

Tobacco Free Partnership of Broward County Meeting

Thursday, June 18, 2026, 8:15 AM

Quick recap

The meeting focused on updates from the Department of Health (DOH) and the Fort Lauderdale Beach Sweep event. Steve Einhorn reported that the recent beach cleanup involved 173 volunteers who collected 225 pounds of trash, with participation from various organizations including First Key Bank, JPMorgan Chase, Girl Scouts, and local SWAT teams. Harrison provided a significant budget update, explaining that DOH's general revenue funding was eliminated for the upcoming fiscal year, forcing all programs including the 35 SWAT clubs to be funded solely through the Tobacco Bureau and other external grants. Harrison announced that Marcia Morales would be returning to lead the tobacco prevention program, replacing Harrison in that role at the next meeting.

Next steps

- Dr. Hummel resend the correct version of the banner files to Bill.
- Love Levy send Steve Einhorn the photo taken at the beach sweep event.
- Maintain SWAT clubs at 35 for the current
- Marcia Morales will return to the tobacco prevention program and attend the next meeting to take over program management from Harrison.

Summary

Meeting Administrative Updates and Approvals

Chriss Ricci and Lisa Ferreri ran the meeting in place of Dr. Hummel who was traveling. The meeting began with introductions and administrative matters, including the approval of April meeting minutes which were approved by Steve Einhorn and second by Wendi Gabriel.

The meeting began with introductions, including Sergeant Samuels from the Florida National Guard's Counterdrug Program Drug Demand Reduction Outreach. Chriss Ricci welcomed everyone and noted that Dr. Hummel was on vacation in Alaska.

Fort Lauderdale Beach Cleanup Update

Steve Einhorn provided an update on the Fort Lauderdale Beach Sweep, reporting that 173 volunteers collected 225 pounds of trash on a beautiful day. Various organizations participated including First Key Bank, JPMorgan Chase, Memorial Health, Girl Scouts, and SWAT.

Love Levy then mentioned that budget hearings for DOH were completed. Love Levy explained that due to state-level budget cuts, DOH Broward no longer receives general revenue funding for programs, forcing them to use tobacco bureau funds to cover all 35 SWAT clubs instead of the previous split funding arrangement. This change requires an additional \$30,000 from the bureau budget and has resulted in capping the number of SWAT clubs at 35 for the year. Love Levy also noted that other DOH programs, including drowning prevention, are not receiving general fund funding and are instead supported by grants and other external sources like Children's Services Council.

2026-27 Work Plan and Transition

Love Levy announced that the work plan for 2026-27 is ready and informed the team that Marcia Morales will be returning to the tobacco prevention program as the new program manager, replacing Love Levy who serves as an interim program manager for multiple departments. The discussion highlighted concerns about potential funding impacts if the property tax passes, with Michael Liquerman noting that funds for police, fire, roads, and other services could be affected.

Next Meeting: July 16, 2026 / Meeting Adjourned at 9:30 AM