Light Cameras**

Support efforts to **maintain** the use of red light camera photo enforcement to discourage drivers from running red lights, which often cause crashes resulting in injuries and death.

Florida recently ranked 4th worst driving state in the U.S. Numerous studies have shown that red light cameras reduce violations and recent studies show that photo enforcement leads to reduction in intersection injury crashes as well.

STATEWIDE MEDICAID MANAGED CARE & NATIONAL HEALTHCARE REFORM

Support a financially sound statewide Medicaid managed care plan which provides patient-focused care and medical homes, while protecting the integrity of the program as well as consumer benefits and protections.

- **Low-Income Pool Program**

Support the continuation of the Low Income Pool (LIP) program for the full timeframe of Florida's requested 3 year extension to June 2014 without an early sunset.

- **Medicaid Fraud**

Support efforts to decrease fraud in Medicaid funding and promote innovative strategies that reduce Medicaid fraud through enhancement of technology, regulation, and enforcement.

- **Affordable Care Act**

Support planning efforts, by Florida, to implement provisions of the Affordable Care Act, just as other states across the U.S.

Oppose efforts, by Florida, to turn away much needed Federal funding available through the Affordable Care Act.



Health Council of South Florida 2012 State Legislative Agenda

As the preferred partner for strategic planning in Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties, the Health Council of South Florida would like to thank the key stakeholders below for their collective efforts in arriving to a consensus regarding the legislative priority issues for this community.

<p>HCSF Board of Directors Executive Committee</p> <p>Jose Perdomo, MHSA, JD, Edward Rosasco, FACHE Debra S. Walker, PhD Nelson Lazo, MBA</p> <p>Members</p> <p>Kim Bassett, MBA, BSN Melvyn Fletcher, MD, FAAP Pascal Goldschmidt, MD Rev. Ted Greer, Jr., Ph.D Fermin Leguen, MD, MPH Arianna Nesbitt, MPSA Fred Stock, MSW, LNHA</p> <p>HCSF Policy, Planning & Advisory Committee</p> <p>David Saltman, LCSW, <i>Chair</i> saltmand@fiu.edu</p> <p>HCSF Ethics Committee</p> <p>Deacon Albert Mindel, MSFS, <i>Chair</i> amindel@bellsouth.net</p> <p>Florida Association of Free Clinics</p> <p>Mark R. Cruise, FAFC <i>Chair</i> mark@freeclinicsolutions.com</p>	<p>Medicaid Reform Task Force</p> <p>Catalyst Miami Florida CHAIN Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce Health Choice Network Health Council of South Florida Health Foundation of South Florida Jackson Health System Miami Children’s Hospital Miami-Dade County Health Department Miami Foundation Palm Breeze Assisted Living Facility South Florida Regional Extension Center Robert Stempel College of Public Health and Social Work Tenet Health Corporation</p> <p>Legislative Forum Conveners</p> <p>Marisel Losa, MHSA <i>President & CEO</i> <i>Health Council of South Florida</i></p> <p>Steven E. Marcus, EdD <i>President & CEO</i> <i>Health Foundation of South Florida</i></p>	<p>Legislative Forum Presenters</p> <p>Laura Goodhue <i>Executive Director</i> <i>Florida CHAIN</i></p> <p>Robert M. Levy <i>Robert M. Levy & Associates</i></p> <p>Max B. Rothman, JD, LL.M <i>President & CEO</i> <i>Alliance for Aging</i></p> <p>Donna E. Shalala, PhD <i>President</i> <i>University of Miami</i></p> <p>Anna Small, Esq., ARNP, CNM <i>Florida Nurses Association</i></p> <p>Legislative Forum Contributors</p> <p>Baptist Health South Florida Catalyst Miami Florida Keys Healthy Start Coalition Health Choice Network Jewish Community Services of South Florida Miami Dade College Medical Campus Miami-Dade County Health Department Miami-Dade County Office of Countywide Healthcare Planning</p>	<p>Legislative Forum Contributors Continued</p> <p>Miami-Dade County Office of Intergovernmental Affairs Miami Children’s Hospital Miami Children’s Foundation Miami-Dade County Office of the Mayor Mount Sinai Medical Center South Florida Hospital & Healthcare Association United Way of Miami-Dade University of Miami University of Miami Miller School of Medicine</p> <hr/> <p>Health Council of South Florida Contact Information:</p> <p>Marisel Losa, MHSA President & CEO mlosa@healthcouncil.org</p> <p>Vanessa Rodriguez Director, Advocacy & External Affairs vrodriquez@healthcouncil.org</p> <p>Cristina Tuero Health Services Coordinator ctuero@healthcouncil.org</p>
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