

**Children's Services Council of Broward County
Program Planning Committee**

January 10, 2022 @ 3:30pm

Loc: Zoom Meeting

Agenda

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| I. | Call Meeting to Order | | Cathy Donnelly,
Committee Chair |
| II. | Approve June 2020 Joint
PPC/Finance Meeting Minutes | (Attch) | Cathy Donnelly |
| III. | Recommend for Approval to the Full Council the
FLITE Center Leverage Request for HOPE Court | (Attch) | Maria Juarez |
| IV. | Recommend for Approval to the Full Council the
Leverage Request from the Miami Lighthouse for
the Blind and Visually Impaired to Fund
Comprehensive Eye Exams & Prescription Glasses | (Attch) | Maria Juarez |
| V. | Public Comment/Council General Comments | | Cathy Donnelly |
| VI. | Adjourn | | Cathy Donnelly |

CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF BROWARD COUNTY
Joint Finance & Program Planning Committee Meeting

Virtual Zoom Webinar
June 8, 2020 @ 3:00 p.m.

Minutes

CSC Members in Attendance:

Governor Appointee Cathy Donnelly (PPC Committee Chair); Governor Appointee David H. Kenton; DCF Community Development Administrator Dawn Liberta; Governor Appointee Tom Powers; Health Department Director Paula Thaqi, M.D. (Finance Committee Chair)

Staff in Attendance:

Cindy Arenberg Seltzer, President/CEO; Monti Larsen; Sandra Bernard-Bastien; Maria Juarez; Kathleen Campbell; Amy Jacques, Angie Buchter; Sue Gallagher; Laura Ganci; Marlando Christie; Andrew Leone; Michelle Hamilton

Guests in Attendance:

None

Agenda:

I. Call to Order:

Dr. Thaqi called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

II. Finance Committee Minutes:

ACTION: Mr. Powers made a motion to approve the February 10, 2020, Finance Committee meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Donnelly and passed with no opposing votes.

III. Program Planning Committee (PPC) Minutes:

ACTION: Ms. Liberta made a motion to approve the February 10, 2020, PPC meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Donnelly and passed with no opposing votes.

IV. Revenue Update:

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer provided the Committee with an overview of the updated revenue projections based upon the receipt of the preliminary property values which reflected an increase of 4.7%. She presented scenarios of either keeping the millage rate flat at 0.4882 or rolling the millage rate back to 0.4623 which would produce the same amount of revenue as last Fiscal Year. As staff estimated a 4% increase in preparation for the May Budget Retreat, she noted that the draft budget is in a good place. If Members decide to leave the millage rate flat, the draft budget approved in May balances; but if they decide to go to the roll-back rate, there would be a \$5.2 million shortfall. In response to a question from Dr. Thaqi about the impact on the average homeowner, she explained she had not yet recalculated that impact with the new numbers but in May the estimated impact was approximately \$5.70 for a home at the taxable value of \$375,000 and a \$50,000 exemption.

The scenario chart also takes into consideration a possible decrease in property values in the out years of 2021-2024 due to the economic havoc caused by COVID-19 and Members discussed how that should factor into future planning and sustainability of programming, as well as determining whether to keep the millage rate flat or at the roll-back rate. Ms. Arenberg Seltzer emphasized the importance of maintaining a robust Fund Balance to assist with the possible economic downturn in the out years. She also made a point of not knowing if the collection rate will continue with recent trends of 95% collection, or if the fallout from the Pandemic will result in a higher rate of uncollectable taxes, which would impact the budget. In addition, she added that underutilization may not be as bad as originally projected in May, as most of the CSC-funded providers are finding ways of providing services in some capacity, whether in-person or virtually.

Mr. Powers stated his preference for the roll-back millage rate.

V. Discussion of Uncertain Community Needs & Impact on FY 20/20 Budget:

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer led a discussion on the uncertainty of community needs in the months to come, such as expanded trauma services and families struggling with basic needs, all of which would likely require additional CSC investment beyond that which is currently included in the budget. While CSC is clearly not the only source of funding for these services there will be an expectation of our participation in community partnerships especially in order to ensure families stay healthy and strengthened. Therefore, she increased the "Unallocated" line in the budget to \$1.1 million to allow for the flexibility to respond as the needs arise.

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Mr. Powers requested that staff compile a report documenting CSC's trauma work at Eagle's Haven and through the Broward Behavioral Health Coalition to help inform the expansion of trauma services to the wider community. He stated he wanted to see what worked well and what didn't. Ms. Arenberg Seltzer said she would do her best to get the information for the June meeting but given the short turnaround time it might have to wait for the August Council meeting. She did caution that the expanded trauma services would vary amongst the communities based on the needs and experiences of each community as conveyed to CSC through the ongoing community resiliency conversations and internal analyses; and therefore, would not necessarily be a cookie-cutter approach or an exact replica of Eagles' Haven.

VI. Draft Tentative FY 20/21 Budget:

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer presented the Draft Tentative Budget for FY 20/21, noting that the Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation has agreed to fund the Tier 2 recommendations from the Youth FORCE RFP. This revenue and related expenditures are not reflected in this draft budget, nor was the Title IVE revenue for Legal Representation, as this amount has yet to be received. It is anticipated that any revenue generated through the Title IVE will be appropriated for expansion of that program. She noted that the performance pay for staff was folded into their salaries as directed by the Council last November and included a 1.5% COLA for the upcoming fiscal year. Otherwise, most administrative budget line items remained level with the exception of CRA and Property Appraiser fees, which are out of the control of the Council.

ACTION: Ms. Donnelly made a motion to recommend approval to the full Council the draft tentative FY20/21 Budget, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Liberta and passed with one opposing vote from Mr. Powers.

ACTION: Ms. Liberta made a motion to recommend approval to the full Council the tentative millage rate and authorize staff to adjust the budget based upon the Property Appraiser's final report and submit the necessary forms to the appropriate officials, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Kenton and passed with one opposing vote from Mr. Powers.

VII. General & Member Comments

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer raised the suggestion of issuing a statement regarding CSC's commitment to undoing racism. Mr. Powers cautioned against speaking about police actions as that is outside of CSC's scope. Mr. Kenton asked why there would even be a question as to CSC issuing a statement given the clear and consistent role CSC has taken on this issue over the last several years. There was a consensus that the CEO

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should draft and release a statement which affirms CSC's commitment to undoing racism and highlights the actions CSC has taken to date.

There were no further Member comments.

The meeting adjourned at 4:13pm.

For Program Planning Committee January 10, 2022

Service Goal	4.1 Improve life outcomes for dependent, delinquent, crossover and LGBTQ and disconnected youth transitioning to adulthood, with a special focus on youth in foster care and/or other non-traditional living arrangements.
Objective:	4.1.1 Provide life skills training and independent living supports for dependent, delinquent, crossover and LGBTQ and disconnected youth in collaboration with local partners to improve life outcomes and to successfully transition to adulthood.
Issue:	HOPE Court Leverage Funding Request
Action:	Approve leverage funding for FLITE Center and KID as Fiscal Support to continue HOPE Court for 12 months - crossing fiscal years
Budget Impact:	\$75,989 Of \$ \$1,560,277 Available Unallocated for FY 21/22. \$54,277 to be Allocated in Goal 4.1.1 for FY 22/23.

Background: In 2020, the Florida Bar Foundation awarded Legal Aid of Broward County funding for research, development, and implementation of an innovative court process known as HOPE Court (Helping Older Teens Powerfully Engage Court) which employs a restorative practices approach for youth who are approximately 17 who will be aging out of foster care. Although the Florida Bar Foundation was supportive of this model, due to a shift in their funding priorities the funding for HOPE Court was not renewed.

HOPE Court strives to ensure youth have an active voice in their dependency process and transitional plans and co-create their vision for their future. This can help them understand the benefits of the supportive services available to them after turning 18 and thereby encourage continuing education and prevent homelessness. Special hearings are conducted every six weeks instead of every six months, as required by statute. The pilot project also included pre-court support circles, which are youth led, and conflict reframing during judiciary proceedings. To facilitate success, HOPE Court program staff guides court and child welfare personnel, life coaches and other key staff through a series of trainings to produce improved outcomes for transitioning youth and greater collaboration among child welfare entities.

During the first year, HOPE Court served one cohort of 12 youth. Nova Southeastern University (NSU) is completing their research on the first cohort. Those findings are anticipated to be available for publication in late January of 2022. NSU's preliminary findings indicate that, "HOPE Court represented a substantial change in the dependency court paradigm." Stakeholder participants indicated the following: "The implementation of HOPE Court, which infuses restorative practices into the dependency court process, represented a substantial change in the dependency court paradigm; namely, it represented a needed shift away from the 'adversarial' model that is typically present in dependency court." Stakeholders described HOPE Court "as a youth-centered process and noted that youth have a voice and are engaged with HOPE Court at a level not typically seen in traditional dependency court." "Stakeholders commented on the progression toward increased engagement of youth in HOPE Court, which was particularly noted in youth attendance and attentiveness to upcoming meetings/hearings, and youth proactively requesting meetings (circles) with their support team." As an evolution of this initiative, Legal Aid has partnered with the FLITE Center to lead this initiative and will transition HOPE Court to the FLITE Center.

Current Status: HOPE Court participants are anxious to continue this innovative pilot for another year to solidify the research findings and inform statewide policy and practice changes for this population. While Florida State University's Florida Institute for Child Welfare Program (FSU FICW) has awarded HOPE Court \$160,160 to support the research, FLITE is seeking \$130,266 leverage funding from CSC over two fiscal years to support the staff to train Healthy Youth Transitions (HYT) life coaches and act as unbiased facilitators of the circles.

During year 2, a second cohort of 12 TIL youth who are aging out of the foster care system will be served using the HOPE Court process. HOPE Court staff will facilitate the court process for these youth and also provide training to approximately 25-30 child welfare professional staff in restorative practices and nonviolent communication.

FSU plans to present the HOPE Court Cohort 2 results to the Florida legislature in the fall of 2022 for funding consideration. The goal of this project is to develop an innovative, evidence-based court model which will be funded and adopted throughout Florida. CSC is also developing some learning outcomes to inform enhancements to our Life Coach training for our HYT contracts.

Recommended Action: Approve leverage funding for FLITE Center to continue HOPE Court.

For Program Planning Committee Meeting January 10, 2022

Service Goal	8.1 Safeguard the physical health of children.
Objective:	8.1.1 Increase the availability of school-based health care at schools of highest need in collaboration with the School District to improve the physical well-being of children.
Issue:	Funding request to provide additional children's eye exams and prescription eyeglasses.
Action:	Approve \$23,202 Leverage Request for Miami Lighthouse for the Blind & Visually Impaired, Inc.
Budget Impact:	\$ 23,202 Of \$1,484,288 Available in Unallocated for FY 21/22.

Background: Since 2010, the Florida Heiken Children's Vision Program, a Division of Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Inc., has been the recipient of a statewide competitive bid from the Florida Department of Health (FL DOH) for school eye care services, including comprehensive no cost eye exams and prescription eyeglasses. The Heiken Program enhances the lives of children who receive an eye examination and prescription eyeglasses by delivering eye care to underserved children from pre-K to grade 12 who have been referred by their school. Eligible children have access to a free comprehensive dilated eye examination and, if required, prescription eyeglasses provided by a licensed optometrist. The mobile optometric clinic will travel to the school site if there are 15 or more children who need an eye examination as determined by the mandated state vision screen conducted in grades K, 1, 3, and 6. If the school site does not have a minimum of 15 children who need an eye examination, eligible children will receive a voucher to access a network of optometrists in the local area to receive an eye exam with dilation and prescription glasses at no cost.

Current Status: During the last two school years over 3600 children in Broward County were referred for an eye exam by the School Health Coordinators, however, Heiken Program funding provided eye exams to only 1,230 children. In July 1, 2021, the Florida Department of Health increased the allocation for eye care services in Broward County by \$12,500. Miami Lighthouse for the Blind & Visually Impaired, Inc., is



requesting leverage funding to expand the eye care program in Broward to serve an additional 248 children. The Miami Lighthouse for the Blind & Visually Impaired, Inc. is seeking additional leverage funding from the A.D. Henderson Foundation and may request further leverage dollars from CSC.

Recommended Action: Approve \$23,202 Leverage Request for Miami Lighthouse for the Blind & Visually Impaired, Inc.