

# CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF BROWARD COUNTY

6600 W. Commercial Blvd.

Lauderhill, FL 33319

## MINUTES

September 20, 2018

4:00 P.M.

**Members in Attendance:** Governor Appointee Emilio Benitez; Governor Appointee Cathy Donnelly; Broward County Mayor Beam Furr; Judge Kenneth L. Gillespie; DCF Regional Managing Director Vern Melvin; Governor Appointee Tom Powers; Governor Appointee Maria Schneider

**Counsel Present:** Garry Johnson, Esq.

**Council Members Absent:** School Board Member Robin Bartleman; School Superintendent Robert W. Runcie; Health Department Director Paula Thaqi, M.D; Governor Appointee Ana Valladares

**Staff in Attendance:** Cindy Arenberg Seltzer, President/CEO; Monti Larsen; Sandra Bernard-Bastien; Sue Gallagher; Maria Juarez Stouffer; Marlando Christie; Andrew Leone; Adamma DuCille; Akil Edwards; Amy Jacques; Andria Dewson; Angie Buchter; Anne-Alexandra Lemoine; Arnold "JB" Jean-Baptiste; Brooke Sherman; Camila Romero Gil; Carl Dasse; Debra Baptiste; Dion Smith; Erin Byrne; Jeffery Glover; Johannie Stanley; Jumorrow Johnson; Kathleen Campbell; Keisha Grey; Keyonia Lawson; Laura Ganci; Maddy Jones; Marissa Greif-Hackett; Mina Razavi; Monique Finlay; Nancy Cohn; Parry Silcox; Robby Holroyd; Seantee Campbell; Travis Johnson

**Guests in Attendance:** Attached

### Agenda:

#### I. Call to Order:

Chair Beam Furr called the meeting to order at 4:05.P.M.

#### II. Roll Call:

The roll was called and a quorum was found to be lacking by one Member. In attendance at Roll Call were Ms. Donnelly, Mayor Furr, Judge Gillespie, Mr. Melvin, and Mr. Powers. The Chair proceeded with non-action items until a quorum was established.

#### III. Chair's Comments:

There were no comments by the Chair.

#### IV. President's Report:

a) Good of the Order:

Members viewed a video highlighting the successful 2018 Back-to-School Extravaganza.

Mr. Benitez and Ms. Schneider arrived to establish a quorum.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer drew Members' attention to the information in their meeting packet highlighting the CSC-funded NFTE Startup Summer Program, which was designed to help graduates from the Council's Summer Biz Camps move their business ideas forward. She noted that three of the CSC-funded BOSS Youth in the program won money for their businesses.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer highlighted the upcoming Special Needs Resource Fair.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer read excerpts from a positive email received from a Tamarac resident who attended the first CSC TRIM Hearing.

b) Agenda Addendum:

i. Trauma Therapy Funding for Broward Behavioral Health Coalition (BBHC):

ii. Early Termination of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers (21<sup>st</sup> CCLC) Grant and Conversion to CSC-Funded LEAP High Schools:

**ACTION: Ms. Donnelly made a motion to add the two addendum items (trauma therapy funding for BBHC and the early termination of the 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC Contract) to the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Ms. Schneider and passed with no opposing votes.**

**V. Consent Agenda:**

a) August 16, 2018, Council Minutes:

b) September 6, 2018, TRIM Minutes:

c) HOMES Transition to Independent Living (TIL) Contract:

Mr. Benitez requested to remove the HOMES TIL Contract item from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

Mr. Benitez touched upon some of the past challenges with HOMES, Inc., such as not fully understanding that youth aging out of foster care needed additional supports, as well as the need for additional education for both the youth and the landlords to understand each other. He added that this is an excellent program, but not without some challenges. He applauded the program for providing much needed housing for children aging out of the foster care system, especially LGBTQ youth. He then addressed the challenges of recruiting foster parents. He stated that while he did not have a problem with the program, there was a need for Council oversight to ensure that HOMES, Inc., works well with ChildNet and other related organizations to achieve success. He suggested possible training for both youth and the landlords in order to better understand each other.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer responded that those challenges have lessened after CSC staff worked extensively with HOMES, Inc., Child Net, and the Life Coaches to clarify the various roles and processes in the program. But she did acknowledge some ongoing issues with landlords in general, and noted that CSC staff is currently working to assist those agencies in better managing their relationships with landlords. She explained that

CSC staff are conscious of the challenges and are supporting the FLITE Center in its relationship-building with the landlords.

Ms. Sandra Bernard-Bastien pointed out that CSC staff is working with the Small Business Development Corp (SBDC), the FLITE Center, and several providers through the agency capacity mini-grant to develop a workbook and training for landlords and youth. Ms. Donnelly noted the importance of that and requested to receive the workbook and training document when they are completed.

**ACTION: Ms. Schneider made a motion to approve the HOMES contract under the Joint Funding and/or Community Collaborative Funding Exemption. The motion was seconded by Mr. Powers and passed with no opposing votes.**

d) Urban League New DAY Contract Adjustment:

Mr. Powers requested to remove the Urban League New DAY Contract item from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

Mr. Powers expressed a desire to start a conversation related to his fundamental concern of allocating more money to something that isn't working right. He pointed out that in his conversations with law enforcement and teachers, he is hearing reports of more aggressive violence and behavior, and at a younger age. He inquired as to whether there are ways to do things differently or fund programs that look at neighborhoods and community involvement and participation. He indicated his preference for a type of program that addresses the real problem, rather than throwing money at something that isn't working.

Ms. Schneider stated that while it is true that certain violent crimes are increasing, they have decreased significantly -- although she did acknowledge a slight uptick recently. She noted that while there is a public perception that crime is increasing, it just is not. She attributed that perception to possibly the fact that crime is talked about more and there is more of an awareness. She noted that she has worked with Urban League and has seen the progress they have made. She pointed out that Urban League has a great program, citing that at least three-fourths of the youth who go through the program either stop committing crimes or decrease significantly. Ms. Schneider expressed concern that while there is a tremendous amount of resources in the community, she has not seen the kind of decrease in recidivism that she would like to see. She explained that there is always a small group of kids who repeatedly commit crimes. She further explained that improvement needs to be made with these youth who are considered "deep end," rather than ending Urban League's program that deals with youth who have offended for the first or second time. She called for a better way of identifying these "deep end" youth at the soonest possible moment so that sufficient and adequate resources could be utilized to prevent them from reoffending.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer clarified that the Urban League New DAY Program is a *diversion* program for once youth have been arrested; it is not a prevention program. She pointed out that the program outcomes have been excellent as far as recidivism rates. She did, however, express a desire to explore ways to better reach and engage those youth who do not participate and/or completely engage in the CSC prevention programs.

Mr. Benitez expressed agreement with Ms. Schneider and suggested reaching out to Casey Family Programs to see if their program that is based upon the model of

Communities of Hope, which focuses on parent and community engagement, could be expanded to include a delinquency component.

**ACTION: Ms. Schneider made a motion to approve an allocation increase for Urban League of Broward County's New DAY program. The motion was seconded by Ms. Donnelly and passed with no opposing votes.**

e) Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC) Contract Extension:

Mayor Furr received confirmation from CSC legal counsel that he was permitted to vote, in his official governmental capacity, on the JAC Contract extension.

f) Revised Data-Sharing Agreement with Broward County Public Schools:

g) Capacity Building Mini-Grant Awardees and Coaching Supports from SBDC and Network for Good:

h) Updated Media & Collateral Purchases:

i) Racial Equity Institute (REI) Funding & Related Expenditures for FY 18/19:

j) Interim Financial Statements and Budget Amendments for August 2018:

k) Invoices, P.O.s & Contracts:

**ACTION: Mr. Powers made a motion to approve the Consent agenda as presented and amended with the two addendum items and minus the HOMES TIL Contract and the Urban League New DAY Contract adjustment. The Consent Agenda included: Approval of the August 16, 2018, Council meeting minutes; approval of the September 6, 2018, TRIM Hearing minutes; approval of BSO JAC Contract extension for three months; approval of funding to BBHC for trauma therapy services for youth and families impacted by the Marjory Stoneman Douglas (MSD) tragedy on February 14, 2018; approval of the early termination of the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) grant for 21<sup>st</sup> CSC, extension of the YMCA 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC Contract to include August and September 2018, and amending the YMCA LEAP High Contract to include three new schools; approval of the revised BCPS Transportation MOU (high school programs) for data sharing and transportation, pending BCPS legal approval; approval of the BCPS Data Sharing Agreement (other CSC programs), pending BCPS legal approval; approval of the mini-grant awards; approval of Network for Good for fundraising; approval of Small Business Development Center for consulting services for Capacity Building mini grantees; approval of updated media and collateral purchases; approval of funding for Racial Equity Institute (REI) and related expenditures for FY 18/19; approval of budget amendments and interim financial statements for period ending August 31, 2018; approval of CSC monthly/annual purchases for September 2018; and approval of CSC monthly/annual purchases for FY 2018/2019. The motion was seconded by Ms. Donnelly and passed with no opposing votes.**

**VI. Chief Programs Officer (CPO) Report:**

Ms. Juarez drew Members' attention to information in the meeting packet on the upcoming Lights on Afterschool event, which will be held October 18<sup>th</sup>.

**VII. Chief Communications Officer (CCO) Report:**

Ms. Bernard-Bastien drew Members' attention to information in the meeting packet on the upcoming Broward Reads for the Record, which will take place October 25<sup>th</sup>. The book that will be read this year is entitled Maybe Something Beautiful. Members viewed the new promotional video for Reads to the Record. Members were also encouraged to be guest readers on October 25<sup>th</sup>.

**VIII. Agency Capacity Building Committee Report:**

There was no report at this time.

**IX. Public Comment:** Ms. Courtnee Biscardi, Urban League of Broward County, thanked the Council for its support.

**X. Council Members' Roundtable:**

There were no comments.

**XI. Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 4:51 P.M.

  
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Tom Powers, Secretary

**MEETING ATTENDEES****\*denotes speaker**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
David Bazerman	Legal Aid of Broward County
Grace Ramos	The M Network
Alice-Lydia Bird	YMCA of South Florida
Alison Rodriguez	YMCA of South Florida
Lisa Farland	YMCA of South Florida
Courtnee Biscardi*	Urban League of Broward County