

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

October 19, 2023

9:30 A.M.

Minutes

Council Members in Physical Attendance:

Judge Michael Davis; Broward County Commissioner Beam Furr; Governor Appointee David H. Kenton (*Chair*); School Superintendent Peter B. Licata (10:03am); DCF Community Director Dennis Miles

Council Members Virtual:

Governor Appointee Jeffrey S. Wood

Council Members Absent:

Governor Appointee Cathy Donnelly; Health Department Director Paula Thaqi; School Board Member Allen Zeman

Counsel Present:

Garry Johnson, Esq. (*virtual*)

Staff in Attendance:

Cindy Arenberg Seltzer; Monti Larsen; Sharetta Remikie; Sue Gallagher; Dion Smith; Lisa Bayne; Kathleen Campbell; Kenneth King; Michelle Hamilton; Marissa Greif-Hackett; Marlando Christie; Amy Jacques; Kyle Jones; Angie Buchter; Tracy Graham; Shaquoia Wilson; Colleen Carpenter; Jimmy Jean; Johnsingh Jeyasingh; Diego Alvarez; Fern Phillip; Nelson Giraldo; Akil Edwards; Jill Denis-Lay; Yolanda Meadows; Liza Khan; Jennifer Fletcher; Priscilla Cole; Julie Toscano; Cristina Castellanos; Jocelin Eubanks; Carl Dasse; Carlos Campos; Keyonia Lawson; Radoika Pilarte; Alexia Bridges; Amber Gross; Ashley Cole; Astrid Cantos; Erin Byrne; Ileana Blanco; Jeffery Glover; Jonathan Corado; Kandyss Torrence; Katrina Welch; Lynn Kalmes; Tabitha Bush; Travis Johnson; Valencia McConnico-Bell; Shantigra Shae Williams; Meg Wallace; Florence Ukpai; S. Lorenzo Benaine; Trisha Dowell; Michelle Hagues; Natalie Gomes; Jessica Rincon; Latora Steel; Marissa Aquino; Zoe Lewis; Karen Franceschini; Ivy Pierre; Melissa Soza; Madeline Jones; Nicolette Picardi; Kimberlee Reid; Camila Romero Gil; Roxanne Smith; Cynthia Reynoso; Jennifer Wennberg; Yolanda Meadows; Betty Dominguez; Alexandra Lemoine; Clarice Horton; Mina Razavi; Shawanda Spencer; Nancy Adjohan; Shira Fowlkes

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 found lacking by one Member. Members present in the room were Judge Davis, Commissioner Furr, Dr. Kenton, and Mr. Miles. It was noted that Dr. Licata planned to arrive between 10:00am-10:30am and votes could be taken upon his arrival. Until that time, Members only discussed agenda items. All votes were taken after Dr. Licata's arrival.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer made a plea for members to prioritize physical attendance at Council meetings. She explained that with only nine Members currently, the Council could only afford four absences and/or virtual attendance. By statute, quorum is only established with physical attendance.

III. Chair's Report

a) Moment of Silence

Members observed a moment of silence for the children who are suffering in the Middle East.

b) Welcome Dennis Miles

Council Members welcomed Mr. Dennis Miles back to the Council as the DCF representative.

c) September 21, 2023, Council Minutes

d) September 21, 2023, TRIM Hearing Minutes

e) December 2023 Meeting Cancellation

f) 2024 Meeting Schedule

ACTION: Commissioner Furr made a motion to approve items c-f, which included approval of the Council meeting minutes from September 21, 2023; approval of the TRIM Hearing minutes from September 21, 2023; approval of the cancellation of the December 2023 CSC monthly meeting; and approval of the monthly meeting dates for 2024, all as presented. The motion was seconded by Judge Davis and passed with no opposing votes.

g) President/CEO Performance Evaluation

Dr. Kenton informed Members of the process for the President/CEO's performance evaluation, which was emailed yesterday to Members. Completed evaluations are due by COB October 31st. The Executive Committee is scheduled to meet on November 8th at 2:30pm to review the evaluation results and forward any recommendations to the full Council for consideration at its November 16th meeting.

h) November Annual Report Photo

Dr. Kenton announced that a group Council Member photo for CSC's Annual Report will be taken before the November Council meeting. He asked Members to arrive at 9:00am on November 16th for a group photo prior to the start of the meeting at 9:30am.

IV. President's Report

a) Good of the Order

Ms. Arenberg shared the latest CSC promotional video produced by The M Network and promised to let Members know when and where it will be airing.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer shared that the Prosperity Broward Initiative was featured in the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta's newsletter. The article showed how CSC's Community Participatory Action Research (CPAR) work has informed the Initiative's structure and process. Dr. Sue Gallagher (CSC's Chief Innovation Officer) updated the Council on the Lauderdale Lakes CPAR project on economic mobility for single women in the workforce.

Ms. Maria Juarez (CSC's Chief Program Officer) highlighted CSC's recent meetings with Family Supports and Healthy Youth Transitions (HYT) program providers.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer highlighted the City of Hollywood's most recent Commission in the Community Meeting. She explained that these meetings are open forums where the community can take part in a conversation with their City Commissioners and fellow Hollywood residents. Commissioner Furr, Dr. Gallagher, and Ms. Cynthia Reynoso (CSC's Assistant Director of Marketing, Communications and Community Engagement) attended the most recent one, which was facilitated by Hollywood Commissioner Idelma Quintana. Commissioner Quintana led an Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) session where attendees worked on a strength-based activity focused on solutions to

problems identified by the community. CSC was recognized as the lead in this work and was able to distribute resource guides to the local team and were connected with the City's marketing representative to align initiatives.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer highlighted a partnership with State Attorney Harold Pryor, who reached out to CSC to look at what could be done to reduce youth gun violence. He brought in Dr. Shirley Plantin, who has done effective work in Miami, to see if there was any interest in bringing her to Broward. Ms. Arenberg Seltzer shared that staff is looking at a possible pilot with CSC-funded Healthy Youth Transitions (HYT) providers and New DAY providers. She promised to bring back details at a later date.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer shared that Ms. Michelle Hamilton (CSC's Director of Human Resources) and Mr. Marlando Christie (CSC's Director of Management Information Systems), recently participated in Margate Middle School's Annual STEM Career Day to discuss CSC and their career paths. She added that Ms. Hamilton also conducted mock interviews with the youth.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer shared that Shantigra "Shae" Williams, CSC's Strategy Manager – Special Needs, will be a panelist at this weekend's BLK Men in Tech Conference. The panel will explore the intricate intersectionality of Blackness and Queerness, discussing building supportive communities, amplifying diverse voices, and fostering inclusivity with both the Black and LGBTQ+ communities.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer made Members aware of this Saturday's NSU Day for Children, of which CSC is a sponsor. Dr. Kenton will attend with his family and represent CSC.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer pointed out the new CSC marketing vehicle parked outside, noting that staff are receiving bids to have it wrapped in CSC information. Dr. Kenton suggested using it to participate in the multitude of city parades, in addition to its use for hauling collaterals for community events.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer highlighted her outreach in the community as a Broward Reads Coalition panelist at the Conference on Children's Literature and at Florida Philanthropic Network's (FPN) Florida Education Funders meeting. She also gave closing remarks at Stronger Together: Broward's Latin Community Combats Antisemitism, which looked at the rise of antisemitism, and was a fundraising inmate to benefit Tomorrow's Rainbow at their annual Pony Jail 'n Bale.

Dr. Licata arrived at 10:03 A.M.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer highlighted recent staff awards, with Shae Williams receiving the Special Recognition Award for Community Service from the University of Miami and Nova Southeastern University Center for Autism & Related Disabilities, and Dr. Remikie being recognized by the Mount Olive Development Corporation as a woman leading in Broward County at their 2023 Women Leading Brunch.

b) Harvard Kennedy School's Child & Family Wellbeing Accelerator Grant Final Report

Ms. Emma Cregg, Project Leader at Harvard University's Kennedy School's Government Performance Lab, gave a final report on the Harvard Kennedy School's Child & Family Wellbeing Accelerator Grant, which looked at building a kin-first culture in Broward County to increase overall relative and non-relative placements. Research shows that when placed with kin, children experience more stability, less trauma, and stronger connections to family, community, and their own culture.

The Broward project established kin-first principles in practice: (1) Pursue multiple placement options at once to build out family support networks beyond placement; (2) Invite youth and family voice in the decision-making process to empower families and increase placement stability; (3) Maintain ongoing search processes to keep the momentum going and consider new leads; and (4) Proactively connect caregivers to existing supports that enable them to take placement and set the placement up to stick. Ms. Cregg highlighted the project deliverables, which included a Family Finding Connections Log, a Relative & Non-Relative Supports Overview, Relative & Non-Relative Immediate Needs Questionnaire & Planning Tool, a Relative & Non-Relative Caregiver Engagement Guide, and Kinship Training Materials (slide deck, training guide, scripts, recording).

She concluded by sharing the sustainability goals that were set to continue these efforts in Broward. She noted that ChildNet established a Kinship Focus Group to sustain this work.

Mr. Miles thanked the project group and noted that this work brought a formalized infrastructure to the process that he would like to see rolled out to the other circuits in his region and even statewide.

c) Disability Employment Awareness Month

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer shined a spotlight on Disability Employment Awareness Month, which celebrates the contributions of America's workers with disabilities and showcases supportive, inclusive employment

policies and practices that benefit employers and employees. She noted that she attended Arc Broward's InspHired! Luncheon to present the Youth Links Site of the Year Award to Publix. She explained that the CSC-funded STEP program at Arc Broward is called Youth Links.

Members viewed a video promoting employment of those with disabilities that had been shared by Ire Diaz of Advocacy Network on Disabilities.

V. Chief Program Officer (CPO) Report

Ms. Juarez briefly highlighted the items under the CPO Report.

- a) DOH School Health Contract Adjustment
- b) Hope South Florida Homeless Outreach Leverage Contract Extension
- c) Revenue and Related Expenditures from the Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation for FY 23/24 Youth FORCE Programs

ACTION: Commissioner Furr made a motion to approve items a-c, which included approval of additional funding to align DOH's School Health Contract RNs' hourly fees to match the Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) contracted RNs' hourly fee of \$57; approval of the Hope South Florida Homeless Outreach Leverage Contract extension through January 31, 2024; and acceptance of revenue and approval of related expenditures for the Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation for FY 23/24 Youth FORCE programs, all as presented. The motion was seconded by Judge Davis and passed with no opposing votes.

- d) Positive Youth Development (PYD) RFP School List Update

Ms. Juarez shared the list of eligible schools for the upcoming PYD RFP. She did point out that the list did not include center schools, which are currently being reviewed for eligibility. Dr. Gallagher highlighted the criteria used to create the list.

VI. Chief Innovation Officer (CIO) Report

Dr. Gallagher highlighted her recent presentation on the Broward Data Collaborative in Charlotte, North Carolina, to the national learning community that is looking at integrated data systems and racial equity. Along with Dr. Carl Dasse (Director of Community Research & Partnering) and Jarvis Brunson (Change Me Foundation), they shared Broward's CPAR and ABCD work with a group of 60 at both the county and city levels from across the US. She pointed out that not only

has CSC's work influenced local businesses, as seen earlier with the Alliance's Prosperity Broward Initiative, but it is also informing national practice.

Simultaneous Interpretation Award

ACTION: Commissioner Furr made a motion to approve MARB Language Services for the Simultaneous Interpretation RFQ Award, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Licata and passed with no opposing votes.

VII. Chief Equity & Community Engagement Officer (CECEO) Report

Dr. Remikie briefly highlighted the items under the CECEO Report.

- a) Emergency Transition of USDA Food Service to FLIPANY
- b) Revenue and Reconciliation of Expenses for FY 22/23 Back-to-School Extravaganza
- c) Program Performance Consultant Expenditures
- d) Renewal of CRESTS Program Emancipatory Research Consulting Contract
- e) Advertising Through Mediaworks Advertising Solutions

ACTION: Judge Davis made a motion to approve items a-e, which included approval of the emergency transition of USDA Food Service provision to FLIPANY and adjust the Budget and Contract accordingly; acceptance of revenue and reconciliation of expenditures for the FY 22/23 Back-to-School Extravaganza; approval of the Program Performance Consultant expenditures; renewal of CRESTS Program Emancipatory Research Consulting Contract; and approval to advertise through Mediaworks Advertising Solution, all as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Furr and passed with no opposing votes.

VIII. Chief Operating Officer (COO) Report

Ms. Larsen briefly highlighted the items under the COO Report.

- a) Budget Carryforward for Select POs and Initiatives

Ms. Larsen corrected a scrivener's error on the Carryforward list, noting that the collaboration to promote research items had an incorrect provider listed. The provider should be noted as TBD, not a Little Help Never Hurts.

- b) Disposal of Fully Depreciated or Non-Capitalized Items for FY 22/23 Financial Statement
- c) Monthly Statements for the Managed Fund from PFM and US Bank
- d) Monthly/Annual Purchases

ACTION: Commissioner Furr made a motion to approve items a-d, which included approval of Budget Carry-Forward for selected POs and initiatives, with the corrected scrivener's error of removing the provider A Little Help Never Hurts; approval of the disposal of fully depreciated or non-capitalized items for FY 22/23 Financial Statements; acceptance of the monthly statements for the Managed Fund from PFM and US Bank for September 2023; and approval of the CSC monthly/annual purchases, all as presented. The motion was seconded by Judge Davis and passed with no opposing votes.

IX. Broward Reads Coalition Report

Commissioner Furr highlighted the recent meeting of the Broward Reads Coalition and referred Members to the minutes in the information packet.

X. Funders Forum Report

Ms. Juarez highlighted the recent meeting of the Funders Forum and referred Members to the minutes in the information packet.

XI. Public Comment

There were none.

XII. Council Members' Roundtable

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer introduced the CSC staff leading the Council Members' Roundtable on the upcoming Healthy Youth Transitions (HYT) Request for Proposals (RFP): Jennifer Wennberg (Sr. Programs Manager), Jeffery Glover (Programs Manager), Shira Fowlkes (Planning & Research Manager), Marissa Greif-Hackett (Director of Program Evaluation). She explained that this is Members' opportunity to shape CSC programming.

Mr. Glover highlighted HYT program area Goal 4.1, which is to improve life outcomes for transitioning dependent, delinquent, crossover, and LGBTQ youth, with a special focus on youth in foster care and/or non-traditional living arrangements. The desired outcome is for youth to have the skills and abilities to be productive adults. He explained that HYT was formerly known as Future Prep, which started in 2004 with around \$500,000 in funding. In 2016, it evolved into HYT with additional populations to be served and initial funding that started at

\$1,900,000 and is now up to \$4,084,848. There are currently eight HYT programs serving approximately 740 youth annually.

Mr. Glover highlighted CSC's HYT partnerships with The Jim Moran Foundation, Broward Behavioral Health Coalition (BBHC), FLITE Center, and H.O.M.E.S., Inc. Partnership with The Jim Moran Foundation began in 2007 and they currently contribute \$590,000 annual for Transitional Independent Living (TIL) youth through age 22. And since 2017, they have directly funded two of CSC's HYT providers to serve TIL participants ages 22-25.

The partnership with BBHC provides Transition to Independence Process (TIP) services to prevent youth from entering a higher-level of care. In 2016, TIP cohorts were started to train all HYT providers in an evidence-supported practice. He pointed out that two CSC Program Managers are certified trainers to ensure continuity of services in Broward under this format. TIP will be explained further later in the presentation.

CSC's partnership with the FLITE Center provides HYT youth with a one-stop resource center that provides housing and safe landing spaces, education support, navigation services, health care, and crisis intervention.

CSC's partnership with Housing Opportunities, Mortgage Assistance, & Neighborhood Solutions, Inc. (H.O.M.E.S.) provides employment eligibility assessment, employability skills training, and job placement coordination services to the TIL population 16-22 years of age residing at H.O.M.E.S. or within the community.

Ms. Wennberg highlighted the desired populations for the HYT Program, which include youth aging out of the foster care system, youth in non-adjudicated relative or non-relative care, youth involved in the juvenile justice system, youth who identify as LGBTQ+, and youth who are at risk of not graduating high school. She explained that HYT provides these youth with trauma-informed life coaching and counseling services.

Ms. Wennberg further outlined the Transition to Independence Process (TIP) Model, which is an evidence-supported practice for improving the progress and outcomes of youth and young adults with emotional and behavioral difficulties. She explained that it is a youth voice and youth choice model, and it provides Life Coaches with skills and a tool kit to help young people learn problem solving skills, mediation techniques, and how to create a vision for their future and understand the impact of their choices and behaviors. She added that it's the youth who are creating the vision for their lives and it's the life coaches who are helping the youth break those goals into attainable steps that help them realize their vision.

Ms. Wennberg highlighted HYT's service components: (1) Individual Youth Development, which includes independent living and life skills training, assessment and guidance, education and employment-related services, personal and social development, leadership development, mentoring, support, and follow-up; (2) Support/Coaching/Training Groups, which include group activities such as life skills classes and community-based cultural, educational, or recreational activities or events designed to teach life skills and foster independence; (3) Individual/Family Counseling, which focuses on youth risk/needs assessment, interpersonal relationships, family dynamics, self-esteem, communication, and victimization; (4) Group Counseling, which focuses on self-esteem, managing feelings, anxiety, grief, social skills, substance abuse, victimization, and other issues related to the youth in the group; (5) Housing Opportunities for Older Youth, which include independent living skills and issues related to finding and maintaining appropriate housing, coordinating affordable housing searches, providing supportive services to assist youth in their transition to living on their own, and implementing in-home instructional components that prepare youth to live in a clean, safe environment; (6) Enrichment & Family Bonding Activities, which include cultural, educational, and/or recreational activities designed to promote positive interaction between parents, caregivers, and other adults who provide natural supports to the youth; (7) Alumni Services, which include extended post-secondary opportunities for youth to stay connected to the program and receive additional support from caring adults who can assist them during times of insecurity and emotional turmoil; and (8) Wellness/Mindfulness Activities that strive to improve resiliency, emotional regulation, stress management, empathy, focus and concentration, as well as foster health, well-being, and a more positive outlook.

Ms. Wennberg listed the eight current HYT providers as Pace Center for Girls, Camelot Community Care, SunServe, Gulf Coast Jewish Family & Community Services, HANDY/HOMES, Harmony Development Center, Memorial Healthcare System, and Henderson Behavioral Health.

Dr. Greif-Hackett highlighted the HYT performance measures, which have consistently met or exceeded Council goals in the past three fiscal years. For FY 21/22, 96% of youth ages 15-19 did not become pregnant or cause a pregnancy, 95% of youth did not obtain any new law violations, 88% of youth demonstrated proficiency in employability and job retention skills, and 80% of youth made progress in school or post-secondary education, graduated or obtained a GED, and/or maintained employment.

Ms. Shira Fowlkes looked at what the research says in this area around LGBTQ+, mental health, and adult supports.

Discussion ensued amongst Members and staff.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer briefly discussed next steps for release of the HYT RFP early next year, with programs scheduled to start October 1, 2024.

XIII. Adjournment

ACTION: The meeting adjourned at 11:43 A.M. with a motion from Commissioner Furr and a second from Judge Davis.



Beam Furr, Secretary

ATTACHMENT 1

MEETING ATTENDEES (*denotes speaker)

Name	Organization
Emma Cregg*	Harvard University
Nikki Andrick	Planned Parenthood of South, East and North Florida
Kristine Perez-Carrion	Florida Introduces Physical Activity and Nutrition to Youth (FLIPANY)
Grace Ramos	The M Network
Alison Bregman-Rodriguez	YMCA of South Florida
KayTrina Allen	YMCA of South Florida
Mark Reyes	Urban League of Broward County
Monica King	Broward Healthy Start Coalition
Alice-Lydia Bird	YMCA of South Florida
Andy Fernandez	Firewall Centers
Shaymonica Jones	YMCA of South Florida
Susan Feldman	YMCA of South Florida
Izadora Isidore	Public Attendee
James Sahnger	Department of Health – Broward
Rachel Taylor	Firewall Centers, Inc.
TaiQuay Bogle	Broward College