

## 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 21, 2021

9:30 A.M.

### Minutes

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

Governor Appointee Cathy Donnelly; Broward County Commissioner Beam Furr; Judge Kenneth L. Gillespie; Governor Appointee David H. Kenton; School Board Member Donna P. Korn; DCF Community Development Administrator Dawn Liberta (Chair); Governor Appointee Tom Powers

#### **Members in Virtual Attendance:**

School Interim Superintendent Vickie L. Cartwright; Health Department Director Paula Thaqi; Governor Appointee Jeffrey S. Wood

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

Governor Appointee Maria Schneider

#### **Counsel Present:**

Garry Johnson, Esq.

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

Cindy Arenberg Seltzer, President/CEO; Monti Larsen, COO; Maria Juarez, CPO; Sue Gallagher, CIO; Sharetta Remikie, CECEO; Marlando Christie; Amy Jacques; Laura Ganci; Dion Smith; Michelle Hamilton; Andrew Leone; Kathleen Campbell; Lisa Bayne; Madeline Jones; Marissa Aquino; Jennifer Wennberg; Kyle Jones; Margaret Wallace; Piper Weber; Erin Byrne; Joshua Caraballo; Angie Buchter; Keyonia Lawson; Danielle Bachelder; Clarice Horton; Melissa Soza; Latora Steel; Michelle E. Hagues; Keisha Grey; Fern Phillip; Jessica Rincon; Liza Khan; Camila Romero; Jennifer Fletcher; Jill Denis-Lay; Katrina Welch; Trisha Dowell; Brooke Sherman; Marissa Greif-Hackett; Shaquoia Wilson; Kimberlee Reid; Megan Turetsky; Valencia McConnico-Bell; Lynn Kalmes; S. Lorenzo Benaine; Travis Johnson; Diego Alvarez; Alicia Williams; Tabitha Bush; Colleen Carpenter; Johannie Stanley; Roxanne Smith; Ileana Blanco

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

See Attachment 1

## Agenda:

### I. Call to Order

Ms. Liberta called the meeting to order at 9:34 A.M.

### II. Roll Call

Mrs. Jacques called the roll and announced that a quorum had been 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.

Ms. Liberta reminded everyone that it is Domestic Violence Awareness month, noting that it is the second highest reason for the removal of children in our community.

#### b) Council Meeting and TRIM Hearing Minutes

**ACTION: Commissioner Furr made a motion to approve the Council meeting and TRIM Hearing minutes from September 23, 2021, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Korn and passed with no opposing votes.**

#### c) Cancellation of December Meeting

**ACTION: Mr. Powers made a motion to approve the cancellation of the December 2021 meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Korn and passed with no opposing votes.**

#### d) 2022 Council Meeting Schedule

**ACTION: Dr. Cartwright made a motion to approve the monthly meeting dates for 2022, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Powers and passed with no opposing votes.**

#### e) President/CEO Performance Eval

Ms. Liberta alerted Members that they will receive the President/CEO's self-evaluation and evaluation form. The evaluation form should be completed by October 29<sup>th</sup>. The Executive Committee will then meet on November 8<sup>th</sup> to review the evaluation results and forward any

recommendations to the full Council for consideration at its November 18<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

f) Annual Report Photo

Ms. Liberta shared that due to COVID, CSC staff will again use Members' headshot photos that are currently on the CSC website for the Annual Report. If Members prefer a different photo to be used in the Annual Report, they should send it to Amy.

IV. Bylaws Committee Report

Ms. Liberta noted that the Committee met to review the current bylaws. She then deferred to legal counsel, Garry Johnson, to summarize the proposed revisions.

Mr. Johnson stated that the changes revolved around some of the concepts of virtual meetings and whether effective changes could be made. He pointed out that under the current Attorney General opinions it was felt that there was not a clear pathway around the requirement for six members to be physically present to establish a quorum absent an emergency declaration by the Governor, but that some changes could be made to clarify some alternatives if things changed in the future.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer added that the process for committee meetings was clarified to be clear that committee meetings could be held virtually since they do not result in final actions, but rather recommendations to the full Council.

Ms. Liberta explained that one winter month was added to the language that currently allowed for the cancellation of one summer month meeting. She pointed out that the Council usually cancels its July and December meetings. She also pointed out that language was added to include the notice of meetings on the CSC website.

**ACTION: Commissioner Furr made a motion to approve the revisions to the Bylaws, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Powers and passed with no opposing votes.**



## V. President's Report

### a) Good of the Order

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer welcomed Dr. Sharetta Remikie as CSC's Chief Equity & Community Engagement Officer.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer congratulated two CSC-funded staff from Kids in Distress, Ms. Bloosy Jeanny and Ms. Michelle Brooks, who were recognized by Healthy Families Florida. Ms. Jeanny was selected as the winner of the Healthy Families Florida Staff Recognition Award for Excellence in Family Engagement, while Ms. Brooks was selected as the winner of the Healthy Families Florida Staff Recognition Award for Excellence in Supervision.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer announced that Broward College is a recipient of a \$30 million Promise Neighborhoods Grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The Broward UP Promise Neighborhoods project will provide for a comprehensive two-generational model to serve children from an early age to adulthood, positioning them for post-secondary education, while also working with their parents to gain workforce skills so that they can support their families. Project partners include CSC, Broward County Public Schools, the Urban League of Broward County, the YMCA of South Florida, the Boys and Girls Clubs of Broward, OIC of South Florida, HANDY, Hispanic Unity of Florida, Pace Center for Girls, Jack and Jill Children's Center, the FLITE Center, Broward Partnership for the Homeless, and Nourishing Lives. Broward College is one of only seven recipients in the country and is the first grantee in Florida to ever receive this grant. Ms. Arenberg Seltzer explained that CSC's role will be to expand youth development programming where middle school youth will receive individual coaching and case management.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer shared that Ms. Michelle Hagues, Sr. Programs Manager, and Dr. Gallagher, Chief Innovation Officer, served as subject matter experts for the 2021 Children's Movement of Florida Equity Report on equity initiatives throughout the State of Florida. She explained that this work is symbolic of CSC's work over the years, where we start an initiative, help it grow, and then turn it over to partners.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer shared that Dr. Gallagher also served on the PACE Center for Girls' regional All About Girls Summit panel, "Power, Justice, Equity: Building Inclusive and Progressive Communities."

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer announced that she is now a board member of the Florida Policy Institute, a state-wide association that is part of a national group to build economic security and power for all Floridians. She explained the Institute is developing more of a child focus. Her first board meeting will be in December.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer shared that she taped a congratulatory message for the workforce included in the Florida Association for Infant Mental Health's "Celebrate Babies Week," an event to honor diverse babies and professionals who work with and on behalf of babies.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer also was a guest on the GRN Show with Guithele Ruiz-Nicolas to discuss the American Rescue Plan and the Child Tax Credit.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer also noted that she participated in a recent YMCA Podcast.

b) Childcare Worker Recruitment Campaign

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer explained that staff is working with M Network and the Early Learning Coalition (ELC) to develop a marketing campaign to attract more qualified individuals to work in childcare centers. She noted that the hope is to build the funnel of people coming in, with ELC assisting with the required background screening and training. She noted that Federal funds will now be allowed for this purpose, so the community will be poised with an available campaign that can be immediately brought to scale with the Federal money.

Council members engaged in a robust and productive discussion around possible ways for CSC and community partners to address recruitment and hiring challenges to build capacity for childcare centers so that growing community and family needs can be met post-pandemic. School Board Member Korn and Commissioner Furr requested staff to look into ways CSC and other community partners could help maximize the School District's program for training future childcare workers.

**ACTION: Ms. Korn made a motion to authorize expenditures to create and implement marketing and recruitment elements for the Childcare Worker Recruitment Campaign, as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Furr and passed with no opposing votes.**



c) 2022 Legislative Platform

**ACTION: Commissioner Furr made a motion to approve the Florida Children’s Council 2022 Legislative Priorities, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Korn and passed with no opposing votes.**

d) Student Re-engagement Campaign

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer made the Council aware of how community partners are being engaged by the Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) to assist in a campaign to proactively reach the families of students who have not returned to in-school learning. She shared that CSC has distributed that information through its provider network and has utilized the CSC/BCPS data-sharing agreement.

Ms. Liberta requested the BCPS list to see if she could assist with outreach for any of those families who may be in the dependency system.

Dr. Cartwright stated she appreciated all of the outreach efforts and noted that they are trying to take a coordinated approach to reach potential children who should be in school. She noted that a majority of the students they are trying to connect with are of the elementary age. She added that it is possible that the parents are working from home and just haven’t registered the students in home education, which would remove them from the list.

VI. Chief Programs Officer Report

Ms. Juarez summarized the proposal to increase salaries related to MOST programming, noting that approximately 1,000 children are currently on a MOST waitlist. She explained that while there is funding available to serve children on the waitlist, providers are unable to maintain the appropriate staff to student ratios if enrollment is increased due to staffing challenges. Since providers are finding it difficult to recruit staff at the current salary, CSC staff is proposing an increase for MOST direct service staff from the minimum hourly rate to \$15.00/hr, starting November 1<sup>st</sup>. She shared that next month staff will bring forth similar information on other CSC programs, such as the positive youth programs serving middle school students.

Ms. Korn asked CSC staff to revisit the waitlist after a reasonable time of implementing the salary increase to see what effect it had. Ms. Arenberg Seltzer agreed to do that in January or soon thereafter. Ms. Korn also asked for a future

big-picture analysis of the other CSC-funded programs to ensure that the Council could meet all of the needs or at least systematically prioritize them. Ms. Arenberg Seltzer promised that further analysis would be forthcoming in November.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer applauded Ms. Ileana Blanco, Senior Compliance Accounting Manager, and Ms. Jessica Rincon, Programs Manager, for their painstaking efforts in going through every single MOST contract, looking at each position, and moving those making under \$15/hr up to \$15/hr.

**ACTION: Ms. Korn made a motion to approve salary increases related to MOST for FY 21/22, as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Furr and passed with no opposing votes.**

#### VII. Chief Innovation Officer (CIO) Report

Dr. Gallagher updated Members on CSC's Community Participatory Action Research (CPAR) efforts, noting that CSC's commitment to racial equity, CPAR, and partnerships is generating federal interest, including the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Office for the Administration for Children and Families, and the U.S Department of Labor. She explained that these departments are not just interested in what we are doing locally, but in how that could form and transform programs, procurements, and research design that they are thinking about at the federal level. She added that CSC's support of local pilots is advancing equity and helping to reimagine and redesign child-serving systems. She recognized the community partners and CSC staff who make this happen.

Ms. Liberta shared that she has the pleasure and opportunity to serve on the Board of the Youth System Organizers (YSO) of Broward. She praised the resilience and powerfulness of these young adults and expressed a desire to bring them in to meet the Council at a future date.

#### VIII. Chief Equity & Community Engagement Officer Report

Since this was Dr. Remikie's first week on the job, Ms. Arenberg Seltzer briefly highlighted the items under this Report.

##### a) CEO Learning Series

**ACTION: Commissioner Furr made a motion to accept \$15,000 revenue from the United Way and \$10,000 revenue from the Community Foundation, and approve related expenditures, as**

presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Korn and passed with no opposing votes.

- b) Capacity Building Grant Consulting Services

**ACTION:** Commissioner Furr made a motion to approve the Small Business Development Center for Capacity Building Grant consulting services, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Donnelly and passed with no opposing votes.

- c) Emancipatory Research Consultant RFQ Raters
- d) Racial Equity & Social Justice Cadre RFQ Raters

**ACTION:** Commissioner Furr made a motion to approve raters for the Emancipatory Research Consultant RFQ and the Racial Equity and Social Justice Cadre RFQ, both as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Korn and passed with no opposing votes.

IX. Chief Operating Officer Report

- a) Back-to-School Extravaganza
- b) Budget Carryforward
- c) KID/FLITE Fiscal Sponsor Fees and Contract Amendment
- d) Disposal of Fully Depreciated or Non-Capitalized Items
- e) Monthly Purchases

Ms Larsen briefly highlighted the items under the COO Report.

**ACTION:** Dr. Cartwright made a motion to approve acceptance of revenue for the Back-to-School Extravaganza FY 20/21, approve Budget Carry Forward for selected POs and initiatives, approve KID/FLITE fiscal sponsor fees and contract amendment, approve disposal of fully depreciated or non-capitalized items, and approve the monthly purchases, all as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Furr and passed with no opposing votes.

X. Broward Reads Coalition Report

Commissioner Furr highlighted the recent meeting of the Broward Reads Coalition.



XI. Funders Forum Report

Ms. Juarez highlighted the recent Funders Forum meeting, noting that the minutes were included in the meeting information packet.

XII. Public Comment

There were no comments.

XIII. Council Members' Roundtable

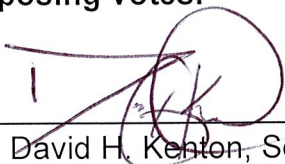
CSC staff led a Roundtable on the planned Youth Summit Series. Dr. Keisha Grey, Sr. Strategy Manager, highlighted the history of the Children's Strategic Plan and youth summits, and briefly outlined the upcoming 21/22 youth summit series. Information on the series will be accessible at [www.cscbroward.org/youthsummit](http://www.cscbroward.org/youthsummit).

Mr. Andrew Leone, Director of Communications and Community Engagement, highlighted the branding efforts related to the Youth Summit Series events.

Ms. Arlene Connelly, Co-Chair of the Father, Men and Boys Action Committee, shared details of the upcoming event that launches the Youth Summit Series. The first annual Rise Up Summit, "Growing Up Male: What Boys, Men and Fathers Need to Thrive," will be held on November 19<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00am-3:00pm, both virtually and at the Sunrise Civic Center. Council members will receive information on this event.

XIV. Adjournment

**ACTION: Commissioner Furr made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:51 AM. The motion was seconded by Ms. Donnelly and passed with no opposing votes.**

  
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Dr. David H. Kenton, Secretary

## MEETING ATTENDEES (\*denotes speaker)

Name	Organization
Arlene Connelly	Father, Men & Boys Action Committee
Christine Klima	Early Learning Coalition of Broward
Idelma Quintana	Broward County
Jodi Antonoff	CAS
Grecia Rosendo	Center for Hearing and Communication
Grace Ramos	The M Network
Gary Chin	Sunshine After School Child Care, Inc.
Shawn Preston	Arc Broward
David Williams	Center for Hearing and Communication
Donna Lavalle	Smith Community Mental Health
Elisha Hendricks	Pembroke Pines Police Department
Nancy Tillman	Soref JCC
Kevin Bochenek	Kids In Distress
Kimberly Gould	Broward County Public Schools
Renee Jaffe	Early Learning Coalition of Broward County Inc.
Diana Gomez	Sunshine Health
Tonya Ricker	Arc Broward
Alice-Lydia Bird	YMCA of South Florida
Catherine Lievano	Pembroke Pines Police Department
Andy Fernandez	Firewall Centers
Lisa Clements	YMCA of South Florida
Mikelange Olbel	Community Based Connections, Inc.

Name	Organization
Alison Bregman-Rodriguez	YMCA of South Florida
Cathea Comiskey	Unitd Community Options
Olivia Angeli	Center for Hearing and Communication
Michael Skolnick	Community After School
Ania Torres	Pembroke Pines Police Department Victim Advocate
Tracy Graham	Broward County