



Glades PATCH Board Meeting Minutes

October 21st, 2025

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Held via Zoom and in person

Board Members Present

Marilu Baltazar – The Glades Initiative	mbaltazar@gladesinitiative.org
Jerry Leakey – Legal Aid Society	jleakey@legalaidpbc.org
Annie Ifill – Healthier Glades	annie.glades@htpbc.org
Marcia Bahia – PBSO	bahiam@pbso.org
Dr. Lisa Kirk Wiese – FAU College of Nursing	Lwiese@health.fau.edu
Brianca Spence– Moms in the Muck	momsinthemuckinc@gmail.com
Ron Dixon – Palm Beach County Public Safety	rdixon@pbc.gov
Karis Engle – Glades Initiative	kengle@gladesinitiative.org
Patrice Schroeder – 211	patrice.schroeder@211pbtc.org
William Freeman – People of Purpose	wfreeman@peopleofpurposefl.org
Elea Dean – BRIDGES at Pahokee	edean@cpsfl.org
Terri Mitze – Mitze Mediation	mitzemediation@gmail.com
Sharonda Crawford – Families First	scrawford@familiesfirstpbc.org
Dr. Jinga Oglesby– Brihm	empowerhc4all@gmail.com

Guests Present

Catherine Figueroa– The Glades Initiative	figueroa.catherine5503@gmail.com
Andres Torrens – Trustbridge	atorrens@trustbridge.com
Sharon Clark– LORHN	sclark@hcsef.org
Corey Hightower – HCSEF	chightower@hcsef.org
Monique Pierre – BRIDGES at Pahokee	mpierre@cpsfl.org
Alexa Lee – PBCBHC	alexalee@pbcbhc.org
Dulce Diaz – The Glades Initiative	ddiaz@gladesinitiative.org
Lindsey Estinfort – BRIDGES at Belle Glade	lestinfort@cpsfl.org
Adefemi Obisanya – FAU Nursing	
Saquanda Hughes – Rebel Recovery	saquanda@rebelrco.org
George Schott – PBC Community Revitalization	gschott@pbc.gov
Sheree Wolliston – American Heart Assoc.	sheree.wolliston@heart.org
Anna Harper – Sunshine Health	Anna.Harper@sunshinehealth.com
Deisy Corona – Catholic Charities	dcorona@ccdpb.org
Megan Bob – Literacy Coalition	MBob@literacypbc.org
Tyler Birch – FAU Nursing	tbirch@health.fau.edu

1. Call To Order:

A. The meeting was called to order at 9:03 AM.

2. Approval of October 21st Agenda

A. Motion to approve by Jerry Leakey and seconded by William Freeman. Motion passed.

B. Motion to remove Margaret Humphries from the Board due to non-attendance. Motion by Jerry Leakey and seconded by Marcia Bahia. Motion passed.

3. Approval of September 16th Minutes

A. Motion to approve by Elea Dean and seconded by William Freeman. Motion Passed

4 . All attendees (in-person and virtual) introduced themselves.

5. Speakers: Lake Okeechobee Rural Health Network & Literacy Coalition

A. Corey Hightower presented on behalf of the Lake Okeechobee Rural Health Network, highlighting their upcoming open enrollment initiative starting November 1st, which will assist individuals in obtaining healthcare coverage through the marketplace, Medicaid, or Florida Kid Care. Participants were encouraged to contact Sharon Clark or Corey Hightower for more information and promotional materials.

B. Megan from the Literacy Coalition shared that about 70% of Glades students read below grade level. She described key programs in the area, including early book distribution, family literacy with preschool and English classes, and the Building Better Readers tutoring program. She highlighted volunteer opportunities, announced the Read for the Record event on February 26th, and noted open preschool spots for families learning English. The group also discussed expanding book access through Little Libraries, book drives, and partnerships.

6. Committee Reports

A. Communication Committee- The presenter for November were announced. There will be a mental Health 1st Aid training on November 18th and tentatively in January; date TBA.

B. Teen Parent Connection Committee- A youth mini-grant is in the works.

C. Health & Wellness Committee - The Health and Wellness Committee reported on recent events including a health fair at the Baptist Women's Conference, a Lunch and Learn on breast cancer, and a Pink Walk for Breast Cancer Awareness. They also announced an upcoming Arts on the Muck Brain Health event at the Lewis Center, which will include live music, arts and crafts, and screenings provided by FAU. The team highlighted the success of recent health screenings and mammogram efforts, with 15 women screened at St. John regardless of insurance status.

D. Policies & Procedures Committee - None.

7. Announcements:

A. The group shared several upcoming events and community updates. Health screenings will take place at the Glades Initiative on December 19th, as well as at Cox Park in South Bay in partnership with Commissioner King's toy drive. Debbie's planned event will now take place in January at the Health Department's site, and Dr. Jenga's "Know Your Numbers by Heart" event is scheduled for February. Community support programs were also highlighted, including Camp Good Grief on November 8th in Loxahatchee for children and families experiencing loss, with plans to bring a similar camp to the Glades, and a voter registration celebration hosted by the Democratic Party at Harrell Pavilion on November 16th. Lisa shared details on anxiety and depression screenings through 211 and noted a toy giveaway on December 20th. Transportation challenges for seniors are being addressed through coordination with Go Glades and city partners. Additional resources discussed included Centro Campesino's rental assistance for farm workers, ongoing free health screenings in Pahokee, and a reminder to donate unused medical equipment to local clinics. The board meeting also noted strong attendance, with 14 of 17 members present.

8. Adjournment:

A. The meeting was adjourned at 10:24 AM.

The next PATCH meeting is scheduled for November 18th 2025. This meeting will be both in-person and via zoom.