



### PRESIDENT'S SUMMARY -- March 13, 2020

- 1. Building Status** – Well, we're closer than we were. There is almost an end in sight! We believe that we should be able to move in April. The building owner had a contract to buy our building and is now reneged on the purchase. He agreed to a \$15K deposit on the building and that will be forfeited. Wally is looking for another potential buyer / investor for a price of \$650K. We had one other offer for \$525K that was much too low. We should have enough money in our contracts to help defray moving costs from unspent rent dollars that were anticipated.
- 2. Legislative Session** – We were unable to get INCENTIVES\$ amended onto the early learning bill. At this writing, we are not sure that the early learning bill (Rep. Grall / Sen. Harrell) will make it out this session. It had one more committee stop in the Senate but was passed on the floor in the House. Conceivably, it could if leadership (Galvano and Oliva) determine that it's a priority but we're not sure whether or not that will happen. Regarding the budget, we have \$10M again in T.E.A.C.H. and Help Me Grow is being decided by the Conference Committees but looks like they have agreed to \$100K increase according to the last report.
- 3. Nonprofit Corruption** – The FCADV scandal has received considerable attention and it appears that there will be ongoing efforts to secure the funds that were unearned contract dollars and used to pay out to the CEO and her two top executives. The extent of abuse and misuse of funds is mind boggling. There will be increased scrutiny on all sole source contracts as a result of these bad actors.
- 4. Additional Work Opportunities** – We submitted an RFP to provide event planning for Child Welfare Supervisor training for DCF and was selected. Those trainings are intended to be provided in May and June, 2020. We're not sure what impact COVID-19 will have on those plans. We also submitted a collaborative grant opportunity to the Early Educator Investment Collaborative (EEIC) national grant competition for lead teacher preparation through the University of North Florida as the lead. We may also have some other opportunities to complete some work products through the Preschool Development Grant Funding under the Office of Early Learning.
- 5. Children's Week** – We are in the process of working with United Way of Florida and Jason Zaborske who would like for the Forum to take over the execution of Children's Week. We are negotiating what that might entail. We were pleased to pull together the No Small Matter viewing at Children's Week in January.
- 6. COVID-19** – We are reviewing guidance from reputable sources to revise our policies and procedures regarding disasters and emergency preparedness to include reference to epidemics. We are staying attuned to guidance from the CDC and state officials to ensure we do everything we can to respond appropriately.
- 7. Miami-Dade Workforce Study Update** – The most recently completed study summary is in your board materials. We are pleased that the results are positive. This is an annual review of the work we currently undertake in Miami through the Early Learning Career Center via scholarships, INCENTIVES\$ and Professional Development Registry.