Board of Directors Meeting

June 12, 2023
Meeting Minutes

The MDC Children’s Trust Meeting, Board of Directors Meeting was held on June 12, 2023, commencing at 4:05 p.m., at 3250 Southwest 3rd Avenue, United Way, Ryder Room, Miami, Florida 33129. The meeting was called to order by Kenneth Hoffman, Chair.

Audio Transcription

Certified Original

Board Member Appearances:

Kenneth Hoffman, Chair
Pamela Holligsworth, Vice Chair
Karen Weller, Secretary
Dr. Edward Abraham
Laura Adams
Dr. Daniel Bagner
Ta’MYAH Byars
Lourdes Diaz
BOARD MEMBER APPEARANCES, Cont.:

MARY DONWORTH
LOURDES GIMENEZ
HON. KEON HARDEMON
NELSON HINCAPIE
ANNIE NEASMAN
MARIA NORTON
DR. CLARA LORA OSPINA
HON. ORLANDO PRESCTT
JAVIER REYES
SHANIKA GRAVES

STAFF MEMBER APPEARANCES:

AMANDA GORSKI
AUNDRAY ADAMS
BEVONE RITCHIE
BLAKE BROWN
CAROL BROGAN
DANIELLE BARRERAS
EDWARD HUDSON
FELIX BECERRA
GARNET ESTERS
GISELLE SUAREZ
IMRAN ALI
JACQUES BENTOLILA
STAFF MEMBER APPEARANCES, Cont.:

JAMES HAJ
JENNIFER MORENO
JUANA LEON
JULIETTE FABIEN
KATHLEEN DEXTER
LEILAH COLLAZO
LINDSAY FRANCOIS
LISANNE GAGE
LISETE YERO
LORI HANSON
NATALIA ZEA
PATRICIA LEAL
RACHEL SPECTOR
SBEASTIAN DEL MARMOL
TATIANA CANELAS
TIFFANY SINGH
VICTORIA GANDUL
WENDY DUNCOMBE
WILLIAM KIRTLAND
XIMENA NUNEZ
YESENIA REYES
YULIET ALFONSO
(Thereupon, the following proceedings commenced at 4:05 p.m.)

MR. HOFFMAN: Okay, let's -- let's bring this meeting to order. It is 4:05 p.m. We have a quorum at this board meeting. We had also called, as we have in the recent past, an executive committee meeting for the same time in case we were unable to get a quorum. So, that executive committee meeting is now canceled.

Just a couple of administrative items. I'd first like to remind everybody to make sure and turn their microphones on when they speak and off when you're not speaking. In addition, if you need to recuse yourself from a resolution, make sure you state your name and agency and the reason for recusal. Some people have recused just as a matter of precaution. If you're doing that, please let -- let us know that you're doing it just as a matter of precaution as well.

Finally, there's a conflict of interest form in front of each of you. This is something we need to do -- I'm sorry. Conflict of interest form is a disclosure form; something that we would like you to fill out so that -- to help the staff identify
possible conflicts and future resolutions. Please take a moment to complete the form and either give it to Juana Leon or send it to the Clerk's office at the Clerk of the Board address.

Also in front of you is the calendar of Board meetings for the coming fiscal year. You will be getting e-mail calendar invites for each of these meetings. But in the meantime, you could take a look at the calendar. And let's see, this was also a form -- just a reminder that your Form 1, Disclosure Reports, are due, I think it's by July 1. Those don't get filed with the -- copied to the trust but filed with the -- with the state.

Other announcements, I recently learned that Annie Neasman will be retiring from her position as President and CEO of Jessie Trice Community Health System. Annie has been at the helm of Jessie Trice for the past 18 years. And under her leadership, the organization has grown in capacity, service offerings, clients, and funding; and it has become recognized as one of the leaders in the primary healthcare field. Annie's passionate about the attainment of health equity for all and providing for the underserved.

Through her many years of hard work, Annie has
made an ever positive mark on both the legacy of Jessie Trice Community Health System and the profession of healthcare. We wish her all the best and look forward to her remaining on our Board in her early retirement.

And last, Dr. Bendross-Mindingall is not here today. But just to let you know, she's receiving a President's Lifetime Achievement Award, at a ceremony to be held on July 15th, in recognition of her lifelong commitment to public service, education, and community development. Are there any public comments?

MS. LEON: There are no public comments, Mr. Chair.

MR. HOFFMAN: Then we'll move on to the approval of the minutes.

MS. WELLER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The Board of Directors met on May the 15th of 2023. The minute meeting -- the Meeting Minutes are in your packet on Pages 5 through 6. Does anybody have a motion to accept them?

MS. DONWORTH: Move.

MS. WELLER: Thank you.

MR. BAGNER: I second, Bagner.

MS. WELLER: Thank you. All those in favor?
BOARD: Aye.

MS. WELLER: Oppose? The motion carries.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

MR. HOFFMAN: Thank you. Our next item on the agenda is appreciation for outstanding service by Ta'Myah Byars, who's our Student Government Association Representative. Ta'Myah is a student at the School for Advanced Study. She's graduating. Sorry, what?


MR. HARDENMON: Miami Northwestern Senior High School. Yes. Right. As long as we are clear.

MR. HOFFMAN: Sorry, I was given the wrong information. And she's graduating and moving on to University of Florida to study Engineering. Ta'Myah, why don't you come up and receive your recognition. And thank you for your service.

MR. HAJ: Mr. Chair, if I may, I have gotten to know Ta'Myah over this last year, you guys want to -- everybody needs to have her autograph now. So, when she's rich and famous, and she's taken over this community and this country; that we knew her when. But she’s a -- I'm a little biased. I'm a Gator, I mean, I'm a Seminole, but -- but we are
very proud of you going to UF. Hopefully, you will
be up -- up in Georgia, Georgia Tech in the near
future.

MR. HOFFMAN: And she'll be in that
Northwestern Hall of Fame as well.

Okay. And then we'll move right on to the
Finance and Operations Committee Report, which will
be given by -- where is Javier?

MR. REYES: Good afternoon. The Finance and
Operations Committee met on Monday, June 5th to
consider three resolutions. But before we address
those resolutions, there was a discussion -- a
discussion on the proposed budget and the millage
rate that is being considered by the Board.

The Finance and Operations Committee requested
that the Staff present a few options as to how
additional funds, that would be available based on
a higher-than-expected property values, may be
needed for investment or what investment
opportunities exist consistent with the children's
trust objectives based on this Board's direction
from past years Board Retreats. And with that,
I'll turn it over to Jim and the Staff.

MR. HAJ: Javier, thank you. In your packet
on Page 7, you have -- actually, it's six pages,
but it's really three pages. You have Attachment A, the Fund Balance, and the Course Strategies; and that is repeated again. You have one run at the half mill and then one at the rollback rate.

So I want to go through a quick presentation and just a timeline. So, this Board -- this Board Meeting is really discussion, there is no action item. We will come back with the same items in July, and that is when the Board will vote on a millage rate; which will come back to the trim hearings, which are September 12th and September 19th. And we hope you’re there -- on your calendar, we need Board attendance at both of those dates on September 12th and 19th.

So on the PowerPoint presentation; just want a -- a couple of highlights, Program Services which are Page 9 and 12 in your -- in your packet. Compared to the final year of the last major funding cycle that just ended, the trust increases contracted services by 30.4 million annually, or 151.9 over the five-year cycle. The five-year -- talking about the Strategic Retreat and our Strategic Initiatives. This five-year cycle increases those Strategic Initiatives. And if you see the breakdown, 6.9 million in parenting and
early literacy. 570,000 for early childhood.

The 19 million was the Youth Development that Dish Scott (phonetic) released, which was -- I think it was 370 million over the five-year cycle to put 36,000 children in after school and summer camps, 2.8 in health and wellness, and a million in program and professional development and infrastructure support.

Next slide, please. So, the millage rate, you have two in front of you. They assessed at a half a mill, which brings the revenues at $202,000,000. And it will sustain best practice of keeping us above the fund balance, to support our additional program -- our continued program services. And then there's the rollback rate.

The rollback rate keeps us at the same level of funding for this year and lowers the tax burden, 2.4457. That'll give us a total trim revenue, 180,459,000. And then we're also at the very bottom, we're very proud; for the last seven years, we continue every year to reduce management costs. We're -- back in 2016, we're close to 10 percent. Now we're at 5.94 percent of total expenses and all-time low of management costs at the Children's Trust.
I'm going to turn it over to Bill, but I want to introduce -- we have two slides. What we want -- that the finance committee has seen over the last several years, but the full Board, it's usually once a year we bring this back. So, the first slide is the last five-year cycle. We started the last five-year cycle. If you look to the far left, in '17-'18, with almost a $70,000,000 in reserve. And back then, our whole budget was 140 million. So, half of our money were sitting in reserves.

So, with the Finance Committee and this Board, we had a strategic plan to go through five years, drive down the fund balance, put an additional -- additional amount of money into the community and bring our fund balance to the dotted line that goes, which is the government -- GFOA best practices of that dotted line.

So the plan worked the last five years. The discussion at the Finance Committee moving forward, is can we replicate it for the next five-year cycle? So, I will turn it over to Bill; I just want to, just before we leave just on this graph. This is the last five-year cycle. The next graph will show the next five years, but it shows on the
bottom lines of '17-'18,'18-'19. At the very bottom of each of those years was either the rollback rate, it's the millage rate, the rollback rate, and tax increase.

Last cycle, we used the balancing act of additional funding on the streets, going back to rollback rate for several of the years of the cycle and to bring the fund balance where it needs to be. Also on the chart, where you'll see the yellow and the green, there's a little legend. And to the right, it talks about, "What is the cost to the average taxpayer?" So, on this -- on this slide, the rollback rate is about $68 per taxpayer and a half millage is $75. Bill, I just want you to go into detail for this slide and the next slide and just kind of talk about what we've talked with the Finance Committee, so that the whole Board understands.

MR. BILL: Absolutely. Jim, thank you for taking all the best talking points for the charts that you wanted me to explain today. It's a privilege to present a little bit more on the budget in the millage for the upcoming fiscal year. But I suppose it is somewhat of a hot seat over here because I've noticed that none of the staff
members sat anywhere near me for the presentation
today. For some reason, maybe they don't want to
field any questions alongside me.

But as Jim mentioned, my job today is
hopefully to not bring any more -- bring some
clarity and hopefully not any more confusion to the
next -- the next two charts that we'll be looking
at. And really, what we're trying to do is provide
a visual here, in some sense, to what the
information is being presented as in the numerous
and various trim schedules; that you might also see
before you.

Those schedules outlining our core strategies,
fund balance effect and also our revenue and -- and
management expense predictions and forecasting for
next year are meant to reflect those two scenarios
that we have here on the chart. Both our half
millage rate and our rollback rate that has been
initially proposed for going into next year.

As Jim mentioned, to start the fund cycle, we
had a fund balance of nearly $70,000,000. And just
for the perspective of what that meant for us at
the time, is that was nearly half of our operating
budget. That was nearly $140,000,000. Not only
did we reduce this amount, and we're expecting to
be at around 47, a little bit north of $47,000,000 to end this fiscal year. As that number -- that number, comparatively to what our budget will be next year; what we're proposing our budget to be next year, which will be approximately $222,000,000, obviously holds a lot less significance, in -- in comparatively with what that amount is meant to support.

So essentially, looking at this, you might -- it might create some -- some attention as to what the half millage rate effect is versus the rollback rate. The rollback rate being the orange line and our green line being the half millage proposed rate.

Now, in the early scenarios of developing this chart and looking at the next fiscal year, which we might want to go ahead and switch that slide to; both proposals of the half millage rate and the rollback rate next year had an effect on the fund balance, where we would use the fund balance next year in -- to support all the additional provider services that have been decided upon and selected through the various RFPs.

So essentially, there seem to be not too much of a different scenario between a selecting the
rollback rate or the half millage rate. However, the market rates of property values in Miami-Dade County are continuing to rise at an astronomical rate, I would say. Most of the last funding cycle, we expected property values to grow anywhere around 5 percent per year. And then for the current year -- current fiscal year that we're in was an outlier year of where our property values actually increased around 11 percent. So, we brought in additional revenues this prior year, which you can see reflected in finishing our -- our five-year cycle.

It's continuing to have a -- a similar effect going in to the next fiscal year and the new cycle because property value rates came in around just a little bit over 12 percent growth last year. So, these two past years have been very high market value in property value growth. And so we're looking for opportunities to utilize these additional revenues and some -- and additional investment opportunities that haven't yet been maybe assigned values yet in our core strategies.

We would like to come back to Committee and Board next month with more of a perspective on maybe what we can do with -- if the half millage
rate is adopted. But the -- the goal is to, essentially, because these values came in much higher than we predicted, the fund balance effect is growing. And that's not something we initially projected when we thought there would be less revenue than what came in through the initial property appraiser's assessment. So, I think, maybe, with some -- I don't know, Jim, if you want to lead this part with some discussion today, we will be looking into funding opportunities before the next presentation of budget schedules and millage.

MR. HAJ: Bill, thank you. And Javier mentioned at -- at the Finance Committee, through this very long discussion, I think the main topic that I took away was "didn't want to go back to the half mill just to see the fund balance go up. So, what are the investment opportunities, if we stayed at the half mill, which is an additional $17,000,000 for programming, where could we put it?"

So, if we go to the next slide, as we look back at the last three board retreats, we didn't assign dollar amounts, just to let the board know that there is a tremendous need in this community.
There's a lot of need. Even if you just look at the first one, which is our childcare scholarships, there's 2,200 children and families on the wait list. That 2,200 the -- the dollar amount of that is 22 million, just right there.

The Ascend, which are the scholarships for early childcare teachers, there's a -- there is a need there as well. Our book club, which go out monthly to about 40,000 -- well, our budget for 40,000 went up to 47,000 and we had to shut it down this quarter for the last quarter of the year because we -- we ran out of money. So, there's additional funding needed to expand that book club.

The goal for the book club since day one was 90,000 families. And these, again, are directed, we put an effort to at-need communities at these book club -- the mailers go out.

There are some other items that smaller items but family stabilization funds, inclusion, support for students with disabilities. So, we did not want to come with a dollar amount. We just wanted to come back to remind the Board. These were part of the discussions, at the last three Board Retreats. These were part of our strategic plan and there's great money needed there. And there
could be other bright -- board priorities as well, as well as an area for a provider protection fund to put a small amount there in case there is something of another COVID, natural disaster; that we continue to support our providers.

So, there's a variety of -- of what we really just wanted to illustrate; the need is there. The question was, would the 17 million just go into fund balance to build the reserve? And the answer to that is, no. So, if the Board would like to fund it to half millage rate, we have many items that can be our -- our stuff already that can be funded tomorrow. That there -- there is need in this community. So, Javier, thank you very much and turn it back over to you.

MR. REYES: Any discussion, questions? I'll just comment that, you know, from my perspective, I think it's important that we keep the -- the never -- not go below what is the best practices for keeping what is the -- Jim, two months of operating in the -- in the Board. And -- and, Jim, when you say these are shovel ready, that means that they would be in place next year to be able to -- to fund.

MR. HAJ: The fiscal year is October 1st would
bring a result back to the Board to approve and
they're ready to go October 1st. And again, with
the use of fund balance, we can even probably go
earlier than that and spend the last two months
with funds going out into the community.

But we really want to get a feel from this
Board. There's no decision, in July we're going to
come back to the Finance Committee. We're going to
come back and we're going to need a recommendation
from the Board in July whether it's the half mill,
the rollback rate, or somewhere in between.

MR. HOFFMAN: Any further discussion?

MR. HAJ: And -- and if I may, the one thing,
it was on this slide, but I forgot to mention it.
We are also beginning to meet with the Healthcare
Subcommittee, the Board Committee dealing with
healthcare. Because we are in half of the public
schools doing physical health and mental health.
The question is, what is the moonshot to do the
rest of the public schools, charter schools,
private schools, and how can we do it with use of
technology? And how can we do it efficiently? And
there's a possibility, but there will be some
money.

We haven't earmarked any dollars. So, we
don't know what that looks like, but there will be some additional needs. So -- the rollback rate can hold us and we can get a strategy. But there are everlasting needs or ever, you know, even what we budget for now, we don't know what the landscape is next year or the year after. So, that's just a consideration for the Board.

MS. ZEA: Yeah, if I might add. Yes, -- so, -- something else to consider from -- from our standpoint is some of the additional funding, federal funds, that -- that were available and had been available for the last few years are sunsetting. So, certainly other support would be very welcome by us, by the system.

MR. BAGNER: So, Chair, I -- I agree with the comments already stated. I did have a question in terms of shovel-ready projects. I know some of that came up a lot during our retreat was the -- the house -- the critical housing needs. And I know that we as a trust can't pay for house, you know, the actual infrastructure of houses. But are there any efforts that we could do with this extra funds toward housing?

MR. HAJ: Dan, I mentioned it. The family stabilization fund is a pool of money that we work
with our family neighborhood support. So, these are people who are -- well, they're going to be evicted, there's immediate needs for the month or two that we can come and plug in. We have a half million dollars there. We just started, we're monitoring it, but that's an easy one to add additional funds for the family stabilization portfolio. Plus we're doing funded collaboration for Miami Homes For All and working with the Homeless Trust and see how do we work better collectively, because, you know, they have a pot of money, as well.

So, how do we work collectively to meet the needs of children and families, in this community? So, there are items there, as well. The family stabilization is one we can immediately add money to.

MR. HOFFMAN: I'll add one more thing. The -- the budget -- the fund projection that's on there, even though there was a big increase this year; going forward, it's projected at what it's historically been, which is 5 percent, I believe.

MR. REYES: Right. In the -- the market effect from year to year in the future revenues and how we would apply the millage rate, we're -- we're
trying to not set a new standard of expecting that the -- that the Miami-Dade County property values are going to continue to increase at 10 percent plus per year.

So, the expectation is that it normalizes, like the average rate that we saw last year. So, three out of five of the years -- years last cycle -- funding cycle, we saw rates closer to 4, 5, and 6 percent in the last two years, jumped astronomically.

MR. HAJ: Javier, I -- I apologize. Just one last note on this chart that if you look -- well -- were -- if we propose a half millage rate for this year, which is a tax increase, because we're going to stay at a half millage, we project the next four years to be at a rollback rate. That we can secure this cycle, add additional funds and then go to the rollback rate. It shows four years, but maybe three of the four. But we can go to a rollback rate and -- and bring down -- bring down the millage rate as the years go -- go through. So, you see that on the chart at the very bottom? Those are projected, the four years' rollback rates.

MR. HOFFMAN: Any further comments or
discussion? Okay. Hearing none, I'll move to the resolutions.

The Finance and Operations Committee on June 5, 2023, considered Resolution 202349. Authorization is being sought to waive the formal competitive procurement process and contingent on final merger to enter into a contract agreement with Confident Clouds -- Confident Clouds, the continuous delivery service, for a term of 12 months commencing on October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024. Is there a motion to approve this resolution?

MS. HOLLIGSWORTH: So move, Hollingsworth.

MS. NEASMAN: Second, Neasman.

MR. HOFFMAN: Apologies. It was just pointed out to me that there's an IT presentation that's going to cover some of these resolutions.

MR. HAJ: Javier, can we finish this result, please?

MR. REYES: Okay.

MR. HAJ: Thank you.

MR. HOFFMAN: Is there a motion to approve that resolution? Excellent. Any recusals? Is there any discussion, feedback, questions from the Board? Hearing none. All those in favor?
BOARD: Aye.

MR. HOFFMAN: Any opposed? The Resolution carries. Turn it back over to you, Jim --

MR. HAJ: Thank you. That resolution [sic] was just a change of ownership, but the -- the presentation going to the next two resolutions. You know, there's a lot of work the last several years, we talked about the work we've prepared for IT. That paid off huge before COVID happened. That when -- when COVID hit, we were able just to work with the laptops. We did not miss a beat. Our providers, Rolin ACH (phonetic), and there was tremendous amount of work to get us to that point. And we talked about our 20 years and the work of going from spreadsheets to try to automate things.

But it really is, we have a lot of systems changed. We had a consultant come in and take a look at our -- how do we build the system of -- of the future. How do we stop the manual process of entering, double entering, scanning, and really building a new system.

So, I'd like Jack to -- to -- to go through this presentation. But a lot of work was really designing the systems, it even goes back into success of management. How do we memorialize all
the things that we do, so that if we do lose
someone or a leadership member leaves, that we have
everything memorialized? So, there's been a lot
going to us, the last several years. It's not a sexy term. Jack's working in the basement trying
to get all this stuff done.

So, it's his day to shine, to show all the --
the great work, but it's instrumental in this key
work that -- that laying the foundation so that we
can do the great work that we do and get the
dashboards and the data repositories and all the
things we need to move the needle in this community. Jack.

MR. BENTOLILA: Thank you, Jim. So, the --
this process did start a little over a year ago
when we engaged the services of a consultant, who
reviewed our current systems and practices. I'll
just highlight one of the main key findings was the
lack of functional capabilities within current
informational system, that support core processes
result in manual input requirements, that can
potentially lead to workflow inefficiencies and
rework from information inaccuracies.

They recommended a formal informational system
selection process to evaluate the best suited
systems to support key processes. So, when we got that report from our consultants, we engaged all of our departments across the trust and leveraged our Asana project management system that we use internally to start gauging these process and moving us through the site -- this process and life cycle of renewing and possibly refreshing infrastructure backbone. Again, cross-departmental effort and everyone having a seat at the table and -- and really looking at our efficiencies.

Next slide. Our Asana strategy and stages move through these three phases. So, Phase 1 was our market research. We basically had the opportunity to meet with industry experts, those who do the work to get information on what's out there, what is the newest trends. A lot of our systems that have been used in the trust have been in place for 15, 16, 17 years out of a 20-year-life cycle.

So we thought it was the right time to start investigating and looking at what is the right fit. We leveraged Asana to take us through those market research and then into Phase 2 once to develop the RFPs, to put all of these out in the street and have a competitive process to identify exactly what
would be needed in the new systems. And then the last phase pending would be our implementation upon today's Board action to forward and implement all these strategies in place.

So our systems targeted are listed here. Procurement of key functional areas included the formal process based on a scope of work and key business requirements that was a long, detailed process that our departments took part of to identify what is the key business processes that we needed to move forward. And then many of them had a second round for identifying proposals to provide a -- and demonstrate the systems being proposed. And then all of them were being measured on a -- on a standardized metric.

Both of these utilized matrix (phonetic) and to make a final recommendation to the CEO and Board. And you can see our critical systems that we looked at were the finance and accounting software, human resources, benefits administration, payroll, our integrated data repository and data visualization, and also website redesign, financial auditing services. And we even implemented and utilized Asana for our office redesign, Phase 2 for the environment that our staff will be working in
as well.

Next slide. So, the project timeline is, the resolution in front of you actually represents a five-year timeline and pricing for various systems. So, these timelines include the -- the implementation of the new services that incorporate running dual systems. So, we'll be running our legacy and our new systems for a short period of time until we are certain -- therefore -- we are fully functional and ready to be -- and ready for the new systems to assume all the responsibilities. The timeline varies by systems, but they do overlap.

Once we have successfully implement -- once we have successfully implemented a system, any duplicative services will end and then the balances would be -- of that contract will be moved into a maintenance.

So here you'll get a snapshot of all the -- the systems and the various times and implementation. Human resource and the payroll services are estimating a three- to four-month implementation and then moving into maintenance. IDR data visualization is -- is one of our bigger RFPs and does look like a one- to three-year
implementation.

And then moving into the maintenance phase. Our finance and accounting software has a six- to eight-month implementation, prior to moving into maintenance. Our website redesign also looks -- will be phased over at least two years, with the balance again moving into a maintenance stage. And then the last two, our office redesign should start and stop within this actual fiscal year. So, we'll be able to implement that quickly. And then the financial and auditing services will run its traditional calendar year for the next five-year cycles of the auditor for the trust.

So, the development and implementation, once we have approval and we move into the stage again, we'll now transition and utilize Asana boards to monitor this development and implementation. The -- it will continue cross-departmental. All -- all these actually touch every department in our organization. So, every department will be part of the process to give input and help with the implementation at some point or another. And again, we're always looking for that effectiveness and efficiency of the organization, ultimately translating to servicing our community better.
Next slide -- next slide. There we go. So, during the implementation, there will be actually parallel paths, running simultaneously. We'll be reviewing our current business rules to determine the possible efficiencies. So, we're not looking to just photocopy what we do into a new system. But while we're doing the implementation, really look at what we do, and can we find efficiencies and a -- a more effective way of doing that.

Simultaneously, we'll be looking at standard operating procedure development. So, we're going to look at -- relook at our policies and procedures, and utilize this as an opportunity to tweak those and align those with the new system. And then of course, the system crossover stage is to ensure that prior to releasing a legacy system, and from doing its job and moving into the -- the new vendor system, we need to make sure that they're actually functioning properly. So, we'll be maintaining two systems in a lot of these, for a little while, until we feel comfortable to release one and then transition fully into the new one.

And again, all this -- next slide, all this is at our 20-year anniversary. We want to make sure we're looking to the future and preparing for the
next 20 years to be sustainable infrastructure and support the ability to expand ours and serve our community into the future. Thank you, that concludes the presentation.

MR. REYES: Any questions or comments or discussion on the presentation? Okay.

Moving on to the two remaining resolutions, Resolution 202350, authorization to renew services and execute related agreements with multiple IT vendors in a total amount, not to exceed $1,888,268, inclusive of $50,000 contingency for IT budgeted enhancement projects; for a term of 12 months with two agreements commencing on October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024, and request a waiver of the procurement policy.

Is there a motion to approve this resolution?

MS. ABRAHAM: Moved.

MR. REYES: A second?

MS. WELLER: Second, Weller.

MR. REYES: Thank you. Are there any recusals? Is there any discussion, feedback, or questions from the Board? Hearing none. All those in favor. Any opposed? Resolution carries.

Next resolution is 2023-51. Authorization to negotiate and execute contracts with six providers
identified herein and selected following a competitive solicitation in an amount not to exceed $3,473,514 inclusive of a $250,000 contingency for enhancements and unforeseen needs for various terms and commencement dates as indicated below, and subject to the appropriation each year to support the infrastructure of the Children's Trust.

Is there a motion to approve this resolution?

MS. DONWORTH: Moved.

MR. REYES: Is there a second?


MR. REYES: Thank you. Are there any recusals? Is there any discussion, feedback, or questions from the Board? Hearing none. All those in favor?

THE BOARD: Aye.

MR. REYES: Are there any opposed? Resolution carries. And that concludes the Finance and Operation Committee report. Back to the Chair.

MR. HOFFMAN: Thank you, Javier, all of you. Now turn it over to Pamela Hollingsworth, the Chair of our Program Services and Childhood Health Committee.

MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Good afternoon, Directors. The Program Services
and Childhood Health Committee met on Thursday, June 1, to consider the resolutions that we bring before you today.

Resolution 2023-52, authorization to waive the formal competitive procurement process and to negotiate and execute contract renewals with eight providers, identified herein, for Trust Academy quality supports in a total amount not to exceed $4,249,893, for a term of 12 months commencing October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024, with three remaining contract renewals.

Further, delegation of authority to adjust paid providers and some program components. May I have a motion, please?

MS. GIMENEZ: I move, Gimenez.

MR. PRESCOTT: I second --

MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you. Are there any recusals? Moving into discussion.

The Trust Academy partners provide supports for quality program implementation in fiscal and administrative functions. Partner agencies train and coach the trust service providers to achieve meaningful, measurable results -- results consistently deliver high quality services, and effectively and efficiently satisfy trust contract
-- contractual expectations.

The Trust Academy partners conduct initiative specific community awareness, outreach, and planning policy supports related to family services, youth development, inclusion supports, as well as organizational capacity and leadership development.

Conversation, questions from the Board?

Hearing none, all those in favor.

THE BOARD: Aye.

MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Are there any opposed?

Resolution carries.

Resolution 2023-53. Authorization to negotiate and execute a single source contract with Jewish Community Services of South Florida, JCS, to operate the 211 Miami helpline for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024, and a total amount not to exceed $1,374,176.

May I have a motion, please?

MR. DONWORTH: Moved.

MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you. And a second.

MR. ABRAHAM: I second.

MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you, Dr. Abraham.

Are there any recusals?
MR. BAGNER: Recusal, Bagner. I work for FIU, and they're a secret shopper on this resolution.

MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you. Thank you, Dan. Further recusals? Moving now into discussion.

The 211 Miami helpline is a 24/7 source of information and resources for human -- pardon me, health and human services in Miami-Dade County. The service aims to provide up-to-date information for children and families to get the right services at the right time and at the right place.

Services are described below, and they are a 24-hour-staffed call center, advocacy for the most vulnerable callers, and maintenance of an up-to-date, searchable online community resource directory that is accessible via computer and mobile device. And taking a look at the graphic in your packet, you will have noticed that the top two needs expressed by 211 callers at this time is housing along with mental health and substance abuse.

The floor is open, Directors, for conversation, feedback about this resolution. Hearing none, all those in favor?

THE BOARD: I.
MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Are there any opposed?

The resolution carries.

Resolution 2023-54. Authorization to negotiate and execute a match contract with Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs for Cultural Arts programs in an amount not to exceed $1,500,000 for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024.

May I have a motion, please?

MR. BAGNER: I move, Bagner.

MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you. And a second?

MS. HARRISON: Second here, Harrison.

MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you. Are there any recusals? Hearing no recusals, moving into discussion.

This resolution authorizes match funding from the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs to support nonprofit organizations that provide cultural arts programs for children and families across Miami-Dade County. The county issues competitive grant opportunities throughout the year and provides at least 100 percent leverage funding for these youth arts education programs, and that's $3.4 million leveraged.

The three program areas are youth arts
enrichment program, all kids, including accessible arts experiences for kids, summer arts and science camps for kids. And just a few highlights from the 2021-2022 year. Eighty-six programs were funded. More than 42,000 children and youth were served. And 6,245 of them that were served had identified disabilities.

Feedback? Questions?

MS. GIMENEZ: Chair, comment. I think this is a wonderful thing for our children. While there are a lot of after school programs, summer programs that have sports or have academic types of competitions and things, some children are not either sports-oriented or, maybe academically, are not doing as well as they should be. But through the arts, a lot of these children can perform to a level where they going to be praised and highlighted, which will help their self-esteem.

And I think it's a wonderful thing, not only for regular students, but disability students. There are many kids that have a lot of artistic abilities that may have special needs as far as the academics or even sports. So, I'm very happy to see that this resolution --

MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you, Lourdes.
Further feedback from the Board? Hearing none.

All those in favor?

THE BOARD: Aye.

MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Are there any opposed?

This resolution carries. And I'm going to punt to Ms. Weller for Resolution 2023-55.

MS. WELLER: Okay. Thank you. Resolution 2023-55. Authorization to negotiate and execute contracts with 45 providers, identified herein, to deliver evidence-based parenting and family strengthening services in a total amount not to exceed $23,230,563 each for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1st of 2023 and ending September 30, 2024, each with four remaining annual renewals subject to annual funding appropriations.

May I have a motion, please?

MR. PRESCOTT: Prescott --

MS. WELLER: Thank you. Second?

MS. OSPINA: --

MS. WELLER: Thank you. Any recusals?

MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Recuse, Hollingsworth. And I'm doing so of -- out of an abundance of caution. Not required or recommended by the Commission of Ethics due to my CEO's relationship to one of the funded programs.
MS. WELLER: Okay. Thank you.

MR. BAGNER: Recusal, Bagner. Go ahead.

MS. NEASMAN: Recusal, Neasman. I'm employed by Jessie Trice Community Health System.

MR. BAGNER: Recusal, Bagner. Employed by FIU. They're one of the providers.

MS. WELLER: Okay. Thank you. Do we have any discussion on this resolution?

MS. OSPINA: I -- I just want to say, I work mainly with adults, and parents come through our offices regularly needing help and support in raising their children and knowing what to do, because it really doesn't come with a handbook. The -- the kids, they just don't come with a handbook, and things change continuously. And the amount of support that I think parents need nowadays is astronomic. And so I think anything that helps parents parent better is going to be ultimately better for the children, so I think this is incredibly important.

MS. WELLER: Thank you. Any other discussion? Okay. All those in favor?

THE BOARD: Aye.

MS. WELLER: Oppose? Hearing none. The motion carries. I'll send it back to you.
MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you, Karen.

Resolution 2023-56, authorization to waive the formal competitive procurement process and to negotiate and execute contract renewals with 22 providers, identified herein, for family and neighborhood support partnerships in an amount not to exceed $13,408,796, and for the Children's Trust to encumber a purchase order in the amount of $500,000 for pooled family stabilization funding for a total amount not to exceed $13,908,796 for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024, with three remaining contract renewals. Further delegation of authority? To adjust paid providers and some program components.

May I have a motion, please?

MS. DONWORTH: Move.

MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you. And a second?

MS. OSPINA: Second, Lora Ospina.

MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you. Any recusals?

MR. BAGNER: Recusal. Oh.

MS. HARRISON: Recusal, Harrison. Miami-Dade College is a partner in the family of partnerships.

Other recusals?
MR. BAGNER: Recusal, Bagner. I believe this was an abundance of precaution one, not recommended, but one of my colleagues is a partner with the Kristi House. So, out of an abundance of caution, I am recusing.

MR. HINCAPIE: Recusal, Hincapie --

MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you, Mr. Hincapie. Okay. Moving now to discussion.

Family and neighborhood support partnerships are -- offer comprehensive and individualized supports for children, youth, and their families experiencing challenges that may limit them from realizing their total health, social, educational, and economic potential. To date, 1,627 families, and that's 4,151 individuals, have received more than 22,000 hours of services to date.

And I'll also note, and you will have also in your packet, that residential stability is a top need that has been identified.

The floor is open, Directors, for discussion, observations, questions? Hearing none. All those in favor?

THE BOARD: Aye.

MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Are there any opposed?

The resolution carries. And back to Ms. Weller for
Resolution 2023-57-- 56, correct, no, 57?

MS. WELLER: 57. Yes. Okay. Resolution 2023-57. Authorization to amend Resolution Number 2023-05, and the current contract with the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade and Monroe ELC for services from October the 1st of 2022 to September 30th of 2023 to adjust the scope of work to add an additional contract activity relating to the ASCEND program, wherein the Early Learning Coalition will award qualifying ASCEND educators a one-time bonus payment from non-Trust funding sources.

May I have a motion, please?

MR. BAGNER: First, Bagner.

MS. WELLER: Thank you.

MR. PRESCOTT: Second.

MS. WELLER: Thank you. Any recusals?

MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Recuse, Hollingsworth. I work for the Early Learning Coalition.

MS. WELLER: Thank you. As -- any discussion for this one?

MR. HAJ: Madam Chair, can I make a comment?

MS. WELLER: Sure.

MR. HAJ: Just I highlighted this at programs committee, but I just want to thank ELC, Pam, our
staff, our attorneys. This was $5 million going
back to the federal -- to the feds, to the state,
And we tried to keep this money in this community.
And the last month, there's been people working
very hard to make sure that this is brought in
front of the board, so we keep this money in Miami-
Dade.

MS. WELLER: Thank you. All those in favor?
THE BOARD: Aye.
MS. WELLER: Opposed? The resolution is
approved, and I'm going to pass it on to the chair.
Thank you.

MR. HOFFMAN: Thank you, Karen and Pam. Turn
it over to Jim for the CEO report.

MR. HAJ: So, Chair. Thank you. There's a
Media Highlights, all the great work that's
happening in the community in front of you. And we
send it electronically so you can automatically
click on the links. Ken stated earlier financial
disclosures are due by July 1st. Battle of the
Books is July 13th from 10:00 to 12:00, and these
are all our summer camps across the county coming
together to compete. This is -- it's a fun
activity that supports literacy. And if you can
join us, we have a Zoom call July 13th from 10:00
to 12:00.

And then the expo -- our Family Expos are across the community. We're going to be at Booker T. Washington on the 22nd, Kendall Campus on the 29th, and Florida Memorial on August 5th. And this is where all our providers in the community come out as families are going back to school, and they're looking for after school program services. All our providers will be there. Again, we've learned our lesson in the years past. And we use these facilities for -- in the gym, so we have air, so we don't bake in the summer heat.

But we -- we used to do it at the youth fair and had close to 15,000 individuals coming in. And now we're taking this event to the community, and we're looking forward to having as many board members attend as possible. And the key dates, can't stress enough. September 11th and 18th are two TRIM dates. They're on your calendars, and we hope everyone can attend those two sessions. Thank you, sir.

MR. HOFFMAN: Thank you. So, if you haven't been to a -- a Family Expo, you really ought to do it, particularly since they've -- we've split it up into different community areas. It's really
fantastic. And please don't miss the TRIM hearings, as Jim says, otherwise, everything we've done here will go for naught.

MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Excuse me, Mr. Chair.

Mr. Chair, I've made a mistake on the last reso. I should have --

MR. HOFFMAN: Okay.

MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: I'm going to take care of it? We're good? Okay. Never mind.

MR. HOFFMAN: You're forgiven. Okay. With that, the meeting is adjourned. Thank you very much.

(Thereupon, the proceedings concluded at 4:54 p.m.)
CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIPTION

The above and foregoing transcript is a true and correct typed copy of the contents of the file, which was digitally recorded in the proceeding identified at the beginning of the transcript, to the best of my ability, knowledge and belief.

Cecil Clark

CECIL CLARK, Transcriber

February 15, 2023