

## CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF BROWARD COUNTY

Held @ 6600 W. Commercial Blvd., Lauderhill, FL 33319  
and by Zoom Webinar with public access by computer or phone

April 20, 2023

9:30 A.M.

### Minutes

#### **Members in Physical Attendance:**

Judge Michael Davis; Governor Appointee Cathy Donnelly; Governor Appointee David H. Kenton (*Chair*); DCF Community Development Administrator Dawn Liberta; Governor Appointee Tom Powers; Health Department Director Paula Thaqi; Governor Appointee Jeffrey S. Wood

#### **Council Members Virtual:**

Interim School Superintendent Earlean C. Smiley; School Board Member Allen Zeman (departed meeting at 9:36am)

#### **Council Members Absent:**

Broward County Commissioner Beam Furr

#### **Counsel Present:**

Garry Johnson, Esq.

#### **Staff in Attendance:**

Cindy Arenberg Seltzer; Monti Larsen; Maria Juarez; Sharetta Remikie; Sue Gallagher; Michelle Hamilton; Laura Ganci; Dion Smith; Lisa Bayne; Amy Jacques; Marissa Aquino; Kyle Jones; Angie Buchter; Keyonia Lawson; Tracy Graham; Jennifer Fletcher; Trish Dowell, Lynn Kalmes; Madeline Jones; Clarice Horton; Michelle Hagues; Cynthia Reynoso; Melissa Soza; Silke Angulo; Andria Dewson; Carl Dasse; Kandyss Torrence; Shira Fowlkes; Travis Johnson; Ivy Pierre; Betty Dominguez; Shaquoia Wilson; S. Lorenzo Benaine; Colleen Carpenter; Alexandra Lemoine; Yolanda Meadows; Jimmy Jean; Marlando Christie; Johnsingh Jeyasingh; Diego Alvarez; Latora Steel; Nicolette Picardi; Cristina Castellanos; Ileana Blanco; Fern Phillip; Jessica Rincon; Priscilla Cole; Katrina Welch; Pooja Yajnik.; Liza Khan; Karen Franceschini; Ashley Cole; Tabitha Bush; Jonathan Corado; Jill Denis-Lay; Roxanne Smith; Florence Ukpai; Camila Romero; Meg Wallace; Valencia McConnico-Bell

#### **Guests in Attendance:**

See Attachment 1

## Agenda:

### I. Call to Order

Dr. Kenton called the meeting to order at 9:31 A.M.

### II. Roll Call

The roll was called and a quorum was established.

### III. Chair's Report

#### a) Moment to Arrive

Council Members took a moment of silence for the recent victims of gun violence and those impacted by the recent historic flooding.

#### b) March 2023 Council Minutes

**ACTION: Ms. Donnelly made a motion to approve the March 16, 2023, Council meeting minutes, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Liberta and passed with no opposing votes.**

#### c) Budget Retreat Reminder

Dr. Kenton reminded Members of the Budget Retreat on May 18<sup>th</sup>, 9:00am-4:00pm, at the CSC Office. While the May Council meeting usually starts a little earlier to allow more time for the Budget Retreat, Members decided to start the May meeting at the usual time of 9:30am. They also agreed to a 30-minute lunch break during the Budget Retreat.

### IV. President's Report

#### a) Good of the Order

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer pointed out that April 11-17 was Black Maternal Health Week, a week-long campaign founded and led by the Black Mamas Matter Alliance to build awareness, activism, and community-building to amplify the voices, perspectives and lived experience of Black Mamas/birthing people. She explained it is meant to uplift Black women and mothers to focus on the root causes of poor maternal health outcomes and conditions. The theme this year was "Our Bodies Belong to Us: Restoring Black Autonomy and Joy," which speaks to strength, power, resilience, and Black women's unassailable right to live freely, safely, and joyfully. She noted that the Broward Healthy Start Coalition hosted its 3<sup>rd</sup>

Annual Black Maternal Health Workshop on improving birth outcomes this past Monday.

Dr. Zeman departed the meeting at 9:36am.

The Countdown to Kindergarten event will be held on April 29<sup>th</sup> at The Parker in Fort Lauderdale. Dr. Kenton will be the CSC representative to welcome the families.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer announced that CSC is a finalist for the Sun-Sentinel's 2023 South Florida Topwork Place and will be recognized at an awards event on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. She explained that South Florida companies chosen were determined through employee surveys conducted by Energage. The survey measured qualities such as leadership, communication, appreciation, direction, working environment, managerial skills, wages, and benefits. She pointed out that CSC had an 86% survey response rate and was in the top 99<sup>th</sup> percentile in many of the categories. She noted that the management team is going through the details of the survey to address areas for improvement.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer highlighted her induction into the Broward County Women's Hall of Fame, along with former Council Member Ana Valladares.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer was a panelist for Leadership Broward's Health & Human Services Day.

Mr. Kenneth King, CSC's Director of Public Affairs & Organizational Development, was a panelist at Broward County Public Schools' Youth Policy Summit.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer announced that she is now on the board of the Broward Behavioral Health Coalition.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer raised an opportunity for CSC to join with the Community Foundation, the Jewish Federation, and the United Way to provide disaster recovery assistance to non-profits to support families impacted by the recent historic flood. While CSC is unable to fund any infrastructure repairs, she explained it could provide funding for such needed items as food, toiletries, diapers, hurricane supplies, etc.

**ACTION: Dr. Thaqi made a motion to authorize the CSC President/CEO to expend up to \$200,000 from Unallocated to meet the acute needs of Broward families impacted by the historic flood.**

**The motion was seconded by Judge Davis and passed with no opposing votes.**

b) Child Abuse Prevention Month

With April being Child Abuse Prevention Month, Ms. Arenberg Seltzer highlighted all of the activities of the Broward AWARE! Campaign. The Family Plays Together/Family Fun Day was held on March 18<sup>th</sup> at Roosevelt Gardens Park, with Dr. Kenton and Ms. Liberta in attendance. Eighteen community providers hosted fun stations for parents and caregivers to promote opportunities to bond with their children.

The Campaign hosted a Zoom Café Series that focused on topics specific to strengthening the family and engaging fathers.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer noted that the Family Fun and Resource Fair was postponed due to inclement weather/flooding.

She drew Members' attention to the beautiful blue Pinwheel Garden that was planted in front of the CSC office. She was able to have the Assistant Secretary Jessica Tharp of DCF plant a pinwheel in the garden when she visited that day.

The Healthy Families Broward Graduation was held on March 25<sup>th</sup> with 60 participants graduating.

Read 4 Broward AWARE, hosted a reading circle at Sunland Park Academy's afterschool program to engage the community and make them aware of the upcoming Broward AWARE! events in their neighborhood.

Additional activities included Wear Blue 4 Prevention on May 5<sup>th</sup>, proclamations issued by multiple cities declaring April Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Month and turning the Hard Rock Guitar Hotel blue to draw attention to child abuse and neglect prevention month.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer previewed the ADAM Challenge Family Fun Day, to be held on Saturday April 22<sup>nd</sup>, Noon – 5pm, at Michell Moore Park in Pompano Beach. This event, hosted by CSC-funded provider Community Based Connections, will celebrate fathers and their presence in their children's lives. Dr. Kenton plans to be in attendance.

c) Autism Acceptance Month

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer called on Ms. Ire Diaz, President & Chief Executive and Programs Officer for the Advocacy Network on Disabilities, to highlight Autism Acceptance Month, which is also in April. Ms. Diaz connected Child Abuse Prevention Month (April) and Autism Acceptance Month (April) by pointing out that children with disabilities are at a higher risk of being neglected and abused. She noted that a transition is underway from Autism Awareness Month to Autism Acceptance month, as it is not enough to be aware, we need to work on being accepting. She further explained that the focus is not on fixing people with Autism, but on accepting that there is neurodivergence and different ways of interacting with the world. She noted that the rates of diagnoses have increased, with current rates three times as much as in 2000. Statistics show that 1 in 6 children up to age 7 with Autism are kicked out of preschool and afterschool programs, which places children at a higher risk of abuse and neglect and impacts their education.

Council Members' discussion ensued with inquiries as to the status of the Early Learning Coalition's (ELC) positive behavioral supports work with the childcare centers, the tracking of any expulsions, and the use of inclusion specialists in afterschool programs. Ms. Arenberg Seltzer promised to follow up.

d) Legislative Update

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer highlighted the status of legislation in the Florida legislature that would be of interest to Members, including the advancement of the Level 2 Background Screening legislation and former Council Member Robin Bartleman's legislation to expand KidCare eligibility to those earning 300% of poverty, which could affect 42,000 children.

V. Chief Program Officer (CPO) Report

Ms. Maria Juarez, CPO, highlighted the items under her Report.

a) Ann Storck Center's Special Needs MOST Contract Adjustment

**ACTION: Ms. Donnelly made a motion to approve the Ann Storck Center Special Needs MOST Contract adjustment, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Thaqi and passed with no opposing votes.**

- b) Non-Renewal of BRHPC's Healthy Families Contract and Release of the Ounce of Prevention Florida's RFA for Healthy Families' Services

Information was contained in the meeting packet. No Council action was necessary.

- c) Summer Youth Employment Update

Information was contained in the meeting packet. No Council action was necessary.

- d) SAMHSA OCP4 Grant Update

Information was contained in the meeting packet. No Council action was necessary.

VI. Chief Equity & Community Engagement Officer (CECEO)

Broward Education Foundation's HEART Senior Send-Off

**ACTION: Mr. Wood made a motion to approve a match grant to the Broward Education Foundation for the HEART Senior Send-Off Event, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Liberta and passed with no opposing votes and one abstention from Dr. Smiley, who submitted the attached voting conflict form.**

VII. Chief Operating Officer (COO) Report

Ms. Larsen highlighted the items under the COO Report and drew Members' attention to the Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) and Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) at the dais.

- a) Budget Amendments & Interim Financial Statements for March 2023
- b) March 2023 Statements for the Managed Fund
- c) Monthly/Annual Purchases

**ACTION: Ms. Liberta made a motion to approve the Budget Amendments and Interim Financial Statements for Period Ending March 31, 2023; approve the March 2023 monthly statements for the Managed Fund from PFM and US Bank; and approve CSC monthly/annual purchases, all as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Donnelly and passed with no opposing votes.**

VIII. Broward Reads Coalition Report

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer, Broward Reads Coalition Co-Chair, referred Members to the meeting minutes included in the information packet.

IX. Public Comment

Mr. Walter Honaman, Legal Aid Service of Broward County, thanked the Council and staff. He briefly spoke to legislation that would potentially impede the ability of the courts to appoint attorneys for children without a competency test of the child. He expressed his belief that every child deserves both a Guardian ad Litem and an attorney, not one or the other.

X. Council Members' Roundtable

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer outlined the FY 23/24 Budget process, which began a few months ago with staff visioning sessions focused on research, trend lines, partnerships, and program effectiveness, using the Results Based Accountability principles of how much are we doing, how well are we doing it, and is anyone better off? This information will then be utilized to produce the Budget Book that Members will receive for the May Budget Retreat. She previewed how the book would look and how to utilize the information to make budget decisions.

For the day-long Budget Retreat on May 18<sup>th</sup>, she explained that for each tab she will give an overview of the program area, highlighting recommended changes and any new areas to address. Members of the public will be able to make comments after the tab is reviewed and Council Members will have discussion on each tab. Any wish list items or items to be further researched and explored will be brought to a Joint PPC and Finance Committee meeting in June for consideration and recommendations to the full Council at its June 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. The June Council meeting will also include consideration of the Administrative Budget.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer noted that the final property numbers will be released in early July and the Council Members will have their final votes on the millage rate and Budget at the September TRIM Hearings.

XI. Adjournment

**ACTION: The meeting adjourned at 12:09 P.M. with a motion from Judge Davis and a second from Mr. Wood.**

  
Beam Furr, Secretary

## ATTACHMENT 1

### MEETING ATTENDEES (\*denotes speaker)

Name	Organization
Andy Fernandez	Firewall Centers
Brittney Brown	Counselor
Alison Rodriguez	YMCA of South Florida
Grace Ramos	The M Network
Denissa Facey	Pembroke Pines Police Department
Catherine Lievano	Pembroke Pines Police Department
Gloria Kitchen	EngageEdu Consulting Inc.
Mark Reyes	Urban League of Broward County
Cathea Comiskey	Ann Storck Center
Karen Flowers	Ann Storck Center
Tonita Williams	Ann Storck Center
Walter Honaman*	Legal Aid Service of Broward County



# FORM 8B MEMORANDUM OF VOTING CONFLICT FOR COUNTY, MUNICIPAL, AND OTHER LOCAL PUBLIC OFFICERS

LAST NAME—FIRST NAME—MIDDLE NAME <b>Smiley - Earlean - C.</b>		NAME OF BOARD, COUNCIL, COMMISSION, AUTHORITY, OR COMMITTEE <b>Children's Services Council of Broward County</b>	
MAILING ADDRESS <b>600 SE 3rd Ave.</b>		THE BOARD, COUNCIL, COMMISSION, AUTHORITY OR COMMITTEE ON WHICH I SERVE IS A UNIT OF:	
CITY <b>Fort Lauderdale</b>	COUNTY <b>Broward</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> CITY	<input type="checkbox"/> COUNTY
DATE ON WHICH VOTE OCCURRED <b>April 20, 2023</b>		NAME OF POLITICAL SUBDIVISION:	
		MY POSITION IS:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> ELECTIVE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPOINTIVE

## WHO MUST FILE FORM 8B

This form is for use by any person serving at the county, city, or other local level of government on an appointed or elected board, council, commission, authority, or committee. It applies to members of advisory and non-advisory bodies who are presented with a voting conflict of interest under Section 112.3143, Florida Statutes.

Your responsibilities under the law when faced with voting on a measure in which you have a conflict of interest will vary greatly depending on whether you hold an elective or appointive position. For this reason, please pay close attention to the instructions on this form before completing and filing the form.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 112.3143, FLORIDA STATUTES

A person holding elective or appointive county, municipal, or other local public office **MUST ABSTAIN** from voting on a measure which would inure to his or her special private gain or loss. Each elected or appointed local officer also **MUST ABSTAIN** from knowingly voting on a measure which would inure to the special gain or loss of a principal (other than a government agency) by whom he or she is retained (including the parent, subsidiary, or sibling organization of a principal by which he or she is retained); to the special private gain or loss of a relative; or to the special private gain or loss of a business associate. Commissioners of community redevelopment agencies (CRAs) under Sec. 163.356 or 163.357, F.S., and officers of independent special tax districts elected on a one-acre, one-vote basis are not prohibited from voting in that capacity.

For purposes of this law, a "relative" includes only the officer's father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, brother, sister, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, and daughter-in-law. A "business associate" means any person or entity engaged in or carrying on a business enterprise with the officer as a partner, joint venturer, coowner of property, or corporate shareholder (where the shares of the corporation are not listed on any national or regional stock exchange).

### ELECTED OFFICERS:

In addition to abstaining from voting in the situations described above, you must disclose the conflict:

PRIOR TO THE VOTE BEING TAKEN by publicly stating to the assembly the nature of your interest in the measure on which you are abstaining from voting; *and*

WITHIN 15 DAYS AFTER THE VOTE OCCURS by completing and filing this form with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who should incorporate the form in the minutes.

### APPOINTED OFFICERS:

Although you must abstain from voting in the situations described above, you are not prohibited by Section 112.3143 from otherwise participating in these matters. However, you must disclose the nature of the conflict before making any attempt to influence the decision, whether orally or in writing and whether made by you or at your direction.

IF YOU INTEND TO MAKE ANY ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE DECISION PRIOR TO THE MEETING AT WHICH THE VOTE WILL BE TAKEN:

- You must complete and file this form (before making any attempt to influence the decision) with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who will incorporate the form in the minutes. (Continued on page 2)

### APPOINTED OFFICERS (continued)

- A copy of the form must be provided immediately to the other members of the agency.
- The form must be read publicly at the next meeting after the form is filed.

IF YOU MAKE NO ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE DECISION EXCEPT BY DISCUSSION AT THE MEETING:

- You must disclose orally the nature of your conflict in the measure before participating.
- You must complete the form and file it within 15 days after the vote occurs with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who must incorporate the form in the minutes. A copy of the form must be provided immediately to the other members of the agency, and the form must be read publicly at the next meeting after the form is filed.

### DISCLOSURE OF LOCAL OFFICER'S INTEREST

I, Earlean C. Smiley, hereby disclose that on April 20, 20 23 :

(a) A measure came or will come before my agency which (check one or more)

- inured to my special private gain or loss;
- inured to the special gain or loss of my business associate, Broward Education Foundation ;
- inured to the special gain or loss of my relative, \_\_\_\_\_ ;
- inured to the special gain or loss of \_\_\_\_\_, by whom I am retained; or
- inured to the special gain or loss of \_\_\_\_\_, which is the parent subsidiary, or sibling organization or subsidiary of a principal which has retained me.

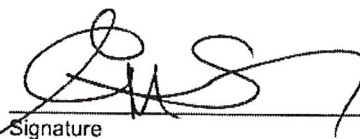
(b) The measure before my agency and the nature of my conflicting interest in the measure is as follows:

I abstained from voting on Agenda Item VI. Approve Match to Broward Education Foundation for HEART Senior Send-Off (Tab 26), as I am a member of the Broward Education Foundation.

If disclosure of specific information would violate confidentiality or privilege pursuant to law or rules governing attorneys, a public officer, who is also an attorney, may comply with the disclosure requirements of this section by disclosing the nature of the interest in such a way as to provide the public with notice of the conflict.

April 20, 2023

Date Filed



Signature

NOTICE: UNDER PROVISIONS OF FLORIDA STATUTES §112.317, A FAILURE TO MAKE ANY REQUIRED DISCLOSURE CONSTITUTES GROUNDS FOR AND MAY BE PUNISHED BY ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING: IMPEACHMENT, REMOVAL OR SUSPENSION FROM OFFICE OR EMPLOYMENT, DEMOTION, REDUCTION IN SALARY, REPRIMAND, OR A CIVIL PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000.