

MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

LTC # 165-2024

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Honorable Mayor Steven Meiner and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Rickelle Williams, Interim City Manager *RW*

DATE: May 1, 2024

SUBJECT: Nurse Enhancement Initiative Behavioral Health Services Summary Report and Expanded Services Update

The purpose of this Letter to Commission is to update the Mayor and City Commission on the status of our Nurse Enhancement Initiative for Behavioral Health/Mental Health youth support services from August 2023 through April 2024 for North Beach Elementary, Miami Beach South Pointe Elementary, Miami Beach Fienberg Fisher K-8, Biscayne Beach Elementary, Treasure Island Elementary, Ruth K. Broad Bay Harbor K-8 Center, Miami Beach Nautilus Middle School, and Miami Beach Senior High School.

Overall, **131** youth received **779 mental health support sessions** in the 2023-2024 school year through April 19, 2024 from the Licensed Clinical Social Worker (Social Worker) in select Miami Beach feeder public schools. The below provides the number of sessions provided to youth at select Miami Beach feeder schools receiving services during the 2023-2024 school year through a partnership with neighboring municipalities, Borinquen Medical Centers, The Children's Trust and the Miami Beach Chamber Education Foundation:

School Name	# of youth mental health sessions
• Miami Beach Senior High School	509
• North Beach Elementary	116
• Treasure Island Elementary	39
• Ruth K. Broad Bay Harbor K-8 Center	115

The enhanced behavioral services provide on-site access to a licensed clinical social worker to provide services including, but not limited to, the following:

- Academic Issues
- Attention Issues
- Anger Management
- Anxiety
- Attention Issues
- Disruptive Behavior
- Depression
- Stress Management
- Family Issues

Services were not provided to some Miami Beach schools through this initiative in the 2023-2024 school year due to staffing challenges of our partners. Alternate service models were explored by staff to fill the open mental health professional position for the 2024-2025 school year to ensure services are available for all youth.

On April 3, 2024 Resolution No. 2024-32980 was approved to expand services to underserved Miami Beach public schools including Miami Beach South Pointe Elementary, Miami Beach Fienberg Fisher K-8, Miami Beach Nautilus Middle School, and Biscayne Beach Elementary. Staff have engaged the Miami-Dade County Public Schools(M-DCPS) and the Miami Beach Chamber Education Foundation, Inc. to expand services by providing access to the Whole Child Telewellness services program. Anticipated services through this partnership will include but not be limited to the following:

- Implementation of the whole child program to offer telewellness services to approximately 2,753 students at select Miami Beach public schools for both physical and mental health care
- Access to telewellness visits at no cost to families with provider visits covered by insurance, and partnerships with M-DCPS
- Access to on demand licensed and qualified telewellness providers for delivery of comprehensive services for students in select Miami Beach public schools from home via phone and/or computer
- Follow-up and case management support for all students in select Miami Beach schools, including appointment scheduling for in-person services, assistance navigating the healthcare system/Medicaid, coordination for ongoing wellness supports, and coordination with existing school supports
- Clinical operations conducted on a platform designed specifically for collaboration with schools including a self-contained electronic medical record (EMR), emergency contact workflow, and data reporting capabilities
- HIPAA and FERPA compliant
- All necessary technology (iPads, headphones, etc.)
- Full training, onboarding, and certification of school and district health office staff to operate services
- Parent/Guardian sign-up (consent) materials, training, and support
- Dedicated staff support (onsite and virtual)

Staff from the Office of Education and Performance Initiatives will be reaching to municipal partners to determine interest in sustaining the Nurse Enhancement Behavioral/Mental Health Initiative in the 2024-2025 school year for those schools funded by neighboring municipalities. Mental health professionals currently providing services in select public schools may be reached directly via email at the below email addresses:

Ashley Silverio

Julia Egbers

Asilverio@borinquenhealth.org

Jegbers@borinquenhealth.org

This initiative supports our strategic priority to be known for educational (PreK-12) excellence. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Dr. Leslie Rosenfeld, Chief Education and Performance Officer.

JDG/LDR

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