



Glades PATCH Board Meeting

April 15th, 2025

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Held via Zoom and in person

Board Members Present:

Jerry Leakey - Legal Aid Society	jleakey@legalaidpbc.org
Marilu Baltazar - The Glades Initiative	mbaltazar@gladesinitiative.org
Annie Ifill - Healthier Glades	annie.glades@htpbc.org
Karis Engle – The Glades Initiative	kengle@gladesinitiative.org
Marcia Bahia - PBSO	bahiam@pbsso.org
Dr. Lisa Kirk Wiese - FAU College of Nursing	lwiese@health.fau.edu
Patrice Schroeder - 211 Palm Beach/Treasure Coast	patrice.schroeder@211pbtc.org
Sharonda Crawford - Families First	scrawford@familiesfirst.org
Brianca Spence - LORHN	bspence@hcsef.org
Ron Dixon – Palm Beach County Public Safety	rdixon@pbc.gov

Guests Present:

George Schott – Office of Community Revitalization	gschott@pbc.gov
Al'Licia Pittman – Community Greening	
Elea Dean - Brides at Pahokee	
Dulce Diaz – The Glades Initiative	
Susan Foley - Palm Beach County Behavioral Health	SusanFoley@PBCBHC.org
Lindsey Estinfort - Bridges at Belle Glade	
Lashaunda Harris - Federation of Families of Florida.	

Sheree Wolliston – American Heart Association

Catherine Martinez

csmartinez1998@gmail.com

Tiffany Parrish – Lake Okeechobee Rural Health Network

tparrish@hcsef.org

Monique Pierre - Bridges at Pahokee

mpierre@cpsfl.org

Shauvan Williams (G.A.M.A)

godsgenerous95@gmail.com

William Freeman Rebel Recovery

James Federick – People of Purpose

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by President Marilu Baltazar at 9:06 a.m.
2. Approval of April 15th Agenda was approved by Marcia Bahia, seconded by Jerry Leakey . Approval of the minutes from February 18th were approved by Marcia Bahia, seconded by Brianca Spence. The minutes from March 18, were approved by Jerry Leakey, seconded by Marcia Bahia.
3. All attendees (in-person and virtual) introduced themselves.
4. **Committee Reports**
 - a. **Nominating Committee:** The nominating committee presented a slate of officers for the upcoming year, including Marilu Baltazar as chair, Jerry Leakey as vice chair, Brianca Spence as Secretary, and Sharonda Crawford as Treasurer. The committee also identified new board members from various organizations, including Elea Dean (BRIDGES at Pahokee), Shauvan Williams (GAMA), and William Freeman (Rebel Recovery). The new officers and directors were approved.
 - b. **Communication Committee:** The communication committee reported on the presenters for each month of the year, with some slots still available
 - c. **Teen Parent Connection Committee:** The teen parent connection reported on the successful Youth Summit in Palm Beach County and plans for a Glades Team Summit.
 - d. **Health & Wellness Committee:** The Health and Wellness Committee reported on a recent event at Rotation Baptist Church.
 - e. **Policies & Procedures Committee:** No update.
5. **Announcements**
 - a. Annie (Healthier Glades) and Lisa (FAU) discuss a recent health outreach event at First Haitian Baptist Church, which offered various health screenings and services. They highlighted the importance of these grassroots events in meeting community needs, especially for underserved populations. The discussion then shifts to the increasing number of organizations trying to provide services in the Glades area, emphasizing the need for coordination and consistency to avoid duplication and ensure long-term commitment. Concerns are raised about the recent reduction in attendance at health events due to fears among undocumented residents, with the

group discussing the impact of changing immigration policies on community health services and the local workforce.

- b. Lisa (FAU) reported on the upcoming events, including a prayer walk and a community day. The chair of the committee was reminded to reach out to all committee chairs to ensure they are doing their job correctly. There was also a discussion about providing assistance to undocumented individuals, with a focus on setting up guardianships for children. Lisa also shared information connecting youth to a flight aviation training program who need service hours with this and other community projects.
- c. Al'Licia Pittman (Community Greening) announced a tree planting event on May 3rd at Glades Pioneer Park, seeking volunteers and community engagement.
- d. Lashaunda (Federation of Families) and Annie announced an event on April 30th at the Belle Glade Library to introduce the Open Table concept and support cancer patients.
- e. Annie (Healthier Glades) mentioned additional upcoming events, including chair yoga sessions and mental health awareness activities.
- f. Elea (Bridges Pahokee) provides an update on their remote work and new contact information.
- g. Patrice (211) reminds everyone about upcoming ASSIST trainings and job opportunities at 211.
- h. Sharonda (Families First) announced that Families First has moved to the CareerSource location in Belle Glade.
- i. Sheree and Lisa discussed the challenges of reaching out to the community in the Glades area. They considered incorporating federally qualified health centers into screening events and the potential of using radio stations to spread awareness about Glades Initiative's services. The team also discussed the need for a monthly newsletter or flyer to inform the community about their services. The idea of partnering with the library to display community events on their electronic reader board was also proposed. The team agreed to explore these ideas further and reach out to relevant agencies for collaboration.
- j. The team discussed the need to align their meeting agendas with the mission of Patch. They agreed to continue the conversation about restructuring their agendas to better address the goals of Patch. The team also discussed the need to revisit the role of the Health and Wellness Committee and the involvement of medical providers in their meetings.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 10:43 AM.

The next PATCH meeting is scheduled for May 20th, 2025. This meeting will be both in-person and via zoom.

Minutes completed by Brianca Spence