

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

January 15, 2026

9:30 A.M.

Minutes

Council Members in Physical Attendance:

Judge Lauren M. Alperstein, School Superintendent Howard Hepburn, School Board Member Debra Hixon, Broward County Commissioner Nan Rich, DCF Child Protection Director Robert Shea, Health Department Director Paula Thaqi, Governor Appointee Christine Thompson, Governor Appointee Jeffrey S. Wood (*Chair*)

Council Members Virtual Attendance:

Governor Appointee Alyssa Foganholi, Governor Appointee Julia Musella

Counsel Present:

Garry Johnson, Esq.

Staff in Attendance:

Cindy Arenberg Seltzer (President/CEO), David Kenton, Maria Juarez, Sue Gallagher, Sharetta Remikie, Michelle Hamilton, Dion Smith, Lisa Bayne, Marlando Christie, Ken King, Marissa Greif-Hackett, Kathleen Campbell, Alicia Williams, Carl Dasse, Kimberly Adams Goulbourne, Amy Jacques, Angie Buchter, Tracy Graham, Nelson Giraldo, Johnsingh Jeyasingh, Jimmy Jean, Akil Edwards, Liza Khan, Keyonia Lawson, Michelle Hagues-Fullwood, Trisha Dowell, Jennifer Wennberg, Ashley Cole, Felina Rosales-Furer, Pooja Yajnik, Shira Fowlkes, Brooke Sherman, Leslie Saca, Dianne Choi, Jheanelle Henry, TaiQuay Bogle, Melissa Soza, Julie Toscano, Shaquoia Wilson, Natalie M. Gomes, Jill Denis-Lay, Demetria Rawls, Arturo Parham, Shawanda Spencer, Deidre-Ann Burrell, Julie-Ann Waweru, Roxanne Smith, Camila Mathieson, Madeline Jones, Amber Gross, Astrid Cantos, Erin Byrne, Florence Ukpai, S. Lorenzo Benaine, Horace Summers, Kim Reid, Janine DeLeon, Marissa Aquino, Gabi Tabib, Latora Steel, Ivy Pierre, Alexia Bridges, Carlos Campos, Diego Alvarez, Jessica Rincon, Fern Phillip, Silke Angulo, Lynn Kalmes, Cristina Castellanos, Alexandra Lemoine, Karen Franceschini, Shaquoia Wilson, Tabitha Bush, Rhonda Morrison, Ashley Brooks, Maya Berryhill-Porter, Radoika Pilarte, Maryanne Rodriguez, Ileana Blanco, Nicolette Picardi, Valencia McConnico-Bell, Kandyss Torrence, Andria Dewson, Mina Razavi, Gaby Carbonell, Jonathan Corado, Trisha H., Yolanda Meadows

Guests in Attendance:

See Attachment 1

Agenda:

I. Call to Order

Chair Jeffrey S. Wood called the meeting to order at 9:36 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 their bodies and minds to settle and focus before considering the meeting agenda items.

b) Welcome Judge Alperstein

Mr. Wood welcomed the Council's newest judicial representative, Judge Lauren M. Alperstein. She was presented with a CSC pin.

Judge Alperstein stated that it is an honor to serve on the Council. She briefly introduced herself as the Chair of the Family Law Division for the 17th Judicial Circuit, noting that she was elected in August 2022 and that she was previously a family law practitioner in Hollywood, Florida, where she was born and raised.

c) State of the CSC

Mr. Wood delivered the State of the CSC, noting that it has been a year defined by real progress, real partnerships, and real impact for Broward County's children and families. He shared that CSC continues to invest in what works: high-quality aftercare and summer programs, expanding behavioral health supports, stronger family assistance services, and initiatives that keep children safe, engaged, and ready to learn. He explained that these programs reach tens of thousands of young people, improving school readiness, increasing access to mental health resources, and reducing barriers to food, care, and stability. He was especially proud of CSC's investment in emerging grassroots non-profits, especially those serving children with special needs, youth with disabilities, and families who have historically lacked access to consistent support.

He stated that, most importantly, CSC remains a responsible steward of public funds, committed to transparency, accountability, and strategic investment that delivers results. He concluded that together, we are building a Broward where every child, regardless of zip code, ability, or circumstance, has the opportunity to thrive.

d) Council Minutes November 20, 2025

ACTION: Senator Rich made a motion to approve the Council meeting minutes from November 20, 2025, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hixon and passed with no opposing votes.

IV. Election of Officers

a) Nominations from the Floor for Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary

CSC Attorney Garry Johnson noted that the current slate of officers is eligible for one more year of service in their current positions, if they are willing. Chair Wood, Vice Chair Thompson, and Secretary Rich expressed a willingness to serve another year in their current positions.

ACTION: Dr. Thaqi made a motion to move the current slate of officers for another term. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hixon and passed with no opposing votes.

b) Committee Assignments

ACTION: Committee Assignments remained the same for 2026, except for the addition of Judge Alperstein to the CSC Program Planning Committee (PPC) and the Bylaws Committee, Mr. Shea to the CSC Office Space Committee, and Ms. Foganholi to the Broward Reads Coalition.

V. President's Report

a) Good of the Order

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer highlighted CSC's participation in the Broward County Schools Showcase at the Amerant Bank Arena, where outreach staff shared CSC resources with Broward parents and students.

CSC staff also participated in several holiday events throughout the County, including the Broward Healthy Start Coalition's 6th Annual Hope for the Holidays and the African-American Research Library & Cultural Center's Soulful Christmas Community Celebration. CSC distributed children's books at both events.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer highlighted the upcoming Broward: Read for the Record national event on February 6th. Members viewed a promotional video and were encouraged to sign up through www.handsonsouthflorida.org.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer announced that CSC's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for FY Ended September 30, 2024, has earned the Government Finance Officers Association's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. She explained that this is the highest form of recognition in

governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management. CSC has won this prestigious award every year since we began. Kathleen Campbell and her team are picking up the mantle from Monti Larsen.

b) Promise Neighborhood Update

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer shared that FAU, the lead agency on the Promise Neighborhood Grant, had received confirmation from the Federal Government that the Grant would be renewed. Staff are proceeding with the execution of the Grant program contracts, as approved since the contingency of the Grant's renewal by the Council at the November Council meeting was met.

c) Legislative Update

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer briefly highlighted the various property tax proposals circulating during the legislative session and noted that the Governor has indicated he will call a Special Session on property taxes after the legislative session. She pointed out that these tax proposals would affect the CSC's operations, since its voter-approved funding comes from property taxes, and that if all property taxes were eliminated, the CSC would essentially be eliminated. She shared that she and Chair Wood are headed to Tallahassee at the end of January for Broward Days and the FACCT Legislative Fly-In, which are occurring at the same time, where they will meet with elected officials to share CSC's impact on Broward's children and families.

d) President/CEO Evaluation Process

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer outlined the process for her annual evaluation, noting that Members should receive her self-evaluation and the evaluation survey tool this week, with the Executive Committee meeting on February 5th or 6th to review the results and make recommendations to the full Council for consideration at the February 19th Council meeting.

VI. Chief Program Officer (CPO) Report

Ms. Juarez briefly highlighted the items under the CPO Report, as presented in the meeting information packet.

a) MOST Summer-Only Contract Renewals

Ms. Juarez noted that the Memorial Healthcare System Summer-Only Contract renewal should include the contingency that they obtain the license to operate for 2026.

ACTION: Ms. Hixon made a motion to approve MOST Summer-Only Inclusion and Special Needs Summer-Only Contract renewals, as presented, with the contingency for Memorial Healthcare System that they obtain the license to operate for 2026. The motion was seconded by Senator Rich and passed with no opposing votes.

b) Mental Health Worker Trainer

ACTION: Ms. Hixon made a motion to approve Tiffany Lawrence of United Community Partners, LLC., for the facilitation of three 30-hour Community Mental Health Worker training and Learning Communities in FY 25/26. The motion was seconded by Dr. Thompson and passed with no opposing votes.

VII. Chief Innovation Officer Report

Dr. Gallagher previewed the upcoming roundtable on the Annual Performance Report (APR), commending the Directors and all staff for their committed efforts. She highlighted the evolution of the APR, including measuring data integrity, adding Results Based Accountability (RBA), utilizing Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-compliant visualization, and emphasizing data stories. She explained that this deeper analysis improves the effectiveness of CSC-funded programs and their outcomes for Broward's children and families.

VIII. Chief Public Affairs Officer (CPAO) Report

Dr. Remikie briefly highlighted the items under the CPAO Report, as presented in the meeting information packet.

a) CSC Summit Event Planner

ACTION: Ms. Hixon made a motion to approve selection and funding for the Agency Ally as the 2027 Summit event planner, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hepburn and passed with no opposing votes.

b) Non-Renewal of the Broward Education Foundation (BEF) Senior Send-Off Contract

Senator Rich expressed disappointment in the non-renewal, as she felt it was a great initiative of significant value to the students and community.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer explained that the HEART initiative continues, but that BEF had indicated in 2025 that it would be its final year of investment in the HEART "Senior Send Off" initiative. Since CSC's funding was a match to BEF's funding, the current contract cannot be renewed. But she gave assurance that CSC staff will continue to work with the HEART program to identify alternative partners that

could serve as match to CSC funds and that the money will remain in the CSC budget goal to be available if another partner is identified. She expressed hope of bringing something back to the Council. Senator Rich urged her to try to put this back in place, if at all possible.

ACTION: Senator Rich made a motion to approve non-renewal of BEF's HEART Senior Send-Off Contract, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Thompson and passed with no opposing votes.

IX. Chief Operating Officer (COO) Report

Dr. Kenton briefly highlighted the items under the COO Report.

a) Budget Amendments and Preliminary Financial Statements

ACTION: Ms. Hixon made a motion to approve the Budget Amendments and Interim Financial Statements for the First Quarter Ending December 31, 2025, as presented. The motion was seconded by Senator Rich and passed with no opposing votes.

b) Managed Fund Monthly Statements

ACTION: Ms. Hixon made a motion to accept the monthly statements for the Managed Fund from PFM and US Bank for December 31, 2025, as presented. The motion was seconded by Senator Rich and passed with no opposing votes.

c) CSC Purchases

ACTION: Ms. Hixon made a motion to approve the CSC monthly purchases, as presented and minus the two Junior Achievement items. The motion was seconded by Dr. Thompson and passed with no opposing votes.

ACTION: Ms. Hixon made a motion to approve the two Junior Achievement items in the Purchases. The motion was seconded by Senator Rich and passed with no opposing votes and an abstention from Dr. Hepburn, who submitted the attached voting conflict form.

X. Broward Reads Coalition Meeting Report

Senator Rich briefly highlighted the recent meeting of the Broward Reads Coalition and referred Members to the minutes in the information packet. She noted the incredible collaboration and commended all participating organizations and agencies, including the many cities. The next meeting is February 4th.

XI. Funders Forum Meeting Report

Ms. Juarez briefly highlighted the December 5th meeting of the Funders Forum and referred Members to the minutes in the information packet. She noted that the organization for attendee Suzette Fleischmann has been corrected to reflect the United Way.

XII. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

XIII. Council Members' Roundtable

CSC staff led a roundtable highlighting the FY 24/25 Annual Report and FY 24/25 Annual Performance Report (APR).

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer introduced staff and outlined the budget visioning process that begins next month with a review of the APR information and data stories, as well as looking at community concerns and needs arising from the Broward Partnerships for Kids committees. She explained that all of that information informs the May Budget Retreat's budget book, which utilizes RBA, looking at how much did we do, how well did we do it, and is anybody better off.

Mr. Ken King (CSC's Director of Public Affairs and Organizational Development) highlighted the FY 24/25 Annual Report, which serves as a companion summary to the FY 24/25 APR. The FY 24/25 Annual Report theme was "Connecting Community. Empowering Families." He showcased some new features, including return on investment information, the use of embedded QR codes, and a network of additional CSC publications that may be of interest. He also pointed out other annual features, including the program services budget by goal, the FY 24/25 Financial Report, children and families served by zip code, and the CSC-funded agencies & programs.

Dr. Marissa Greif-Hackett (Director of Program Evaluation) introduced the APR, noting that it is a historical memorialization of everything CSC and its providers have accomplished that fiscal year. She recognized all staff's involvement in the Report, but she gave special thanks to the production team: Betty Dominguez (ADA Manager), who assisted with the overall construction of the book and the graphic design; Travis Johnson (Assistant Director of Research & Planning) and Ashley Cole (Assistant Director of Research & Evaluation), Astrid Cantos (Data Specialist), and the Executive Assistants who assisted with edits and reviews of the document.

Mr. Dion Smith and Ms. Lisa Bayne (CSC's Directors of Program Services) summarized the programmatic performance review process that contributed to the APR, including a holistic review of individual programs, program areas, and systems of care. The programmatic reviews feeding into the APR include information on site

visits and service observations, enrollment, client retention, program implementation and fidelity to model and/or contract requirements, and client satisfaction surveys. They also outlined the programmatic themes and trends gleaned from this year's programmatic analysis, including the continued need for community awareness of programs and staff recruitment and retention challenges.

Ms. Kathleen Campbell (CSC's Director of Finance) summarized the financial and administrative review process that ensures compliance with the contract's requirements and the effective and efficient use of taxpayers' dollars. This year, CSC's team of Compliance Accounting Managers conducted thorough reviews of 172 programs, focusing on how the agencies manage the programs and administer the funds. Ms. Campbell highlighted common findings related to staff vacancies, background screenings, discrepancies in billing, and the timely submission of financial statements and budget-to-actual reports. She noted that all findings were addressed promptly to ensure ongoing program success. She also explained that ongoing technical assistance is provided throughout the year to help programs manage their financial processes.

Dr. Greif-Hackett discussed CSC's cycle of performance measurement, which includes research to populate RFPs with outcomes/measurement tools; ongoing training and technical assistance with providers about tools, data collection, and data entry integrity; program performance review of outcome documentation; semi-annual and annual analysis; and a historical archive of data for continuous quality improvement and learning. She pointed out that, overall, this year, CSC programs are performing very well, with the majority meeting the data integrity threshold and a majority of outcomes meeting Council goal expectations.

She highlighted a few of the data stories from the program areas of MOMS (Mothers Overcoming Maternal Stress), Self-Sufficiency, Simplified Point of Entry, MOST – Inclusion (Maximizing Out-of-School Time), and LEAP High (Literacy, Enrichment, and Academic Pursuits). The complete 18 data stories are available in the APR.

Council members thanked staff for a thorough and comprehensive presentation and APR. Dr. Thaqi noted that staff have taken RBA to a whole other level and that the data are invaluable to Members in the budget process, enabling them to make data-based decisions and allocate limited resources in the most beneficial way possible.

Senator Rich touched on the data story showing a high need for affordable housing and the cost-of-living burden many Broward County residents face.

XIV. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:47 a.m. with a motion from Ms. Hixon and a second from Senator Rich.



Nan Rich, Secretary

MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Organization
Traci Schweitzer	Department of Children & Families
Mark Reyes	Urban League of Broward County
Thom Mozloom	The M Network
Donna Lavallo	Christina G. Smith Community Health Foundation Inc
Andy Fernandez	Firewall Centers
Alison Rodriguez	YMCA of South Florida
Lisa Clements	YMCA of South Florida
Grace Ramos	The M Network
Harrison Grandwilliams	Broward County Commission

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

LAST NAME—FIRST NAME—MIDDLE NAME Hepburn—Howard	NAME OF BOARD, COUNCIL, COMMISSION, AUTHORITY, OR COMMITTEE Children's Services Council of Broward County
MAILING ADDRESS 600 SE 3rd Ave., 10th Floor	THE BOARD, COUNCIL, COMMISSION, AUTHORITY OR COMMITTEE ON WHICH I SERVE IS A UNIT OF:
CITY COUNTY Fort Lauderdale Broward	<input type="checkbox"/> CITY <input type="checkbox"/> COUNTY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER LOCAL AGENCY
DATE ON WHICH VOTE OCCURRED January 15, 2026	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 equally 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 the reverse side 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 inures to his or her special private gain or loss. Each elected or appointed local officer also is prohibited from knowingly voting on a measure which inures to the special gain or loss of a principal (other than a government agency) by whom he or she is retained (including the parent organization or subsidiary of a corporate 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 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 otherwise may participate 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 other side)

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, Howard Hepburn, hereby disclose that on January 15, 2026:

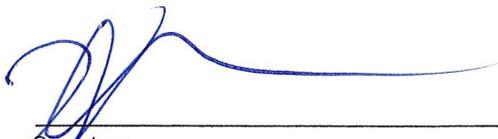
(a) A measure came or will come before my agency which (check one)

- 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 Junior Achievement of South Florida, by whom I am retained; or
- inured to the special gain or loss of _____, which is the parent 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 the two Junior Achievement sponsorship & Broward Partnerships for Kids' events contained within Agenda Item IX.c., "Approve CSC Monthly Purchases," as I serve on the Board of Junior Achievement of South Florida.

January 15, 2026
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.