

# 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

June 17, 2021

9:30 A.M.

## Minutes

### Members in Physical Attendance:

Governor Appointee Cathy Donnelly; School Board Member Donna P. Korn; DCF Community Development Administrator Dawn Liberta (Chair); Governor Appointee Tom Powers; Governor Appointee Maria Schneider; Health Department Director Paula Thaqi; Governor Appointee Jeffrey S. Wood

### Members in Virtual Attendance:

Judge Kenneth L. Gillespie; Governor Appointee David H. Kenton

### Council Members Absent:

Broward County Commissioner Beam Furr; School Superintendent Robert W. Runcie

### Counsel Present:

Garry Johnson, Esq

### Staff in Attendance:

Cindy Arenberg Seltzer, President/CEO; Monti Larsen, COO; Sandra Bernard-Bastien, CCO; Maria Juarez, CPO; Dr. Sue Gallagher, CIO; Marlando Christie; Amy Jacques; Laura Ganci; Dion Smith; Michelle Hamilton; Andrew Leone; Kathleen Campbell; Lisa Bayne; Madeline Jones; Marissa Aquino; Gloria Putiak; Jennifer Wennberg; Kyle Jones; Megan Turetsky; Margaret Wallace; Piper Weber; Lynn Kalmes; Erin Byrne; Joshua Caraballo; Pooja Yajnik; Angie Buchter; Keyonia Lawson; Parry Silcox; Danielle Bachelder; Shawanda Spencer; Trisha Dowell; Cynthia Reynoso; Nelson Giraldo; Adamma DuCille; Clarice Horton; Diego Alvarez; Travis Johnson; Kimberlee Reid; Melissa Soza; Latora Steel; S. Lorenzo Benaine; Andria Dewson; Tabitha Bush; Alicia Williams; Karen Franceschini; Michelle E. Hagues; Keisha Grey; Shaquoia Wilson; Fern Phillip; Carl Dasse; Yolanda Meadows; Jessica Rincon; Shira Fowlkes; Liza Khan; Colleen Carpenter; Marissa Greif-Hackett; Valencia McConnico-Bell; Roxanne Smith; Nicolette Picardi; Johannie Stanley; Shira Fowlkes; Camila Romero

## Guests in Attendance:

See Attachment 1

## Agenda:

### I. Call to Order:

Ms. Liberta called the meeting to order at 9:36 A.M.

### II. Roll Call:

Mrs. Jacques called the roll and announced that they were lacking a quorum by one. Present in the room were Ms. Donnelly, Ms. Liberta, Ms. Schneider, Dr. Thaqi, and Mr. Wood.

### 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.

Mr. Powers arrived and a quorum was established.

#### b) Recognize the Service of Rebecca Miele Upon Her Retirement:

The Council recognized the service of Ms. Rebecca Miele upon her retirement from the Florida Department of Health in Broward County and thanked her for ensuring families had access to health insurance for their children.

Ms. Liberta shared her appreciation for Ms. Miele's expertise, kindness, and professionalism, and noted that she will be greatly missed.

Dr. Thaqi spoke to Ms. Miele's unwavering dedication and commitment to KidCare outreach and thanked her for everything she has done for the community and specifically for Broward's children.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer shared her/CSC's history with Ms. Miele, noting that Ms. Miele was one of the the first people she met in Broward County and the one person who has taught her so much about KidCare. She characterized Ms. Miele as a public servant with a joyous spirit and loving heart.

Ms. Miele thanked the Council for their kind words, as well as for the support and partnership over the past 20 years. She shared that it is a bittersweet departure, as she truly loved her job, but that she is looking forward to spending a lot of time with her new grandson. She concluded by thanking the Council for their trust: trust in the way she ran the program, trust in her ability to do the things needed to get the program operating, and trust in the staff.

c) May 2021 Council Minutes:

**ACTION: Dr. Thaqi made a motion to approve the May 20, 2021, Council meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Schneider and passed with no opposing votes.**

d) Cancellation of July Meeting:

**ACTION: Mr. Wood made a motion to approve the cancellation of the July 2021 monthly meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Donnelly and passed with no opposing votes.**

IV. President's Report:

a) Good of the Order:

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer highlighted the CSC-sponsored Senior HEART send-off event that benefitted homeless high-school seniors going off to college.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer displayed a photo plaque received from Tomorrow's Rainbow in recognition of CSC's sponsorship of their Hopeful TEARS Grief Summit.

Members were reminded that the Council makes a real difference in families' lives as Ms. Arenberg Seltzer shared an email from a mother who had received CSC services for her family.

In recognition of how much CSC-funded providers go above and beyond, Ms. Arenberg Seltzer praised the FLITE Center for guiding a young mother in New York foster care as she relocated to Florida.

As a follow-up to letters of support CSC provided for two separate applications for the W.K. Kellogg Foundation's Race Equity 2030 Grant, Ms. Arenberg Seltzer announced that the local application submitted by

the Broward Education Research Alliance (BERA) has advanced to the expert review phase of the evaluation and selection process. BERA is a solutions-focused research network committed to supporting the removal of education and social barriers for children and communities. She explained that the local application was one of several thousand applications submitted from all across the world in response to the Foundation's call for "bold solutions to drive an equitable future for children, families, and communities across the globe." The applicant partners included Florida Atlantic University, Broward County Public Schools, the YWCA of South Florida, the Center for Traumatic Stress Research, and the CSC.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer highlighted two instances of community outreach through local radio programs. Ms. Melissa Soza, Program Manager, participated in the Services and Resources segment of Coes Radio, a Spanish-speaking radio station, to inform the community of the different programs, initiatives, and services available through the CSC. Ms. Arenberg Seltzer pointed out that Ms. Soza has served in various roles at the CSC for the past 18 years.

Michelle Hagues appeared on Caribbean Riddims radio as part of the mental and behavioral wellbeing educational campaigns in which the CSC is involved. She discussed maternal depression and the resources available through the CSC. Caribbean Riddims' listeners are primarily South Florida residents of Jamaican heritage.

Members viewed a water safety Public Service Announcement (PSA) produced by PBS KidVision in partnership with the CSC and featuring Miss Penny.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer announced that the CSC Office will be closed on Friday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, in observance of the Juneteenth Holiday. She explained that while the Federal government just approved it as a Federal holiday starting in 2022, CSC had approved it as a holiday for CSC staff last year. She expressed how proud she was of CSC in recognizing it and being an example for the community. She touched upon the importance of the Holiday as recognition of when the last slaves in Texas knew they were free.

As a result of CSC's partnership with 2-1-1, Ms. Arenberg Seltzer will be honored at 2-1-1's 25<sup>th</sup> Silver Anniversary celebration on October 9<sup>th</sup>.

And speaking of anniversaries, Ms. Arenberg Seltzer pointed out that this summer marks 20 years of service at CSC for herself, Ms. Larsen, Ms. Bernard-Bastien, and Ms. Shawanda Spencer. She noted that this group of original employees, along with others like Karen Swartzbaugh Ghezzi who has since retired, set the foundation for CSC.

Ms. Korn arrived.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer highlighted 19 years of outstanding service from Ms. Gloria Putiak, Senior Planning & Research Manager, who is set to retire at the end of July. Ms. Arenberg Seltzer praised Ms. Putiak's research expertise, her dogged determination and passion to ensure accuracy, and her compassion. She commended her for her Return on Investment work included in the annual budget books, and noted that as a one of the bricks in CSC's foundation, she will be difficult to replace and greatly missed.

b) Florida Hate Crime Coalition:

**ACTION: Ms. Donnelly made a motion to approve joining the Florida Hate Crime Coalition, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Korn and passed with no opposing votes.**

c) COVID-19 Update:

i. Youth Mental Health First Aid Training Expansion:

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer updated the Council on the Youth Mental Health First Aid Training and highlighted the proposed expansion. She stated that the training sessions are going well and that she is proud of how CSC staff and the summer providers have stepped up. The next sessions will be held on July 9<sup>th</sup> and July 30<sup>th</sup>.

**ACTION: Ms. Donnelly made a motion to approve funding for the Youth Mental Health and First Aid Training, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Korn and passed with no opposing votes.**

ii. Vaccine Hesitancy Campaign Update:

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer updated the Council on the community's Vaccine Hesitancy Campaign. She emphasized a focus to carry that message to teens and those in their 20s.

Dr. Thaqi outlined the various community vaccine hesitancy campaigns and stressed their importance. She noted that 62% of those 12+ are currently vaccinated in Broward. She explained that they are aiming to make the vaccine as convenient and accessible as possible, adding that there are several pop-up vaccination sites planned through August. She also noted that specific focus group sessions are planned to better understand the root causes of the hesitancy and to better guide the campaign. Dr. Thaqi expressed concern for the variants, but explained that the Pfizer vaccine is effective from the variants if an individual has received two doses.

d) Legislative Report:

Ms. Megan Turetsky, Government Affairs Manager, updated the Council on this year's legislative session. She noted that 273 pieces of legislation passed, with the Governor having signed approximately 118 of them to date. She added that he has until June 30<sup>th</sup> to sign or veto those bills. She also briefly highlighted the signed budget and a couple of key pieces of CSC's legislative platform that passed, such as VPK accountability, 2 Gen fiscal cliff study, and juvenile diversion expansion. She referred Members to the report in their meeting packet for detailed information. She also outlined the tentative timeline for the next legislative session, with CSC's platform approval in August or September, Committee week starting in September, and the legislative session starting in January.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer alerted Members to significant amounts of Federal COVID-relief funding that impact children coming down to the counties, cities, school districts, and Early Learning Coalition. She expressed a desire to have all of those funding streams aligned to better serve Broward's children.

V. Joint Finance/Program Planning Committee Meeting Report:

Dr. Thaqi summarized the Committee meeting and drew members' attention to the information in the meeting packet.

a) Revenue Update:

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer highlighted the revenue projection that supports the proposed FY 21/22 Budget. She reminded them that at the May Budget Retreat the Council agreed to go to the rollback millage rate, which is projected to be 0.4658. She announced that the preliminary numbers

showed a 4.4% increase in property values, higher than the 3% increase staff used at the May Budget Retreat. Ms. Arenberg Seltzer noted that approximately \$15.5 million from Fund Balance would be utilized to offset the difference between the revenue and the proposed FY 21/22 budget.

b) Budget Retreat Follow-Up:

Dr. Thaqi highlighted the questions raised at the May Budget Retreat and referred Members to the answers in the meeting information packet. She pointed out that only one, expanding legal supports for children in the child welfare system, had a fiscal impact.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer addressed concerns raised at the Finance Committee meeting concerning possible challenges with attorney recruitment, selection and recruitment, explaining that retention of attorneys within Legal Aid's child representation unit has not been an issue, and that recruitment has only faced the normal challenges. She added that the proposed \$300,000 should be sufficient for now to add attorneys representing children, and that she would further pursue the pro bono issue with them.

**ACTION: Ms. Schneider made a motion to approve \$300,000 in Unallocated for legal supports expansion, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Korn and passed with no opposing votes.**

c) Draft FY 21/22 Budget & Tentative Millage Rate:

**ACTION: Ms. Korn made a motion to approve the Draft Tentative FY 21/22 Budget, approve the Tentative Millage Rate, and authorize staff to adjust the budget based on the Property Appraiser's final report and submit the necessary forms to the appropriate officials, all as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Donnelly and passed with no opposing votes.**

VI. Chief Program Officer (CPO) Report:

Ms. Juarez highlighted the items under the CPO Report.

a) HEAL Trauma RFP Raters and Rater Compensation:

Ms. Juarez noted that two private foundations, the Community Foundation of Broward and The Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation, have expressed an

interest in becoming partners/raters for the HEAL Trauma RFP and requested that they be included in the motion.

- b) Fiscal Sponsor Fees to Various Agencies:
- c) Return of Henderson Behavioral Health ECC Funds to Unallocated:

**ACTION: Ms. Donnelly made a motion to approve the source experts for the HEAL Trauma RFP Rating Committees, with the addition of representatives from the Community Foundation of Broward and The Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation; approve community member rater compensation for the HEAL Trauma RFP; approve fiscal sponsor fees to various agencies; and approve returning Henderson Behavioral Health's ECC funding to Unallocated, all as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Korn and passed with no opposing votes.**

VII. Chief Innovation Officer (CIO) Report:

Dr. Gallagher highlighted the items under the CIO Report.

- a) TIL Data-Sharing Agreement:
- b) Revised BCPS Data-Sharing Agreement:

Dr. Gallagher explained that after the Council approved this agreement last month, an opportunity arose to include automation language and development.

**ACTION: Ms. Schneider made a motion to approve the Transitional Independent Living System of Care Data-Sharing Agreement Renewal with a new partner and two-year term, and approve the revised BCPS & CSC Data-Sharing & Transportation Agreement, both as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Korn and passed with no opposing votes.**

VIII. Chief Communications Officer (CCO) Report:

Ms. Bernard-Bastien highlighted the items under the CCO Report.

- a) Additional REI Workshops:
- b) Back-To-School Extravaganza (BTSE) Contingency Funding:



**ACTION: Ms. Donnelly made a motion to approve funding for additional REI Workshops, and approve contingency funding for the 2021 BTSE, both as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Schneider and passed with no opposing votes.**

IX. Chief Operating Officer (COO) Report:

Ms. Larsen highlighted the items under the COO Report.

- a) Financial Statements and Budget Amendments for May 2021:
- b) Monthly/Annual Purchases:

**ACTION: Dr. Thaqi made a motion to approve the Budget Amendments and Interim Financial Statements for May 2021, and approve the CSC Monthly/Annual Purchases, both as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Korn and passed with no opposing votes.**

X. Broward Reads Coalition Report:

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer briefly highlighted the recent meeting of the Broward Reads Coalition and noted that the meeting minutes will be included in next month's meeting information packet.

XI. Funders Forum Report:

Ms. Juarez drew members' attention to the meeting minutes in the information packet, noting that the Forum meetings draw about 20-25 attendees each month.

XII. Public Comment:

Mr. Walter Honaman, Legal Aid Service of Broward County, thanked the Council for its ongoing support of children in the dependency system.

XIII. Council Members' Roundtable:

CSC staff led a Roundtable presentation on CSC's efforts in the capacity building arena, which include capacity building initiatives, skill-building trainings, volunteer and civic engagement opportunities, and racial equity and social justice initiatives. Ms. Adamma DuCille, Assistant Director of Capacity Building & Training, started the presentation by giving an overview of those efforts. She acknowledged the support and leadership of the current Co-Chairs, Dr. David

Kenton and Mr. Jeffrey Wood, Esq., as well as past Co-Chair, Ms. Ana Valladares.

Ms. Roxanne Smith, Senior Training Manager, highlighted CSC's capacity-building training efforts in the areas of leadership training and organizational development training, including the new Chat & Chew series initiated by Co-Chairs Kenton and Wood. She also touched upon other capacity building initiatives focused on organizational development, such as the Agency Capacity Building Committee, capacity building grants, and the online capacity building resource page.

Ms. Yolanda Meadows, Administrative Assistant–Training, highlighted CSC's 170 skill-building trainings and the user-friendly training website. She noted that CSC staff across all departments work collaboratively to identify trainings that will be beneficial for CSC-funded providers.

Ms. Nicolette Picardi, Training Manager, highlighted training innovations that were implemented during the COVID pandemic, including pivoting to virtual training platforms using a phased approach. She stated that in FY 19/20, 1,118 participants took part in the live trainings, while 1,981 took part in online sessions. For FY 20/21, to date, 2,626 participants have taken part in online sessions. The CSC Fiscal Year ends September 30, 2021.

Ms. DuCille highlighted volunteer engagement opportunities available through CSC's partnership with HandsOn Broward (HOB), noting that HOB quickly adjusted its business model from in-person, hands-on volunteering to an at-home, virtual model more conducive to the COVID environment.

Ms. DuCille also highlighted racial equity initiatives CSC has undertaken since 2015, when it adopted an action-oriented approach to understanding and addressing racial equity and social justice issues. Since then, CSC has provided access to presentations, trainings, workshops, and learning groups that support anti-racist initiatives. Ms. Picardi noted that since 2015, more than 2,600 individuals have attended the Undoing Racism 3-day workshop or the 2-day Racial Equity workshop, including more than 300 youth who attended the 2-day workshop, with another youth session slated for July 2021.

Ms. DuCille introduced Mr. Stephen Ferrante, Group Victory, who recounted his work with non-profit organizations through CSC's capacity mini-grant work and partnerships. He noted that while a lot of non-profits are strong on mission/passion, they lack expertise in areas such as board governance and

strategic planning. The capacity mini-grants give these organizations the resources and assistance to grow in those areas.

Mr. Wood thanked staff for the presentation and thanked the Council for its continued support of capacity building.

XIV. Adjournment:

**ACTION: Ms. Schneider made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:28 AM. The motion was seconded by Ms. Korn and passed with no opposing votes.**



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Dr. David H. Kenton, Secretary

## MEETING ATTENDEES (\*denotes speaker)

Name	Organization
Grace Ramos	The M Network
Karen Swartzbaugh Ghezzi	Community Advocate
Brinaire Jean	Alexander REBB Inc.
Rebecca Miele*	Florida Department of Health Broward – KidCare Outreach
Ana Valladares	Mujeres Latinas
Nichole Webb	Department of Health Florida KidCare Outreach Program
Marie Domond	Department of Health
Milene Barber	Department of Health
Mark Reyes	Urban League of Broward County
Walter Honaman*	Legal Aid Service of Broward County
Alice-Lydia Bird	YMCA of South Florida
Regine Kanzki	Crockett Foundation
Alison Bregman-Rodriguez	YMCA of South Florida
Marnelle Datus Louis	Florida Department of Health in Broward County