

## CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF BROWARD COUNTY

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

June 15, 2023

9:30 A.M.

### Minutes

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

Judge Michael Davis; Broward County Commissioner Beam Furr; Governor Appointee David H. Kenton (*Chair*); DCF Community Development Administrator Dawn Liberta; Health Department Director Paula Thaqi; Governor Appointee Jeffrey S. Wood

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

Governor Appointee Cathy Donnelly; Governor Appointee Tom Powers School; Interim Superintendent Earlean C. Smiley; School Board Member Allen Zeman

#### **Counsel Present:**

Garry Johnson, Esq.

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

Cindy Arenberg Seltzer; Monti Larsen; Maria Juarez; Sharetta Remikie; Sue Gallagher; Michelle Hamilton; Dion Smith; Lisa Bayne; Amy Jacques; Marissa Aquino; Kyle Jones; Angie Buchter; Keyonia Lawson; Tracy Graham; Trisha Dowell, Lynn Kalmes; Madeline Jones; Clarice Horton; Michelle Hagues; Melissa Soza; Andria Dewson; Kandyss Torrence; Shira Fowlkes; Ivy Pierre; Betty Dominguez; Shaquoia Wilson; S. Lorenzo Benaine; Colleen Carpenter; Alexandra Lemoine; Jimmy Jean; Marlando Christie; Johnsingh Jeyasingh; Diego Alvarez; Ileana Blanco; Fern Phillip; Jessica Rincon; Katrina Welch Pooja Yajnik; Karen Franceschini; Ashley Cole; Tabitha Bush; Roxanne Smith; Florence Ukpai; Camila Romero; Brooke Sherman; Diane Choi; Jocelin Eubanks; Shawanda Spencer; Piper Weber; Ashley Brooks; Alexia Bridges; Jennifer Wennberg; Erin Byrne; Kimberlee Reid; Zoe Lewis; Natalie Gomes; Latora Steel; Meg Wallace; Carl Dasse; Travis Johnson; Gabi Tabib; Priscilla Cole

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

See Attachment 1

#### **Agenda:**

- I. Call to Order

Dr. Kenton called the meeting to order at 9:30 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 to allow the body and mind to settle and focus before considering the meeting agenda.

### b) May 2023 Council Minutes

**ACTION: Commissioner Furr made a motion to approve the May 18, 2023, Council meeting minutes, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Liberta and passed with no opposing votes.**

### c) Cancellation of July Meeting

**ACTION: Judge Davis made a motion to approve the cancellation of the July Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Thaqi and passed with no opposing votes.**

## IV. President's Report

### a) Good of the Order

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer drew Members' attention to the Agenda Addendum that contained the DCF IV-E Interagency Agreement Amendment and the Deferred Compensation Plan Merger Resolution. She shared the urgency of those two items and noted that they arose after the meeting packet had been distributed. She explained that the items will be considered in the usual place on the regular meeting agenda.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer shared that Dr. Sharetta Remikie (Chief Equity and Community Engagement Officer), Mr. Ken King (Director of Public Affairs and Organizational Development), and Council Member Liberta represented CSC at the Homeless Education Assistance Resource Team's (HEART) Senior Send-Off Celebration. Ms. Liberta highlighted the event, noting that graduating seniors registered in HEART for the 22/23 school year who are admitted to a post-secondary college/university or the armed forces received dorm essentials, a new laptop, and other items to alleviate some of the expenses associated with going off to college or the military. She also shared that four-year college scholarships were also presented to some of the students.



Ms. Grace Ramos, The M Network, congratulated CSC Broward for winning a Telly Award for the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary documentary. The Award was selected from 13,000 entries from all over the US, Europe and other countries. The Telly's are judged by a panel of more than 200 experts from the world's leading agencies. She read a message from Thom Mozloom, herself, and The M Network team. "Over the years that The M Network has been your agency, we have won many awards together. This one is a little more special to us. For The M Network, this documentary project was an intimate view of CSC Broward, not just the story of your history and the many people who helped from your organization, but also an intimate view of all the people who are continuing to fight the good fight for children and families here in Broward every day. In the process of creating this piece, my team was able to work with a whole host of people representing virtually every department in the organization. Some appeared on camera, most did not, all were an inspiration. This award recognizes excellence in a documentary film and video story telling. And while we are thrilled that we all received this honor, it pales in comparison to the real prize. The real prize is having the privilege of working with an organization with the depth, culture, and character of CSC Broward. At The M Network, we have a simple motto, 'We can do anything. We choose to do good.' Our partnership with CSC Broward embodies that good. Thank you for that opportunity."

Shantigra 'Shae' Williams (CSC Strategy Manager) received the National Diversity Council's 2023 Florida LGBTQ+ Leadership Award at the Unity Summit in June. Recipients of this award demonstrate leadership characteristics in the LGBTQ+ community/or high visibility in the LGBTQ+ community. They have facilitated award-winning support groups for the LGBTQ+ community and provided training to the community around exploring all aspects of one's identities, including with special needs adults and families. Additionally, they serve as the Board President for a local LGBTQ+ community church, completing volunteer and outreach for the community. And finally, Shae provides visibility in leadership for the LGBTQ+ community through public speaking at conferences, summits, and community panels.

Betty Dominguez (CSC Data Visualization & ADA Manager) received positive feedback from our national consultant for her ADA work with CSC's documents. Ms. Arenberg Seltzer read the positive feedback from his review of the CSC Budget Book.

Dr. Gallagher (Chief Innovation Officer) served as a panelist at the Florida Voices for Health Conference where she shared CSC's experiences with Community Participatory Action Research (CPAR). Nearly 100 advocates from across the state came together to share stories and strategies to

improve healthcare in the state, and a conversation was ignited on transparent and trauma-informed politicians and how as a society we might get to where everyone is trauma informed.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer shared that there was a speaker, Dr. Covington, at the Behavioral Health Conference who is doing work on trauma-informed evidence-based practices. CSC Broward is partnering with BBHC & the United Way on this and sent two individuals to a related conference in Minneapolis. As they all work together to get trauma-informed care infused into the systems of care, Ms. Arenberg Seltzer promised there would be more to come on this in the future.

Ms. Juarez (Chief Program Officer) and Ms. Cynthia Reynoso (Assistant Director for Public Affairs & Organizational Development) recently presented on CSC's Kinship programs at the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC) in Denver. They received very positive feedback from the attendees.

b) Legislative Update

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer noted that the Suicide Prevention bill, the Florida KidCare bill and the Provisional Childcare Licensing bill have been sent to the Governor, who must sign or veto them by June 27<sup>th</sup>.

c) Financial Disclosure Process/Deadline

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer highlighted the new electronic process for elected officials submitting required financial disclosure forms. She noted that those non-elected officials who complete Form 1 will do so via a hard copy this year, but next year they will transition over to the electronic process.

V. Joint Finance/PPC Report

Dr. Thaqi highlighted the recent joint meeting of the CSC Finance Committee and the Program Planning Committee.

a) Museum of Discovery Leverage Request for Aviation Academy

**ACTION: Commissioner Furr made a motion to approve the Museum of Discovery and Science Aviation Academy leverage request, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Thaqi and passed no opposing votes.**



b) Budget Follow-Up Appropriations

Dr. Thaqi highlighted the budget follow-up items that contained a potential financial impact. The two that had an impact at this time for consideration were food cost increases for all hunger contracts under the Economic Self-Sufficiency Goal and lifeguard certification scholarships under the Water Safety Goal.

**ACTION: Commissioner Furr made a motion to approve a 7.7% increase for food on all CSC hunger contracts, resulting in an additional \$51,191 as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Liberta and passed with no opposing votes.**

**ACTION: Commissioner Furr made a motion to approve the \$48,000 for the funding of lifeguard certification scholarships, as presented. The motion was seconded by Judge Davis and passed with no opposing votes and an abstention from Dr Thaqi, who submitted the attached Voting Conflict Form.**

c) Budget Retreat Follow-Up Information

Dr. Thaqi drew Members' attention to the budget follow-up items in the information packet that were solely additional information and did not contain any budgetary impact.

d) Millage Rate Scenarios

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer guided Members through different millage rate scenarios and pointed out that staff recommended a millage rate of 0.45. She shared that Dr. Zeman, during the Finance Committee meeting, expressed a strong desire to raise the millage rate to the cap of 0.5 in order to ensure that every low-income child in Broward had access to CSC-funded afterschool programs. She explained that currently CSC funded after school programs for those students in schools where 86% or more of the student population qualified for free and reduced lunch; however, she pointed out that there are pockets of need within schools that have a lower percentage of qualifying students. She noted that those schools should be providing scholarships to students in need from the sliding scale fees from the paying families. She further explained that CSC and BCPS staff are exploring ways to ensure student needs are met, such as exploring ways to piggyback on the BCPS RFP to provide individual vouchers. If that route was found to be feasible and effective, it would be a small pilot that would be able to begin in January.

Dr. Thaqi noted that while it was a worthy goal for every child to have access to after school care, it was also a worthy goal for every child to have access to child care and other numerous priorities that are as equally worthy. She felt that a pilot was the best way to proceed and she applauded the school system for exploring ways to increase their contribution.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer reminded Members that the millage rate they vote on today will be sent to the taxpayers. She explained that the Council will finalize that rate and the budget during the September public hearings, where they can always lower that rate, but cannot easily raise it.

e) Establish Tentative Budget & Millage Rate

i. Draft Tentative FY 23/24 Budget

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer pointed out that the budget considered at the May Retreat was the programmatic budget, while the budget under considered today also included the administrative budget. She highlighted the draft tentative FY 23/24 Budget, showing that the proposed 0.45 millage rate allows for programmatic and administrative increases.

**ACTION: Commissioner Furr made a motion to approve the Draft Tentative FY 23/24 Budget, as presented. The motion was seconded by Judge Davis and passed with no opposing votes.**

ii. Millage Rate

**ACTION: Commissioner Furr made a motion to approve the Tentative Millage Rate of 0.45 and authorize staff to adjust the budget based on the Property Appraiser's Final Report and submit the necessary forms to the appropriate officials, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Paula and passed with no opposing votes. Judge Davis is prohibited by statute from voting on the millage rate and did not participate in the voice vote.**

VI. Chief Program Officer (CPO) Report

Ms. Juarez highlighted the items under the CPO Report.

a) FY 22/23 ELC Vulnerable Population Child Care Contract Adjustment

**ACTION: Commissioner Furr made a motion to increase funding for ELC Vulnerable Population Childcare Contract, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wood and passed with no opposing**



**votes and an abstention from Ms. Liberta who submitted the attached voting conflict form.**

- b) Fiscal Sponsor Fees

**ACTION: Commissioner Furr made a motion to approve Fiscal Sponsor fees to various agencies, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Liberta and passed with no opposing votes.**

- c) DCF IV-E Interagency Agreement Amendment

**ACTION: Commissioner Furr made a motion to approve the DCF Interagency Agreement Amendment, as presented and contingent upon Legal Counsel review and approval. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wood and passed with no opposing votes and an abstention from Ms. Liberta, who submitted the attached voting conflict form.**

## VII. Chief Innovations Officer (CIO) Report

Dr. Gallagher highlighted the items under the CIO Report.

- a) A Little Help Never Hurt ABCD FY 22/23 Contract Amendment and FY 23/24 Contract Renewal & Increased Budget Allocation
- b) UPENN Subaward
- c) TIL Data Sharing Agreement

**ACTION: Commissioner Furr made a motion to approve A Little Help Never Hurt Contract Amendment for FY 22/23 and approve the Contract Renewal & Increased Budget Allocation for FY 23/24; approve the UPENN Subaward Agreement, pending final legal approval, and approve accepting revenue and related expenditures; and approve the Transitional Independent Living System of Care Data Sharing Agreement Renewal with two new partners, all as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Liberta and passed with no opposing votes.**

- d) Data Funders Collaborative Grant Application

Dr. Gallagher noted that CSC Broward submitted a grant application to fund additional CPAR work with its prevention services.

## VIII. Chief Equity & Community Engagement Officer (CECEO) Report

### Read for the Record Books

Dr. Remikie briefly highlighted this year's chosen Read for the Record book, *With Lots of Love*, by Jenny Torres Sanchez. The Read for the Record event will take place on October 26<sup>th</sup>.

**ACTION: Commissioner Furr made a motion to approve purchasing books from JumpStart for Broward: Read for the Record 2023, as presented. The motion was seconded by Judge Davis and passed with no opposing votes.**

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer noted that CSC had purchased 12,000 clear backpacks, with 8,000 of those to be filled with school supplies and distributed during Back-To-School Extravaganza events. While BCPS reversed their vote on clear backpacks, Ms. Arenberg Seltzer noted that CSC is working with art teachers for kids to personalize them and make them fun. She further explained that the additional 4,000 that was intended for the school office for when kids didn't comply could possibly be sold to local colleges that require clear backpacks for sporting events.

Both Judge Davis and Dr. Thaqi inquired as to whether CSC couldn't also purchase regular backpacks and give them both. Discussion ensued.

**ACTION: Dr. Thaqi made a motion to approve the purchase of regular backpacks. The motions was seconded by Judge Davis and passed with no opposing votes.**

Dr. Remikie noted that there are some backpacks left over from last year in the warehouse that could also be used.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer reported back at the end of the meeting that staff contacted the vendor, who agreed to switch out the 8,000 filled clear backpacks for 8,000 filled regular backpacks. She stated that CSC will try to re-sell the additional 4,000 clear backpacks.

## IX. Chief Operating Officer (COO) Report

Ms. Larsen highlighted the items under the COO Report

- a) May Budget Amendments & Interim Financial Statements
- b) May Statements for the Managed Fund



- c) Monthly/Annual Purchases
- d) Deferred Compensation Plan Merger Resolution

**ACTION: Commissioner Furr made a motion to approve the Budget Amendments and Interim Financial Statements for Period Ending May 31, 2023; to accept monthly statements for the Managed Fund from PFM and US Bank for May 2023; approve CSC monthly/annual purchases; and approve the Resolution to merge the Plan Administration and related balances in the Employee 457 Deferred Compensation Plan to the Florida Department of Financial Services, all as presented. The motion was seconded by Judge Davis and passed with no opposing votes.**

X. Broward Reads Coalition Report

Commissioner Furr briefly highlighted the last meeting of the Broward Reads Coalition. The meeting minutes will be included in the August Council packet.

XI. Agency Capacity Building Report

Mr. Wood asked Mr. Ken King (Director of Public Affairs and Organizational Development) to highlight the recent meeting of the Agency Capacity Building Committee, as he and Dr. Kenton were unable to attend that meeting. Mr. King proceeded to do so and drew Members' attention to the meeting minutes in the information packet.

XII. Funders Forum Report

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

XIII. Public Comment

There were none.

XIV. Council Members' Roundtable

Representatives from the Early Learning Coalition of Broward County presented on their quality initiatives. Ms. Arenberg Seltzer introduced Mr. Howard Bakalar (Chief Program Officer), Ms. Allison Metsch (Senior Director of Education & Quality Initiatives), and Ms. Debbie Kay (Quality & Education Manager – Inclusion).

XV. Adjournment

**ACTION:** The meeting adjourned at 11:19 A.M.

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Beam Furr, Secretary



## ATTACHMENT 1

### MEETING ATTENDEES (\*denotes speaker)

Name	Organization
Joe Cox	Museum of Discovery & Science
Meredith Feder	Museum of Discovery & Science
Lisa Clements	YMCA of South Florida
Alison Bregman-Rodriguez	YMCA of South Florida
Myrlaine Salter	N/A
Denissa Facey	Pembroke Pines Police Department
Lauren Fuentes	Children's Home Society of Florida
Christine Klima	Early Learning Coalition of Broward
Allison Metsch*	Early Learning Coalition of Broward
Howard Bakalar*	Early Learning Coalition of Broward
Debbie Kay*	Early Learning Coalition of Broward
Grace Ramos*	The M Network





**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, Paula Thaqi, hereby disclose that on June 15, 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, \_\_\_\_\_ ;
- inured to the special gain or loss of my relative, \_\_\_\_\_ ;
- inured to the special gain or loss of the Florida Department of Health in Broward County, 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:

**Agenda Item V.b., "Approve Budget Follow-Up Appropriations," was split into two actions, one of which was to fund \$48,000 in lifeguard certification scholarships through the Florida Department of Health in Broward County. As Director of the Florida Department of Health in Broward County, I abstained from voting on this action.**

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.

6/15/2023

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.**





**APPOINTED OFFICERS (continued)**

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

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- 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, Dawn Liberta, hereby disclose that on June 15, 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, \_\_\_\_\_ ;
- inured to the special gain or loss of my relative, \_\_\_\_\_ ;
- inured to the special gain or loss of Early Learning Coalition of Broward County, 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 VI.a. Approve FY 22/23 Early Learning Coalition Vulnerable Population Child Care Contract Adjustment, as I serve on the Board of the Early Learning Coalition.**

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.

June 15, 2023  
Date Filed

Dawn Liberta  
Signature

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## APPOINTED OFFICERS (continued)

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- 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, Dawn Liberta, hereby disclose that on June 15, 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, \_\_\_\_\_ ;
- inured to the special gain or loss of my relative, \_\_\_\_\_ ;
- inured to the special gain or loss of Department of Children & Families, 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:

**Out of an abundance of caution, I abstained from voting on Agenda Addendum Item VI.c. Approve DCF IV-E Interagency Agreement Amendment, contingent upon legal review and approval, due to a possible public perception of conflict since I am the Community Development Administrator (Circuit 17) for the Department of Children and Families.**

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.

June 15, 2023

Date Filed

Dawn Liberta  
Signature

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