

# Children's Services Council of Broward County Program Planning Committee Meeting

August 11, 2025 @ 10:00 AM

Loc: Children's Services Council of Broward County & Zoom Access  
6600 West Commercial Blvd., Lauderhill, FL 33319 -- Training Room 2

<https://cscbroward.zoom.us/meeting/register/fpWqufulSziYFvEfbR2R3w>

## AGENDA

- |       |  |                |   |
|-------|--|----------------|---|
| I.    | Call Meeting to Order  |                | Christine Thompson<br><i>Committee Chair</i>  |
| II.   | Roll Call  |                | Amy Jacques,<br><i>Special Assistant to the President/CEO</i>   |
| III.  | Approve Joint PPC/Finance Minutes from June 11, 2025   | <b>(Tab 1)</b> | Christine Thompson,<br><i>Committee Chair</i>   |
| IV.   | Recommend to the Full Council the Approval of the Speak Life End Bullying Leverage Request   | <b>(Tab 2)</b> | Dion Smith, <i>Director PS</i><br>Lisa Bayne, <i>Director PS</i><br>Kimberly A. Goulbourne,<br><i>Director PAOD</i> |
| V.    | Recommend to the Full Council the Approval of the Deferred Contract Renewals   | <b>(Tab 3)</b> | Dion Smith  |
| VI.   | Recommend to the Full Council the Approval of the Children's Home Society Supervised Visitation Contract Renewal for FY 25/26 and Accept Leverage Funding and Related Expenditures from The Jim Moran Foundation | <b>(Tab 4)</b> | Dion Smith  |
| VII.  | Recommend to the Full Council the Approval of the JAFCO Eagle's Haven Community Wellness Center Contract Renewal for FY 25/26  | <b>(Tab 5)</b> | Dion Smith  |
| VIII. | Public Comment/Council General Comments  |                | Christine Thompson,<br><i>Committee Chair</i>   |
| IX.   | Adjourn  |                |   |



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

**LOC: Florida Department of Health @ Broward County (w/ Zoom Access)  
June 11, 2025 @ 9:00 A.M.**

**Minutes**

**Committee Members in Attendance:**

Health Department Director Paula Thaqi (*Finance Committee Chair*), Governor Appointee Christine Thompson (*PPC Chair & Finance Committee Member*), School Board Member Debra Hixon (*Finance Committee Member*), Governor Appointee Jeffrey S. Wood (*PPC Member*)

**Committee Members Virtual:**

Broward County Commissioner Nan Rich (*PPC Member*), Governor Appointee Alyssa Foganholi (*PPC & Finance Committee Member*)

**Committee Member Absent:**

Governor Appointee Julia Musella (*PPC Member*)

**Staff in Attendance:**

Cindy Arenberg Seltzer (*President/CEO*), David Kenton, Maria Juarez, Sharetta Remikie, Sue Gallagher, Kathleen Campbell, Alicia Williams, Dion Smith, Lisa Bayne, Marissa Greif-Hackett, Ken King, Kimberly A. Goulbourne, Erin Byrne, Amy Jacques, Felina Rosales-Furer, Deidre-Ann Burrell, Amber Gross, Brooke Sherman

**Guests in Attendance:**

Monica King (*Broward Healthy Start Coalition*), Regine Kanzki (*Broward Healthy Start Coalition*), Silvia Quintana (*Broward Behavioral Health Coalition*)

**Agenda:**

**I. Call to Order**

Dr. Thaqi (*Finance Committee Chair*) called the meeting to order at 9:05 A.M.

**II. Roll Call**

A roll call was conducted, with a quorum established for the Finance Committee with Dr. Thaqi and Ms. Hixon, but not yet established for the PPC, with only Mr. Wood present. Dr. Thompson (PPC Committee Chair) arrived four minutes later to establish a quorum for the PPC Committee.

**III. Past Committee Minutes**

**ACTION:** Ms. Hixon made a motion to approve the Finance Committee meeting minutes of March 12, 2025, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Foganholi and passed with no opposing votes.

Dr. Thompson arrived at 9:09 to establish a quorum for the PPC.

**ACTION:** Mr. Wood made a motion to approve the PPC meeting minutes of April 9, 2025, and the Joint PPC/Finance Committee minutes of May 7, 2025, as presented. The motion was seconded by Senator Rich and passed with no opposing votes.

**IV. Broward Behavioral Health Coalition (BBHC) Care Coordination Teams (CCT) Community Collaborative Request**

Ms. Juarez briefly highlighted the BBHC community collaborative funding request, as presented in the meeting information packet. She explained that due to an increase in demand that has exceeded program capacity, the BBHC is seeking to expand the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ)-involved youth CCT program to support two additional teams and provide emergency support for approximately 120 families per year.

For the full Council meeting in June, Dr. Thaqi and Dr. Thompson requested additional data related to the impact and effectiveness of the CCT. Specifically, data on the average length of stay for the youth in the detention facility before and after the implementation of the CCT, the percentage of youth returned home versus elsewhere both before and after the implementation of the CCT, and the number of disruptions to safety plans after youth successfully returned home, forcing them out of the home again.

**ACTION:** Mr. Wood made a motion to recommend to the full Council approval of funding for BBHC CCT for Juvenile Justice involved youth, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Thaqi and passed with no opposing votes and an abstention from Senator Rich, who submitted the attached voting conflict form.

**V. FY 25/26 Budget Follow-Up**

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer highlighted the Budget Wish List items, as presented in the meeting information packet, that Members had requested at the May Budget Retreat for further exploration by staff. She pointed out that the Council had approved a 3% Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) at the May Budget Retreat to support provider staff salaries to strengthen recruitment and retention efforts. This adjustment was accomplished by reducing the Unallocated line item by \$2.5 million and designating a

line to be drawn from to increase Provider staff salaries as the new contracts are negotiated.

Under Maternal Child Health – Service Goal 9, Ms. Arenberg Seltzer highlighted several community programs providing prenatal and breastfeeding support. As far as the rising cost of baby items, while real, there is still uncertainty surrounding that and the impact is still unknown at this point. She noted that if it becomes clearer during the year, the Council can always move funds from Unallocated to address the burden on families.

Under Family Supports – Service Goal 2, Committee Members discussed additional funding for Broward Healthy Start Coalition's Healthy Families Contract to increase capacity. Ms. Arenberg Seltzer shared that with the Coalition's Healthy Families Broward Program (HFB) Contract currently underutilizing by 10%, and with a seven-month utilization trend analysis projecting that the Contract will not be fully expended by its September end date, staff is recommending rolling over unspent funds into FY 25/26 to support staff expansion and increase service capacity. She explained that the carry-forward monies would be sufficient to add two more direct service staff to connect families to the services.

Ms. Monica King, Broward Healthy Start Coalition, summarized the program's benefits and challenges and advocated for increasing community capacity for the 0–5-year-old population, specifically in the home visitation area. She explained that she sees a need to add two FTEs. The program is currently funded for three teams, but two of those teams have only four staff members, whereas five staff members would be ideal to increase capacity.

Senator Rich expressed strong support for expanding the program, given that it serves such a vulnerable population. Discussion ensued to help Committee members understand any issues related to capacity, with Ms. King promising to provide Dr. Thaqi with data related to the number of families in need of this program who are not being served due to a lack of capacity. Ms. Arenberg Seltzer reminded Members that given the current uncertainty about Federal and State funding, staff took a very conservative approach in developing the programmatic budget. Increases were only recommended when there were persistent waiting lists for services or to address the rising cost and demand for food. She also pointed out that they don't have to make a budget decision today, as they are starting out with a large amount of Unallocated dollars that can be used to add more money to this contract in August or at any point throughout the year if a need is demonstrated. Delaying the decision gives more time to see what other demands are going to be made on CSC as a result of Federal and State action and other growing needs.

Under Economic Self-Sufficiency—Service Goal 2, Ms. Arenberg Seltzer confirmed that the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) volunteers must be certified every

year through IRS staff. Beyond that, there is still a lot of uncertainty and unknowns that staff will continue to monitor.

Under Water Safety – Service Goal 8, Ms. Arenberg Seltzer referred Members to the detailed response in the meeting packet. Dr. Thaqi highlighted the addition of swim vouchers through the Florida State Legislature and how those are being integrated into the community collaborative. Families can access the information and coupons for all water safety options through Water Smart Broward.

Under Elementary Out-of-School Time—Service Goals 7 & 10, Ms. Arenberg Seltzer shared that staff are continuing conversations with Broward County Public Schools about bullying and mentoring.

Under Out-of-School Time – Special Needs – Service Goals 3 & 10, Ms. Arenberg Seltzer pointed out that all the CSC-funded programs are encouraged and trained to accept children with exceptionalities into their program, unless children/youth need much smaller staff-to-child ratios like one-on-one support. And while Yoga is something the programs could include now, it will be encouraged in the upcoming Request for Proposals.

## **VI. FY 25/26 Proposed Budget & Millage Rate**

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer outlined the budget and TRIM time frame and process between May and the start of the new Fiscal Year on October 1st. The proposed FY 25/26 budget and millage rate will be finalized during the two mandated TRIM public hearings in September.

Mr. Arenberg Seltzer highlighted the details of the proposed FY 25/26 Budget, noting that the Program Budget, which is direct service, aligns with what the Council approved at the May Budget Retreat. While the Council was working at that time with an anticipated 5% increase in property values, the tentative values were released at 6.43%. Final numbers will be released July 1<sup>st</sup>. She explained that the difference between the tentative and final values will replenish the Unallocated funds that were used to offset the COLA adjustment, bringing it back to over \$7 million. She noted that general administration is just 3.73% of the total proposed budget of \$159,691,431.

She then led the Committee through different scenarios of paying for the proposed budget utilizing the Roll Back Millage Rate, a flat Millage Rate, a reduced millage rate, and going up to the Full 0.5000 Millage Rate authorized by the CSC Referendum. In order to reach the necessary revenue to support the Budget, the Roll Back Millage rate of 0.4201 would require utilization of \$31,700,000 of Fund Balance; leaving the Millage Rate flat at 0.4500 would require utilization of \$22,750,000 of Fund Balance; reducing the Millage Rate to 0.4316 would require utilization of

## ***DRAFT***

\$28,250,000 of Fund Balance; and going to the full Millage Rate of 0.5000 would require utilization of \$7,750,000 of Fund Balance. Members then looked at the impact on homeowners of the various millage rates. If the Millage Rate was left flat (0.4500), the cost to the average homeowner would be \$173. If the Roll Back Millage Rate was utilized, the cost to the average homeowner would be \$162 – a savings of \$11. If a reduced Millage Rate was utilized, the cost to the average homeowner would be \$166 = a savings of \$7. If the full Millage Rate was utilized, the cost would be \$193 to the average homeowner = an additional \$20.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer stated that staff are recommending that the Millage Rate be left flat at the current 0.4500, with \$22.75 million of Fund Balance being used. This would allow the Council to start the new Fiscal Year with a large pot of Unallocated funds to use throughout the year as community needs arise, which is anticipated. All Committee Members present at the meeting agreed that leaving the Millage Rate flat would be the best option to serve Broward's families.

**ACTION: Ms. Hixon made a motion to recommend to the full Council approval of the draft Budget and a tentative Millage Rate of 0.4500, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Thompson and passed with no opposing votes.**

### **VII. Public & Members' General Comments**

Dr. Kenton thanked Ms. Arenberg Seltzer and the Council Members for their leadership, noting that Ms. Alicia Williams, CSC's Director of Budget, has done a phenomenal job.

Ms. Arenberg Seltzer also thanked Ms. Williams for her work on the proposed budget.

Ms. Monica King, Broward Healthy Start Coalition, thanked the Committee and expressed appreciation for today's discussions.

### **VIII. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 10:29 A.M. with a motion from Ms. Hixon and a second from Dr. Thompson.

# FORM 8B MEMORANDUM OF VOTING CONFLICT FOR COUNTY, MUNICIPAL, AND OTHER LOCAL PUBLIC OFFICERS

LAST NAME—FIRST NAME—MIDDLE NAME Rich - Nan	NAME OF BOARD, COUNCIL, COMMISSION, AUTHORITY, OR COMMITTEE Children's Services Council of Broward County
MAILING ADDRESS 115 S. Andrews Ave.	THE BOARD, COUNCIL, COMMISSION, AUTHORITY OR COMMITTEE ON WHICH I SERVE IS A UNIT OF: <input type="checkbox"/> CITY <input type="checkbox"/> COUNTY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER LOCAL AGENCY
CITY Fort Lauderdale	COUNTY Broward
DATE ON WHICH VOTE OCCURRED June 11, 2025	NAME OF POLITICAL SUBDIVISION:  MY POSITION IS: <input type="checkbox"/> ELECTIVE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPOINTIVE

## WHO MUST FILE FORM 8B

This form is for use by any person serving at the county, city, or other local level of government on an appointed or elected board, council, commission, authority, or committee. It applies to members of advisory and non-advisory bodies who are presented with a voting conflict of interest under Section 112.3143, Florida Statutes.

Your responsibilities under the law when faced with voting on a measure in which you have a conflict of interest will vary greatly depending on whether you hold an elective or appointive position. For this reason, please pay close attention to the instructions on this form before completing and filing the form.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 112.3143, FLORIDA STATUTES

A person holding elective or appointive county, municipal, or other local public office **MUST ABSTAIN** from voting on a measure which would inure to his or her special private gain or loss. Each elected or appointed local officer also **MUST ABSTAIN** from knowingly voting on a measure which would inure to the special gain or loss of a principal (other than a government agency) by whom he or she is retained (including the parent, subsidiary, or sibling organization of a principal by which he or she is retained); to the special private gain or loss of a relative; or to the special private gain or loss of a business associate. Commissioners of community redevelopment agencies (CRAs) under Sec. 163.356 or 163.357, F.S., and officers of independent special tax districts elected on a one-acre, one-vote basis are not prohibited from voting in that capacity.

For purposes of this law, a "relative" includes only the officer's father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, brother, sister, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, and daughter-in-law. A "business associate" means any person or entity engaged in or carrying on a business enterprise with the officer as a partner, joint venturer, coowner of property, or corporate shareholder (where the shares of the corporation are not listed on any national or regional stock exchange).

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### ELECTED OFFICERS:

In addition to abstaining from voting in the situations described above, you must disclose the conflict:

PRIOR TO THE VOTE BEING TAKEN by publicly stating to the assembly the nature of your interest in the measure on which you are abstaining from voting; *and*

WITHIN 15 DAYS AFTER THE VOTE OCCURS by completing and filing this form with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who should incorporate the form in the minutes.

\* \* \* \* \*

### APPOINTED OFFICERS:

Although you must abstain from voting in the situations described above, you are not prohibited by Section 112.3143 from otherwise participating in these matters. However, you must disclose the nature of the conflict before making any attempt to influence the decision, whether orally or in writing and whether made by you or at your direction.

IF YOU INTEND TO MAKE ANY ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE DECISION PRIOR TO THE MEETING AT WHICH THE VOTE WILL BE TAKEN:

- You must complete and file this form (before making any attempt to influence the decision) with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who will incorporate the form in the minutes. (Continued on page 2)



## APPOINTED OFFICERS (continued)

- A copy of the form must be provided immediately to the other members of the agency.
- The form must be read publicly at the next meeting after the form is filed.

IF YOU MAKE NO ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE DECISION EXCEPT BY DISCUSSION AT THE MEETING:

- You must disclose orally the nature of your conflict in the measure before participating.
- You must complete the form and file it within 15 days after the vote occurs with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who must incorporate the form in the minutes. A copy of the form must be provided immediately to the other members of the agency, and the form must be read publicly at the next meeting after the form is filed.

## DISCLOSURE OF LOCAL OFFICER'S INTEREST

I, Nan Rich, hereby disclose that on June 11, 20 25 :

(a) A measure came or will come before my agency which (check one or more)

- ☐ inured to my special private gain or loss;
- ☐ inured to the special gain or loss of my business associate, \_\_\_\_\_ ;
- ☐ inured to the special gain or loss of my relative, \_\_\_\_\_ ;
- ☒ inured to the special gain or loss of Broward Behavioral Health Coalition, by whom I am retained; or
- ☐ inured to the special gain or loss of \_\_\_\_\_ , which is the parent subsidiary, or sibling organization or subsidiary of a principal which has retained me.

(b) The measure before my agency and the nature of my conflicting interest in the measure is as follows:

I abstained from voting on Item IV. of the Joint PPC/Finance Committee Agenda (6/11/2025), "Recommend to the Full Council Approval of the Broward Behavioral Health Coalition Care Coordination Team Leverage Request," as I serve on the Board of the Broward Behavioral Health Coalition.

If disclosure of specific information would violate confidentiality or privilege pursuant to law or rules governing attorneys, a public officer, who is also an attorney, may comply with the disclosure requirements of this section by disclosing the nature of the interest in such a way as to provide the public with notice of the conflict.

June 11 2025

Date Filed

*Nan Rich*

Signature

NOTICE: UNDER PROVISIONS OF FLORIDA STATUTES §112.317, A FAILURE TO MAKE ANY REQUIRED DISCLOSURE CONSTITUTES GROUNDS FOR AND MAY BE PUNISHED BY ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING: IMPEACHMENT, REMOVAL OR SUSPENSION FROM OFFICE OR EMPLOYMENT, DEMOTION, REDUCTION IN SALARY, REPRIMAND, OR A CIVIL PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000.



## For Program Planning Committee Meeting August 11, 2025

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<b>Service Goal</b>	11 Increase the safety of children and youth in the community.
<b>Objective:</b>	111 Collaborate with community partners to increase respectful behavior by eliminating bullying and other acts of intolerance.
<b>Issue:</b>	Support 20 Broward County Public Schools in Expanding Bullying Prevention Programming through the Speak Life End Bullying Leverage Request.
<b>Action:</b>	<p>1) Recommend to the Full Council Approval to update Service Goal 11, Objective 111 in Goals with Words and remove the words "through support of the Choose Peace initiative."</p> <p>2) Recommend to the Full Council Approval of Leverage Funding for Speak Life End Bullying to provide innovative anti-bullying education opportunities to middle and high school students.</p>
<b>Budget Impact:</b>	\$195,000 Of \$7,666,553 Available in Unallocated for FY 25/26.

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**Background:** For the past 15 years, the Council has supported youth violence and substance abuse prevention through the Choose Peace Stop Violence initiative - a partnership with Broward County Public Schools (BCPS), the Children's Services Council (CSC), and United Way. This initiative focuses on transforming school culture to promote safety and well-being.

However, bullying remains a major risk factor for youth violence, substance use, and self-harm, with long-term effects on academic performance and relationships. According to the 2024 Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey (FYSAS), bullying and emotional distress among Broward students have significantly increased:

Middle School Students:

Types of Bullying	2022	2024	% of Increase
Cyberbullying	25.4%	29.9%	4.5%
Verbal bullying	52.8%	66.0%	13.2%
Physical bullying	31.8%	46.6%	14.8%

High school students show similar upward trends across all bullying categories. Feedback from BCPS administrators highlights a growing need for additional anti-bullying and violence prevention programs, especially for middle and high school students. Effective prevention requires a coordinated approach involving schools, families, and community partners.

In response, the Speak Life End Bullying initiative launched in October 2024 in partnership with BCPS. This community-driven program promotes empathy, mental health, and bullying prevention. Piloted in 10 middle and high schools, the program received strong positive feedback from students, counselors, and administrators through testimonials and student question-and-answer sessions, prompting interest from many more schools.

**Current Status:** Speak Life End Bullying is seeking \$195,000 in leverage funding from the Children's Services Council of Broward County, accounting for 75% of a total project budget of \$256,000. The funds will support 20 middle and high schools in Broward County during the 2025–2026 academic year, with the remaining 25% leverage (\$65,000) covered by contributions from the Justin Simmons Foundation (\$45,000) and the Andrew and Robin Hunt Philanthropic Fund (\$20,000). If approved by the Council, this contract would start on October 1, 2025.

The initiative begins with a Speak Life Event Day, featuring a high-production screening of "Speak Life End Bullying the Musical," which engages students through story and music. Following the film, students participate in a live Q&A session and join the Justin Simmons Challenge, which includes a personal message from NFL All-Pro Safety Justin Simmons. This challenge is meant to engage students in how they can stand up and speak life, whether it's the bully, the bullied, and/or the bystanders – specifically on how to be an upstander and speak up for others.

The initiative is further supported by 21 lesson plans, delivered by school staff during the school day, that meet Florida's resiliency standards, along with resources for student and parent engagement, educator training, and evaluation by Florida Atlantic University.

The Student Locker Portal, the student engagement resource, contains resources designed just for students. Students can access bonus content, catchy music, inspiring interviews, and an eye-opening film documentary that will spark ongoing reflection and engagement.

Parents can gain access to the film and interactive discussion guides crafted for every family through the parent engagement resources. The parent training modules provide opportunities to participate in optional community screenings, complete with engaging workshops and Q&A sessions.

Educators will receive training and support options that can be tailored to individual needs, whether virtual or in-person. They can access ready-to-use guides and toolkits that ensure seamless implementation.

To ensure alignment with BCPS' goals, CSC will collaborate with the School District to identify the 20 middle and high schools that will participate in the initiative.

**Recommended Action:** 1) Recommend to the Full Council Approval to update Service Goal 11, Objective 111 in Goals with Words and remove the words "through support of the Choose Peace initiative."

2) Recommend to the Full Council Approval of Leverage Funding for Speak Life End Bullying to provide innovative anti-bullying education opportunities to middle and high school students.

**TAB 3**

## For Program Planning Committee Meeting August 11, 2025

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<b>Service Goal</b>	Multiple Goals
<b>Issue:</b>	Renewal of Deferred Contracts
<b>Action:</b>	Recommend to the Full Council Approval of Renewal Recommendations for FY 25/26, as Presented
<b>Budget Impact:</b>	<p>\$347,438 of \$347,438 Available in <b>Goal 021</b> for FY 25/26</p> <p>\$386,997 of \$386,997 Available in <b>Goal 031</b> for FY 25/26</p> <p>\$516,639 of \$516,639 Available in <b>Goal 039</b> for FY 25/26</p> <p>\$971,005 of \$971,005 Available in <b>Goal 072</b> for FY 25/26</p> <p>\$158,932 of \$158,932 Available in <b>Goal 091</b> for FY25/26.</p> <p><u>\$6,248</u> of \$7,459,460 Available in Unallocated for FY25/26</p> <p>\$165,180 Total for FY 25/26</p> <p>\$320,735 of \$320,735 Available in <b>Goal 101</b> for FY 25/26</p> <p>\$1,165,241 of \$1,165,241 Available in <b>Goal 102</b> for FY 25/26</p> <p>\$182,009 of \$182,009 Available in <b>Goal 26</b> for FY 25/26</p> <p>\$422,820 of \$422,820 Available in <b>Goal 27</b> for FY 25/26</p> <p>\$82,071 of \$82,071 Available in <b>Goal 61</b> for FY 25/26</p>

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**Background:** During the May 15th Budget Retreat, funding was set aside within each of the goals listed but the vote on contract renewals for the following programs were deferred pending additional performance information.

**Current Status:** The programs listed below met expectations, and staff are now recommending renewal. Where applicable, the renewal amount includes an increase to allow for the 3% COLA for staff salaries as approved by the Council in May.

## **Family Supports – Reduce the incidence of child abuse, neglect, and trauma. (Service Goal 2)**

### Mount Bethel Human Services Prevention Central

\$347,438

This program is in its second year providing services under the Family Supports 2023 RFP. This program offers services to fathers using the 24/7 Dad curriculum.

The program was placed on a Performance Improvement Plan and deferred due to challenges with program model implementation, successful client recruitment and engagement, and staff recruitment and engagement. The follow-up review demonstrated significant progress in all elements of the PIP. Staff will continue to monitor PIP progress and work with the provider until all elements have been successfully addressed. Based on the program's current performance, staff recommend contract renewal for FY 25/26 to serve 100 families. The recommended allocation includes a 3% COLA for staff salaries.

## **Reduce risk factors associated with delinquency, teen pregnancy, substance abuse, school dropout, and other risky behaviors. (Service Goal 3.1)**

### Community Reconstruction, Inc.

\$386,997

Community Reconstruction Inc. is in its first year providing services under the Positive Youth Development 2024 RFP. The program provides out-of-school time services at two year-round BCPS sites to high-risk male youth in need of support.

The program was placed on a Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) to address ongoing program implementation and documentation challenges. Their contract renewal was deferred in May to allow the program to implement the PIP strategies and show improvement.

The follow-up review demonstrated significant progress in all elements of the PIP. Staff will continue to monitor PIP progress and work with the provider until all elements have been successfully addressed.

Based on the program's performance, staff recommends contract renewal for FY 25/26 to serve 50 youth. This request includes a 3% COLA for staff salaries.

## **New DAY – Reduce the recidivism rate of low-risk juvenile offenders who are at low risk to re-offend and prevent the escalation of crime. (Service Goal 3.2)**

### Community Reconstruction, Inc.

\$280,988

Community Reconstruction Inc. is in its third year providing services under the New DAY 2022 RFP. The program was placed on a Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) to address



program service delivery challenges, utilization, and numbers served. Their contract renewal was deferred in May to allow the program to implement the PIP strategies and show improvement.

The follow-up review demonstrated progress in all elements of the PIP. Required documentation has been completed for every youth, all program components have been implemented successfully, and youth group attendance is being tracked and entered as required. They will remain on a PIP to ensure strategies continue to be implemented. If they consistently implement the PIP strategies, they can complete their PIP in the fall of 2025.

Based on the program's performance, staff recommends contract renewal for FY 25/26 to serve 100 youth. This request includes a 3% COLA for staff salaries.

#### Henderson Behavioral Health

\$235,651

Henderson Inc. is in its third year providing services under the New DAY 2022 RFP. The program was placed on a Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) to address performance measures and data management issues. This contract renewal was deferred in May to allow the program to implement the PIP strategies and show improvement.

During a recent performance review, with a focus on evaluating program performance measures, the Provider demonstrated that they have successfully implemented the PIP strategies and exhibited considerable progress in addressing the performance measure issues outlined in the PIP. They will remain on a PIP to ensure strategies continue to be implemented. If they consistently implement the PIP strategies, they can complete their PIP in the fall of 2025, when all outcomes are calculated for the end-of-year report.

Based on the program's performance, staff recommends contract renewal for FY 25/26 to serve 126 youth. This request includes a 3% COLA for staff salaries.

#### **MOST - Improve the availability and quality of out-of-school time programs to promote the school success of children living in economically disadvantaged neighborhoods. (Service Goal 7)**

#### The FIU Reading Explorer's Program (REP)

\$971,005

CSC is in first year of a 5-year piggyback on a Children's Trust procurement resulting in the funding of the Center for Children and Families at Florida International University, in partnership with Nova Southeastern University, to deliver year-round reading enhancement services. These services are provided to CSC-funded MOST afterschool and summer programs, focusing on children in kindergarten through second grade to strengthen foundational reading and reading comprehension skills.

During the school year, FIU provided the MOST program staff with evidence-based strategies focused on infusing literacy into programming. During the summer, FIU completed over 1,200 reading assessments and provided small group reading instruction to over 1,000 children across 56 summer sites to help rising kindergarteners, first, and second graders improve their reading skills.

The program was deferred pending the results of its summer performance review, which took place on July 15. Based on the outstanding performance review, staff recommend contract renewal for FY 25/26 to serve 1,100 children. This request includes a 3% COLA for staff salaries.

**Maternal & Child Health - Ensure a continuum of maternal and child health services for at-risk families. (Service Goal 9)**

Broward Health

\$165,180

The Nurse-Family Partnership Program (NFPP) community collaborative is in its first year of funding by CSC and provides comprehensive support to first-time pregnant mothers, continuing through the child's second birthday.

The program was deferred because contract execution was delayed, and the program review was pending. The program review and service observation reflected quality service delivery, and caregiver satisfaction surveys reflected high levels of program satisfaction.

Based on the program's performance, staff recommend contract renewal for FY 25/26 to serve 100 families. While the renewal amount is higher than the funding in FY 24/25, the recommended allocation is for a full year as presented in their initial leverage funding request as previously approved by the Council and therefore does not include the additional 3% COLA.

**MOST Special Needs - Provide quality out-of-school programs to maximize development for children and youth with special needs. (Service Goal 10.1)**

Center for Hearing and Communication, Inc.

\$320,735

Center for Hearing and Communication, Inc., is in its third of four years providing services under the 2022 MOST RFP. The program provides out-of-school time services and summer camp services to children who experience deafness or hearing loss, their siblings, and children of deaf adults. The provider experienced staff turnover that resulted in the absence of a Licensed Childcare Director. As a result, Broward County Childcare Licensing and Enforcement issued a provisional childcare license. As per the requirements of the MOST 2022 RFP, all providers are required to maintain full licensure to be in compliance with Broward County childcare standards; otherwise, the program is not permitted to operate an afterschool program.

Contract renewal was deferred to allow the provider time to meet the licensing requirements. As of May 22, 2025, the provider regained full licensure from Broward County, valid through March 31, 2026.

Based on the program's current performance and full licensure status, staff recommend contract renewal for FY 25/26 to serve 20 children in the school year and 58 children in the summer. This request includes a 3% COLA for staff salaries.

**PYD STEP - Provide transitional services to prepare youth with special needs for post-secondary education, training and gainful employment. (Service Goal 10.2)**

Goodwill Industries of South Florida, Inc.

\$134,079

Goodwill Industries of South Florida, Inc., is in its first of four years providing services under the 2024 PYD STEP program. The program provides out-of-school time services during the school year and community-based supported employment during the summer and is contracted to serve eight youth.

As a new STEP provider, initial service implementation was impacted by enrollment challenges. Given these challenges, contract renewal was deferred to allow the provider an opportunity to strengthen recruitment strategies and increase enrollment.

By June 2025, the provider successfully enrolled five youth in year-round services, and all five participated in the summer-supported employment experience. Program reviews and site visits conducted in June and July reflect quality services.

Based on sustained program enrollment and program performance, staff recommend contract renewal for FY 25/26 to serve 8 youth year-round. This request includes a 3% COLA for staff salaries.

United Community Options

\$1,031,162

United Community Options is in its first of four years providing services under the 2024 PYD RFP. The program provides out-of-school time services during the school year and community-based supported employment during the summer.

Due to significant under-enrollment at two of the eight sites, contract renewal was deferred to give the provider an opportunity to strengthen recruitment strategies and increase enrollment at these sites.

Both sites demonstrated increased enrollment and maintained consistent attendance through the end of the school year.

Based on sustained program enrollment and program performance, staff recommend contract renewal for FY 25/26 to serve 72 youth in the school year and 80 youth in the summer. This request includes a 3% COLA for staff salaries.

**Economic Self-Sufficiency-Hunger** funds year-round hunger relief programs aimed at reducing food insecurity among children and families in Broward. **(Service Goal 26)**

South Florida Hunger Coalition (SFHC) – Summer BreakSpot \$182,009

This program is in its third year of a five-year contract for the Summer BreakSpot program. SFHC worked with 20 partner agencies to deliver enrichment activities, including literacy, water safety, and drowning prevention, first aid skills, healthy meal preparation, and painting and dancing.

Contract renewal was deferred during the May Budget retreat to allow the program time to implement services over the summer. As of July 31st, 16,225 meals (breakfast, lunch, and snacks) were served to 260 children across nine sites. Services began on June 9 and will end on August 8.

Based on the program's current performance, staff recommends contract renewal for FY 25/26.

**Economic Self-Sufficiency - EITC** The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program provides free tax preparation services for low-to-moderate-income individuals, persons with disabilities, the elderly, and limited English speakers. funds year-round hunger relief programs aimed at reducing food insecurity among children and families in Broward. **(Service Goal 27)**

Hispanic Unity–Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program \$422,820

This program is in its second of five years under the 2023 VITA Services RFP to offer services for free tax help and preparation for low- and moderate-income individuals through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.

The contract was deferred pending tax season performance and availability of IRS agents to train 2026 tax preparation volunteers. There was a concern about whether the IRS program that certifies tax preparers who support low-income individuals would be discontinued, and if so, whether the program could continue without official IRS certification.

The concern was deemed no longer valid, as there has been no communication from the IRS indicating discontinuation. The program and the IRS-sponsored VITA training and certification for tax preparers will continue for the foreseeable future.

It was too soon to measure various programmatic components prior to the May Budget Retreat. Sites were launched on January 16, 2025, and HUF operated 13 traditional sites and six mobile sites in addition to e-file services via myfreetaxes.com.

As of July 31, 2025, 5,591 clients received in-person services, and 3,778 returns were submitted, resulting in over \$1.3M in savings in tax preparation fees. Over \$1.5M in tax credits were recorded; \$920,570 Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and \$619,622 Child Tax Credit (CTC). Though the tax season has ended, extended services are being provided at three locations until September 2025 to facilitate submissions for prior tax years 2022, 2023, and 2024, as well as amendments to returns for late filers.

Based on the program's current performance as well as, information received that the IRS training model has not be changed, staff recommends contract renewal for FY 25/26.

**Child Welfare Supports – Adoption Campaign** provides innovative programs that help promote the adoption and enrichment of Broward's foster children (**Service Goal 61**)

Heart Gallery of Broward County (HGOB)

\$82,071

The Heart Gallery of Broward (HGOB) continued to be the lead agency responsible for National Adoption Day in Broward County during which 24 adoptions were finalized. The provider sponsored various events that allowed children and prospective families to mingle and get to know each other.

The contract renewal was deferred to assess the viability of the program after the passage of House Bill 1083 - which restricts adoption-related paid advertising by non-licensed entities in Florida. In response, the agency revised its strategy. HGOB expanded digital outreach, deepened its partnership with ChildNet through Heart Days, and joined a statewide workgroup to establish best practices for the ethical use of youth images.

With a formal MOU now in place with ChildNet, the Heart Gallery manages a secure online gallery accessible only to vetted families approved by ChildNet, while continuing to publicly advocate for adoption using stock imagery and storytelling. Though the approach has evolved, the program remains committed and effective in its mission to connect children in foster care with permanent, loving families.

Based on the aforementioned information, staff recommends contract renewal for FY 25/26.

**Recommended Actions:** Recommend to the Full Council Approval of Renewal Recommendations for FY 25/26, as Presented

**TAB 4**

## For Program Planning Committee Meeting August 11, 2025

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<b>Service Goal</b>	2 Reduce the incidence of child abuse, neglect, and trauma.
<b>Objective:</b>	024: Expand opportunities for Family Court-involved families at the Visitation Center throughout Broward County.
<b>Issue:</b>	Children's Home Society of Florida Supervised Visitation Contract Renewal and acceptance of funding.
<b>Action:</b>	1) Recommend to the Full Council the Renewal of the Children's Home Society Supervised Visitation Contract for FY 25/26.  2) Accept leverage funds and related expenditures from The Jim Moran Foundation to expand program services.
<b>Budget Impact:</b>	\$351,069 of \$351,069 Available in Goal 024 for FY25/26. <u>\$100,000</u> Committed Revenue from The Jim Moran Foundation \$451,069 in Goal 024 for FY 25/26

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**Background:** Children's Home Society of Florida (CHS) is in its second year under the 2023 Family Supports RFP. The program provides supervised visitation services to families engaged with the Broward County 17<sup>th</sup> Judicial Family Court Division to ensure the safety of those involved.

The program was deferred during the May 15<sup>th</sup> Budget Retreat to assess utilization of these services, as court referrals remained low. Following a series of collaborative meetings with Family Court administration, it was determined that families navigating divorce and high-conflict custody cases would benefit from an expanded range of services, including Therapeutic Visitation and Co-parenting support, in addition to Supervised Visitation Services.

**Current Status:** To address this need, The Jim Moran Foundation has verbally agreed to provide \$100,000 in leverage funding to expand the Supervised Visitation contract with CHS to include Therapeutic Visitation and Co-parenting Services. This expansion will provide a continuum of care that offers critical support to families referred by the Family Court system in Broward County, promote healthier co-parenting relationships, and facilitate smoother transitions through the court process.

Based on the program performance, continued community need for the program, and the additional leveraged services, staff recommend contract renewal for FY 25/26 to serve 250 families. The recommended allocation includes the verbally agreed-upon amount of \$100,000 from The Jim Moran Foundation and a 3% COLA for staff salaries.

**Recommended Action:** Recommend to the Full Council the Renewal of the Children's Home Society Supervised Visitation Contract for FY 25/26 and accept leverage funds and related expenditures from The Jim Moran Foundation to expand program services.



**TAB 5**

## For Program Planning Committee Meeting August 11, 2025

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<b>Service Goal</b>	2 Reduce the incidence of child abuse, neglect and trauma.
<b>Objective:</b>	023 Address the negative impacts of trauma and provide resources to allow those impacted to increase protective factors and build resiliency.
<b>Issue:</b>	Jewish Adoptions and Foster Care Options Eagle's Haven Community Wellness Center Contract Renewal for FY 25/26.
<b>Action:</b>	Recommend to the Full Council the Approval of the JAFCO (Jewish Adoptions and Foster Care Options) Eagle's Haven Community Wellness Center Contract Renewal for FY 25/26.
<b>Budget Impact:</b>	\$510,268 of \$510,268 Available in Goal 023 for FY25/26. <u>\$254,732</u> of \$7,465,305 Available in Unallocated for FY25/26 \$765,000 Total for FY 25/26

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**Background:** This program is in its seventh year providing services at Eagles' Haven Community Wellness Center, offering support to the Parkland/Coral Springs communities following the shooting at MSD High School on 2/15/18. Originally, this center was primarily funded through a federal AEAP grant with a small amount of CSC funds. When the federal funding ran out, the state picked up half the funding, which in FY 24/25 was \$600,000.

Contract renewal for the program was deferred during the May 15<sup>th</sup> Budget Retreat, pending determination of the \$600,000 state appropriation for FY 25/26.

**Current Status:** On July 1, the legislature approved funding; however, the amount was reduced to \$350,000. Based on the program's performance and continued community need, staff recommend contract renewal for FY 25/26 with an increase of \$250,000 to offset the state cut and the 3% COLA for staff salaries approved by the Council in May.

**Recommended Action:** Recommend to the Full Council the Approval of the JAFCO (Jewish Adoptions and Foster Care Options) Eagle's Haven Community Wellness Center Contract Renewal for FY 25/26.