

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(9)

TO: Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: November 6, 2024

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution declaring Miami-Dade
County to be a trauma-informed
community; directing the County
Mayor to pursue grant funding to
enhance the County's trauma-based
services

Resolution No. R-995-24

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Kionne L. McGhee.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/uw

MDC001



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: November 6, 2024

FROM: 
Glen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(9)

Please note any items checked.

- _____ **"3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised**
- _____ **6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing**
- _____ **4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing**
- _____ **Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget**
- _____ **Budget required**
- _____ **Statement of fiscal impact required**
- _____ **Statement of social equity required**
- _____ **Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing**
- _____ **No committee review**
- _____ **Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's present ____, 2/3 membership ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous ____, majority plus one ____, CDMP 7 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) ____, CDMP 2/3 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3) (h) or (4)(c) ____, CDMP 9 vote requirement per 2-116.1(4)(c) (2) ____) to approve**
- _____ **Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required**

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(9)
11-6-24

RESOLUTION NO. _____ R-995-24

RESOLUTION DECLARING MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO BE A
TRAUMA-INFORMED COMMUNITY; DIRECTING THE
COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO
PURSUE GRANT FUNDING TO ENHANCE THE COUNTY'S
TRAUMA-BASED SERVICES

WHEREAS, some events and experiences that occur in our community are so dangerous or scary or shocking that they have long-lasting physical, psychological, or emotional impacts on individuals, families, and even the entire community; and

WHEREAS, these traumatic events can include acts of violence, natural disasters, or other accidents, including car crashes and building collapses; and

WHEREAS, the physical or emotional trauma that can result from such an event or series of events can be harmful and even life-threatening; and

WHEREAS, it can impact those with direct exposure to the event(s), or even those who witnessed others experience the event(s), and can strike without regard to age, gender, race, ethnic, or socioeconomic status; and

WHEREAS, according to research cited in a report prepared by the Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), titled "SAMHSA's Concept of Trauma and Guidance for a Trauma-Informed Approach," with appropriate supports and intervention, people can overcome traumatic experiences; and

WHEREAS, according to the report though, most people go without these services and supports; and

WHEREAS, unaddressed trauma significantly increases the risk of mental and substance use disorders and chronic physical diseases; and

WHEREAS, SAMSHA advises that addressing trauma requires a multi-pronged, multi-agency public health approach inclusive of public education and awareness, prevention and early identification, and effective trauma-specific assessment and treatment; and

WHEREAS, in order to maximize the impact of these efforts, SAMHSA advises they need to be provided in an organizational or community context that is trauma-informed, meaning based on the knowledge and understanding of trauma and its far-reaching implications; and

WHEREAS, according to the SAMSHA report, “a program, organization, or system that is trauma-informed realizes the widespread impact of trauma and understands potential paths for recovery; recognizes the signs and symptoms of trauma in clients, families, staff, and other involved within the system; and responds by fully integrating knowledge about trauma into policies, procedures, and practices, and seeks to actively resist re-traumatization”; and

WHEREAS, to that effect, certain communities have endeavored to become trauma-informed communities; and

WHEREAS, for example, there is a grass-roots initiative in Tarpon Springs, Florida, to become a trauma-informed and resilient community to address a wide range of challenges, such as domestic violence, bullying, joblessness, homelessness, and substance abuse; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County has already taken a number of steps to becoming a trauma-informed community that responds to the needs of its residents; and

WHEREAS, for example, the County developed the Peace and Prosperity Plan to combat gun violence through violence reduction strategies and opportunities for economic prosperity, with a focus on at-risk youth; and

WHEREAS, the County provides annual grant funding to a variety of community-based organizations that provide human and social services to vulnerable populations in our community; and

WHEREAS, the County has departments, such as the Community Action and Human Services Department, which provide a myriad of services to the residents of this County, including, for example, crisis energy assistance to residents experiencing a hardship in paying their home energy bills, and a mortgage relief program for households struggling to meet their mortgage payments; and

WHEREAS, the County also has an Office of Emergency Management, which, among other things, handles the Communities Organized to Respond in Emergencies (“C.O.R.E.”) program, where the County partners with the private and nonprofit sectors to help plan for, respond to, and recover from disasters that affect the community; and

WHEREAS, this Board values the important work that is being done by the County and its community partners to provide for the health and well-being of its residents,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board declares Miami-Dade County to be a trauma-informed community. The Board further directs the County Mayor or County Mayor’s designee to pursue grant funding to enhance the County’s existing trauma-based services.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Kionne L. McGhee. It was offered by Commissioner **Danielle Cohen Higgins** , who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Marleine Bastien** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Chairman	aye		
Anthony Rodríguez, Vice Chairman	aye		
Marleine Bastien	aye	Juan Carlos Bermudez	aye
Kevin Marino Cabrera	aye	Sen. René García	aye
Roberto J. Gonzalez	aye	Keon Hardemon	absent
Danielle Cohen Higgins	aye	Eileen Higgins	aye
Kionne L. McGhee	aye	Raquel A. Regalado	aye
Micky Steinberg	aye		

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 6th day of November, 2024. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the Board.



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JUAN FERNANDEZ-BARQUIN, CLERK

By: Basia Pruna
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

LCK

Leigh C. Kobrinski