



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

May 04, 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 May 4, 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, Vice Chair

DR. EDWARD ABRAHAM

LOURDES DIAZ

MARY DONWORTH

VALROSE GRAHAM

MARISSA LEICHTER

LEIGH KOBRINSKI

1 STAFF MEMBER APPEARANCES:

2

3 BEVONE RITCHIE

4 CAROL BROGAN

5 DANIELLE BARRERAS

6 IMRAN ALI

7 JACQUES BENTOLILA

8 JAMES R. HAJ

9 JENNIFER MROENO

10 JUANA LEON

11 LISETE YERO

12 NATALIA ZEA

13 PATRICIA LEAL

14 RACHEL SPECTOR

15 SUSAN MARIAN

16 TATIANA CANELAS

17 WILLIAM KIRTLAND

18 YULIET ALFONSO

19

20 GUEST APPEARANCES:

21

22 GINNY EHRLICH

23 AUDREY ARADANAS

24 ANNIE LORD

25 VICTORIA MALLETTE

1 GUEST APPEARANCES, Cont.:
2
3 SHELLEY JACOBY
4 MOLLY O'DOHERTY
5 LEIANN PALMA
6 LISA BLAIR
7 IRE DIAZ
8 JOSE FONTANEZ
9 DOROTHY BENDROSS-MINDINGALL
10 VITAC CAPTIONER
11 MANUEL SARRIA
12 ALLISON WEINSTEIN
13 DOROTHY BENDROSS-MINDINGALL
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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 (Thereupon, the following proceedings were held
3 at 3:30 p.m.)

4 WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

5 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: I'd like to welcome all
6 of you to the Program Services and Childhood
7 Health Committee meeting. Today is Thursday,
8 May 4th. Welcome to everyone.

9 I'm sure -- I'm seeing -- I'm looking
10 around and seeing so many of you that I saw at
11 that wonderful luncheon last Thursday. I know
12 that a great time was had by all. Kudos to the
13 staff, to all of you that worked so hard to make
14 a very special afternoon for so many of us.

15 Many, many thanks. And it was so great to
16 see so many people that I literally had not seen
17 in person since before the pandemic. So, it was
18 just wonderful. Thank you so much.

19 I will also share that our CEO is joining
20 us via telephone, telephonically today. So,
21 hello, Jim, and welcome.

22 MR. HAJ: Thank you, Madame Chair.

23 PUBLIC COMMENTS

24 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Do we have any public
25 comments?

1 MS. LEON: There are no public comments,
2 Madame Chair.

3 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Okay, terrific.

4 APPROVAL OF MARCH 30, 2023 PROGRAM SERVICES AND
5 CHILDHOOD HEALTH COMMITTEE MINUTES SUMMARY

6 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Then committee members,
7 let's move to the approval of the March 30, 2023
8 Program Services and Childhood Health Committee
9 minutes. By now, you will have had an
10 opportunity to review. May I have a motion to
11 approve the minutes?

12 (Motion to approve the March 30, 2023
13 Program Services and Childhood Health Committee
14 minutes summary was made by Mary Donworth and
15 seconded by Dr. Edward Abraham). Thank you.
16 All those in favor? Are there any opposed? The
17 minutes are approved.

18 And at this time, we're going to punt to
19 Jim, our CEO who has a presentation for us.

20 CEO PRESENTATION

21 MR. HAJ: Madame Chair, good afternoon,
22 Board members. We have a brief presentation
23 dealing with our funder collaborations. So, we
24 take great pride in our partnerships throughout
25 the community. The funder collaboration is one

1 way in which we do so and it goes into reso
2 2023-D, E, and F are collaboration-procurement
3 methods.

4 And I'd like to turn it over to Natalia
5 just to -- again, it'll be brief -- but just to
6 highlight our funder collaboration, how we get
7 there, and give you a little bit of background
8 on that. So, Natalia?

9 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: I don't know that we
10 have sound for you, Natalia.

11 PRESENTATION REGARD RESOLUTION 2023-D, 2023-E, 2023-f

12 MS. ZEA: I learned that in my old world.
13 Thanks, Lisete. Okay. So, through the Board's
14 guidance and with the Board's support, the
15 Children's Trust has been able to engage in
16 various funder collaborations over the years
17 with more on the horizon. And you'll see some
18 of those in your packets as Jim mentioned. We
19 have some additional initiatives also coming up
20 in the fall.

21 The Trust really has established itself as
22 a convener and a collaborator. I think you saw
23 the level of partnership that we have with the
24 1,200 attendees at Champions for Children.

25 We partner in so many different ways and

1 also, what's been really great is that fellow
2 funders have come to us as a sounding board for
3 really, as they look to come to Miami-Dade and
4 invest and those who are here looking to expand
5 partnerships. So, it's been a really helpful
6 opportunity to be able to have collective
7 impact.

8 Here we go. Through the Board's guidance
9 and with the Board's support, we have engaged in
10 funder collaborations as I mentioned. And we do
11 so for a few different reasons.

12 So, together with our fellow funders and
13 partners, we can bring forward impactful
14 initiatives that we can't accomplish by
15 ourselves. In fact, in the Finance Committee,
16 we had a similar conversation about the
17 importance of collective impact. The Trust can
18 do what it can do but with others, we can do a
19 lot more.

20 Funder collaboration drives innovation,
21 also, projects that might be outside of the box
22 and that are not, that do not fall within our
23 larger, traditional funding mechanisms.

24 Also, through these efforts, the Trust has
25 been able to expand our capacity to address

1 large-scale community challenges which I know is
2 really a priority of this Board as we've heard
3 in the Board retreat, and ultimately, to
4 contribute to positive change.

5 So, it also makes economic sense. Stole
6 this from Laurie right out of the annual report,
7 that the -- due to the funder collaborations in
8 the '21-'22 fiscal year, as well as the match
9 contracts which you're familiar with, \$9.4
10 million of Trust match funding and funder
11 collaboration investment leveraged \$50.7 million
12 of other funds. And that means the return on
13 investment for every Trust dollar spent in total
14 is an average of \$5.39.

15 So, funder collaboration requires a 2:1
16 return on investment for the Trust. You've read
17 that in the resos. As you see, often that's
18 really just the bare minimum. It's usually a
19 lot more of an investment than that.

20 And here, right here, just your sum of the
21 nine different funder collaborations that we
22 currently have in place. We also, the Community
23 Engagement Team manages these and it's fluid.
24 Some come on; some come off and you'll see that.

25 One is set to sunset in September and

1 there's a new one for you in your packet for
2 consideration today. And these contracts and
3 collaborations run the gamut from tutoring
4 services and hands-on technology access for kids
5 and teens to college savings accounts for
6 kindergartners to free internet service and
7 digital literacy supports.

8 All of that I know is ringing a bell from
9 the different resos that you've read throughout
10 the time and the approvals that you've given.

11 And while each collaboration is unique,
12 it's really important to note that we manage the
13 contracts with a clear and consistent process.
14 And we align with our partners on strategy,
15 outcomes, and timelines.

16 And I'd like to highlight just a few of our
17 funder collaborations. So, as the Board knows
18 and has long supported, the Summer Youth
19 Internship Program is one that we are proud that
20 we are a founding funder of in partnership
21 mostly with Miami-Dade County Public Schools, as
22 well as Miami-Dade County CareerSource South
23 Florida, EdFed, and most recently with a \$1
24 million donation from Ken Griffin, the founder
25 of Citadel coming on board as another funder.

1 And over the time since 2015 that we've
2 supported Summer Youth Internship Program, we've
3 facilitated more than 16,000 paid high school
4 summer internships since the program began.

5 Our own summer and school year intern,
6 Amaya Barreto shared her experience about the
7 program in this column that was published last
8 week in the Miami Herald through her own eyes.

9 And as I mentioned, that Ken Griffin
10 donation of an additional million has now put
11 the collaborative on track to engage 3,100
12 students in internships this summer.

13 Also, important to note that for the first
14 time, charter school students will be included
15 in this program. And the collaborative is
16 working on an exciting new initiative as well
17 with the Department of Juvenile Services at the
18 County to help determine a unique and direct
19 pipeline for justice-involved youth to be able
20 to enter this program and go through the
21 prerequisites a little bit more easily.

22 Also, as you know, longstanding
23 partnerships sometimes lead to expansion of
24 funder collaboratives. And one example of this
25 is the FabLab, which has been operated by Key

1 Biscayne Community Foundation since 2020.

2 They've been serving primarily in Liberty
3 City providing the technology maker space and
4 activities for kids from various after school
5 and summer programs. And some of you saw the
6 FabLab recently at the Board site visit.

7 And it is a support, this really supports
8 our youth development providers because they're
9 able to bring them in and allow many programs to
10 utilize the programming at the FabLab. And
11 because this model was working so well, we saw
12 the need for one in south Dade. And that's
13 where we brought that to you in March
14 understanding that in south Dade, it's a unique
15 environment there.

16 There are unique opportunities. So, the
17 FabLab in south Dade will focus on agri-
18 technology and really look at what kind of
19 agricultural career opportunities through
20 technology there are in the south.

21 And we, for that project, we connected
22 various funders who were not prior ever working
23 with us on funder collaborations. It's the
24 opportunity to bring in additional foundations
25 to leverage our resources and support these

1 kinds of initiatives.

2 So, thanks to the Board's support, the
3 Trust has also partnered with the U.S. Soccer
4 Foundation through a funder collaboration since
5 2017 facilitating Soccer for Success with
6 various partners and providers across the
7 community.

8 And when Miami was selected as the host
9 site for the 2026 World Cup, the Trust was the
10 U.S. Soccer Foundation's very first call in
11 determining where they could take the next phase
12 of this project which, as I'll play in this news
13 clip, you will see and many of you have already
14 heard about the expansion thanks again in part
15 to Ken Griffin of Citadel who provided a \$5
16 million donation for 50 mini pitches across our
17 community.

18 The Trust is in a unique position as a
19 convener and a collaborator with the
20 longstanding partnership with U.S. Soccer
21 Foundation to help select many of these sites,
22 including many of our providers, and we are
23 supporting it as well with your approval from
24 today's reso with programming.

25 I'd like to just play this very quick clip

1 briefly. (Clip played.) So, just a little bit
2 of a taste of some of the exciting projects that
3 we have been working on and that are for your
4 consideration.

5 I'd also like to thank Garnett Esthers, our
6 Strategic Community Initiatives Manager who
7 directly manages the funder collaborations. And
8 it is great fun and it is a privilege to lead
9 this work.

10 It is also a challenge when you're working
11 with various outside organizations and everyone
12 is aligning together. But really applaud her
13 and the work of the Community Engagement Team in
14 making this happen. Thank you so much.

15 MR. HAJ: Natalia, thank you. Madame
16 Chair, that is it for us.

17 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you, Natalia.
18 Thank you, Jim. Questions from the Committee?
19 Hearing none, thank you so much. And now for
20 the resolutions.

21 RESOLUTIONS

22 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Resolution 2023-A:
23 Authorization to wave the formal competitive
24 procurement process and negotiate and execute
25 contracts with Be Strong International, Inc.,

1 Florida International University (FIU), and
2 University of Miami (UM), to deliver brief
3 parenting workshops and educational or public
4 health events as part of the Children's Trust
5 Parent Club, in a total amount not to exceed
6 \$1,500,000.00, for a one-time contract extension
7 term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2023,
8 and ending September 30, 2024.

9 May I have a motion? And a second? Are
10 there any recusals? Moving to discussion. The
11 Children's Trust Parent Club was launched in
12 September 2019 consisting of brief evidence-
13 based parenting workshops and these are
14 delivered in English, Spanish, and Haitian
15 Creole for diverse groups of primary care givers
16 across Miami-Dade County.

17 Last fiscal year, the Parent Club held a
18 total of 2,052 workshop sessions with a total of
19 9,910 attendees, 98 percent of which indicated
20 that they had gained skills they intend to put
21 into practice. And as noted, this is a one-year
22 contract extension for three providers with new
23 contract amounts that paves the way for planned
24 enhanced services. Feedback, questions from the
25 Committee? Hearing none, all those in favor?

1 Are there any opposed? The resolution carries.
2 Punting to Karen Weller for Resolution
3 2023-B.

4 MS. WELLER: Thank you, Madame Chair.
5 Resolution 2023-B: authorization to negotiate
6 and execute renewal contracts with the Miami-
7 Dade Family Learning Partnership, Inc., and All
8 in One Mail Shop, Inc., d/b/a All in One Direct
9 Marketing Solutions for the support and
10 maintenance of a birth to five book club, in a
11 total amount not to exceed \$2,602,239.00, for a
12 term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2023,
13 and ending September 30, 2024, with one
14 remaining 12-month renewal, subject to annual
15 funding appropriations. May I have a motion,
16 please? Thank you. A second?

17 MS. LEICHTER: Second, Leichter.

18 MS. WELLER: Thank you. Any recusals?

19 MS. DIAZ: Recusal Diaz. I work for Miami-
20 Dade County Schools.

21 MS. WELLER: Thank you.

22 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Recuse, Hollingsworth.
23 I work for the Early Learning Coalition and the
24 CEO sits on the Board of the Family Learning
25 Partnership.

1 MS. WELLER: Thank you. As we go into
2 discussion, the Children's Trust Book Club
3 provides free monthly age-appropriate books and
4 supporting materials for the Miami-Dade County
5 families with children from birth to their fifth
6 birthday.

7 By participating in the book club, parents
8 and caregivers are provided with the means to
9 help their children build strong learning and
10 social skills. The book club reached its target
11 goal of 40,000 active members and plans to
12 retain that number taking into account natural
13 monthly attrition due to aging out through the
14 following year. Any questions or further
15 comments? Hearing none, all those in favor?
16 Opposed? The motion carries. Thank you, Madame
17 Chair.

18 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you, Karen.
19 Resolution 2023-C: Authorization to waive the
20 formal competitive procurement process and
21 negotiate and execute a contract with Miami-Dade
22 College for the Children's Trust Books for Free
23 program, in a total amount not to exceed
24 \$450,000.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing
25 October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024.

1 May I have a motion, please? And a second?
2 Recusals?

3 Moving into discussion. The Books for Free
4 program ensures young children through age 8,
5 birth through age 8 have access to books to take
6 home and keep at no cost from bookshelves placed
7 in public spaces throughout Miami-Dade County.

8 The Children's Trust assessed this
9 program's progress and determined the provider
10 is performing satisfactorily and meeting or
11 exceeding all contractual benchmarks.

12 And during the contract year '21-'22,
13 Miami-Dade College successfully operated 77
14 bookshelves sites that received regular
15 deliveries, collected 76,116 books, and
16 distributed 106,771 books, provided more than 50
17 percent in-kind match to the program leveraging
18 an additional \$362,486 value to the program.

19 Discussion from the Committee? Hearing none,
20 all those in favor? Are there any opposed? The
21 resolution carries.

22 Resolution 2023-D: Authorization to renew
23 a funder collaboration contract with the Miami
24 Foundation, as the fiscal agent for Miami
25 Connected, in a total amount not to exceed

1 \$150,000.00 for a term of 12 months, commencing
2 on October 1, 2023, and ending September 30,
3 2024.

4 May I have a motion, please? And a second?
5 Thank you. Are there any recusals?

6 Moving to discussion. Miami Connected
7 offers no or low-cost broadband internet to
8 eligible families and students across Miami-Dade
9 County. Miami Connected collaborates with
10 schools and engages community-based
11 organizations, CBO's, to support outreach to
12 families and provide technical assistance to
13 ensure full adoption of these internet service
14 opportunities.

15 And you will see the impact report. And
16 also, a list of all the funders inside of your
17 packet. Discussion, feedback from the
18 Committee? Hearing none, all those in favor?
19 Are there any opposed? Resolution carries.

20 Resolution 2023-E: Authorization to
21 execute a funder collaborative contract renew
22 with the U.S. Soccer Foundation to support the
23 continuation of the Soccer for Success program
24 and the implementation of a new Just Ball
25 program, in a total amount not to exceed

1 \$250,000.00, for a term of 12 months commencing
2 August 1, 2023, and ending July 31, 2024. This
3 is an increase of \$125,000.00.

4 May I have a motion, please? And a second?
5 Are there any recusals?

6 Okay. And moving into discussion and I
7 will note that this initiative was prominently
8 featured in Natalia's presentation regarding
9 fund collaborations. Thoughts, feedback from
10 the Committee? Hearing none, all those in
11 favor? Are there any opposed? The resolution
12 carries.

13 Resolution 2023-F: Authorization to
14 negotiate and execute a funder collaboration
15 contract with Miami Homes for All, Inc., to
16 support partnerships to end youth homelessness
17 in Miami-Dade County through a service linkage,
18 advocacy, and engagement, in an amount not to
19 exceed \$234,000.00, for a term of 12 months,
20 commencing October 1, 2023, and ending September
21 30, 2024. Further, authorization to negotiate
22 and execute an IT contract with Miami Homes for
23 All and the Homeless Trust, in an amount not to
24 exceed \$91,000.00, for a term of 16 months
25 commencing June 1, 2023 and ending September 30,

1 2024, for a pilot program in which Miami Homes
2 for All will consult on the research, design,
3 procurement and population of a housing
4 inventory software database for the Homeless
5 Trust, and, if necessary, authorization to
6 negotiate and execute a related collaborative
7 data sharing agreement. Further, delegation of
8 authority to adjust funding between the
9 initiatives.

10 May I have a motion, please? And a second?
11 Are there any recusals?

12 And moving into discussion, I will briefly
13 add that this collaboration project builds upon
14 the foundation of the homing collective and adds
15 a direct service component for homeless youth.

16 And additionally, this item authorizes the
17 establishment of a pilot initiative for Miami
18 Homes for All to research and assist the
19 Homeless Trust. And the Miami Homes for All
20 seeks to work in partnership with multi-sector
21 organizations to create a comprehensive system
22 of care. And specifically, this collaboration
23 aims to improve outreach and show disconnected
24 and vulnerable youth develop healthy, permanent
25 relationships, support the social, emotional,

1 and physical well-being of youth and expand
2 homeless prevention efforts and improve
3 collaboration between systems.

4 Discussion from the Committee? Hearing
5 none, all those in favor? Are there any
6 opposed? The resolution carries.

7 And our final resolution for today:
8 Authorization to waive the formal competitive
9 procurement process and enter into a contract
10 with Lutheran Services Florida, Inc., as a
11 result of a change in agency ownership from
12 Miami Bridge Youth and Family Services, Inc., to
13 ensure the continuous delivery of evidence-based
14 parenting services. May I have a motion,
15 please? Thank you. And a second? Are there
16 any recusals? Okay.

17 And moving into discussion, Miami Bridge
18 Youth and Family Services, Inc. has notified the
19 Trust of its pending merger with Lutheran
20 Services of Florida, Inc. Through this change,
21 Miami Bridge is absorbed as part of Lutheran
22 Services, Florida, and will be a new entity with
23 a new EIN.

24 This action will ensure there is no
25 interruption to parenting services provided to

1 the families currently served by Miami Bridge.
2 And services will continue to be implemented
3 seamlessly as direct and management staff will
4 remain the same after the merger. Feedback,
5 discussion from the Committee?

6 --

7 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: That is correct.

8 --

9 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you. Further
10 feedback, questions, comments from the
11 Committee? Hearing none, all those in favor?
12 Are there any opposed? This resolution carries.
13 Jim, punting to you for the CEO report.

14 CEO REPORT

15 MR. HAJ: Madame Chair, thank you. Just a
16 couple announcements, upcoming events. Ken teed
17 it up a couple months ago. We had four Board
18 field trips throughout the year.

19 There's one coming up May 19th at 7:00 p.m.
20 Mexican-American Counsel, the MAC, has their
21 annual Farmworker Student graduation program.
22 If you've never attended, it is exceptionally
23 special. It's a lot of the migrant students who
24 are graduating and the first in their family to
25 graduate high school.

1 It will be at Miami-Dade College at 7:00
2 p.m. We will send an email tomorrow. If you'd
3 like to attend, please let us know.

4 Our Youth Advisory Committee, they act as a
5 service project that this is the culminating
6 event. They've been working on their service
7 projects all year. And that is Saturday, May
8 13th, at 10:00 a.m. Again, all the Board
9 members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

10 And our Young Talent Big Dreams is
11 Saturday, May 13th, at 7:00 p.m. at the Miracle
12 Center.

13 And as Pam had teed it up at the beginning,
14 just want to thank all the Board members for
15 their support and being in attendance at
16 Champions last Thursday. I think it said a lot
17 about our community with 1,200 people coming to
18 celebrate advocates and heroes in our community.
19 So, appreciate all of you being there and look
20 forward.

21 We even started having our discussion
22 yesterday about next year. And even, I don't
23 know how you can do it any larger. We've got to
24 look for a different venue or see what we can
25 do. Madame Chair, thank you very much.

1 MS. LEICHTER: If you can just hire a
2 valet, Jim, --

3 MR. HAJ: Yeah.

4 MS. LEICHTER: -- for parking.

5 MR. HAJ: Well, you know, we put everyone's
6 goals next year if they'd put on that vest and
7 get out there and direct all the traffic.

8 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Oh, that's great.

9 MR. HAJ: Yeah.

10 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Absolutely, absolutely.
11 Thank you, Jim, and thank you, Committee
12 members. We are adjourned.

13

14 (Thereupon, the meeting adjourned at 3:56 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
5 was digitally recorded in the proceeding identified at
6 the beginning of the transcript, to the best of my
7 ability, knowledge and belief.

8 *Cecil Clark*
9 _____

10 Cecil Clark, Transcriber

11 February 15, 2023
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