



**Program Services and Childhood Health
Committee Meeting Transcript**

June 29, 2023

THE CHILDREN'S TRUST
PROGRAM SERVICES AND CHILDHOOD HEALTH COMMITTEE MEETING
(IN PERSON QUORUM WITH SOME VIRTUAL ATTENDANTS)
MEETING MINUTES

The MDC Children's Trust Meeting, Program Services and Childhood Health Committee Meeting was held on June 29, 2023, commencing at 3:30 p.m., at 3250 Southwest 3rd Avenue, United Way, Ryder Room, Miami, Florida 33129. The meeting was called to order by Pamela Hollingsworth, Chair.

AUDIO TRANSCRIPTION

**CERTIFIED
ORIGINAL**

BOARD MEMBER APPEARANCES:

PAMELA HOLLINGSWORTH, Chair

KAREN WELLER

DR. EDWARD ABRAHAM

DR. DANIEL BAGNER

PASTOR RICHARD DUNN II

GILDA FERRADAZ

LOURDES GIMENEZ

DR. MALOU HARRISON

MARISSA LEICHTER

MARIA NORTON

1 STAFF MEMBER APPEARANCES:

2 AMANDA GORSKI
3 BEVONE RITCHIE
4 CAROL BROGAN
5 GARNET ESTERS
6 IMRAN ALI
7 JACQUES BENTOLILA
8 JENNIFER MORENO
9 JUANA LEON
10 NATALIA ZEA
11 PATRICIA LEAL
12 RACHEL SPECTOR
13 SUSAN MARIAN
14 TATIANA CANELAS
15 WILLIAM KIRTLAND
16 YULIET ALFONSO

17 PARTICIPANT APPEARANCES:

18 Shanika Graves
19 Dan Bagner
20 Edward Abraham
21 Gilda Ferradaz
22 Karen Weller
23 Kenneth Hoffman
24 Lourdes Diaz
25 Lourdes Gimenez

1 PARTICIPANT APPEARANCES, Cont.:

2 Malou Harrison
3 Maria Norton
4 Marissa Leichter
5 Pamela Hollingsworth
6 Richard Dunn
7 Imran Ali
8 Jennifer Moreno
9 Lisanne Gage
10 Lisete Yero
11 Natalia Zea
12 Rachel Spector
13 Tatiana Canelas
14 Juana Leon
15 William Kirtland

16 GUEST APPEARANCES:

17 SCOTT GALVIN
18 ASHLEY CARTER
19 AMANDA TARVER
20
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1 PROCEEDINGS

2 (Thereupon, the following proceedings commenced at
3 3:32 p.m.)

4 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Good afternoon. Do we
5 have quorum? Not working either? Okay. Can you
6 hear me? I'm going to say they can. All right.

7 Good afternoon, everyone. Is this better?
8 Can you hear me?

9 MS. PRESCOTT: No.

10 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Hello? How's that? I
11 think I hear myself. It's good to see everyone
12 today. I just want to confirm that we have quorum?
13 Wonderful. Thank you so much.

14 Good to see everybody today. And I think
15 you've all gathered that we're going back to the
16 pre-iPad era. So, for your guidance, we do have
17 the agenda posted on the screen at the front of the
18 room. And if any of you are pushing paper today,
19 then today is your lucky day.

20 MS. LEICHTER: Yeah.

21 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: I actually got lucky. I
22 don't always bring paper, but today I did. So, it
23 is very good to see everyone today. And we are
24 going to move into public comments. Do we have any
25 public comments today?

1 MS. LEON: We do not have public comments,
2 Madam Chair.

3 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Okay. Then we are going
4 to move to the approval of the minutes for the
5 Program Services and Childhood Health Committee
6 that took place on the 1st of June. And by now you
7 will have had an opportunity to review. May I have
8 a motion to approve the minutes?

9 MS. HARRISON: Second.

10 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: And a second. Thank you.

11 MR. DUNN: Yeah.

12 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you.

13 MS. WELLER: Do -- do we need to read it or do
14 we need to go through the motion and everything
15 would be in discussion?

16 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Would you like me to do
17 that at the beginning? We're going to -- hold on
18 just one moment.

19 MS. WELLER: Procedure with change. With the
20 change. Okay. So, I need to read it before.

21 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: You'd like to state. So,
22 that would come ahead. Okay.

23 So, we have identified a change that is going
24 to be made in the minutes, based on a scrivener's
25 error. We've just looked that up in Miriam Webster

1 to get the correct pronunciation. And so may I
2 have a motion for the minutes to be approved with
3 revisions?

4 MS. WELLER: Okay.

5 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Hold on -- hold on. One
6 second, please. I think I'm out of order.

7 MS. WELLER: We need to say what the revision
8 --

9 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Okay.

10 MS. WELLER: This isn't working right. Okay.
11 All right.

12 The record needs to be corrected to reflect
13 that the ELC Resolution 2023-F had a scrivener's
14 error, in the recommended action. It stated the
15 resolution to be amended was Resolution Number
16 2022-24. And it should have read number 2023-05.

17 MS. GRACVES: And just for the record, the
18 correct result was before the board at its last
19 meeting. So, it was just at the committee that the
20 error was noticed.

21 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Am I able to go first
22 since I recused -- the minutes.

23 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Very well. Okay. So, may
24 I have a motion to approve the minutes as revised?
25 Thank you.

1 MR. DUNN: Second. Dunn III.

2 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you. All those in
3 favor?

4 (Group collectively respond in the affirmative.)

5 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Are there any opposed?
6 The minutes are approved as revised. And let's
7 move now to resolutions.

8 Resolution 2023A, authorization to negotiate
9 and execute contracts with 16 small community based
10 organizations, CBO, for the first year of a two-
11 year capacity building initiative, in a total
12 amount not to exceed \$595,000. For a term of 12
13 months, commencing October 1, 2023, and ending
14 September 30, 2024, with one 12-month renewal. May
15 I have a motion, please?

16 MR. BAGNER: I'll move, Bagner.

17 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you. And a second?

18 MS. GIMENEZ: I second, Diaz.

19 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you. Are there any
20 recusals? Hearing no recusals and moving into
21 discussion, the trust board addressed a need to
22 provide capacity building for small CBOs. And that
23 would be those with a budget of less than \$500,000
24 that needed to be competitive for trust funding in
25 the year 2015. This resolution represents the

1 third cohort moving forward for consideration.

2 You'll note that the funding amount varies
3 according to the agency's annual operating budget.
4 And I would like to remind you that the Trust
5 engages in a comprehensive review process which
6 includes program proposal, which is reviewed and
7 scored by a team of reviewers that may have
8 included Children's Trust staff, experts in the
9 field, and trained volunteers.

10 There's also a review team debriefing by way
11 of a publicly noticed debriefing session to discuss
12 each proposal and assign a consensus team score
13 including explanatory comments. There are also
14 interviews and site visits that may occur at the
15 trust's discretion and these are also publicly
16 noticed.

17 And finally, staff recommendations taking into
18 consideration the above review process results
19 along with other factors such as alignment with the
20 children's trust priorities.

21 Observations, comments from the committee?

22 MS. LEICHTER: I have one.

23 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Yes?

24 MS. LEICHTER: Do you mind reading the 16
25 small CBOs since some of us don't have a full pass

1 yet available to use?

2 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Absolutely.

3 MR. BENTOLILA: What do you want to --

4 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Three hundred letters.

5 MS. LEICHTER: They are there.

6 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: You got it? I'll pause so
7 that we can take a look.

8 MR. DUNN: Are you?

9 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Yes, Pastor Dunn?

10 MR. DUNN: So, I just did the Conflict of
11 Interest form and one of the organizations I'm
12 attached to it, and I just want to make sure
13 there's no conflict for me. Miami -- Miami Youth
14 Garden, Inc. They use our church facilities for
15 the three to five summer camp. I just wanted to
16 give that full disclosure. I don't know if that's
17 conflict or not.

18 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: May run, Shanika --
19 Shanika. Just a moment, please.

20 MR. DUNN: No worries. Just say -- trying to
21 be safe.

22 MS. GRAVES: They visit?

23 MR. DUNN: Yes, they do for rentals.

24 MS. GRAVES: But this is -- this is not for
25 services. Most of your capacity building is not

1 for services. They've just been active in
2 training.

3 MR. DUNN: Okay. Just full transparency.
4 That's on my part. I just feel touching? That is
5 correct. I served as an advisor which I indicated
6 on the conflict form today as an advisory board
7 members -- a board member with collective
8 empowerment group which is headed both -- both
9 organizations are headed by
10 Dr. Gobert Joaquin Willis. So, it's a separate
11 entity, but he's related to both. And I've had
12 ties to both.

13 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you.

14 MR. DUNN: Thank you.

15 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you. Further
16 recusals? Okay. Then back to discussion.
17 Marissa, did you have any questions?

18 MS. LEICHTER: I'm glad you saw that. That's
19 what I wanted. Thank you.

20 MR. DUNN: Thank you.

21 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Terrific -- terrific. All
22 those in favor.

23 (Group collectively respond in the affirmative.)

24 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Are there any opposed?
25 The resolution carries.

1 Resolution 2023B, authorization to negotiate
2 and execute contracts with nine providers,
3 identified herein to deliver health public
4 benefits. Enrollment in a total amount not to
5 exceed \$1,596,882 for a term of 12 months
6 commencing October 1, 2023, and ending
7 September 30, 2024, with up to four annual
8 renewals. Subject to annual -- annual funding
9 appropriations. May I have a motion, please?

10 MS. WELLER: I'll move, Lourdes.

11 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you and a second?

12 MR. ABRAHAM: I second.

13 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you. Are there any
14 recusals?

15 MS. FERRADAZ: -- Ferradaz.

16 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you. Other
17 recusals?

18 MS. LEITCHER: I don't know. Mercer, Florida
19 Foster Care Review receives money from Sitters
20 Health Network. I don't -- I don't know.

21 Yeah. No, I don't -- I don't. I just know we
22 received money -- we have a contract. Florida
23 Foster Care Review has a contract with Citrus. I
24 don't know every single funding -- stream of
25 funding -- stream -- of funding stream -- stream.

1 MS. GRAVES: If money was going to another
2 agency, it would be listed under a --

3 MS. LEITCHER: Okay.

4 MS. GRAVES: -- department of Families is --

5 MS. LEITCHER: Okay. So, then I guess I'm
6 okay.

7 MS. SHANIKA: -- on Citrus staff as well as
8 the Connection partnership. Okay. Then I'm
9 probably fine.

10 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Okay. So, moving -- other
11 -- any other recusals? All right. Let's move now
12 to discussion. Benefits enrollment supports aim to
13 max -- maximize economic benefits for children and
14 their families who qualify for means tested
15 benefits. Ultimately contributing to the broader
16 local economy and child well-being.

17 The solicitation limited eligible app --
18 applicants to current direct service trust-funded
19 agencies to facilitate supporting families enrolled
20 in trust-funded programs. The priority benefits
21 supported through this initiative include family
22 relevant federal means tested programs, again, as
23 -- as well as other entitlement programs such as --
24 and there's a full list if we could move forward
25 perhaps to that list. SNAP, Temporary cash

1 Assistance, Medicaid Kid Care, and I do want to
2 point out that housing and rental assistance
3 programs, including homeless assistance benefits
4 are also included.
5 Committee members, comments, questions surrounding
6 this resolution?

7 MS. HANSON: Public benefit. They have staff
8 who work with families to gather all the necessary
9 documents about four -- or the different programs
10 that are above this table.

11 MS. LEICHTER: No. They -- they provide
12 funding for our two programs that don't have to do
13 with benefit -- and all matter.

14 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: All right. Thank you.
15 Floor is open for discussion. Hearing none, all
16 those in favor?

17 (Group collectively respond in the affirmative.)

18 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Are there any opposed?
19 The resolution carries.

20 Resolution 2023C. Authorization to negotiate
21 and execute a contract renewal with QQ Research
22 Consultants, LLC, for research and evaluation
23 services in a total amount not to exceed \$185,000
24 for a term of 12 months commencing October 1, 2023,
25 and ending September 30, 2024.

1 May I have a motion, please?

2 MS. LEICHTER: I'll move, Leichter.

3 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you. And a second?

4 MS. HARRISON: Second.

5 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you. Are there any
6 recusals? Hearing none, moving now to discussion.

7 This resolution is the first renewal with this
8 vendor who was awarded the work after a competitive
9 procurement process in May of 2022.

10 This resolution seeks to incorporate
11 additional timely feedback from potential and
12 existing trust funded program participants to
13 assess program participant needs input and
14 satisfaction regarding the children's trust-funded
15 programs. And this is over and above the extensive
16 data collection that is currently occurring
17 relating to demographics and attendance of families
18 and children served through, again, trust-funded
19 programs.

20 Comments, observations from the committee,
21 please? Hearing none, all those in favor?

22 (Group collectively respond in the affirmative.)

23 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Are there any opposed?

24 The resolution carries.

25 And our final resolution for today, Resolution

1 2023D. Authorization to amend Resolution 2023-15
2 Summer Youth Internship Program, SYIP, to
3 reallocate up to 350,000 of any unused funds
4 earmarked for chartered school students to
5 traditional public school students in the program.

6 May I have a motion, please?

7 MS. BAGNER: I will move, Gimenez.

8 MS. GIMENEZ: Thank you. And a second?

9 MS. BAGNER: Second, Bagner.

10 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you. Are there any
11 recusals? Thank you, none. Other recusals?
12 Moving now to discussion.

13 The summer youth internship program recruits
14 and connects rising ten and 12 -- ten to 12th grade
15 students with paid summer internships, with an
16 emphasis on engaging at risk youth. And at least
17 15 percent of the program participants will be
18 youths with disabilities. The program intends to
19 employ at least 3,000 youth interns in the summer
20 of 2023. Discussion, questions --

21 MS. GIMENEZ: Just a comment through the
22 chair. I just want to say, and I spoke to Laurie
23 and I think that they're working out kinks because
24 it's a shame that, you know, when you get money,
25 you want to use it for your children or your --

1 wherever you're serving.

2 And it's a great opportunity to have that
3 experience on your resume when you're going into
4 college or, you know, even later on. So, I'm glad
5 that they're going to be looking at trying to make
6 it a little bit easier for the charter schools to
7 maybe get on board to give those children in their
8 schools. Every school has children, has needs,
9 whether special needs, economic needs that can
10 benefit from this program.

11 I'm glad that they're going to be working that
12 out to -- to help them keep the money that is
13 allocated towards them.

14 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Very good. Thank you,
15 Lourdes.

16 Other comments from our committee. Hearing
17 none. All those in favor?
18 (Group collectively respond in the affirmative.)

19 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Are there any opposed?
20 This resolution carries.

21 Do we have a CEO report today?

22 MS. HANSON: Yes. Hi, I'm Laurie Hanson. Do
23 I need to use this?

24 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Yes.

25 MS. HANSON: Okay. Hi, I'm Laurie Hanson.

1 I'm -- I'm happy to represent Jim Haj, our
2 President and CEO today. He apologizes for not
3 being with us. Just a couple of quick date --
4 event reminders that he wanted to share with the
5 committee, the battle of the books.

6 We have very exciting competition each year
7 across our summer camps that'll be happening on
8 July 13. If you want to observe that event, let us
9 know. And as we started last year with the family
10 expo going to smaller neighborhood -- multiple
11 neighborhood events, you can see the first three
12 little check marks. There are the three dates in
13 July and the beginning of August for those family
14 expo events. We hope to see you at some of those
15 events. All of them will held -- be indoors and
16 have air conditioning this year. That's one of the
17 -- one of the updates.

18 And then I know that Jim mentioned in the
19 committee meeting this morning that at the board
20 meeting at the upcoming board meeting, you'll be
21 hearing some more details about also a very
22 exciting partnership with Uber that we have to help
23 people with transportation to get to the expos.

24 So we're listening to feedback from people
25 about what they want to see in those events. And

1 we're really focusing on upping the participation
2 numbers this year in those three events. That's a
3 really great time to -- to see all of our programs
4 and meet families and have families learn more
5 about what we can offer them.

6 And then one of the most important set of
7 dates is the fourth check mark there. Trim, our
8 first and second trim hearing meet -- meeting dates
9 September 11th and 18th. That's really critical as
10 you know, to have everyone here so that we can pass
11 the budget and the trim rate and then also not on
12 the agenda. But an important reminder is your
13 financial disclosure forms. July 1st, it's this
14 weekend, so hopefully you've all taken care of that
15 already. So, that's it. Thank you.

16 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you for
17 representing, Laurie. And with that, committee
18 members, we are adjourned. Thank you.

19 (Thereupon, the proceedings concluded at 3:49 p.m.)
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1 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIPTION

2

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

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10 Cecil Clark, Transcriber

11 July 18, 2023

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