



## Finance & Operations Committee Meeting

Thursday, May 2, 2024  
3150 S.W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue – 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
The Children's Trust – Training Room  
9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

### Board of Directors

TBA

Chair

Pamela Hollingsworth

Vice-Chair

Matthew Arsenault

Treasurer

Marissa Leichter

Secretary

Edward Abraham, M.D.

Laura Adams

Islamiyat Nancy Adebisi

Daniel Bagner, Ph.D.

Hon. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall, Ph.D.

Cathy Burgos

Norie del Valle

Lourdes Diaz

Richard P. Dunn II

Jacqueline Exceus

Gilda Ferradaz

Hon. Norman S. Gerstein (Ret.)

Lourdes P. Gimenez

Nicole Gomez

Valrose Graham

Mindy Grimes-Festge

Hon. Keon Hardemon

Malou C. Harrison, Ph.D.

Maria Norton

Clara Lora Ospina, Psy.D.

Ashna Paudel

Hon. Orlando Prescott

Diana Ragbeer

Javier Reyes

Hon. Alex Rizo

Hon. Isaac Salver

David Lawrence Jr.

Founding Chair

James R. Haj

President & CEO

County Attorney's Office

Legal Counsel

### AGENDA

9:30 a.m. **Welcome and opening remarks**  
Matthew Arsenault  
*Committee Chair*

9:35 a.m. **Public Comments**  
Matthew Arsenault  
*Committee Chair*

9:40 a.m. **Approval of March 7, 2024 Finance & Operations  
Committee minutes summary**  
*(Addl. Items packet, Pg. 3)*  
Matthew Arsenault  
*Committee Chair*

9:45 a.m. **Review Five-Year Budget Plan**  
James R. Haj  
*President/CEO*  
William Kirtland  
*Chief Financial Officer*

10:30 a.m. **Resolution**  
Matthew Arsenault  
*Committee Chair*

**Resolution 2024-A:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract with The Miami Foundation, acting as the fiscal agent, for a match funding award to the Community Based Care Alliance of Miami-Dade County (CBC Alliance), in a total amount not to exceed \$64,000.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2024, and ending September 30, 2025. *(Pgs. 4-7)*

The public is allowed to comment on a specific agenda item but must register with the Clerk of the Board prior to being allowed to comment.

10:45 a.m. **CEO Report**

- *Monthly Financial Statements*
- *Young Talent Big Dreams Finals – Saturday, May 11, 2024  
@7:00p.m. Miracle Theatre 280 Miracle Mile Coral Gables, FL 33134*
- *TRIM I & TRIM II – September 9 & September 16, 2024*

James R. Haj  
*President & CEO*

11:00 a.m. **Adjourn**

**Reminder:**  
**Next Committee Meeting: Thursday, June 6, 2024**



**Finance & Operations Committee Meeting  
Summary of Actions Taken  
March 07, 2024  
9:31 a.m.**

**These actions were taken by the Finance & Operations Committee meeting held on March 07, 2024:**

**\*Please note that the number of board members fluctuate based on arrival and departure of some of them throughout the meeting.**

**Motion to approve the November 11, 2023, Finance & Operations committee meeting minutes was made by Dr. Clara Lora Ospina and seconded by Javier Reyes. Motion passed unanimously, 4-0.**

**Motion to favorably recommend the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) Fiscal Year 2022-22 to the March 18 Board meeting was made by Matthew Arsenault and seconded by Javier Reyes. Motion passed unanimously, 4-0.**

**Resolution 2023-A: Motion to recommend the resolution to the Board of Directors on March 18, 2024, was made by Matthew Arsenault and seconded by Dr. Clara Lora Ospina.** Authorization to negotiate and execute contracts with five vendors, identified herein and selected following competitive solicitations, in an amount not to exceed \$2,348,500.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2024, and ending on September 30, 2025, with four annual renewal options at the sole discretion of The Children's Trust. **Motion passed, 3-0. Recusal by Javier Reyes.**

**Resolution 2023-B: Motion to recommend the resolution to the Board of Directors on March 18, 2024, was made by Matthew Arsenault and seconded by Javier Reyes.** Authorization to accept a \$1,000,000.00 contribution from and enter into an agreement with the Frederick A. Deluca Foundation to fund The Children's Trust Families Forward child care scholarship payments; to amend The Children's Trust budget to be reflective of the contributed funds; and for The Children's Trust to increase the Families Forward contract with the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe over two fiscal years, for child care scholarship payments to Thrive by 5 early learning providers. **Motion passed unanimously, 4-0.**

**Motion to authorize entering into an agreement with the Early Learning Coalition and the Miami-Dade County for the County's provision of \$3,000,000,00 to fund The Children's Trust Families Forward child care scholarship payments was made by Matthew Arsenault and seconded by Javier Reyes. Motion passed unanimously, 4-0.**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:56 a.m.**

## The Children's Trust Board Meeting

**Date: May 13, 2024**

**Resolution: 2024-A**

---

**Strategic Framework Priority Investment Area:** Community Engagement, Awareness and Advocacy: Funder collaboration initiatives; and Parenting.

**Strategic Framework Headline Community Results:** This investment supports all headline community results for children in the child welfare system.

**Recommended Action:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract with The Miami Foundation, acting as the fiscal agent, for a match funding award to the Community Based Care Alliance of Miami-Dade County (CBC Alliance), in a total amount not to exceed \$64,000.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2024, and ending September 30, 2025.

**Budget Impact:** Funding in the amount of \$64,000.00 is projected to be available in FY 2024-2025.

---

**Description of Services:** Since August 2007, The Children's Trust has provided annual funding to the Community Based Care Alliance of Miami-Dade County (CBC Alliance) to support staff and operational costs. As of October 1, 2024, The Miami Foundation will serve as the fiscal agent for the CBC Alliance. Previously, the Center for Social Change, Inc. served as the fiscal agent. The CBC Alliance advises it is changing fiscal agents from the Center for Social Change to The Miami Foundation in order to improve efficiency, reduce costs, and access better services for their organization.

Recommendations by the CBC Alliance help to improve children's well-being in the foster care system and promote the integration of foster care with other social services programs, including The Children's Trust's direct services programs.

The Children's Trust funding supports the mission of the CBC Alliance board and its subcommittee workgroups to provide support, guidance, and coordination of the entire child welfare system. The Trust investment supports the CBC Alliance's full-time director position, operating costs, and the Annual Regional Child Welfare Conference. As the fiscal agent, The Miami Foundation coordinates the payments for the staff position, utilizing these funds with funding from other agencies. Four percent of the annual total of \$64,000.00 will be paid to The Miami Foundation for fiscal agent services. This is a four-percent decrease in the fiscal agency fee previously paid to the Center for Social Change.

The CBC Alliance director is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the CBC Alliance, the implementation of its mission, goals, and responsibilities, and provides administrative support to the CBC Alliance, including the following:

- organizing and facilitating monthly CBC Alliance meetings;
- preparing and disseminating minutes from all committee meetings and a summary of all board meeting minutes;
- conducting follow-up activities after all board and committee meetings;
- participating in community meetings and events connected to the child welfare

Resolution 2024- A - Community Engagement, Awareness & Advocacy: Funder collaboration initiatives  
May 13, 2024

- system as the CBC Alliance representative;
- facilitating community and monthly board meetings and supporting board action plans based upon board priorities;
- engaging in regular communication with the CBC Alliance board and community stakeholders;
- overseeing all operational issues related to the CBC Alliance; and
- engaging in other activities related to ongoing projects of the CBC Alliance.

In the 2023-2024 fiscal year the CBC Alliance Director reports the following accomplishments:

- Reevaluated and reinforced the CBC Alliance by-laws to ensure the board of directors implements effective change and upholds the vision and mission of the CBC Alliance.
- Actively worked with organizations and community stakeholders that interfaced with the child welfare system through various committee workgroups. These workgroups focused on identifying barriers, creating solutions, and collaborating with community partners for strategic plans for change.
- Actively participated and facilitated a fiscal committee to establish and strategically plan for grant funding opportunities through programs, events, and initiatives. Through the fiscal committee, a bookkeeping budgeting system was developed as cross reference for fiscal agent.
- Developed a parent birth rights brochure voted and approved by the board of directors for distribution to parents at removal and/or throughout their case plan, through the parent education committee. A parent's rights manual is also being developed to provide an in-depth description of the process for a parent while their case is under our system of care.
- Actively participated in internal and external committees related to improving outcomes within the child welfare system.
- Re-established the Florida Community Alliance Collective (the Collective), which is a statewide CBC Alliance workgroup, to obtain accurate and reflective trends across statewide community alliances, allowing for systemic change and advocacy to the legislature in the State of Florida. The Collective has effectively partnered with all CBC Alliances across the state and the Department of Children and Families to further analyze any risks, opportunities, weaknesses, and strengths in our communities across the state.
- Continued the use of SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats) analysis for community partners, stakeholders, and members of the CBC Alliance.
- Facilitated the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Regional Child Welfare Conference for over 350 child welfare professionals.
- Addressed disproportionalities in the community, helped design and gather questions to retrieve information related to cultural impact, with the support of the University of Miami Law School.
- Assisted with creating effective change with placement through community voice by utilizing space to strategically plan and provide resources to assist the lead agency and other community partners with placement issues.
- Conducted the CBC Alliance Training Series monthly, offering continuing education units through Jewish Community Services.

With funding for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, CBC Alliance proposes to continue and institutionalize the following initiatives:

- Actively facilitate and engage with community stakeholders to maintain established committees and create goals and objectives for the work they have begun.

- Bring additional speakers for the Annual Regional Child Welfare conference and provide more opportunity for stakeholders to network and share ideas for successful models used in their organizations.
- Expand and facilitate “The Conversation” training series to include lived experiences, expansion of community partners, and outreach.
- Further develop the Collective, a statewide initiative and forum to address challenges and barriers across the State of Florida.
- Create and disseminate tools and resources to assist parents involved in the child welfare system.
- Actively update and engage the community through website and social media management.
- Actively engage the community, children, and families to bring awareness to teen-centered topics.

**Background:** The CBC Alliance was established under section 20.19(6), Florida Statutes, to provide a local community presence to guide the development of community-based care for child welfare in Miami-Dade County. While the CBC Alliance was created by a State of Florida statute, local stakeholders and the board of directors are responsible for making it a functional body that promotes the interests of children and families associated with the child welfare system.

The CBC Alliance is composed by law of mandatory representatives and includes various members through expansion so that at any given time, the body consists of more than 20 participating members. The Children’s Trust is a mandatory representative of the CBC Alliance as the county’s children’s services council representative.

The mission of the CBC Alliance is to engage the community in advocating for a family-centered, culturally competent, and outcomes-driven system of care that enhances the safety, permanency, and well-being of children and families. The CBC Alliance focuses on:

- Redesigning the system of care for children in or diverted from the child dependency and juvenile justice systems.
- Serving as the lead advocate for implementing research-based best practices for services to dependent and other children associated with the child welfare system.
- Advocating for additional funding for traditionally state-operated social services components.
- Maintaining an open community forum for addressing the challenges associated with the community-based system of care for dependent children and continuing improvement of the system.

In addition to the funding from The Children’s Trust, the CBC Alliance reports the following agency contributions to the operating expenses, including in-kind support, such as additional partner staff time, office and meeting space, and office supplies.

<b>Partner</b>	<b>Amount</b> *In-kind funding
Citrus FCN	\$2,000.00
Domestic Violence Initiative	\$2,496.68
Educate Tomorrow	\$1,000.00
Florida Department of Children and Families	*\$10,000.00
Jewish Community Services	*\$1,200.00
Regional Conference Ticket Sales	\$7,140.00
The Guardian Ad Litem – 16th Circuit	*\$1,000.00
United Way of Miami	\$5,000.00
Voices for Children	\$5,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$32,340.00</b>

Per the procurement policy, section 2006, Match Funding and Funder Collaboration, the negotiation and execution of a match contract are exempt from the competitive solicitation process. Renewal of match funding beyond the initial contract term is at the sole discretion of The Children’s Trust and is contingent upon satisfactory performance, availability of funding, and an ability to maintain the underlying primary funding sources.

**Geographic Area:** Countywide.

The foregoing recommendation was offered by \_\_\_\_\_ who moved its approval. The motion was seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this **13<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2024.**

THE CHILDREN’S TRUST  
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY \_\_\_\_\_

SECRETARY

Approved by County Attorney for form and legal sufficiency \_\_\_\_\_