

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

March 21, 2024

9:30 A.M.

Minutes

Council Members in Physical Attendance:

School Board Member Debra Hixon; Governor Appointee David H. Kenton (*Chair*); DCF Child Protection Director Robert Shea; Health Department Director Paula Thaqi; Judge Francis Viamontes

Council Members Absent:

Governor Appointee Cathy Donnelly; Broward County Commissioner Beam Furr; School Superintendent Peter B. Licata; Governor Appointee Jeffrey S. Wood

Counsel Present:

Garry Johnson, Esq.

Staff in Attendance:

Cindy Arenberg Seltzer; Monti Larsen; Sue Gallagher; Dion Smith; Lisa Bayne; Michelle Hamilton; Kathleen Campbell; Marissa Greif-Hackett; Carl Dasse; Amy Jacques; Angie Buchter; Tracy Graham; Jimmy Jean; Johnsingh Jeyasingh; Diego Alvarez; Fern Phillip; Nelson Giraldo; Jill Denis-Lay; Priscilla Cole; Julie Toscano; Cristina Castellanos; Jocelin Eubanks; Keyonia Lawson; Radoika Pilarte; Alexia Bridges; Ashley Cole; Astrid Cantos; Erin Byrne; Ileana Blanco; Jonathan Corado; Lynn Kalmes; Shantigra "Shae" Williams; Trisha Dowell; Michelle Hagues; Jessica Rincon; Karen Franceschini; Ivy Pierre; Melissa Soza; Madeline Jones; Nicolette Picardi; Kimberlee Reid; Camila Romero; Alexandra Lemoine; Mina Razavi; Shira Fowlkes; Marissa Aquino; Kyle Jones; Latora Steel; Zinajen De Oliveira; Liza Khan; Roxanne Smith; Valencia McConnico-Bell; Marlando Christie; Silke Angulo; Akil Edwards; Diane Choi; Betty Dominguez; Florence Ukpai; Natalie Gomes; Brooke Sherman; S. Lorenzo Benaine; Tabitha Bush; Jennifer Wennberg; Jennifer Fletcher; Cecil Arbiza-Rivera; Judy Jones; Maxine Goldson; Erika Ansley; Travis Johnson; Ashley Brooks; Gabi Tabib; Carlos Campos; Nancy Adjohan; Maya Berryhill-Porter

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 to allow the body and mind to settle and focus before considering the meeting agenda items.

Dr. Kenton thanked Mr. Dennis Miles for his service on the Council as the DCF representative.

Dr. Kenton welcomed the new DCF representative, Mr. Robert Shea, to the Council and presented him with a CSC pin.

b) Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

Dr. Kenton acknowledged Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month as an annual campaign to highlight how people with and without disabilities come together to form strong communities. It raises awareness of the inclusion and contributions of people with developmental disabilities. He noted that the theme this year is a "A World of Opportunities," focusing on people working together to remove obstacles to building communities where everyone can do well and succeed.

As a testament to CSC's work and worth in this area, Ms. Arenberg Seltzer read an email from a CSC staff member highlighting the value and showing appreciation for CSC-funded programs she and her daughter with special needs participated in when she first moved to Broward. She noted that through the support of CSC-funded providers, she was able to provide a new world for herself and her daughter and now has her dream job at CSC.

c) Women's History Month

Dr. Kenton also acknowledged March as Women's History Month, a time to commemorate and encourage the study, observance, and celebration of the vital roles of women in American history. He noted that this year's theme is "Women Who Advocate for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion." He

recognized Dr. Sue Gallagher, CSC's Chief Innovation Officer, who was recently honored by the Broward County Commission on the Status of Women as one of 14 women who exemplify this year's theme. He noted that the honorees will be featured throughout March in an exhibit in the lobby of the Governmental Center and can also be viewed on the Commission's website.

d) Government Finance Professionals Week

Dr. Kenton noted that this week is Florida Government Finance Professionals Week, a weeklong series of activities aimed at recognizing government finance professionals and the vital services they provide for local government and the community in which they serve. During this week, government finance professionals throughout the state will be recognized and acknowledged for their hard work, dedication, and leadership. He acknowledged and thanked CSC's finance professionals for their dedicated work, reading the names of each one: Monti Larsen, Kathleen Campbell, Alicia Williams, Diego Alvarez, Lynn Kalmes, Kyle Jones, Judy Jones, Carlos Campos, Mina Razavi, Maxine Goldson, Ileana Blanco, Anne-Alexandra Lemoine, Clarice Horton, Silke Angulo, Valencia McConnico-Bell, Cecil Arbiza-Rivera, Ivy Pierre, and Pooja K. Yajnik.

e) February 15, 2024, Council Minutes

ACTION: Dr. Thaqi made a motion to approve the Council meeting minutes from February 15, 2024, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hixon and passed with no opposing votes.

IV. President's Report

Good of the Order

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer highlighted the recent Girls Coordinating Council's Self-Care Queen for a Day event, noting that the girls learned a lot about self-care. She also pointed out that a new Committee participant provided food for the day.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer highlighted the recent United Way's National Addiction Solutions Summit, where she and Ms. Hixon served as panelists on the Prevention Strategies Panel. The Summit, which provided a framework for how communities can treat and address addiction, was moderated by Dr. Stephen Loyd, the inspiration behind the Netflix series "Dope Sick."

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer and Dr. Kenton presented the Children's Services Council of Broward County Collective Impact for Youth Award to the David Posnack Jewish Community Center at the recent 2-1-1 Non-Profit Awards Luncheon.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer highlighted the recent Volta Music Foundation Afterschool Student Showcase held at the Pompano Beach Amphitheater. She reminded Members that CSC provides leverage funds to the Foundation to provide violin lessons to children after school. Members have seen the progression of the students from learning on cardboard violins to graduating to real violins to now performing in a community recital. She pointed out that the program has obtained more leverage and may be coming back to the Council to grow the program.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer highlighted activities of the Broward AWARE! Campaign, a comprehensive awareness initiative designed to promote child safety and wellbeing. On March 2nd, CSC supported Broward Healthy Starts “A Day for Families” at St. George Community Park in Lauderhill. The day included food distribution, a family resources fair, and entertainment. The event’s cornerstone was the participants’ graduation from the Healthy Families Broward Parenting Program. She added that the Broward AWARE! Family Resource Fair is coming up in April.

CSC had a small but mighty team for the Chris Hixon Memorial Run/Walk, including volunteers at the water station. Proceeds support the Chris Hixon Athletic Scholarship Foundation to provide scholarships for student-athletes. She commended Amy Jacques for her efforts in leading the team.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer read an email from Gilda’s Club South Florida that showed the incredible results from a CSC Capacity Grant. They thanked the Council for stepping outside of the norm to support a feasibility study to determine their capability to conduct a capital campaign. As a result of that Grant, they are two weeks away from completing final inspections and renovations on a bigger building and will be able to pay off the mortgage by the end of the fiscal year. She outlined the changes that were able to take place, including moving from a 4,000 square ft. house to a 15,000 square ft. building that provides multi-service cancer care, growing from a staff of 8 to 13 full-time staff and 20 contract workers, serving 3,300 individuals last year and serving even more this year, increasing the operating budget from \$825,000 in 2016 to \$1,760,000 plus capital campaign revenues, and raising over \$4 million plus \$1.75 million on the sale of their former building to renovate the building and pay off the mortgage.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer will be honored next week by SunServe with the Dr. James Lopresti Visionary Award. She read an excerpt from the announcement letter that stated, “In honor of your remarkable dedication and twenty-four years of unwavering leadership at the Children’s Services Council of Broward County, we are privileged to honor you with the ‘Dr. James Lopresti Visionary Award.’ This accolade is a testament to your exceptional contributions and perfectly reflects our commitment to championing and enhancing the lives of the most vulnerable members within our communities, especially our young LGBTQ+ identified

individuals.” Ms. Arenberg Seltzer pointed out that this award is not really for her, but for the Council for its vision and commitment to all children of Broward County.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer announced that CSC is once again a finalist for the Sun-Sentinel Top Workplace Award. The award, which will be announced in May, is based on staff surveys.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer congratulated Colleen Carpenter upon her retirement and thanked her for 22 years of dedicated service to the Children’s Services Council of Broward County. She described her as an amazing, wonderful woman who served as a backbone for CSC, filling in and providing support wherever needed with a strong passion and commitment for Broward’s children and families.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer congratulated Judy Jones upon her retirement and thanked her for 18 years of dedicated service to the Children’s Services Council of Broward County. She described her as a wonderful and beautiful person who provided facility support and handled all purchasing and travel arrangements for all employees starting from when CSC was a small organization to current times with 95 employees. She took great care of her co-workers and the CSC building and she will be terribly missed.

V. Finance Committee Report

Dr. Thaqi briefly highlighted the recent meeting of the Finance Committee.

a) Auditor’s Report & Draft Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR)

Mr. Israel Gomez, a Certified Public Accountant with Keefe McCullough, highlighted items from the draft ACFR. He stated that CSC received an unmodified opinion, with no material weaknesses, no deficiencies, and no findings or recommendations. He added that all policies are up to date and based on standards and that there were no disagreements or difficulties with management before, during or after the audit.

Dr. Thaqi noted that it’s fitting to receive the Auditor’s Report during Government Finance Professionals Week. She added that we have come to take a clean opinion for granted and that CSC’s finance professionals should be celebrated every week.

ACTION: Ms. Hixon made a motion to accept the Auditor’s Report for FY Ending September 30, 2023, and approve the ACFR for FY Ending September 30, 2023, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Thaqi and passed with no opposing votes.

b) Managed Fund Quarterly Report

ACTION: Dr. Thaqi made a motion to accept the Managed Fund Quarterly Performance Report for period ended December 31, 2023, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hixon and passed with no opposing votes.

c) Building Fund Commitment

Dr. Kenton asked the Office Space Committee to convene to explore the needs and options for the next steps. He noted that current Committee members are Beam Furr (Committee Chair), Cathy Donnelly, and Jeff Wood. He sought interest from any other Members and appointed Judge Viamontes to the Committee.

ACTION: Ms. Hixon made a motion to approve committing additional Fund Balance as reserved for the Building Fund to prepare for future growth, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Thaqi and passed with no opposing votes.

VI. Program Planning Committee (PPC) Report

Dr. Kenton highlighted the recent meeting of the PPC.

a) Broward Children's Strategic Plan Funding Policy and Guidelines

ACTION: Ms. Hixon made a motion to approve the Broward Children's Strategic Plan Funding Policy and Guidelines, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Thaqi and passed with no opposing votes.

b) FLIPANY Leverage Request for the Broward UP Promise Neighborhood Project

ACTION: Dr. Thaqi made a motion to approve FLIPANY's leverage request for the Broward UP Promise Neighborhood Project, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hixon and passed with no opposing votes.

VII. Chief Program Officer Report

Amended Interagency Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act Agreement (CAPTA) with the Children's Diagnostic & Treatment Center

ACTION: Judge Viamontes made a motion to approve the amended CAPTA Agreement and Data Sharing Agreement with the Children's Diagnostic &

Treatment Center, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hixon and passed with no opposing votes.

VIII. Chief Innovation Officer Report

a) Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) Research

Dr. Gallagher highlighted research being conducted on a CSC-funded evidenced-based prevention program provided by JAFCO. Further information is provided in the March Council packet.

b) Broward Integrated Data Systems and Consent Management Update

Dr. Gallagher gave an update on the latest Community Participatory Action Research (CPAR) project focusing on youth and family experiences with the Broward Baker Act system. That project created a pathway of communication for when a young person enters a Baker Act facility. Through that work came an opportunity to create a consent form that was co-designed with support from CSC's Legal Counsel, Garry Johnson; Broward Behavioral Health Coalition's Legal Counsel, Julie Klahr; and ChildNet's Legal Counsel, Shawna Thomas. Their work caught the national attention of Stewards of Change, an organization interested in person-centered consent, where an individual knows where their data is going and can revoke consent at any point. Dr. Gallagher and Ms. Klahr were invited by Stewards of Change to participate in their workshop in Orlando to share their work on the consent form. She stated that, hopefully, these opportunities and attention will lead to resources to help with implementation.

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

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer briefly highlighted the items under the CECEO Report.

a) Family Resource Guides

b) Back-to-School Extravaganza (BTSE)

c) South Florida Hunger Coalition's Mobile School Pantry Program Budget

ACTION: Dr. Thaqi made a motion to approve passthrough revenue and related expenditures from the Early Learning Coalition (ELC) to Kessler Creative for the 2024/25 Family Resource Guide, approve ancillary purchases for the 2024 BTSE, and approve an increase in South Florida Hunger Coalition's Mobile School Pantry Program Budget, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hixon and passed with no opposing votes.

d) Legislative Update

Mr. Nicholas Hessing, Government Affairs Manager, highlighted key aspects of the 2024 Legislative Session. He noted that 324 bills passed both Chambers and that a \$117.4 billion budget was approved. The budget is now headed to the Governor's desk, where he has line-item veto power. The budget takes effect on July 1, 2024. Additional details on the budget and specific bills related to children and families are contained within the March meeting information packet.

X. Chief Operating Officer (COO) Report

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

- a) Insurance Broker/Agent Services Award
- b) Budget Amendments and Interim Financial Statements
- c) Monthly Statements for the Managed Fund
- d) Monthly Purchases

Ms. Larsen and Dr. Gallagher pointed out a vendor change in Purchases, with the Journey Institute, Inc., replacing the Florida Association of Infant Mental Health as the vendor under Program Related Purchases for the Children's Mental Health Awareness event.

ACTION: Ms. Hixon made a motion to approve the Rating Committee selection of Brown and Brown for Employee Benefits, and Marsh McLennan for Risk Management to provide Insurance Broker/Agent Services; approve Budget Amendments and Interim Financial Statements for the period ending February 29, 2024; accept the monthly statements for the Managed Fund from PFM and US Bank for February 2024; approve the CSC Monthly Purchases with the substitution of the Journey Institute, Inc., for the Florida Association of Infant Mental Health, all as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Thaqi and passed with no opposing votes.

XI. Agency Capacity Building Committee Report

Dr. Kenton highlighted the recent Agency Capacity Building Committee meeting and referred Members to the meeting minutes in the information packet.

XII. Funders Forum Report

Ms. Juarez referred Members to the recent meeting minutes in the information packet.

XIII. Public Comment

There were none.

XIV. Council Members' Roundtable

Council members and the public were instructed on the equipment and process for simultaneous interpretation, which is used by the Hollywood Civic Design Team to ensure full participation of non-English speaking partners.

Dr. Carl Dasse, CSC's Director of Community Research and Partnering, explained the concept of Asset Based Community Development (ABCD), which is to change the narrative, transform relationships, and enhance social networks. ABCD establishes a proactive, resourced infrastructure to support long-term, mutually transformative, healing, and generative relationships between the community and the organizations/systems providing human services in Broward County. The infrastructure advances and promotes community leadership, trusting relationships, and partnership systems. He pointed out that CSC has about \$150,000 invested in ABCD initiatives, with Community Connectors, known as Civic Design Teams, in the City of Fort Lauderdale (District 3), the City of Hollywood (District 6), and the City of Lauderhill (District 2).

He introduced Melissa P. Dunn, City of Lauderhill Commissioner, who shared the City of Lauderhill's experience with ABCD. She thanked the Council for choosing the City of Lauderhill as one of the first pilot sites, which allowed them to engage their residents in a new, more hands-on, interactive way. Their project is called the Lauderhill Health and Prosperity Partnership, of which CSC is a Founding Co-Chair, and it includes about 180 stakeholders comprised of residents, youth, seniors, non-profits, faith-based organizations, and City staff who work hand in hand to address the social determinants of health in the City of Lauderhill. The ABCD process is an anchor foundation for them. She explained that after seeing the success of the CSC-funded pilot in the first two neighborhoods, the City then expanded into two additional neighborhoods using the same pilot model and ABCD as a foundational steppingstone to build trust and address some of the challenges. She explained that through the project, residents can build relationships with city staff and communicate their vision and needs for their neighborhood. She stated the new project's intention is to build trust the first year, bring in partners to address poor economic mobility in the second year, and implement strategies to reduce community violence and address ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences) throughout the process. She also pointed out that they

use this project to create skill-building for the Civic Design Team and that Team members will be working with CareerSource Broward for opportunities related to employment mobility. Commissioner Dunn thanked CSC for planting the seed and shared her vision of demonstrating through their ABCD projects that providing on-the-ground support not only decreases the incidents of violence but also increases educational attainment, reduces poor health outcomes, and ultimately improves the quality of life for children and families. She expressed her hope to be able to expand this work to other neighborhoods in Lauderhill with similar outcomes.

Members viewed a video message from City of Hollywood Commissioner Idelma Quintana, who highlighted the value of ABCD in Hollywood. She spoke to the fact that the ABCD model emphasizes community members having a direct say and impact on what happens in their community. She especially appreciated the fact that they are engaging residents who have not been engaged for so long due to language barriers. She pointed out that when we create a solid community, we are creating a community that is safe for children to grow to their highest potential.

Ms. Veronica Boyd, Lauderhill Civic Design Team and ABCD Fellow, highlighted the ABCD work in the City of Lauderhill over the past two years, with 13 neighborhood projects implemented by residents of the Broward Estates, St. George, and West Ken Lark neighborhoods. Through those projects, over 1,600 residents have either participated, attended, or directly benefited. The project began with listening campaigns, asset mapping & connecting, and participatory budgeting. She thanked and acknowledged the support of the City of Lauderhill with their projects.

Ms. Elsa Garcia, Hollywood Civic Design Team and ABCD Fellow, expressed thankfulness for being allowed to speak in her native tongue and highlighted the ABCD work being conducted in District 6 in Hollywood with Commissioner Quintana. She discussed their listening campaigns, asset mapping, the connecting of resources, and using their gifts for the betterment of their community. She thanked Commissioner Quintana for her time with the Hollywood Connectors.

Ms. Tiffany Lockhart, Fort Lauderdale Civic Design Team and ABCD Fellow, highlighted the ABCD work in Fort Lauderdale, which featured listening campaigns, asset mapping & connecting, and participatory budgeting. She pointed out a different approach to the listening campaigns this year, where they chose to attend already established events to hear from residents, such as the Sistrunk Festival and the upcoming Broward AWARE! Family Fun & Resource Fair.

Dr. Dasse introduced Kamalah Fletcher, President/CEO of A Little Help Never Hurt, which is the ABCD contract provider. He explained that they are funded by CSC to provide administrative support, facilitation, and coaching services, including the Community Connector stipends and Community Mini Grant support. In addition, they help educate Civic Design Team members in the ABCD process, which is really learning about the gifts of the head, heart, and hands.

Ms. Fletcher explained the concept of ABCD and shared the most significant learnings from their work:

Create environments to connect and develop relationships at the speed of trust.

Shift how we talk about communities and zip codes to asset based/gift rich places and how we talk with one another through an asset mindset.

Growing longer-term relationships between community members and cities/funders/service providers to mutually inform the community, procurements, community collaborations, advocacy, and policy.

Joyful relationship development and labor to remove barriers and create new possibilities.

Dr. Sue Gallagher, CSC's Chief Innovation Officer, explained CSC's relationship with this project through its journey to create structures that promote equity, engagement, relationship building, and trust building. She pointed out that ABCD is an international framework to engage the community from a strength-based and asset-based perspective, and that the Council has been committed to create longer-term relationships to change the narrative and partner with communities.

She explained it as partnering in new ways. Instead of asking about needs and saying how we're going to fix it, we now ask about the community's gifts and assets and weave them into the design of the Council's investment in that community. She described it as building an opportunity for partnership to inform policies and practices, using relationships in ways that activate community members and support community members in developing the wellbeing of their own communities to partner in some of CSC's system and institutional work. It's a mechanism to build relationships so that the fabric becomes available to the systems and institutions so that we can truly partner and overcome the history of mistrust that we know keeps us apart in our communities. Dr. Dasse added that Ms. Garcia, from the Hollywood Civic Design Team, shared with him that the beauty of ABCD is that it allows adults to teach children how to build the community they want, which is the mission of the CSC.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer further explained that CSC had been the catalyst with the two original ABCD pilots, received great feedback and evidence of its effectiveness, and expanded it further this year and possibly next year. But as

true for many things that CSC has seeded, she added that it has spread out to other funders who are now working with cities and communities to further the ABCD work we started and tested, similar to how CSC infused Results Based Accountability into the community. She concluded that hopefully, now, ABCD will become a normal way of doing business in Broward County – doing *with* communities and not *to* communities.

XV. Adjournment

ACTION: The meeting adjourned at 11:52 A.M. with a motion from Dr. Thaqi and a second from Judge Viamontes.



Beam Furr, Secretary

ATTACHMENT 1

MEETING ATTENDEES (*denotes speaker)

Name	Organization
Traci Schweitzer	Department of Children and Families
Grace Ramos	The M Network
Mark Reyes	Urban League of Broward County
Lynne Kunins	FLIPANY
Genet Stewart	Children's Board of Hillsborough County
Denissa Facey	Pembroke Pines Police Department
Nikki Andrick	Planned Parenthood of South, East and North Florida (PPSENFL)
Hue Williams	Public
Zeina Zein	Mobile School Pantry
Catherine Lievano	Pembroke Pines Police Department
Joselin Padron-Rasines	Mobile School Pantry
Jolene Mullins	South Florida Hunger Coalition
Israel Gomez*	Keefe McCullough
Kamalah Fletcher*	A Little Help Never Hurt
Veronica Boyd*	Lauderhill Civic Design Team
Melissa P. Dunn*	Lauderhill Commissioner
Elsa Garcia*	Hollywood Civic Design Team
Tiffany Lockhart*	Fort Lauderdale Civic Design Team