

Ms. Evelyn Langlieb Greer, Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST TO DISTRIBUTE KIDCARE APPLICATIONS DURING
 SCHOOL REGISTRATION**

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY & GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

Miami-Dade County public schools are an important resource in and focus of every community in our County. Opening our schools to the community and using our schools more actively as a community asset is a critical part of this Board and District's effort to involve our parents, our business community and our residents in our schools and in a lifetime of learning.

The Florida KidCare Program provides basic insurance coverage to eligible children whose parents establish that they have no other access to private, affordable healthcare. Promoting health insurance coverage for our students results in healthier children, reduces illness related absences in children and staff, reduces the cost of sports-related school insurance and benefits our entire community by reducing the burden of emergency room and uninsured medical costs. Most of the children eligible for KidCare attend public school and the enrollment period for KidCare-eligible students is year-round.

Our schools should be a community resource in this effort, as follows:

- 1) distribute KidCare flyers with information about the KidCare program at the school registration site, at PTSA meetings, at Open School Night, etc. Parents or caregivers should receive KidCare flyers with enrollment information when they register their students at their respective schools; and
- 2) allow KidCare or Children's Trust representatives to receive applications and schedule presentations on the school site to speak to parents about KidCare.

Miami-Dade Public Schools has approximately 185 Title I schools, many of these schools' students qualify for the KidCare program since the employment of many of their parents or caregivers does not provide private, affordable healthcare insurance. Thus, KidCare is the health safety net of last resort for many of these families.

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Students must have access to available healthcare and increasing the distribution locations for KidCare applications and information flyers. Using our schools sites during school registration periods to distribute information about the very important KidCare program, particularly in the large number of Title I schools where the need is greatest, makes sense to ensure that the families of these students have knowledge of this basic insurance program.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
MS. EVELYN LANGLIEB GREER:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County,
Florida:

1. allow distribution of KidCare flyers with information about the KidCare program at the school registration site, at PTSA meetings, at Open School Night, etc. and to provide parents or caregivers with KidCare enrollment information when they register their students at their respective schools; and
- 2) allow KidCare or Children's Trust representatives to schedule visits and presentations on the school site to speak to the parents about KidCare.