



Children's Services Council

of Broward County
Our Focus is Our Children.



23 POPULAR ANNUAL FINANCIAL 24 REPORT

A LIGHT FOR FAMILIES. RESOURCES FOR HOPE.

For the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2024

6600 WEST COMMERCIAL BOULEVARD | LAUDERHILL, FLORIDA 33319 | INFO@CSCBROWARD.ORG

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INTRODUCTION

ABOUT THE CSC

The Children's Services Council of Broward County (CSC) is an Independent Special Taxing District established by the voters of Broward County, Florida, on September 5, 2000. The CSC's mission is to provide the leadership, advocacy, and resources necessary to enhance children's lives and empower them to become responsible, productive adults through collaborative planning and funding of a continuum of quality care. The statute allows the Council to levy taxes of up to \$0.50 per \$1,000 of the assessed property tax value to accomplish this task. The CSC is not a component unit of any other governmental unit, nor does it meet the criteria to include any governmental organization as a component unit.

The Council's jurisdiction covers the entire Broward County, the second most populated county in Florida, the 17th most populous county in the US (World Population Review, 2024), and one of the most diverse in the country. It offers 24 miles of beaches coupled with a tropical climate, as well as a flourishing melting pot of cultural and multi-ethnic diversity (37.8% of the County's population are foreign-born compared to an average of about 14% nationwide), adding to the richness of the area.



MISSION

To provide the leadership, advocacy, and resources necessary to enhance children's lives and empower them to become responsible, productive adults through collaborative planning and funding of a continuum of quality care.

VISION

The children of Broward County shall have the opportunity to realize their full potential, their hopes and their dreams supported by a nurturing family and community.



GOVERNING BOARD - THE COUNCIL

The eleven-member Council is comprised of five (5) individuals appointed by the governor based on recommendations by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners and, six (6) members who are statutorily designated to serve by virtue of the office or position they hold within the community. Council Members are responsible for setting policies and prioritizing and approving program and administrative funding. Each member brings a firm commitment to improving the welfare of children and their families. Throughout this fiscal year, several positions were turned over. All members who served throughout the year are acknowledged below. Currently, there is one vacant gubernatorial appointment, bringing the total number of Council Members to ten at the end of fiscal year ending September 30, 2024.



Jeffrey S. Wood, Chair
Governor Appointee
Chair since August 2024



Honorable Francis Viamontes
Judicial Member
Appointed March 2024



Dr. David H. Kenton, Chair
Governor Appointee
Chair January 2023- August 2024



Beam Furr, Vice Chair
Broward County
Commission



Robert Shea
Child Protection
Director, Southeast &
Southern Regions
Department of Chil-
dren & Families



**Dr. Peter B. Licata
Superintendent**
Broward County
Public Schools. Served
through August 2024



**Dr. Christine
Thompson, Secretary**
Governor Appointee
Appointed August 2024



Dr. Paula Thaqi
Director of Broward
County Health
Department



**Honorable Michael
Davis**
Judicial Member
Served through Febru-
ary 2024



Dr. Howard Hepburn
Superintendent
Broward County Public
Schools



Alyssa Foganholi
Governor Appointee
Appointed August 2024



Dennis Miles
Department
of Children & Families
Served through March 2024



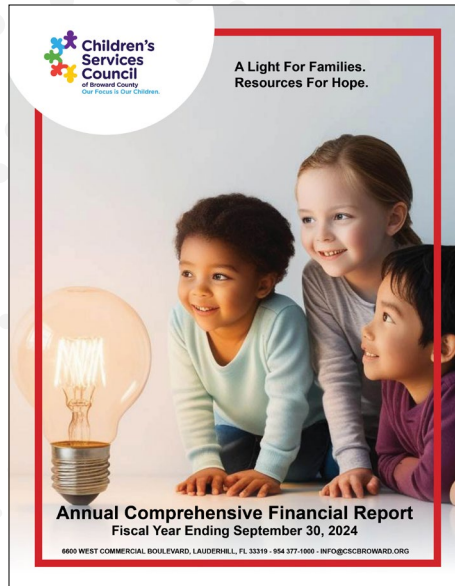
Debra Hixon
Board Member
Broward County Public
Schools



Julia Musella
Governor Appointee
Appointed August 2024



Cathy Donnelly
Governor Appointee



ABOUT THE POPULAR ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT (PAFR)

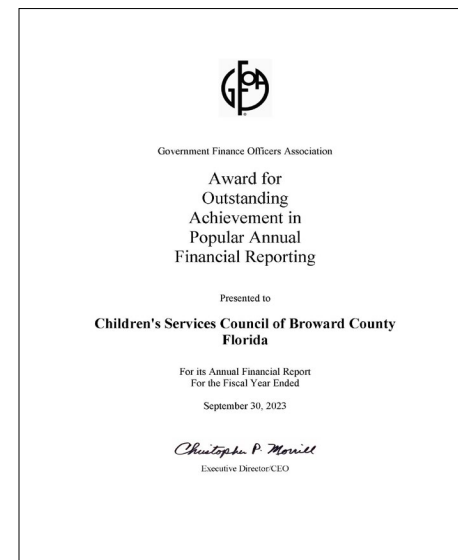
This report offers a simplified overview of the financial position of the Children's Services Council of Broward County to further enhance transparency and public awareness. It is presented in a logical format, which is easily understood by the public and other interested parties who do not have a background in public finance. Information for this report was extracted from the Children's Services Council's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the fiscal year ended on September 30, 2024. The Annual Comprehensive Financial Report outlines the CSC's financial position and operating activities for the year and conforms to generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

Click on the link for more information about the [Annual Comprehensive Financial Report](#).

FINANCIAL REPORTING AWARDS

AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN POPULAR ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORTING

Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has given an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting to the Children's Services Council of Broward for its Popular Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023. This was the fifth year that the CSC received this award. The Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is a prestigious national award recognizing conformance with the highest standards for the preparation of state and local government popular reports. We believe our current report continues to conform to the Popular Annual Financial Reporting requirements, and we are submitting it to GFOA to determine its eligibility for another award.



CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT FOR EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING

The Children's Services Council of Broward County's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the year ended September 30, 2023, was awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA). This was the 21st consecutive year that the CSC has received this highest form of recognition for excellence in state and local government financial reporting. To be awarded a Certificate of Achievement, a government must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized annual financial report. This report must satisfy both generally accepted accounting principles and applicable legal requirements. A Certificate of Achievement is valid for a period of one year only. We believe that our current Annual Comprehensive Financial Report continues to meet the Certificate of Achievement Program's requirements, and we are submitting it to GFOA to determine its eligibility for another certificate.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT/CEO

Dear Citizens of Broward County:

I am excited to share the Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) for the Children's Services Council of Broward County, covering the year ending September 30, 2024. This report offers a clear and engaging summary of our financial activities and outcomes, making it easy for you to understand our impact. The information included comes from the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR), ensuring a thorough overview of our work and dedication to the community. The ACFR is prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and was audited by the firm Citrin Cooperman, receiving an unmodified opinion or "clean opinion." An unmodified opinion means the Council's basic financial statements for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024, are fairly presented in conformity with GAAP.

While the PAFR was not audited, it offers a simplified view of financial trends over five years and is presented on a non-GAAP basis. It's important to note that the PAFR complements, rather than replaces, the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. If you'd like to explore these documents further, feel free to contact the Finance Department at (954) 377-1000. Additionally, you can easily access both the PAFR and ACFR online at the CSC's website: www.cscbroward.org. We encourage you to dive in and discover the financial insights available.

Among the interesting financial insights are that despite the appeal of South Florida living, economic conditions have proven to be challenging, especially after the pandemic. In Broward County, residents face difficulties in finding affordable housing and childcare, with the highest childcare costs in the state and significant increases in the cost of living (CareerSource's Broward County Economic and Labor Market Analysis, 2022; Miami Herald, 2024). Housing, transportation, and food account for 69% of household expenses in South Florida, compared to 62.9% nationally (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2024). Broward remains one of the most expensive rental markets in the country, creating a high demand for social services to address these challenges. As a result, the Council's expenditures for Program Services increased this past year, with the provider agencies drawing down 83% of their budget. The Council's services for children and families not only provide valuable community benefits but also support over 3,500 full-time equivalent positions in local social services.

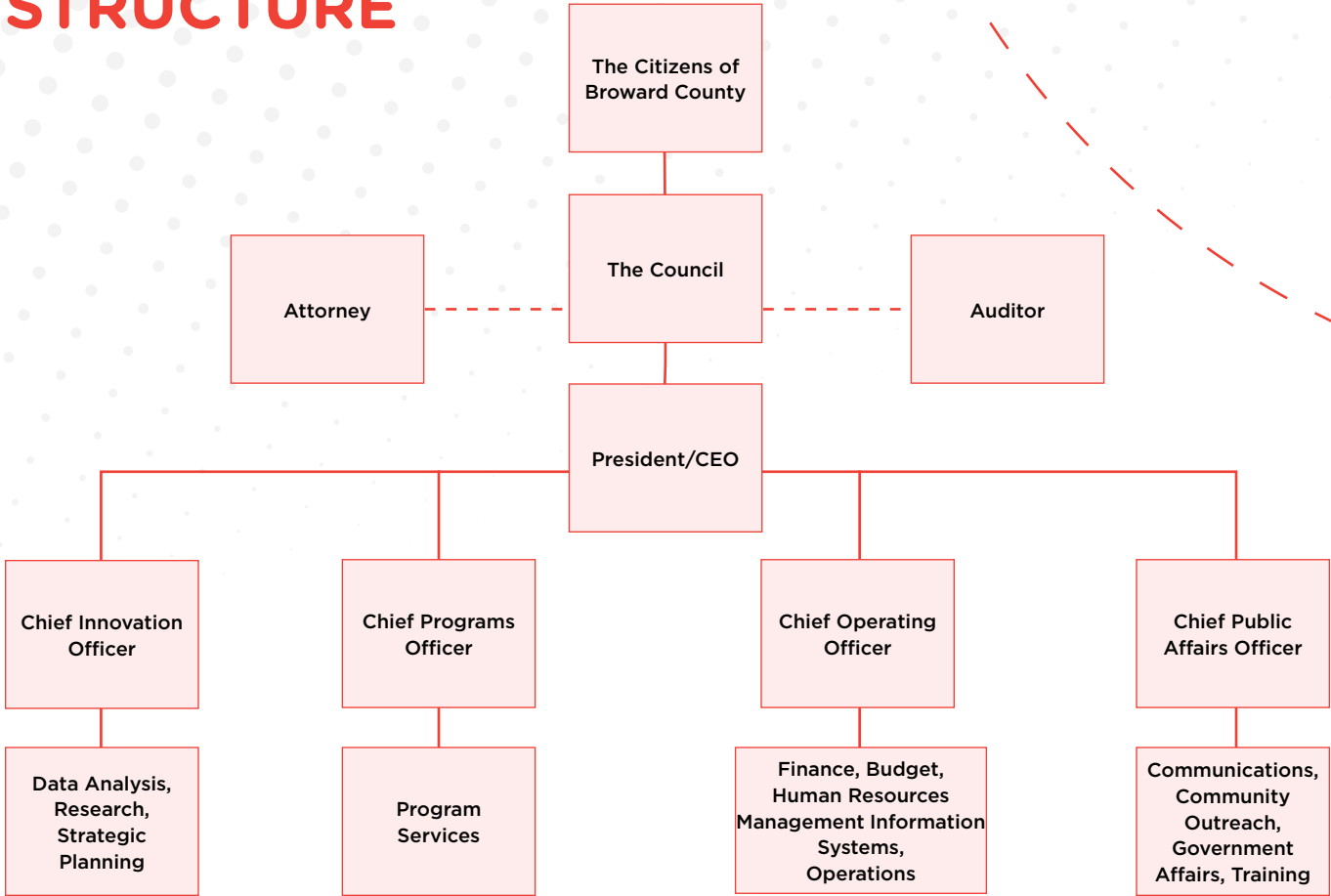
I genuinely appreciate the incredible service providers, dedicated staff at CSC, and visionary Council Members. Their commitment and expert insights truly bring CSC's mission to life. Thank you to all of them and to you the taxpayers of Broward County—together, we're making a positive impact! A light for families. Resources for Hope.

Sincerely,

Cindy Arenberg Seltzer President, CEO



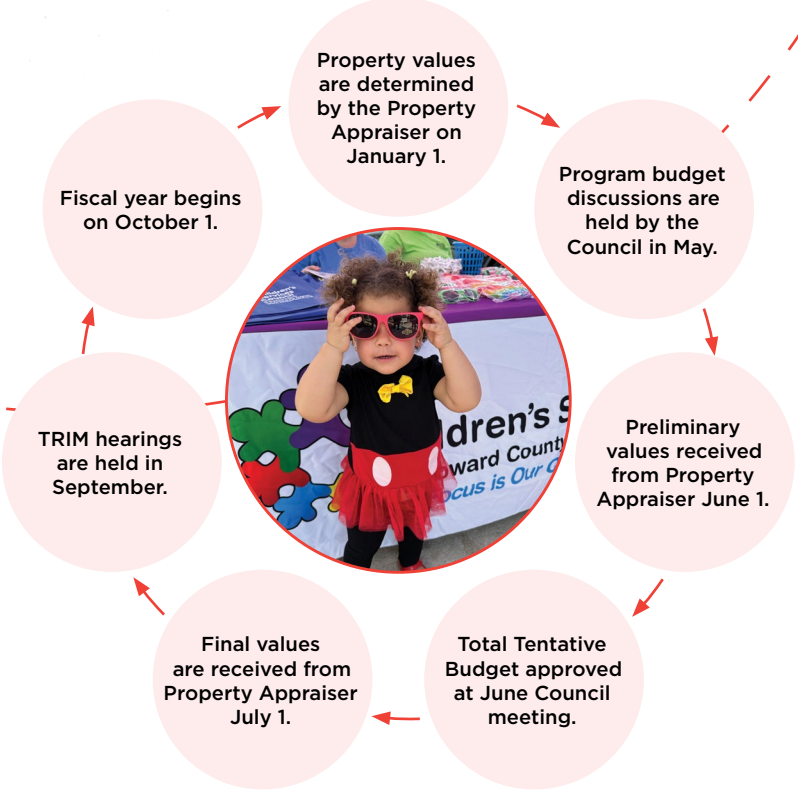
ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



OUR STAFF

CSC's motto, "Our Focus is Our Children," guides its work and is evidenced every day through the staff's single focus on providing leadership, advocacy, and resources for children and families in need. The CSC has established a strong leadership role within the child-serving community and continues to build partnerships and programs that emphasize prevention.

BUDGET AND FISCAL POLICY



THE BUDGET PROCESS

By statute, the Council must submit a tentative budget and millage rate to the Broward County Commission by July 1. Once the Property Appraiser's Office determines the final property tax values, the Council must hold two public hearings in September as required under the Truth in Millage (TRIM) Act. Each year, following the required disclosures and the conduct of hearings for taxpayer comment, the Council Members set the final tax rates and adopt a budget.

HOW MUCH DID THE AVERAGE HOMEOWNER PAY FOR THE CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL?

The Council's millage rate for the fiscal year 2023-2024 was .4500 mills, equivalent to 45 cents of every \$1,000 of assessed taxable value. On July 1, 2023, the average assessed value of a single-family home in Broward County stood at approximately \$353,914. Based on the taxable value on July 1, 2023, the average homeowner would have paid \$159 for the year, approximately \$3.06 per week—less than half the cost of a kid's Happy Meal!

Table 1 illustrates the estimated taxes that the average single-family homeowner would have paid to the CSC in each of the last five fiscal years.

TABLE 1.

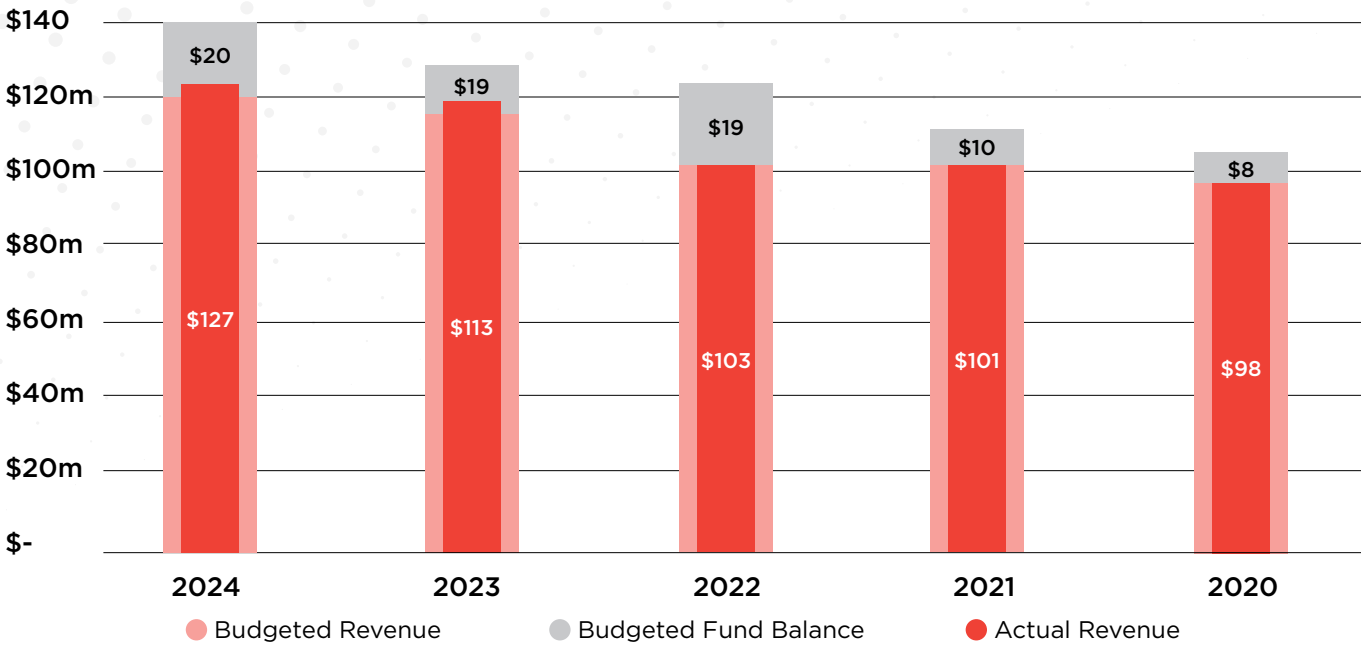
FISCAL YEAR	Avg Assessed Home Value [AAV]*	Change in AAV	Tax Rate	Paid to CSC	Change in Dollars Paid
2024	\$353,914	10%	0.4500	\$159	\$14
2023	\$322,054	10%	0.4500	\$145	\$7
2022	\$292,740	5%	0.4699	\$138	\$2
2021	\$278,639	5%	0.4882	\$136	\$6
2020	\$265,891	5%	0.4882	\$130	\$7

* Source: Broward County Property Appraiser
NOTE: The average assessed home value is the average value of a single-family home in Broward County. All values are assessed as of July 1, each tax year. Homestead exemptions, when applied, would decrease the AAV resulting in lower taxes paid

BUDGETARY COMPARISONS-GENERAL FUND

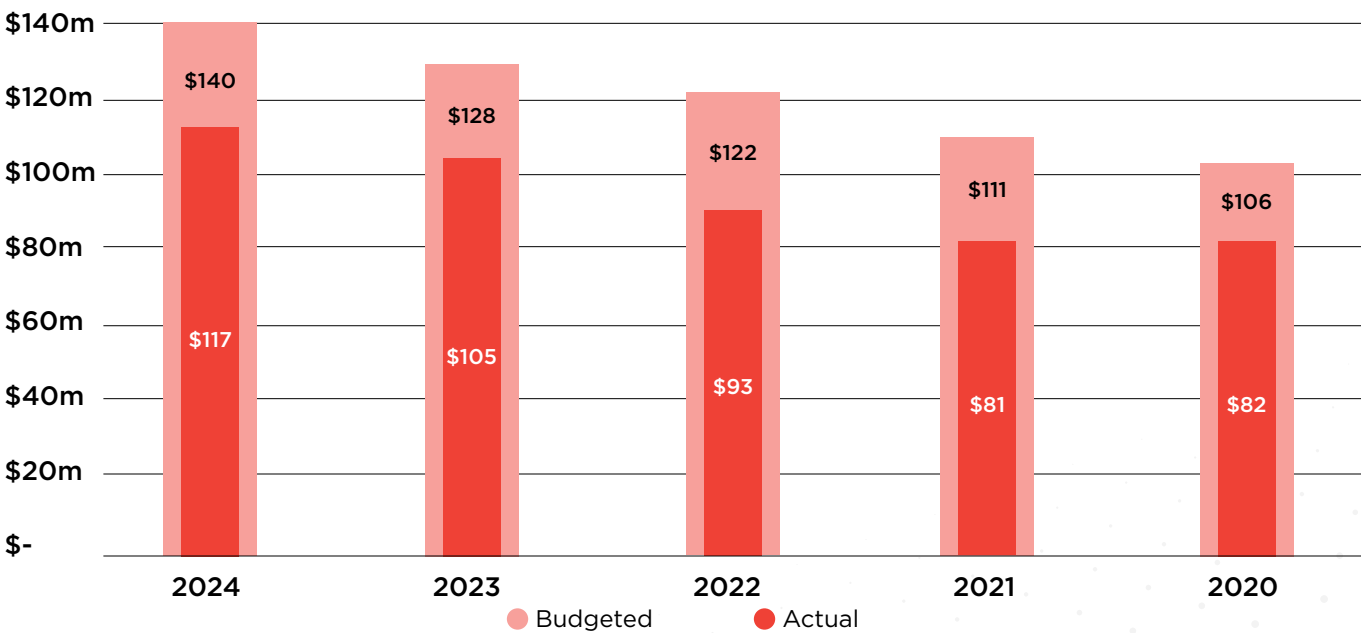
The CSC’s budget for 2023-2024 was \$140 million, which included a \$20 million in fund balance and carryover from the prior fiscal year. Actual revenues received were \$6.9 more than budget, mainly due to a significant increase in interest earned on investments.

FIGURE 1.
BUDGET TO ACTUAL REVENUES AND BUDGETED FUND BALANCE FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.
(IN MILLIONS)



Actual expenditures were \$23 million below the final budget amounts, mainly due to the underutilization of the service provider contracts.

FIGURE 2.
BUDGET TO ACTUAL EXPENDITURES FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS. (IN MILLIONS)



GOVERNMENTAL FUND
FINANCIAL INFORMATION

CSC, like other special districts, state, and local governments, uses fund accounting to comply with finance-related legal requirements. This accounting method helps to determine the financial resources available to finance the CSC’s programs in the short term. In the fiscal year 2023-2024, the Fund Balance increased by \$9.6 million to \$88.9 million. The primary reason for this increase was the significant rise in interest on investment and the inability of the service providers to fully utilize their contracts. Tables 2 and 3 below show the General Fund financial information over the last five years.

CONDENSED BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

As of September 30, 2024, CSC’s total assets exceeded liabilities by \$88,964,703 (Fund Balance).

TABLE 2.	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Assets					
Current Assets	\$103,264,521	\$88,623,212	\$82,271,553	\$70,150,858	\$51,578,936
Total Assets	\$103,264,521	\$88,623,212	\$82,271,553	\$70,150,858	\$51,578,936
Liabilities and Fund Balance:					
Total Liabilities	14,299,818	9,343,171	11,055,680	8,569,020	10,108,626
Fund Balance:					
Nonspendable	200,128	179,981	217,601	247,417	185,322
Committed	10,000,000	6,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000
Assigned	25,149,753	20,235,194	19,366,931	19,414,037	10,293,454
Unassigned	53,614,822	52,864,866	48,631,341	38,920,384	27,991,534
Total Fund Balance	88,964,703	79,280,041	71,215,873	61,581,838	41,470,310
Total Liabilities & Fund Balance	\$103,264,521	\$88,623,212	\$82,271,551	\$70,150,858	\$51,578,936
% Increase/(Decrease) in Fund Balance	12%	11%	16%	48%	65%

CONDENSED OPERATING STATEMENT - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

CSC’s total revenues exceeded expenditures by \$9,684,662 in fiscal year 2024 (Net Change in Fund Balance).

TABLE 3.	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Total Revenues	126,969,923	113,139,116	102,576,309	101,347,335	98,163,429
Total Expenditures	117,285,261	105,074,948	92,942,274	81,235,807	81,768,505
Net Change in Fund Balance	9,684,662	8,064,168	9,634,035	20,111,528	16,394,924

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

The Government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the CSC’s finances like a private sector business. These statements offer both long-term and short-term information about the CSC’s overall financial condition. Tables 4 and 5 below show that the CSC’s financial health or position has improved steadily over the last five years. In the fiscal year 2024, the total net position increased by \$9.1 million dollars. As of September 30, 2024, CSC’s total assets and deferred outflows exceeded liabilities and deferred inflows by \$85,210,526 (Net Position).

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

TABLE 4.	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Assets					
Current and Other Assets	103,264,521	88,623,212	82,271,553	70,150,858	51,578,936
Capital Assets	6,192,572	6,618,320	6,853,529	6,665,223	7,004,338
Total Assets	109,457,093	95,241,532	89,125,082	76,816,081	58,583,274
Deferred Outflows of Resources	2,431,172	2,561,506	3,010,331	2,587,456	2,919,467
Liabilities					
Current	14,557,600	9,585,968	11,215,895	8,688,567	10,228,669
Noncurrent Liabilities	10,964,296	11,703,253	10,112,397	4,638,569	9,838,531
Total Liabilities	25,521,896	21,289,221	21,328,292	\$13,327,136	20,067,200
Deferred Inflows of Resources	1,155,843	431,026	423,658	4,713,146	200,362
Net Position:					
Invested in Capital Assets	5,987,232	6,337,441	6,853,529	6,665,223	7,004,338
Unrestricted	79,223,294	69,745,350	63,529,934	54,698,032	34,230,841
Total New Position	85,210,526	76,082,791	70,383,463	61,363,255	41,235,179
% Increase/Decrease in Net Position	12%	8%	15%	49%	56%

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

CSC’s total revenues exceeded expenses by \$5,699,328 in fiscal year 2024 due to a significant rise in interest on investments and the service providers’ inability to fully utilize their contracts.

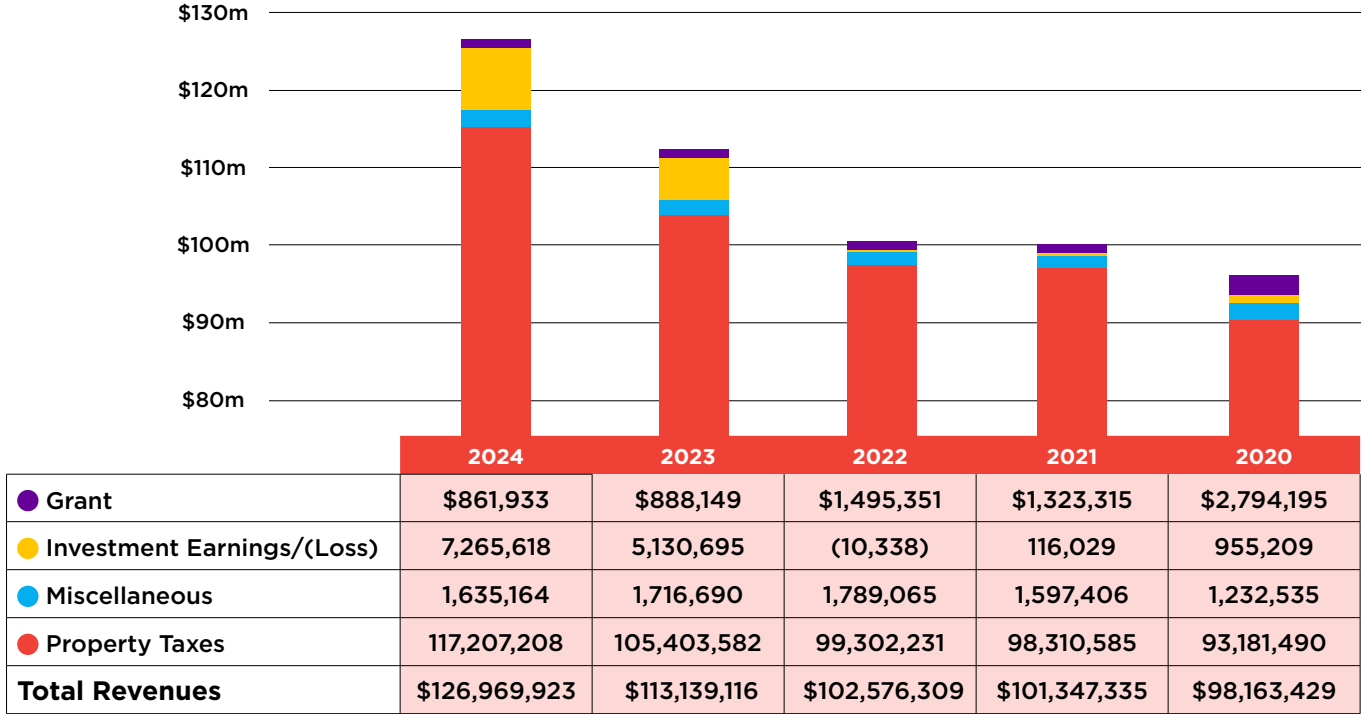
TABLE 5.	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Expenses:					
Program Services	108,939,011	98,602,685	85,661,053	74,325,805	75,536,930
General Administration	8,903,177	8,837,103	7,895,048	6,893,454	7,884,027
Total Expenses	117,842,188	107,439,788	93,556,101	81,219,259	83,420,957
Revenues:					
General Revenues	126,969,923	113,139,116	102,576,309	101,347,335	98,163,429
Total Revenues	126,969,923	113,139,116	102,576,309	101,347,335	98,163,429
Change in Net Position	9,127,735	5,699,328	9,020,208	20,128,076	14,742,472
Net Position-Beginning	76,082,791	70,383,463	61,363,255	41,235,179	26,492,707
Net Position-Ending	85,210,256	76,082,791	70,383,463	61,363,255	\$41,235,179

WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM?

The CSC’s total annual revenue in the fiscal year 2023-2024 was \$127 million. Figure 3 below shows the allocation of revenues for the fiscal year.

REVENUES

FIGURE 3.



- **PROPERTY TAX REVENUES** CSC’s main source of revenue amounted to \$117 million in fiscal year 2023-2024. This reflects an increase of \$11.8 million, or 11%, over the prior fiscal year. The millage rate remained at .4500, reflecting the council’s thoughtful decision to maintain stability while taking advantage of the increased property values.
- **INVESTMENT EARNINGS** significantly increased by \$2.1 million due to improved market conditions and higher interest on investments held with Florida Prime and Florida PALM and Managed Investments held at US Bank.
- **GRANT REVENUES** totaled \$861,933 and included \$472,254 of State matching funds from the State of Florida Department of Children and Families and \$389,679 from the Broward UP (Unlimited Potential) Promise Neighborhood Project federal pass-through grant with Broward College.
- **MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE** includes local foundation grants, support from local collaborative events, training registration, and other revenue. Miscellaneous revenue for the current year totaled \$1,635,164, which reflects a slight decrease from the prior year.

WHERE DID THE MONEY GO?

The expenses for 2023-24 totaled \$117 million. The following chart illustrates how each dollar was allocated.

FIGURE 4. 2023-2024 EXPENSES

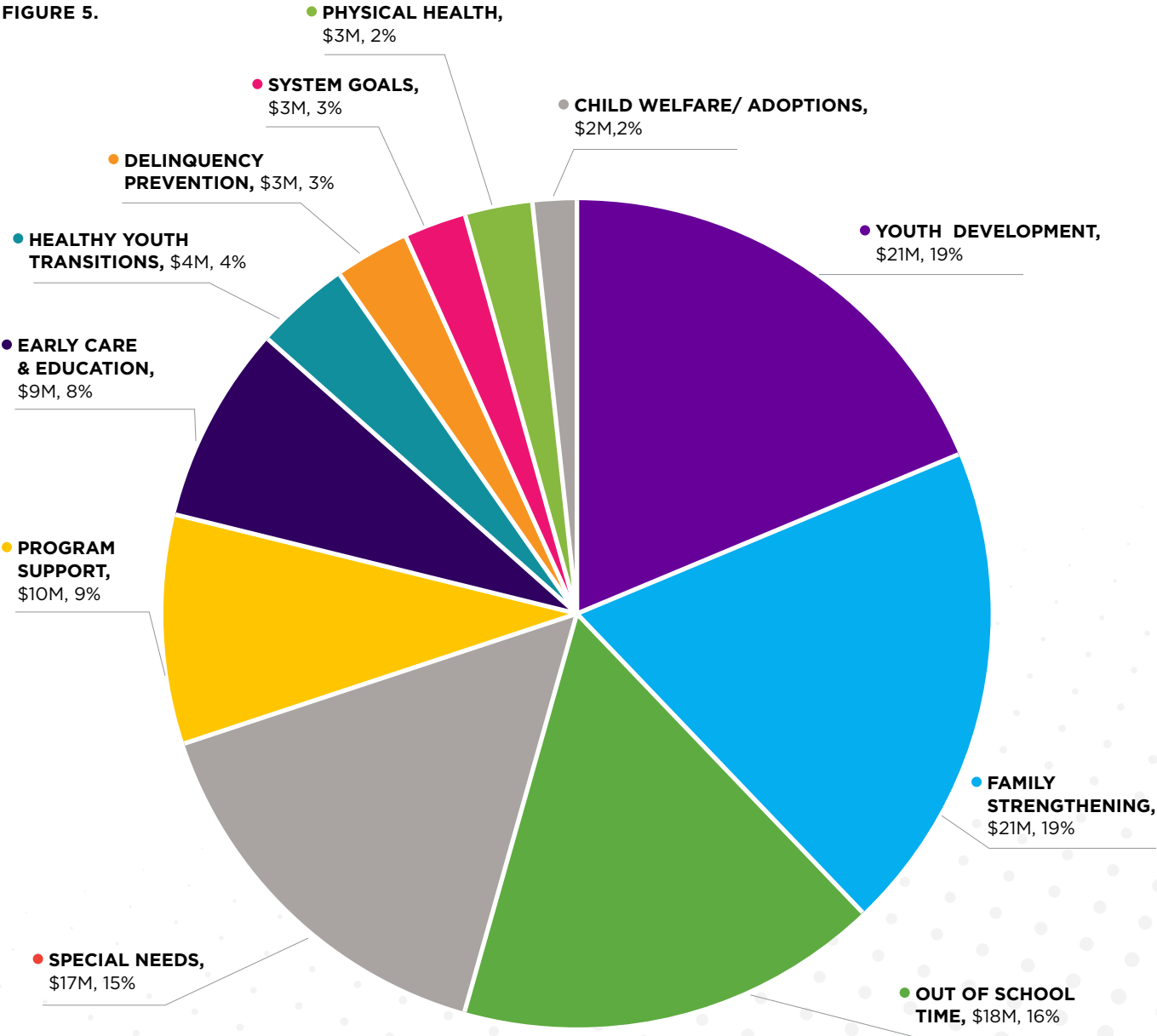


- **EXPENSES FOR PROGRAM SERVICES AND SUPPORT** which includes related program administration, totaled \$108.9 million in fiscal year 2024. This reflects an increase of \$10.3 million over the prior year. While this increase is slightly lower than the prior year, this continues the upward trend of programmatic expenses post-pandemic. Figure 5 below shows the allocation of these expenses amongst the various service goal areas.
- **EXPENSES FOR GENERAL ADMINISTRATION** totaled \$4.9 million, a decrease of \$329,514 or 6.4% less than fiscal year 2023. This decrease is the result of decreased FRS expenses from the proportional share of the Florida Retirement System plan, which resulted in a decrease in pension expenses.

- **COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AND TAX COLLECTOR FEES** for fiscal year 2024 the total for these two functions increased by \$395,588 for a total of \$4 million.

PROGRAM SERVICES AND SUPPORT EXPENDITURES IN FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024

FIGURE 5.



The CSC's [Annual Performance Report for the FY 2023-2024](#), provides an in-depth analysis of the services and performance outcomes provided during the year in the above service goal areas. We encourage you to take some time to review how your tax dollars benefited the community.

OTHER INITIATIVES

In addition to services provided under the core goal areas, the CSC engages in various community partnerships and system-building initiatives. Initiatives in 2023-2024 included:

BACK TO SCHOOL EXTRAVAGANZA.

For the past fourteen years, the Council, together with the School District, local businesses, other organizations, and residents, supported a Back-to-School Community Extravaganza (BTSE) to provide students with backpacks stuffed with age-appropriate school supplies, uniforms, undergarments, and shoes. This year distributions were hosted at the following locations: Dillard 6-12 School in collaboration with the YMCA, Miramar High School along with Hispanic Unity, and Blanche Ely High School in partnership with the Crockett Foundation. During these events, over 8,000 participants received backpacks and school supplies, 2800 pairs of shoes were distributed, 16,000 school uniforms, and other resources as well. The CSC cost of the event was \$379,000 plus \$40,200 cash donations and \$128,000 in-kind donations from the community.



BROWARD READS: THE CAMPAIGN FOR GRADE-LEVEL READING.

Broward has been recognized multiple times in the past few years as a Pacesetter Community by the National Campaign for Grade-Level Reading. One of the signature events of the campaign is Broward Reads for the Record which is a national event created by JumpStart. This year's event took place on October 24, 2024, with 1,300 volunteers reading to four- and five-year-old children who also received a copy of the book. The Council expended \$157,500 and, along with other partners, distributed over 43,300 English and Spanish books that were provided to children so that they could begin their own library collection. Feedback from volunteer readers and the schools was overwhelmingly positive.



HUNGER/FOOD INSECURITY.

Hunger/Food insecurity. Recognizing the community's hunger needs, the Council works closely with various community partners to mitigate childhood hunger and funds an array of hunger-related programs procured through various ad hoc mechanisms. For the fiscal year 2023-24, expenditures totaled over \$1 million for various food insecurity programs.

HIGHLIGHTS OF INVESTMENT IN SERVICES IN FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024

EARLY CARE & EDUCATION



**\$9
MILLION
INVESTED.**

98% of parents and caregivers reported benefits from receiving childcare services (e.g., respite, pursuing/maintaining employment opportunities, therapeutic treatment, etc.)

FAMILY STRENGTHENING



**\$21
MILLION
INVESTED.**

90% of families improved family functioning.
98% of infants and children met developmental milestones.
100% of caregivers reported satisfaction with Kinship services.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT & DELINQUENCY PREVENTION



**\$24
MILLION
INVESTED.**

80% of youth demonstrated gains in Youth Development Competencies, including character and confidence, leadership, civic engagement, self-esteem, and self-worth.
83% of youth improved their reading grade.
72% of youth improved day school attendance.

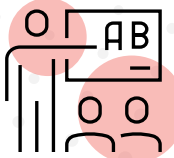
OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME



**\$18
MILLION
INVESTED.**

95% of children improved reading and language development.
94% of children improved homework completion.

SPECIAL NEEDS



**\$17
MILLION
INVESTED.**

83% of children improved reading and language development.
100% of children remained safe.



Our Focus is Our Children.



PREPARED BY CSC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

If you would like this publication in an alternate format,
please call **(954)-377-1000** or email us at info@cscbroward.org