



## Program Svcs & Childhood Health Committee Meeting

Thursday, January 12, 2023  
3250 S.W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue (Coral Way)  
United Way – Ryder Room

**“In person quorum with some virtual attendants”**

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

### Board of Directors

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Chair

Pamela Hollingsworth  
Vice-Chair

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Annie R. Neasman

Maria Norton

Clara Lora Ospina, Psy.D.

Hon. Orlando Prescott

Javier Reyes

Hon. Isaac Salver

David Lawrence Jr.

Founding Chair

James R. Haj

President & CEO

County Attorney's Office

Legal Counsel

### AGENDA

#### 3:30 p.m. **Welcome and opening remarks**

Pamela Hollingsworth, M.Ed.  
*Committee Chair*

#### 3:35 p.m. **Public Comments**

Pamela Hollingsworth, M.Ed.  
*Committee Chair*

#### 3:40 p.m. **Approval of October 6, 2022, Program Services & Childhood Health Committee minutes summary**

*(Addl. Items packet, Pgs. 4-5)*

Pamela Hollingsworth, M.Ed.  
*Committee Chair*

#### 3:45 p.m. **Resolutions**

Pamela Hollingsworth, M.Ed.  
*Committee Chair*

**Resolution 2023-A:** Authorization to negotiate and execute contracts with the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe, Miami-Dade County Community Action and Human Services Department, and the United Way of Miami-Dade, for local match funding for the federal Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership (EHS-CCP) grant, in a total amount not to exceed \$2,270,000.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024. *(Pgs. 6-7)*

**Resolution 2023-B:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract with the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe (ELC) for local match funding for the State of Florida School Readiness Program Match grant, in a total amount not to exceed \$1,230,000.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024. *(Pgs. 8-9)*

**Resolution 2023-C:** Authorization to negotiate and execute contract renewals with six providers, identified herein, for early childhood community research demonstration projects within high-need communities, in a total amount not to exceed \$1,939,358.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024, with two remaining contract renewals. *(Pgs. 10-14)*

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.

**Resolution 2023-D:** Authorization to: 1) negotiate and execute a single source contract with Miami-Dade Family Learning Partnership for expanded Reach Out and Read early literacy programming, in a total amount not to exceed \$700,000.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024; 2) amend resolution # 2022-50 and the current contract for services from October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023, to add \$200,000.00, for a new total amount not to exceed \$555,664.00; and 3) enter into a research and evaluation agreement as part of a collaborative research effort, in a total amount not to exceed \$50,000.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing retroactively on January 1, 2023, and ending December 31, 2023. *(Pgs. 15-18)*

**Resolution 2023-E:** Authorization to amend Resolution # 2022-48 and the current contracts with the Miami-Dade Family Learning Partnership, Inc. and All in One Mail Shop, Inc. d/b/a All in One Direct Marketing Solutions for services from October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023 for the support and maintenance of a birth to five book club, to (i) add \$285,000.00 for Haitian-Creole book purchases, accompanying guide development and translation, and related purchase and fulfillment costs, (ii) add \$15,000.00 for outreach and community engagement activities for Haitian American families, for a new total amount not to exceed \$2,617,239.00. Further, authorization to approve a budget amendment to increase the Book Club budget and allocate these funds in the appropriate budget line. *(Pgs. 19-21)*

**Resolution 2023-F:** Authorization for a procurement waiver from the formal competitive procurement process to award a total amount not to exceed \$27,890,000.00 for the delivery of integrated child care quality improvement services described below. The total amount includes \$14,900,000.00 to negotiate and execute through multiple contracts with providers, identified herein, and \$12,990,000.00 for The Children's Trust to encumber in purchase orders for educator scholarship payments, salary supplement payments to early learning educators, and high-quality tiered payment differentials to providers, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024. *(Pgs. 22-27)*

**Resolution 2023-G:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract with Redlands Christian Migrant Association (RCMA) for local match funding to draw down federal-state funds to subsidize early childcare, in a total amount not to exceed \$102,000.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024. *(Pgs. 28-29)*

**Resolution 2023-H:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract with the University of Miami-Nova Southeastern University (UM-NSU) Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) for autism spectrum disorders (ASD) diagnostic evaluation services, in a total amount not to exceed \$264,000.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024. *(Pgs. 30-31)*

**Resolution 2023-I:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract renewal with the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine (UM) in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000.00 for comprehensive early intervention services for children with mild developmental delays who do not meet eligibility requirements for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) parts B or C, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024. *(Pgs. 32-33)*

**Resolution 2023-J:** Authorization to amend resolution #2022-24 and the current contract with United Way of Miami-Dade for services from October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023 to increase the contract amount by \$100,000.00, for a new total contract amount of \$1,100,000.000 for the purpose of supporting staff retention. *(Pgs. 34-35)*

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.

4:55 p.m. **CEO Report**

James R. Haj  
*President/CEO*

- *Board Retreat – February 23, 2023*

5:00 p.m. **Adjourn**

**Reminder:**  
**Next Committee Meeting: Thursday, March 2, 2023**

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.



**Program Services & Childhood Health Committee Meeting  
Summary of Actions Taken  
October 6, 2022  
3:38 p.m.**

**These actions were taken by the Program Services & Childhood Health Committee meeting held on October 6, 2022, with a quorum of members physically present and some members attending virtually:**

**\*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 June 2, 2022 Program Services & Childhood Health Committee meeting was made by Mary Donworth and seconded by Dr. Daniel Bagner. Motion passed unanimously, 6-0.**

**Resolution 2023-A: Motion to recommend the resolution to the Board of Directors on October 17, 2022 was made by Lourdes Gimenez and seconded by Annie Neasman.** Authorization to: (i) reallocate \$200,000.00 previously approved for The Children's Forum to the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe (ELC) to administer CLASS observations for the A\$CEND programs; (ii) provide additional funding to ELC in the amount of \$500,000.00 for child scholarship payments; (iii) have The Children's Trust encumber a purchase order in the additional amount of \$1,500,000.00 for high-quality tiered payment differentials for early learning providers; (iv) have The Children's Trust administer the A\$CEND salary supplement program for 12 months, commencing October 1, 2022, and ending September 30, 2023; and (v) amend Resolution No. 2022-24 accordingly. In addition, authorization to the president/CEO to move funds between child scholarship payments and tiered payment differentials if additional outside funding is obtained, with a subsequent report to the board. **Motion passed, 5-0. Recusal by Pamela Hollingsworth.**

**Resolution 2023-B: Motion to recommend the resolution to the Board of Directors on October 17, 2022 was made by Mary Donworth and seconded by Annie Neasman.** Authorization to negotiate and execute final contract renewals with eight providers, identified herein, to provide early intervention summer camp services for 635 slots of children, birth to five years of age, in a total amount not to exceed \$2,217,499.00, each for a term of six months, commencing March 1, 2023, and ending August 31, 2023, subject to annual funding appropriations. **Motion passed, 6-0. Recusal by Dr. Daniel Bagner.**

**Resolution 2023-C: Motion to recommend the resolution to the Board of Directors on October 17, 2022 was made by Lourdes Gimenez and seconded by Maria Norton.** Authorization to negotiate and execute final contract renewals with 13 providers, identified herein, to deliver high-quality summer camp services for 1,005 slots for elementary school children, in a total amount not to exceed \$1,578,097.00, each for a term of six months, commencing March 1, 2023, and ending August 31, 2023, subject to annual funding appropriations. **Motion passed unanimously, 7-0.**

**Resolution 2023-D: Motion to recommend the resolution to the Board of Directors on October 17, 2022 was made by Mary Donworth and seconded by Annie Neasman.** Authorization to negotiate and execute final contract renewals with 17 providers, identified herein, to deliver high-quality summer camp services for 1,536 slots for middle and high school youth, in a total amount not to exceed \$2,597,209.00, each for a term of six months, commencing March 1, 2023, and ending August 31, 2023, subject to annual funding appropriations. **Motion passed, 6-0. Recusal by Dr. Daniel Bagner.**

**Resolution 2023-E: Motion to recommend the resolution to the Board of Directors on October 17, 2022 was made by Lourdes Gimenez and seconded by Annie Neasman.** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract with Miami-Dade County for the HERO truancy prevention program, a component of the Case Management Referral Program, in a total amount not to exceed \$880,000.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing August 1, 2023, and ending July 31, 2024. **Motion passed unanimously, 10-0.**

**Resolution 2023-F: Motion to recommend the resolution to the Board of Directors on October 17, 2022 was made by Pastor Richard Dunn and seconded by Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall.** Authorization to renew a funder collaboration contract with The Miami Foundation, as the fiscal agent for Miami Connected, in a total amount not to exceed \$150,000.00 for a term of 12 months, commencing retroactively on October 1, 2022, and ending September 30, 2023. **Motion passed, 9-0. Recusal by Pamela Hollingsworth.**

**Meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.**

# The Children’s Trust Board Meeting

Date: January 23, 2023

Resolution: 2023-A

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**Strategic Plan Priority Investment Area:** Thrive by 5 Early Childhood Development: Early care access for those in need

**Strategic Plan Headline Community Results:** Children attend quality child care; children regularly access medical, dental, and behavioral health care services; children are supported by nurturing and involved parents; children are ready for kindergarten; and children behave appropriately in schools, homes, and communities.

**Recommended Action:** Authorization to negotiate and execute contracts with the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe, Miami-Dade County Community Action and Human Services Department, and the United Way of Miami-Dade, for local match funding for the federal Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership (EHS-CCP) grant, in a total amount not to exceed \$2,270,000.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024.

**Budget Impact:** Funding in the amount of \$2,270,000.00 for this resolution is projected to be available for 2023-2024.

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**Description of Services:** This authorization will award the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe, Miami-Dade County Community Action and Human Services Department, and the United Way of Miami-Dade \$2,270,000.00 in match funds for 2,062 high-quality early learning slots. The match funds are used to leverage federal funding for infant and toddler care through the EHS-CCP Grant. Children served must be Miami-Dade County residents and meet the eligibility requirements of the EHS-CCP grant. Enrollment criteria prioritize children living in families earning below the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), ages birth to two years, and those experiencing life stressors. Children receive health, mental health, nutrition, and family support services. Family advocates also work closely to address each family’s unique needs and help them achieve self-sufficiency. A minimum of 10 percent of children served must have diagnosed disabilities (regardless of income).

**Background:** Since 1965, the federal Head Start program has provided comprehensive early education and support services for three- and four-year-old children living in families earning below the FPL. In recognition of the importance of the earliest years in children’s development, the Early Head Start (EHS) program was established in 1994 to serve children from birth to three years of age.

In 2014, the federal government made \$650,000,000.00 available to expand EHS services nationally. These funds were awarded competitively to grantees throughout the country to expand access to high-quality, comprehensive services for infants and toddlers living in families earning below the FPL.

The table below represents each funded agency's funding amount and leveraged dollars. All three agencies are in year four of a five-year federal grant cycle. Service delivery continues to be satisfactory, and all slots are being utilized.

<b>AGENCY</b>	<b>MATCH FUNDING</b>	<b>LEVERAGED DOLLARS</b>
Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe	\$650,000.00	\$11,113,784.00
Miami-Dade County Community Action and Human Services Department	\$850,000.00	\$11,667,155.00
United Way of Miami-Dade	\$770,000.00	\$9,169,314.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,270,000.00</b>	<b>\$25,219,385.00</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 shall be contingent upon satisfactory performance evaluations, quality program results, outcome achievements, availability of funding, and an ability to maintain the underlying primary funding source(s).

**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 **23<sup>rd</sup> day of January 2023.**

THE CHILDREN’S TRUST  
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY \_\_\_\_\_

SECRETARY

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

# The Children's Trust Board Meeting

Date: January 23, 2023

Resolution: 2023-B

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**Strategic Plan Priority Investment Area:** Thrive by 5 Early Childhood Development: Early care access for those in need

**Strategic Plan Headline Community Results:** Children attend quality child care; children regularly access medical, dental, and behavioral health care services; children are supported by nurturing and involved parents; children are ready for kindergarten; and children behave appropriately in schools, homes, and communities.

**Recommended Action:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract with the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe (ELC) for local match funding for the State of Florida School Readiness Program Match grant, in a total amount not to exceed \$1,230,000.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024.

**Budget Impact:** Funding in the amount of \$1,230,000.00 for this resolution is projected to be available in FY 2023-2024.

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**Description of Services:** The School Readiness Program Match (SRPM) is a public/private partnership that helps employers meet the needs of working parents. Through this program, federal and state funding is "matched" with contributions from local governments, charitable foundations, and participating businesses on a dollar-for-dollar basis to provide child care services for participating families.

The Florida SRPM purchasing pool fund serves as a general funding source to assist eligible low-to-moderate wage families earning up to 200 percent of the federal poverty level to access childcare subsidies. This ceiling is slightly higher than the basic school readiness subsidy eligibility criteria of 150 percent. SRPM allows families to continue accessing a portion of the subsidy even if they receive a pay raise. Funds contributed locally are matched dollar-for-dollar by the state and distributed according to ELC priorities. The ELC prioritizes younger children, children with disabilities, children of teen parents and families experiencing other significant life stressors. All funds matched by The Children's Trust are solely used for residents of Miami-Dade County.

The annual cost per slot is estimated at \$5,000.00, including \$3,500.00 in subsidy, plus an expected family sliding scale co-pay of about \$1,500.00, dependent upon the family's income. More than one child might use one slot for a year. Recipients of SRPM subsidy funding must attend programs that have a Gold Seal designation by the Department of Children and Families.

**Background:** The Children's Trust provides this local match funding according to the terms and conditions set forth above to assist the ELC in drawing down the maximum funding from the state's SRPM child care subsidy program (formerly known as Child Care Executive Partnership). The Children's Trust contributed a dollar-for-dollar match during the past 13



contract periods. This match supports child care services for more than 375 children. Child care programs participating in SRPM are located throughout Miami-Dade County.

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 shall be contingent upon satisfactory performance evaluations, quality program results, outcome achievements, availability of funding, and an ability to maintain the underlying primary funding source(s).

**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 **23<sup>rd</sup> day of January 2023.**

THE CHILDREN’S TRUST  
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY \_\_\_\_\_  
SECRETARY

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

## The Children's Trust Board Meeting

Date: January 23, 2023

Resolution: 2023-C

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**Strategic Plan Priority Investment Area:** Thrive by 5 Early Childhood Development: Community research partnerships

**Strategic Plan Headline Community Results:** Children attend quality child care; children regularly access medical, dental, and behavioral health care services; children are supported by nurturing and involved parents; children are ready for kindergarten; and children behave appropriately in schools, homes, and communities.

**Recommended Action:** Authorization to negotiate and execute contract renewals with six providers, identified herein, for early childhood community research demonstration projects within high-need communities, in a total amount not to exceed \$1,939,358.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024, with two remaining contract renewals.

**Budget Impact:** Funding in the amount of \$1,939,358.00 for this resolution is projected to be available for FY 2023-2024.

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**Description of Services:** The early childhood community research demonstration projects support early childhood development by implementing and evaluating programs with high-need populations and underserved communities in Miami-Dade County. These projects require active partnerships between community-based early childhood organizations and qualified research partners. Funding is invested in high-quality program implementation and rigorous program evaluation or research that can contribute meaningfully to learning about what works within the local community using participatory research methods. Projects are expected to build evidence that will contribute to the scaling and sustainability of successful practices, outside of The Children's Trust funding. Funding in this solicitation is not intended to support ongoing service delivery but must also facilitate a rigorous program evaluation.

Activities are unique to each community-based research demonstration project, as noted in the descriptions below. All designs consider the diversity of Miami-Dade County's local neighborhoods, including differences in resiliencies and challenges based on where children are born and raised. Community-based services take place in schools, child care centers or home-based locations. Projects are expected to demonstrate positive teacher, family and/or child-level outcomes. The goal is to identify, implement, and evaluate strong early childhood programs and practices that demonstrate equitable outcomes for all young children related to The Trust's headline community results noted above. Kindergarten readiness includes the domains of language/literacy/communication, cognition, approaches to learning, physical health/motor development, self-help and social/emotional development. Some projects explore ways to reduce racial and social disparities evident in early childhood. Investing in early childhood community research demonstration projects provides for the testing and evaluating of early childhood development models within local neighborhoods, and the development of practices specifically with and for Miami-Dade County's unique diversity of children, families, caregivers, and early learning workforce.

The contracted agencies listed in the table below are recommended for renewal.

<b>Contracted Agency</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Amount Not to Exceed</b>
<p>Florida International University (FIU) Board of Trustees</p>	<p><b>Community Partner:</b> The Gathering Place</p> <p><b>Research Partners:</b> Florida International University Behavioral Science Research Institute</p>	<p>The Gathering Place is a community space that offers birth and postpartum doulas, childbirth education, breastfeeding counseling, support groups, workshops, and trainings. FIU’s Black Mother’s Care Plan-Reducing Racial Bias and Supporting Maternal and Infant Health (BMCP) project is an interdisciplinary partnership that impacts racial bias against African American women in obstetric patient care. BMCP convenes local doulas, midwives, and Black community members with obstetric care experience to design a toolkit to educate aspiring and current health professionals from across Miami-Dade and to reduce racial bias and disparities in health care, implementing it through in-person workshops.</p> <p>*FIU, The Gathering Place, and Behavioral Science Research Institute receive funding through this project.</p>	<p>\$273,387.00</p>
<p>Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Inc.</p>	<p><b>Community Partner:</b> Miami Lighthouse for the Blind</p> <p><b>Research Partner:</b> University of Miami</p>	<p>The Miami Lighthouse Equity in Education for Miami’s Visually Impaired Students and their Sighted Peers project builds on research that developed a best practice model in inclusive early learning environments for visually impaired students. Teacher-child interactions and Conscious Discipline classroom activities lead to changes in teacher classroom practices that are expected to improve children’s social and emotional skills. In addition, family engagement leads to an increased knowledge of social and emotional strategies that promote positive behaviors for children at home. The end goal is to change the mindsets of adults, creating a caring, safe learning school community, healthy relationships, and supporting families to promote parallel connections with children at home.</p> <p>*Both Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and the University of Miami receive funding from this contract.</p>	<p>\$273,157.00</p>

<b>Contracted Agency</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Amount Not to Exceed</b>
Reading and Math, Inc.	<p><b>Community Partners:</b> Miami-Dade County Public Schools</p> <p>Inter-American Learning Center</p> <p>Excel Kids Academy</p> <p><b>Research Partner:</b> University of North Carolina</p>	<p>Reading and Math, Inc.'s Florida Reading Corps program combines literacy and numeracy science with the people power of AmeriCorps to boost more PreK students onto a path of reading and math proficiency by the end of third grade, especially those who identify as Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) or earning lower incomes. The program is implemented in the community partners sites. Previous research found replicable evidence that the program significantly improves students' literacy skills. Now the program has evolved to integrate math content. The aim is to ensure the program operates in a maximally equitable manner for all students, especially for Black and Latino students, multi-lingual learners, and/or students growing up in socioeconomically disadvantaged households.</p> <p>*Reading and Math, Inc. and University of North Carolina receive funding from this project.</p>	\$282,000.00
Sundari Foundation, Inc.	<p><b>Community Partner:</b> Lotus Village</p> <p><b>Research Partner:</b> Florida International University (FIU)</p>	<p>The Sundari Foundation, Inc. operates the Prenatal and Early Childhood Development Research Project at the Lotus Village to: 1) increase understanding of the developmental, social and emotional wellbeing (mental health) and trauma of homeless children (birth-5) and mothers/ expecting mothers; 2) improve child developmental status and social and emotional wellbeing, reduce impacts of trauma, and improve mother-child relationships by providing supportive services to children and mothers; 3) evaluate the effectiveness of service interventions to optimally support sheltered children and mothers, with adaptations needed for those experiencing homelessness and their service providers; and 4) raise public awareness of the needs of sheltered children and mothers and the value of evidence-based practices to support early childhood development, well-being, and school readiness and improve the lives of children and families experiencing homelessness. FIU will evaluate the program implementation.</p> <p>*Sundari Foundation, Inc. and FIU receive funding from this project.</p>	\$423,076.00

<b>Contracted Agency</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Amount Not to Exceed</b>
University of Miami Department of Psychology (UM)	<p><b>Community Partners:</b>            Overtown Children and Youth Coalition            Connect Familias            Sant La</p> <p><b>Research Partners:</b>            University of Miami            Behavioral Science Research Institute</p>	<p>UM’s Integrated Data for Effectiveness Across Systems (IDEAS) to Action: A Learning Network to Map Early Childhood Resilience and Drive Equity creates a learning network with formalized outreach channels using local, state, and national dissemination strategies. Using a strengths-based, whole child framework, the IDEAS to ACTION has two goals. First, to develop and implement a population-based measure that can be mapped geographically to study school readiness and community factors that contribute to resilience over time in Miami-Dade County neighborhoods. The project plans to assess the impact of COVID-19 on these outcomes pre- and post-pandemic. The second goal is to implement a data-to-action process that enables communities and schools to access and utilize data for decision-making, allocate funding for at-risk areas, and guide policies to improve children’s school readiness. Community partners will utilize the data to develop implementation plans to support children’s school readiness.</p> <p>*UM, Behavioral Science Research Institute, Overtown Children and Youth Coalition, ConnectFamilias, and Sant La receive funding through this project.</p>	\$320,940.00
University of Miami Miller School of Medicine (UM)	<p><b>Community Partners:</b>            UM Debbie School            UM Linda Ray Intervention Center            Easter Seals            United Community Options            The Arc of South Florida</p> <p><b>Research Partner:</b>            University of Miami</p>	<p>UM’s Multi-tiered System Supports (MTSS) for Families and Educators to Support Child Social-Emotional Functioning and School Readiness program builds on four years of successful partnership between UM and seven birth-to-2 early childhood special education programs throughout Miami-Dade that predominantly serve racial and ethnic minority children with disabilities. UM implements the program at the community partners’ sites.</p> <p>The evolution of the Teacher-Child Interaction Therapy (TCIT) program seeks to address these needs by developing, implementing, and evaluating a culturally responsive and sustainable MTSS that integrates TCIT and evidence-based parenting interventions at three levels of intensity to promote positive behavioral and social-emotional functioning in young children with disabilities.</p>	\$366,798.00

<b>Contracted Agency</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Amount Not to Exceed</b>
		*UM and each of the community partners receive funding though this project.	

**Background:**

The table below shows aggregate numbers of participants served across all projects during the 2021-22 contract year.

<b>Measure</b>	<b>2021-2022</b>			
	<b>Children</b>	<b>Parents</b>	<b>Teachers</b>	<b>Staff/Other</b>
Participants enrolled in intervention	1,824	0	101	21
Participants in comparison groups	489	0	0	0
Participants receiving screenings or assessments	693	255	101	21
Participants trained	N/A	0	157	84
Participants coached	N/A	0	101	116
Participants attending events (not training or coaching)	386	396	256	117

The Children’s Trust issued Request for Proposals (RFP) #2021-06 on March 8, 2021, to fund active community research partnerships. Following a comprehensive review, the six agencies listed above demonstrated their capacity, expertise, and qualifications to provide the services. These projects use community-based participatory research frameworks focused on implementing and evaluating evidence-based practices or promising practices that support early child development within high-need communities.

Each program is performing satisfactorily and meeting all contract deliverables. The agencies are all engaged with their community partners and have recruited the appropriate number of participants.

**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 **23<sup>rd</sup> day of January 2023.**

THE CHILDREN’S TRUST  
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY \_\_\_\_\_  
SECRETARY

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

## The Children's Trust Board Meeting

**Date: January 23, 2023**

**Resolution: 2023-D**

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**Strategic Plan Priority Investment Areas:** Parenting: Early Literacy Supports; and Program Evaluation & Community Research

**Strategic Plan Headline Community Results:** Children regularly access medical, dental, and behavioral health care; children are supported by nurturing and involved parents; and children are ready for kindergarten.

**Recommended Action:** Authorization to: 1) negotiate and execute a single source contract with Miami-Dade Family Learning Partnership for expanded Reach Out and Read early literacy programming, in a total amount not to exceed \$700,000.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024; 2) amend resolution # 2022-50 and the current contract for services from October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023, to add \$200,000.00, for a new total amount not to exceed \$555,664.00; and 3) enter into a research and evaluation agreement as part of a collaborative research effort, in a total amount not to exceed \$50,000.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing retroactively on January 1, 2023, and ending December 31, 2023.

**Budget Impact:** Funding in the amount of \$555,664.00 for the FY 2022-23 contract amendment is available in the Parenting budget for FY 2022-2023; funding in the amount of \$50,000.00 for the research and evaluation agreement is available in the Research budget for FY 2022-2023; funding in the amount of \$700,000.00 for the contract renewal is projected to be available in FY 2023-2024.

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**Description of Services:** Reach Out and Read (ROR) is a national model endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics that champions the positive effects of reading daily and engaging in other language-rich activities with young children. The currently funded program provides families with children from 6 months to 5 years of age with developmentally appropriate books in English, Spanish and Haitian Creole, accompanied by trained pediatrician guidance about the importance of reading aloud with young children. ROR is provided in primary pediatric care settings where at least half of the population serviced is uninsured or publicly insured.

ROR implementation components include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Maintain formal partnerships with the pediatric providers who integrate ROR into their well child visits with fidelity to the model.
- Assist any new sites in the completion of a formal application to the ROR National Center to ensure sustainable growth and expansion of ROR's work across Miami-Dade County and to provide systems to support the implementation of the program.
- Assist medical providers to complete Core Training: ROR 101 and to access myror.org, inclusive of awarding Certified Medical Education credits.
- Provide appropriate in-person and residency training to new and existing sites.
- Order high-quality, culturally and linguistically appropriate books; identify age and developmental level of books; and coordinate delivery of books to sites.
- Assist sites to connect families with community resources and additional opportunities to build upon messages in the exam room, including creating literacy-rich environments and community partnerships.
- Assist sites with ongoing activities and submission of reports to the national program center.
- Support sites with regular check-ins through site visits or calls to ensure clinic leadership is supportive of the program and integrating ROR at the practice with fidelity to the model.
- Foster parental engagement by offering anticipatory guidance to parents and caregivers by modeling dialogic read aloud techniques with families and children during sessions in clinic waiting rooms.
- Gauge the effectiveness of the physician's guidance and recommendations regarding early reading by surveying a percentage of parents on a regular basis to assess their perception of what the physician conveyed about the importance of early literacy and reading with their child, as well as the number of times their child is read to per week.

Several years ago, the national ROR Center recognized the need to begin this work at birth (versus six months) to focus on promoting positive parent-child interactions as the foundation for healthy brain development leading to the emergence of early language, literacy, and social-emotional skills. The Beginning at Birth expansion incorporates services at four additional well-child checkups (1-2 week, 1-month, 2-month, 4-month checkups) along with the current 10 visits in the core ROR model (6-month, 9-month, 12-month, 15-month, 18-month, 2-year, 2.5-year, 3-year, 4-year, and 5-year checkups). Miami-Dade Family Learning Partnership has implemented the Beginning at Birth ROR expansion in other counties throughout the state, but funding limitations have prevented its implementation in Miami-Dade County to date. The current contract year (2022-23) amendment to add \$200,000.00 will allow the provider to begin a 2-year implementation plan that brings the full array of 14 ROR visits to the 67 funded clinics, and which will be fully realized in the 2023-24 contract renewal at \$700,000.00.

Beginning at Birth implementation requires intensive training and support for all ROR medical providers and their program staff at the participating clinics, including age-appropriate modeling practices that promote warm, responsive, parent-child interactions with young infants. Based on Miami-Dade's typical number of ROR visits, Beginning at Birth will add supports for approximately 14,400 early well-child visits annually.



In addition, The Children’s Trust has the opportunity to participate in a unique collaborative research project to evaluate the integration of the observation and promotion of emotional connection, also known as early relational health, into pediatric primary care. ROR National Center aims to create an evidence-based protocol that can be scaled to promote early relational health effectively and equitably for all families and their young children through pediatric care. Florida is one of three ROR states (along with New Jersey and North Carolina) participating, and with The Children’s Trust sponsorship, the Florida data would be collected from 100 parent-child dyads in three Miami-Dade ROR sites to be followed longitudinally over two years. The Children’s Trust research staff will participate in collaborative meetings related to the design and implementation of the study. Research and funding partners include the Einhorn Collaborative, the Center for the Study of Social Policy, the Pediatric Department at Columbia University, and Stanford Medicine Children’s Health, General Pediatrics, Epidemiology and Public Health. The total budget for the project is \$2,200,000.00, of which \$2,075,000.00 is secured. The Trust’s research contribution of \$50,000.00 would support partial development and delivery of training for medical providers, expert research consultation, and focus group incentives and facilitation. The funding will come from the Research budget.

**Background:** ROR is an evidence-based model funded by The Trust since 2015 as a single source contract delivered by the Miami-Dade Family Learning Partnership in 67 pediatric care clinics across Miami-Dade County, serving children from 6-months to 5-years-old as part of the parenting early literacy supports. The ROR annual contract amount of \$355,664.00 has not increased since 2015. More than 48,000 well child visits were completed, each with an accompanying book provided during the visit, for the contract period ending September 2022.

Given that the Beginning at Birth expansion started nationally several years ago, there is a desire to ensure Miami-Dade ROR participants can begin receiving these critical earlier supports as soon as possible. The contract amendment adding \$200,000.00 in funding for 2022-23 will allow implementation to start in January 2023. The expansion is expected to be fully deployed for the 2023-24 contract year, requiring an annual funding renewal amount of \$700,000.00.

Miami-Dade Family Learning Partnership holds exclusive distributor rights for the ROR program in Florida. The National Reach Out and Read Center awards this distinction. ROR is an essential component of The Children’s Trust parenting early literacy supports and offers a special opportunity to encourage early relationships and literacy through trusted pediatric care providers.

Per The Children’s Trust’s procurement policy, section 2000, General Purchasing and Procurement Policy, Exemptions to Formal Competitive Procurement Process (G-4, single-source purchases), a competitive solicitation is not required.

**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 **23<sup>rd</sup> day of January, 2023.**

THE CHILDREN'S TRUST  
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY \_\_\_\_\_

SECRETARY

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

## The Children's Trust Board Meeting

Date: January 23, 2023

Resolution: 2023-E

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**Strategic Plan Priority Investment Area: Parenting: Early literacy programs**

**Strategic Plan Headline Community Results:** Children are supported by nurturing and involved parents; and children are ready for kindergarten.

**Recommended Action:** Authorization to amend Resolution # 2022-48 and the current contracts with the Miami-Dade Family Learning Partnership, Inc. and All in One Mail Shop, Inc. d/b/a All in One Direct Marketing Solutions for services from October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023 for the support and maintenance of a birth to five book club, to (i) add \$285,000.00 for Haitian-Creole book purchases, accompanying guide development and translation, and related purchase and fulfillment costs, (ii) add \$15,000.00 for outreach and community engagement activities for Haitian American families, for a new total amount not to exceed \$2,617,239.00. Further, authorization to approve a budget amendment to increase the Book Club budget and allocate these funds in the appropriate budget line.

**Budget Impact:** Funding in the amount of \$2,617,239.00 for this resolution is allocated for FY 2022-2023, contingent upon the budget amendment.

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**Background:** The Children's Trust issued a request for proposals (RFP) #2019-10, on March 27, 2019, to fund one or more vendors to implement The Children's Trust expanded Book Club. Applicants could apply for one or more of three implementation components in the RFP: content development and book-buying; professional fulfillment services; and ongoing operations. Two agencies were funded for the Book Club's content development/book buying and professional fulfillment services components. The operations, functions, and marketing of the Book Club are managed by The Children's Trust and contracted marketing vendors.

Numerous organizations that comprise The Children's Trust Book Club Community Advisory Committee and vendors collaborate and support the efforts to develop family reading guides and assist in guiding the expansion of the Book Club. These members and vendors below, who may receive compensation for their service, include:

- A Central
- Creoletrans
- Dr. Marisel Elias-Miranda
- Dr. Melissa Baralt
- Dr. Nick Andre
- Florida International University
- Lisa Blair
- University of South Florida

Numerous organizations partner with The Children’s Trust Book Club to disseminate these co-branded marketing materials. The Children’s Trust Book Club has already reached its original goal of 40,000 active members and plans to continue to retain that number for FY 22-23, by balancing ongoing enrollment efforts with monthly attrition rates.

**Description of Services:** The Board previously approved funding for The Children’s Trust Book Club and services in Resolution # 2022-48. The Children’s Trust Book Club provides free, monthly age-appropriate books and supporting materials to families in Miami-Dade County with children from birth to their fifth birthday. As a result of community listening and in an effort to facilitate the ability of Haitian American families to engage with their children while reading in their native language, additional opportunities to provide books in Haitian Creole should be considered. This contract amendment and associated The Children’s Trust budget amendment would authorize additional funds to assist in meeting the needs of Haitian American families, while also serving to increase enrollment in priority ZIP codes. This budget increase would facilitate:

1. the selection and purchase of five book titles in Haitian-Creole appropriate for ages birth to 5 years for utilization as part of a single package delivery (a total of 25,000 books);
2. the development of the accompanying reading guides and activities sheets, inclusive of focus groups with Haitian-Creole-speakers to assist in culturally appropriate guide development;
3. the purchase, assembly, storage, and delivery of all materials and educational information to be provided with the Haitian Creole books;
4. additional targeted community engagement and outreach efforts as well as community event activation costs; and
5. Haitian Creole translation of the 61 reading guides and activities for books that are currently sent to families monthly through the Book Club, allowing for Haitian American families to receive supportive information in their native language.

With this additional funding, families who are either new registrants to the Book Club or those already registered will be engaged and provided with a total of 5,000 packages that will be purchased and provided directly to them. Engagement partners will include Book Club Ambassadors, Trust Thrive by 5 providers, hospital birthing units, faith-based institutions, and community-based organizations. The packages will also serve as a recruitment tool to support increased enrollment in the Book Club in the priority ZIP codes where many Haitian American families reside.

Families who receive the packages will be identified in the Book Club system to facilitate future inclusion in surveys and/or focus groups specific to the Haitian American population to better inform future Book Club efforts.

Additionally, the new Haitian Creole package will be provided to any current Book Club member households who have selected Haitian Creole as their preferred communication language (currently less than 100 of approximately 40,000 members).

Vendors for the implementation components and The Children’s Trust are working together to ensure coordination and effective operations. The following vendors are recommended for this increase.

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Service Provided</b>	<b>New Amount Not to Exceed (2022-2023)</b>
Miami-Dade Family Learning Partnership, Inc.	Content Development/Guide Translation/Book Buying	\$1,453,039.00 (increase of \$195,000)
All in One Mail Shop, Inc. d/b/a All in One Direct Marketing Solutions	Materials purchase, package assembly, storage and all Professional Fulfillment Services	\$1,149,200.00 (increase of \$90,000)
Various community engagement and outreach partners with expertise in the Haitian American community	Additional targeted community engagement and outreach efforts as well as community event activations	Increase of \$15,000.00 (not previously funded)

**Geographic Area:** Countywide.

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

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this **23<sup>rd</sup> day of January 2023.**

THE CHILDREN'S TRUST  
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY \_\_\_\_\_  
SECRETARY

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

# The Children's Trust Board Meeting

Date: January 23, 2023

Resolution: 2023-F

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**Strategic Plan Priority Investment Area:** Thrive by 5 Early Childhood Development: Child Care Quality Improvement.

**Strategic Plan Headline Community Results:** Children attend quality child care; children regularly access medical, dental, and behavioral health care services; children are supported by nurturing and involved parents; children are ready for kindergarten; and children behave appropriately in schools, homes, and communities.

**Recommended Action:** Authorization for a procurement waiver from the formal competitive procurement process to award a total amount not to exceed \$27,890,000.00 for the delivery of integrated child care quality improvement services described below. The total amount includes \$14,900,000.00 to negotiate and execute through multiple contracts with providers, identified herein, and \$12,990,000.00 for The Children's Trust to encumber in purchase orders for educator scholarship payments, salary supplement payments to early learning educators, and high-quality tiered payment differentials to providers, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024.

**Budget Impact:** Funding in the amount of \$27,890,000.00 for this resolution is projected to be available in FY 2022-2023.

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**Description of Services:** The Thrive by 5 integrated child care quality improvement system (QIS) strives to increase access to high-quality early learning for young children in low-income neighborhoods. The QIS builds on prior Trust efforts, evaluation, board policy guidance, and the state's early learning performance funding project. Using an equity lens, the QIS intervenes across systems to promote healthy development for children by helping to build two-generational economic stability for families. The QIS offers a comprehensive array of supports for children and families, teachers, and child care programs, within an integrated system that takes a tailored and equitable approach to improve and maintain child care quality and ensure access to high-quality programs. The system has been intentionally designed, and each component plays a critical role in the overall integrated approach to child care quality improvement. This interwoven and comprehensive array of supports amounts to more than the sum of the individual parts and functions as an interconnected system.

Licensed child care programs that meet all the following criteria qualify to participate in the Thrive by 5 QIS.

- 1) 30+ percent of children under age 6 served receive Florida school readiness subsidies.
- 2) Located in a designated high-poverty Census area.
- 3) Provides services for infants and toddlers.

In 2018, with the rollout of the Thrive by 5 QIS, the components described below were newly designed, implemented, and integrated into a seamless system of supports aimed at assisting early learning providers to achieve and maintain high-quality care for children at greatest need.

## **Funded Partners: System Component Descriptions**

### **Children’s Forum, Inc.: Career center, educator scholarships and salary supports for the early learning workforce**

The Early Learning Career Center (ELCC), managed by the Children’s Forum, Inc., supports the creation of a qualified, well-trained early learning workforce in Miami-Dade County through a comprehensive professional development system.

[Educator Scholarships] ELCC supports are available to the more than 1,400 licensed child care programs in Miami-Dade County. The Children’s Forum, in managing the ELCC, provides career advising services, administers scholarships for early learning educators and administrators, and ensures training and education received by practitioners are tracked in Miami-Dade County’s Professional Development Registry. The Children’s Forum conducts ongoing data analyses and regularly reports findings to The Children’s Trust regarding the status of the early learning workforce, such as changes in education levels and certifications and the use of professional development supports. Ongoing professional development is a marker of educators in high quality early learning environments.

During the 2021-22 contract year, 808 educators applied for and received 1,322 professional development scholarships.

[Wage Incentives – A\$CEND] In October of 2022, The Children’s Trust launched A\$CEND, the revamped salary supplement program. The program focuses on a more equitable design than the previous incentives model. The ELCC will support A\$CEND by integrating their career advisors’ expertise to support participant professional development needs. Salary supplement programs help early learning programs in Miami-Dade County attract and retain more qualified practitioners. Higher practitioner wages are linked to teacher retention and staff stability, markers of high-quality child care. Children benefit from stable and trusting relationships with caregivers they know. Teacher and program director competency and stability are directly related to children’s optimal development and learning gains. Preschools with highly qualified and well-paid teachers are better equipped to narrow the achievement gap. Due to a child care workforce shortage and low pay which has led to a child care crisis, this program supports teacher retention while incentivizing ongoing professional development.

### **Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe: Child care scholarships and high-quality tiered payment differentials**

[child care scholarships] The Early Learning Coalition manages the child care scholarship enrollment and payments to address early learning capacity issues in our community. Miami’s significant oversaturation of the child care market, coupled with low payment rates for children receiving school readiness subsidies, pose significant challenges for providers to meet and maintain high-quality standards. The Thrive by 5 QIS offers guaranteed payment for slots in high-quality programs to serve children not otherwise served by the school readiness program. The Children’s Trust child care scholarships help children who become ineligible for a school readiness subsidy during the school year, and eligible families have incomes from 150 to 300 percent of the federal poverty level.

Currently, there are more than 1,120 children utilizing a Children’s Trust child care scholarship. There are more than 1,500 children on the waitlist.

[tiered payment differentials] Per chapter 1002.82(n), Florida Statutes, the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/ Monroe categorizes programs into quality tiers, from one to five (lowest to highest quality), based on Classroom Assessment Scoring System® (CLASS)

**Funded Partners: System Component Descriptions**

assessments measuring teacher-child interactions. More than 200 studies demonstrate that children in classrooms with more effective teacher-student interactions, as measured by CLASS, have better social and academic outcomes, such as math, literacy, cognition, and classroom engagement. The Children’s Trust investment leverages state dollars that fund the collection of the CLASS assessments through this coordinated approach.

With the purchase order encumbered through this resolution, programs at quality tiers two and above receive payment differentials for all children ages birth to 5 years attending their program (not only those receiving school readiness subsidies). Early learning providers receive a payment differential according to their quality tier. The tiered payment differential is additional funding on top of the base school readiness subsidy rate.

For the 2022-23 contract year there are 302 early learning programs participating in Thrive by 5, and 148 of these are in tiers 4 or 5.

**United Way Miami: Formative child assessment**

The implementation of the Teaching Strategies GOLD formative child assessment is supported by professional development and coaching for teachers and directors as they better individualize instruction for children based on the child’s developmental level. Teachers conduct ongoing child assessments and analyze data to evaluate child knowledge, skills, and behaviors. These assessments also provide a means by which to track the development of children and assess the impact of the education they receive. To achieve successful implementation, it is critical that all center staff, including directors, participate in trainings and professional development opportunities.

The United Way Miami provides the following services as part of the GOLD® implementation plan:

1. conducts phased rollout for early learning programs to include program readiness, a technological needs assessment, and cohort development;
2. creates professional development plans for GOLD® assessment coaches;
3. provides training for early learning educators;
4. offers ongoing on-site coaching and technical assistance;
5. manages data systems; and
6. develops data dissemination process and feedback loops.

During the 2021-22 contract year, the United Way Miami served a total of 63 early learning programs, inclusive of 513 educators and administrators working in 398 classrooms.

**University of Miami Miller School of Medicine: Mental health consultation**

The University of Miami’s Jump Start, Building Capacity through Partnership is designed to support social and emotional development of children and to increase the capacity of early care providers to support the mental health needs and challenging behaviors that place children at risk for negative outcomes. Consultants help adults understand, assess, and address the needs of specific children exhibiting concerning behaviors by developing individualized plans with teachers and parents. They provide program-focused, classroom-focused, and child-focused consultations. Directors are supported by consultants to make changes in child care practices and policies. Teachers are supported by identifying the attitudes, beliefs, practices, and conditions that undermine quality relationships between teachers and children.



**Funded Partners: System Component Descriptions**

The Children’s Trust adopted the nationally recognized Georgetown model of Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation for providing support in school-based settings. The model was developed and evaluated by the Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development in conjunction with researchers and clinical experts across the country. It is an effective model to promote social-emotional development, address young children’s challenging behaviors, and reduce preschool expulsions.

During the 2021-22 contract year, the Jump Start program served a total of 88 programs, inclusive of 187 educators/classrooms and 84 children.

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Service Contract Amounts Not to Exceed</b>	<b>Purchase Order Amounts</b> to be encumbered for direct payments by The Trust
Children’s Forum, Inc.	\$600,000.00 (Managing the career center, and its role in educator scholarships and the A\$CEND program)	\$1,000,000.00 for educator scholarships  \$1,990,000.00 for salary supplement payments
Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe	\$10,200,000.00 (Managing the Child Scholarship program and conducting CLASS assessments for A\$CEND. \$9,630,000 in child scholarship payments to child care programs)	\$10,000,000.00 for high-quality tiered payment differentials
United Way Miami	\$1,100,000.00	N/A
University of Miami Miller School of Medicine	\$3,000,000.00	N/A

**Background:** This initiative is grounded in the five guiding principles of a collective impact approach focused on developing a shared agenda, shared measurement systems, mutually reinforcing activities, continuous communication, and backbone support. To promote healthy development, the initiative uses a two-generation approach to provide economic stability for families. System partners provide additional support to continuous quality improvement programs focusing on workforce development and sustainable businesses. Together, partners aim to build the capacity of locally responsive, high-quality early learning programs that meet the needs of children and families.

Thrive by 5 QIS continues to receive national recognition as an innovative and equity-focused approach to improving the quality and availability of high-quality early learning programs for young children who need it most. The model and its components have been featured in several national publications, and The Trust’s work was elevated to the national stage in a Build Initiative webinar where three Trust staff presented with national experts to showcase the QIS and its results. In November Trust staff traveled to Washington DC to present the A\$CEND program at the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) conference.

**Request for Procurement Waiver (requires the approval of a 2/3 vote of board members present):** Because of the unique nature of the Thrive by 5 QIS and the carefully constructed and integrated system components, a formal competitive process is impractical and would take away from the progress made to date. A waiver is in the best interest of The Children’s Trust to accomplish improvements in quality early learning to benefit children in need. Each component of the Thrive by 5 QIS is an integral and interwoven part of the system. Since the 2018 launch, together with system partners and community stakeholders, each

component has been refined with intentionality to ensure the elements are connected, accessible, and equitable. The QIS has worked to create resilience in the Miami-Dade child care market. It would be disruptive to the system to break apart or redesign certain components of the whole.

The exception to the Procurement Waiver described above is the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe (ELC). ELC is the sole entity responsible for determining eligibility and administering all state and federal child care payments to early learning providers. As such, and per The Children’s Trust’s procurement policy section 2000. General Purchasing and Procurement Policy, Exemptions to Formal Competitive Procurement Process (G-4, single-source purchases), a competitive solicitation is not required.

**Geographic Area:** Designated high-poverty Census areas across the county.

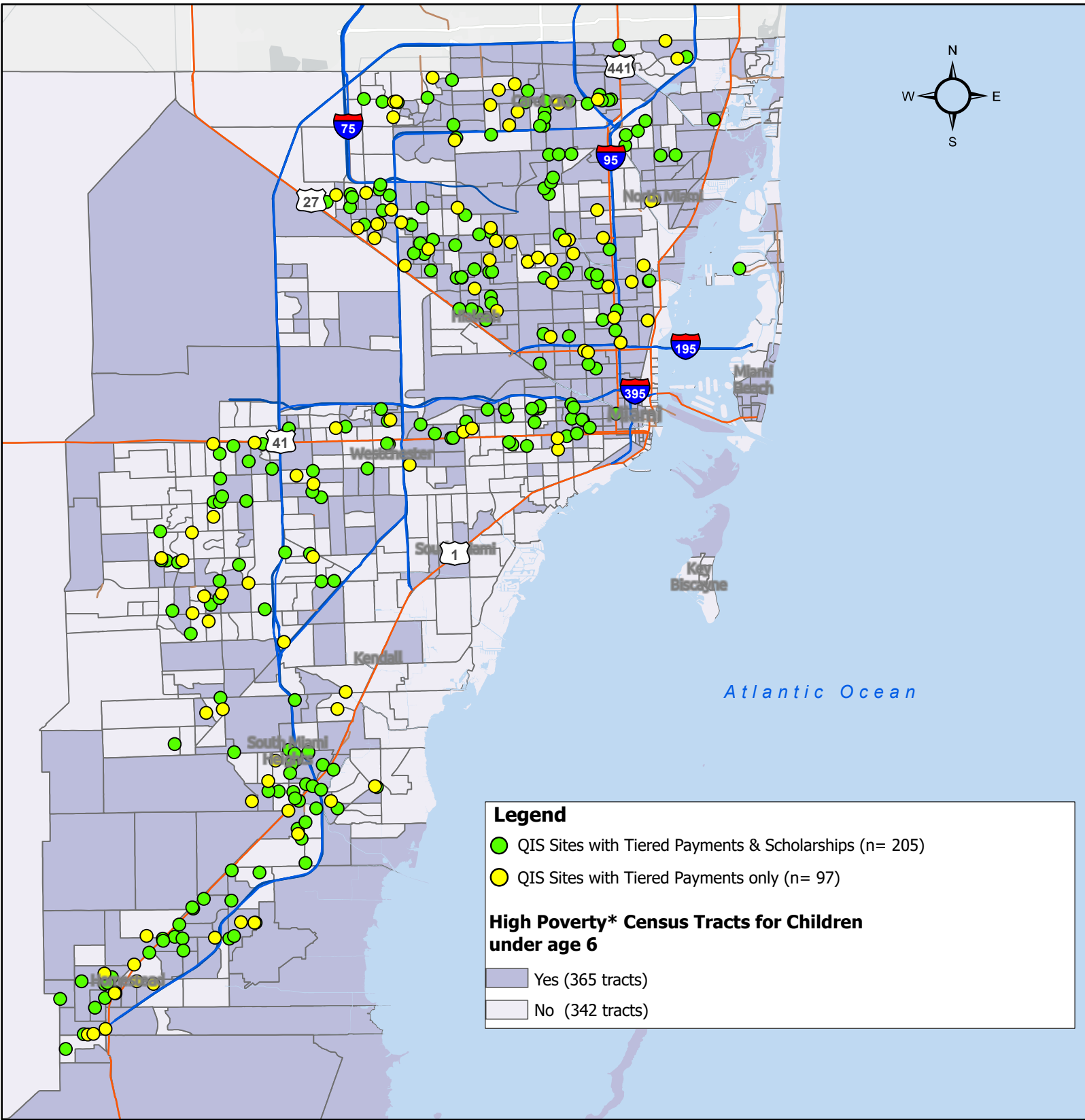
The foregoing recommendation was offered by \_\_\_\_\_ who moved its approval. The motion was seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this **23<sup>rd</sup> day of January 2023.**

THE CHILDREN’S TRUST  
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY \_\_\_\_\_  
SECRETARY

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



\*30% (or greater) of children under age 6 living in households with income less than 150% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)  
 FPL= family of 4 annual income below \$39,300



## The Children's Trust Board Meeting

Date: January 23, 2023

Resolution: 2023-G

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**Strategic Plan Priority Investment Area:** Thrive by 5 Early Childhood Development: Early care access for those in need

**Strategic Plan Headline Community Results:** Children attend quality child care; children regularly access medical, dental, and behavioral health care services; children are supported by nurturing and involved parents; children are ready for kindergarten; and children behave appropriately in schools, homes, and communities.

**Recommended Action:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract with Redlands Christian Migrant Association (RCMA) for local match funding to draw down federal-state funds to subsidize early child care, in a total amount not to exceed \$102,000.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024.

**Budget Impact:** Funding in the amount of \$102,000.00 for this resolution is projected to be available for FY 2023-2024.

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**Description of Services:** This authorization will provide local match funding to assist Redlands Christian Migrant Association (RCMA) in drawing down the maximum amount of federal-state child care development funds through Florida's Division of Early Learning (DEL). The funds subsidize child care for the "working poor," a group federally designated as people who spend 27 weeks or more in a year in the labor force either working or looking for work but whose incomes fall below the poverty level.

A six percent local match is required to draw down the portion of early child care subsidy funds allocated for working poor farmworker families. Each match dollar draws down \$16.00 from DEL, leading to a \$1,632,000.00 draw-down for the \$102,000.00 requested match. This funds more than 400 child care slots, estimated at \$4,000.00 each. Throughout the year, parents are required to contribute a co-pay of an additional \$1,000.00. RCMA will serve approximately 650 children during the contract year. More than one child may use a slot during the year, and match contributions are invoiced for specific sets of children receiving the subsidy.

**Background:** RCMA is a non-profit, non-sectarian organization funded through public and private sources, including DEL, United Way, public schools, county governments, children's services councils, agribusinesses, corporate entities, and individual donors. RCMA provides high-quality child care and early education for children of migrant and seasonal farmworkers and families earning low incomes living in rural areas throughout Florida. RCMA was founded in 1965 by Mennonite Church volunteers in the Redlands farming area of southern Miami-Dade County to provide a safe, nurturing environment for children, while their parents worked in the fields. Currently, RCMA serves nearly 6,500 children in more than 66 centers in 21 counties. More than 450 children are on waiting lists statewide.

During the past 16 contract periods, The Children’s Trust has contributed local match funding to RCMA. The total estimated local match needed by RCMA in Miami-Dade County for this fiscal year is \$228,000.00, and Miami-Dade County provides \$118,000.00 for this match. The recommendation is for The Children’s Trust to provide an annual match of \$102,000.00 to leverage the full federal amount. RCMA secures the additional \$8,000.00 match from other sources. Service delivery continues to be satisfactory, and all slots are being utilized.

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 shall be contingent upon satisfactory performance evaluations, quality program results, outcome achievements, availability of funding, and an ability to maintain the underlying primary funding source(s).

**Geographic Area:** Homestead and Florida City.

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 **23<sup>rd</sup> day of January 2023.**

THE CHILDREN’S TRUST  
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY \_\_\_\_\_

SECRETARY

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

# The Children's Trust Board Meeting

**Date: January 23, 2023**

**Resolution: 2023-H**

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**Strategic Plan Priority Investment Area:** Thrive by 5 Early Childhood Development: Developmental screening, assessment, and early intervention.

**Strategic Plan Headline Community Results:** Children regularly access medical, dental, and behavioral health care services; children are ready for kindergarten; and children behave appropriately in schools, homes, and communities.

**Recommended Action:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract with the University of Miami-Nova Southeastern University (UM-NSU) Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) for autism spectrum disorders (ASD) diagnostic evaluation services, in a total amount not to exceed \$264,000.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024.

**Budget Impact:** Funding in the amount of \$264,000.00 is projected to be available for FY 2023-2024.

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**Description of Services:** Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) and the Florida Department of Health Early Steps providers often identify young children who need specialized evaluation due to complex behaviors and symptoms that suggest the presence of autism spectrum disorders (ASD). This funding supports comprehensive psychoeducational diagnostic evaluation services for children ages 2 through 5 years (before kindergarten entry), provided by UM-NSU CARD at a reduced unit cost. Evaluation services include the components listed below, and the current Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders and best practices in ASD assessment.

- Behavioral observations focused on social interaction, social communication skills, and restricted or repetitive patterns of behavior, interests, or activities across settings.
- Social/developmental history based on an interview with parent(s) or guardian(s).
- Psychological evaluation that includes assessment of academic, intellectual, social-emotional, and behavioral functioning, as well as at least one standardized instrument specific to ASD, such as the Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS) and/or the Autism Diagnostic Interview, Revised (ADI-R).
- Language evaluation that includes assessment of pragmatic (both verbal and nonverbal) and social interaction components of social communication.
- Observation of the child's social communication skills by a speech-language pathologist.
- Standardized assessment of adaptive behavior.
- Functional behavioral assessment.
- Parent feedback session with individualized recommendations related to needed interventions and/or specialized learning environments, as well as connection to ASD-related community resources.

This contract is based on a unit cost payment method of \$2,514.00 per completed comprehensive psychoeducational diagnostic evaluation. This is more than a 20-percent reduced rate from the standard fees at UM-NSU CARD for providing comprehensive evaluations of \$3,250.00 per child.

The table below summarizes the services provided during prior contract years.

<b>Contract period</b>	<b>Children referred</b>	<b>Evaluations completed</b>	<b>Children with ASD diagnoses</b>
2018-2019	111	99	85
2019-2020	107	82	75
2020-2021	145	99	84
2021-2022	121	90	77

**Background:** UM-NSU CARD is one of seven state-funded, university-based outreach and support centers in Florida dedicated to optimizing the potential of people with ASD. Per The Children’s Trust’s procurement policy section 2000. General Purchasing and Procurement Policy, Exemptions to Formal Competitive Procurement Process (G-3), health services involving examination, diagnosis, and treatment are exempt from a formal competitive procurement process and therefore do not require a formal solicitation. UM-NSU CARD has been implementing the program for the past four years and satisfactorily meets all contractual requirements.

UM-NSU CARD has worked collaboratively with M-DCPS, Early Steps, and The Children’s Trust to develop the referral criteria and processes to ensure children in need of specialty evaluation services without other means of accessing them are identified and referred for evaluation. Also, reporting processes have been established to track the use of diagnostic results for appropriate school placement and special education services.

**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 **23<sup>rd</sup> day of January 2023.**

THE CHILDREN’S TRUST  
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY \_\_\_\_\_

SECRETARY

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

## The Children's Trust Board Meeting

**Date: January 23, 2023**

### **Resolution: 2023-I**

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**Strategic Plan Priority Investment Area:** Thrive by 5 Early Childhood Development: Developmental screening, assessment, and early intervention.

**Strategic Plan Headline Community Results:** Children regularly access medical, dental, and behavioral health care services; children are ready for kindergarten; and children behave appropriately in schools, homes and communities.

**Recommended Action:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract renewal with the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine (UM) in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000.00 for comprehensive early intervention services for children with mild developmental delays who do not meet eligibility requirements for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) parts B or C, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024.

**Budget Impact:** Funding in the amount of \$1,500,000.00 for this resolution is projected to be available for FY 2023-2024.

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**Description of Services:** The Early Discovery program provided by UM serves young children exhibiting mild developmental delays (10-29 percent) that are not severe enough to meet state eligibility criteria for federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) early intervention services. However, such children are in need of and will benefit from early intervention services. Children are referred through Early Steps (for children under 36 months screened for Part C services) or Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FDLRS/for children 36 months and older screened for Part B services). Through Early Discovery, UM conducts domain-specific follow-up assessments for speech and language development; fine and gross motor skills; and social, emotional, and behavioral development.

Early Discovery offers short-term speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, and/or behavioral and developmental interventions based on identified needs in the areas of concern. Services typically range from 12 to 16 sessions, one to three times per week for 30 to 60 minutes, as indicated in each child's individualized care plan. Additionally, Early Discovery offers care coordination for families, follow-up with parents, and a needs assessment for the child and family. The Early Discovery care coordinator ensures assessments are completed; services are provided; and timely follow-up assessments and referrals for other community resources. Early Discovery assists families with health insurance coverage (including Medicaid and private insurance) for early intervention services. If a family has insurance, Early Discovery helps navigate the insurance process, and The Children's Trust pays solely for services not covered by insurance.

In the contract year 2021-2022, 595 children received an average of nine short-term intervention sessions. The sessions and assessments took place both in-person and virtually via telehealth, when appropriate and requested by the parent. Appropriate assessment tools were incorporated for the virtual format in March 2020.



<b>2021-22 Child Outcome Improvements for:</b>			
<b>Speech and Language Skills</b>	<b>Social-Emotional Development</b>	<b>Gross and Fine Motor Skills</b>	<b>Overall Development</b>
83% (241/291)	95% (53/56)	88% (42/48)	85% (336/395)

Notably, 90 percent of Early Discovery participants surveyed who were enrolled in public schools did not need special education placement.

UM partners with the following subcontractors to provide several of the therapeutic service components described above:

- Florida Rehab Professionals Group, Inc.
- Sunshine Therapy Partners, LLC
- My Time, Inc.
- Therapy by Design, Inc.
- Adriana Tafur Services, Inc.
- Speech Pathology and Educational Center, Inc.

**Background:** UM has successfully operated Early Discovery with Trust funding since 2007. The recommended funding amount represents an increase of \$200,000.00 from the prior year amount. This program has not had any funding increase within the past five years. Staff retention of early intervention professionals is a critical need.

Per the procurement policy, Section 2000, General Purchasing and Procurement Policy, Exemptions to Formal Competitive Procurement Process (G-3), these health-related prevention services provided by the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, are exempt from The Children’s Trust competitive solicitation process.

**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 **23<sup>rd</sup> day of January 2023.**

THE CHILDREN’S TRUST  
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY \_\_\_\_\_  
SECRETARY

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

## The Children's Trust Board Meeting

Date: January 23, 2023

Resolution: 2023-J

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**Strategic Plan Priority Investment Area:** Thrive by 5 Early Childhood Development: Child Care Quality Improvement.

**Strategic Plan Headline Community Results:** Children attend quality child care; children regularly access medical, dental, and behavioral health care services; children are supported by nurturing and involved parents; children are ready for kindergarten; and children behave appropriately in schools, homes, and communities.

**Recommended Action:** Authorization to amend resolution #2022-24 and the current contract with United Way Miami for services from October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023 to increase the contract amount by \$100,000.00, for a new total contract amount of \$1,100,000.000 for the purpose of supporting staff retention.

**Budget Impact:** Funding in the amount of \$100,000.00 for this resolution is allocated for FY 2022-2023.

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**Description of Services:** Approval of this resolution will amend resolution #2022-24, attached, approved by the board on January 18, 2022, for implementing Teaching Strategies GOLD®. The amendment will increase the contract amount by \$100,000.00 for a total of \$1,100,000.00. The implementation of the Teaching Strategies GOLD® formative child assessment is supported by professional development and coaching for teachers and directors as they better individualize instruction for children based on the child's developmental level. Teachers conduct ongoing child assessments and analyze data to evaluate child knowledge, skills, and behaviors. These assessments also provide a means by which to track the development of children and assess the impact of the education they receive. To achieve successful implementation, it is critical that all center staff, including directors, participate in trainings and professional development opportunities.

**Background:** The Thrive by 5 Quality Improvement System (QIS) strives to increase access to high-quality early learning experiences. The QIS offers a comprehensive array of supports for children and families, teachers, and child care programs within an integrated system that takes a tailored and equitable approach to improve and maintain child care quality and ensure fair access to high-quality programs.

The United Way Miami has had level funding for this contract for the past three years, this increase will allow for staff increases to retain their highly trained and specialized staff.

**Geographic Area:** Countywide.

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

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this **23<sup>rd</sup> day of January 2023.**

THE CHILDREN'S TRUST  
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY \_\_\_\_\_  
SECRETARY

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