



**DRAFT**  
**Quality Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**March 11, 2008 4:00 p.m.**  
**15506 County Line Road, Suite 104**  
**Spring Hill, FL 34610**

**Coalition Members Present: Jim Cook, Steven Kanakis, Sister Roberta Bailey, Susan McPhee, Kim Williams, Ljuba Sevic, Lydia Pinkowski, Toni Watkins**

**Coalition Members Excused: Carol Eurton, Denise Gill, Elaine Wooten, Lisa Hammond, Maria Crosby, Patricia Wisman**

**Coalition Staff Present: Jim Farrelly, Nicole Flechas, Betsy Kier, Maryrose Wersan, Angela Westmoreland, Debbie Thomas**

**Others Present: Tom Scheffey**

Dr. Steven Kanakis, Chairperson, called the meeting to order. All members and guests introduced themselves. The committee reviewed the draft minutes from the February 12, 2008 meeting. The minutes were accepted by the committee.

Dr. Kanakis introduced Nicole Flechas as the new Quality Manager. Ms. Flechas presented the Quality Initiatives spending update.

A contract was signed the week of 3/3/08 designating The Harbor as the Coalition's provider of mental health services. The Coalition will be billed by The Harbor for services rendered on a weekly basis. Discussion ensued on using newly available funds (previously marked for a mental health contract with Sequel) for resources for low performing providers. The Executive Director recommended that this item be removed from the agenda since such funds could not be used due to the fact that they are School Readiness funds, making them unavailable for VPK providers. Discussion ensued on the contract with The Harbor.

Dr. Kanakis asked if there is any kind of contingency plan if there are funds left over on May first. Mr. Farrelly indicated that the committee had previously agreed to utilize such funds for monitoring improvements.

Dr. Kanakis suggested further education of Coalition Board members as to how Quality funds serve the children and providers of Pasco and Hernando counties. Ms. Flechas agreed to make such a presentation to the Board at the April or May meeting.

Ms. Flechas presented, Title 45 – section 98.51. This statute governs how the use of child care and development funds are to be used to improve the quality of child care. Ms. Flechas requested that all Board members e-mail her with their ideas for efficiently spending quality funds in 2008-2009. Discussion ensued on possible future projects.

Mr. Farrelly requested that the Coalition's Analyst, Ms. Sue McPhee, provide a broad background on Quality spending. Ms. McPhee gave the committee extensive background on the appropriate steps for identifying Quality initiatives, for spending Quality funds and improving the level of Quality services for children.

### **Public Input**

Mr. Farrelly expressed the importance of preparing now for July 1, 2008.

Ms. McPhee stated that there is discussion at the State level of how to hold voucher providers to the same standards as contracted providers. This is already in place within the Coalition.

### **Future Meeting Schedule**

The date of the next Quality Committee meeting is April 15, 2008 and it will be held at the Coalition's office located at 15506 County Line Road.

Without any further discussion, the meeting adjourned at approximately 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Angela Westmoreland  
Administrative Assistant