

Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, April 17, 2023

4:00 p.m.

Location: United Way – Ryder Room 3250 S.W. 3rd Avenue (Coral Way)

"In person quorum with some virtual attendants"





Board of Directors

Kenneth C. Hoffman Chair Pamela Hollingsworth Vice-Chair Mark A. Trowbridge Treasurer Karen Weller Secretary

Edward Abraham, M.D. Laura Adams Matthew Arsenault Daniel Bagner, Ph.D. Hon. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall, Ph.D. Ta'Myah Byars Morris Copeland Lourdes Diaz Victor Diaz-Herman Mary Donworth Richard P. Dunn II Gilda Ferradaz Hon. Norman S. Gerstein (Ret.) Lourdes P. Gimenez Nicole Gomez Valrose Graham Mindy Grimes-Festge Hon. Keon Hardemon Malou C. Harrison, Ph.D. Nelson Hincapie Marissa Leichter Annie R. Neasman Maria Norton Clara Lora Ospina, Psy.D. Hon. Orlando Prescott Javier Reyes Hon. Alex Rizo Hon. Isaac Salver

David Lawrence Jr. Founding Chair

James R. Haj President & CEO

County Attorney's Office Legal Counsel

Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, April 17, 2023 3250 S.W. 3rd Avenue (Coral Way) United Way – Ryder Room 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

AGENDA

4:00 p.m. Welcome and Opening Remarks

Kenneth C. Hoffman Chair

4:05 p.m. Public Comments

Kenneth C. Hoffman Chair

4:10 p.m. Approval of March 13, 2023 Board of Directors meeting minutes summary

(Additional Items Packet) (Pg. 4-5)

Karen Weller Secretary

4:15 p.m. Program Services and Childhood Health Committee Report

Pamela Hollingsworth Committee Chair

Resolution 2023-38: Authorization to negotiate and execute contracts with 143 providers identified herein, to (i) deliver high-quality after-school programming for 17,413 elementary, middle, high school-aged children and youth, and (ii) summer programming for 18,597 elementary, middle and high school-aged children and youth, in a total amount not to exceed \$76,662,000.00. For year-round and school-year programs the contract term will be 12 months, commencing August 15, 2023, and ending August 14, 2024, and for summer only programs the contract term of six months, commencing March 1, 2024, and ending August 31, 2024, each with four remaining annual renewals, subject to annual funding appropriations. (*Pgs. 6-21*)

Resolution 2023-39: Authorization to negotiate and execute a final contract renewal with Florida International University Board of Trustees (FIU) for reading enhancement services, in a total amount not to exceed \$945,752.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024. (*Pgs. 22-24*)

Resolution 2023-40: Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract with Florida Introduces Physical Activity and Nutrition to Youth (FLIPANY) for after-school snacks and meals, in a total amount not to exceed \$600,000.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024, with two remaining contract renewals. (*Pgs. 25-26*)

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.

Board of Directors Meeting Monday, April 17, 2023 Page 2

4:45 p.m. Finance & Operations Committee Report

Mark Trowbridge Committee Chair

Presentation and Approval of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) FY 2021-22

Mark Trowbridge Committee Chair

Branden Lopez, Senior Manager Marcum, LLP

5:30 p.m. Human Resources Committee Report

Gilda Ferradaz Committee Chair

> James R. Haj *President/CEO*

- Approval of revisions to the employee handbook
- Other

5:55 p.m. CEO Report

- Quarterly CEO Reports (Pgs. 27-28)
- Media Highlights (Pgs. 29-25)
- Financial Disclosure due by July 1, 2023
- Champions for Children April 27, 2023
 Double Tree by Hilton Miami Airport & Convention Center 711 NW 72nd Avenue, Miami, FL 33126
- Young Talent Big Dreams Finals Saturday, May 13, 2023 @7:00p.m. Miracle Theatre 280 Miracle Mile Coral Gables, FL 33134

6:00 p.m. **Adjourn**

Reminder: Next Board Meeting: *Monday, May 15, 2023



Board of Directors Meeting Summary of Actions Taken March 13, 2023 4:03 p.m.

These actions were taken by the Board of Directors of The Children's Trust meeting held on March 13, 2023:

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 January 13, 2023, Board minutes summaries was made by Mark Trowbridge and seconded by Nelson Hincapie. Motion passed unanimously, 22-0.

Finance & Operations Committee Report

Resolution 2023-30: Motion to approve the resolution was made by Pamela Hollingsworth and seconded by Annie Neasman. Authorization to negotiate and execute contract renewals for advertising creative, media buying, and community outreach services, in a combined total amount not to exceed \$2,115,000.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2023, and ending on September 30, 2024, with no remaining renewals. **Motion passed unanimously, 22-0.**

Resolution 2023-31: Motion to approve the resolution was made by Richard P. Dunn II and seconded by Edward Abraham. Authorization to amend resolutions # 2022-36, #2022-37, #2022-38, #2022-39, #2022-45, #2022-46, #2022-47, #2022-56; and to execute contract amendments with 89 programs across various initiatives identified herein to provide a one-time increase in funding, in a total amount not to exceed \$3,090,956.00, to assist in their retention of staff, cover increased costs of program operations, and extend the contract period of the year-round Youth Development (YD) contracts to no later than August 14, 2023, to be in alignment with the new YD funding cycle, which will begin on August 15, 2023. Authorization to amend the current FY 2022-2023 budget to increase the total allocations of Youth Development, Parenting, and Family & Neighborhood Partnerships to accommodate the increases in funding. **Motion passed, 17-0. Recusals by Annie Neasman, Hon. Norman Gerstein, Dan Bagner, Malou C. Harrison, and Nelson Hincapie.**

Program Services & Childhood Health Committee Report

Resolution 2023-32: Motion to approve the resolution was made by Mary Donworth and seconded by Dr. Edward Abraham. Authorization to negotiate and execute contracts with six providers, identified herein, to deliver comprehensive school-based health services, in a total amount not to exceed \$16,250,000.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024, subject to funding appropriations; and also, to request authorization to use funds from this initiative to leverage federal funding through the Low-Income Pool program. Motion passed, 21-0. Recusal by Annie Neasman

Resolution 2023-33: Motion to approve the resolution was made by Lourdes P. Gimenez and seconded by Karen Weller Authorization to enter into a purchase agreement with University of Miami Department of Pediatrics to support the Pediatric Mobile Clinic in providing comprehensive health services throughout Miami-Dade County, in a total amount not to exceed \$100,000.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing July 1, 2023, and ending on June 30, 2024. **Motion passed unanimously, 22-0.**

Resolution 2023-34: Motion to approve the resolution was made by Richard P. Dunn II and seconded by Dr. Daniel Bagner. Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract with Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Inc., for a comprehensive vision program, for a term of 12 months, commencing July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024, in a total amount not to exceed \$500,000.00. Motion passed, 22-0. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution 2023-35: Motion to approve the resolution was made by Mary Donworth and seconded by Hon. Norman Gerstein. Authorization to negotiate and execute contracts with three providers, identified herein, to deliver oral health preventive services, in a total amount not to exceed \$548,014.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024. **Motion passed, 20-0. Recusals by Karen Weller and Annie Neasman.**

Resolution 2023-36: Motion to approve the resolution was made by Dr. Daniel Bagner and seconded by Lourdes P. Gimenez. Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract with the Public Health Trust of Miami-Dade County, d/b/a Jackson Health System, in partnership with the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, to implement Miami's Injury Free Coalition for Kids, in a total amount not to exceed \$445,000.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024. Motion passed, 21-0. Recusal by Clara L Ospina.

Resolution 2023-37: Motion to approve the resolution was made by Annie R. Neasman and seconded by Valrose Graham. Authorization to amend resolution #2022-61 and the current funder collaboration agreement with Key Biscayne Community Foundation, with a contract term of October 1, 2022, to September 2023, to increase the contract amount by \$75,000.00 for the launch of an additional Fab Lab Miami site, for a new total contract amount not to exceed \$200,000.000. Additionally, authorization to renew, negotiate and execute a contract with Key Biscayne Community Foundation, in an amount not to exceed \$125,000.00, for the contract term October 1, 2023, to September 30, 2024. **Motion passed, 22-0**.

Meeting adjourned at 4:38 p.m.

The Children's Trust Board Meeting

Date: April 17, 2023

Resolution: 2023-38

Strategic Plan Priority Investment Area: Youth Development: K-12 After-school programs and summer camps.

- **Strategic Plan Headline Community Results:** Students are succeeding academically; children meet recommended levels of physical activity; children behave appropriately in schools, homes and communities; and youth successfully transition to adulthood.
- **Recommended Action:** Authorization to negotiate and execute contracts with 143 providers identified herein, to (i) deliver high-quality after-school programming for 17,413 elementary, middle, high school-aged children and youth, and (ii) summer programming for 18,597 elementary, middle and high school-aged children and youth, in a total amount not to exceed \$76,662,000.00. For year-round and school-year programs the contract term will be 12 months, commencing August 15, 2023, and ending August 14, 2024, and for summer only programs the contract term will be a term of six months, commencing March 1, 2024, and ending August 31, 2024, each with four remaining annual renewals, subject to annual funding appropriations.
- **Budget Impact:** Funding in the amount of \$76,662,000.00 for this resolution is allocated for FY 2022-2023 and is projected to be available in FY 2023-2024.

Description of Services: Elementary school children need safe and engaging supervision and care when not in school. High-quality after-school and summer programs are crucial to meeting this need for working parents. Older middle and high school-aged youth also need safe and enriching environments after school and during the summer. Additionally, there are older youth involved in the child welfare or delinquency systems and/or disconnected from traditional schools which greatly need to engage in enrichment activities. Quality after-school programs and summer camps can increase school attendance, improve academic performance, decrease risky behaviors, prevent summer learning loss, and support working families.

Services are funded throughout Miami-Dade County, with a concentration of programs in under-served communities with high proportions of children and youth experiencing poverty. All after-school and summer programs are enriching, accessible, affordable, inclusive, and fully accommodate children and youth with disabilities. Programs are encouraged to support other vulnerable and hard-to-reach populations who may be negatively impacted by poverty, lack of opportunity and related neighborhood and social factors.

Programs will offer academic support, facilitate social and emotional wellness, support physical and mental health, complement school and family supports, and provide safe and supervised environments. In addition to specific activities in support of reading, homework completion, and social and emotional wellness, programs will offer children and youth various enrichment opportunities related to at least two of the following areas: STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics), arts, cultural programming with a focus on bilingualism, civic engagement, fitness/sports, and post-secondary supports related to jobs, careers, entrepreneurship, life skills and college readiness. Program metrics will track participation and quality service delivery. Expected participant outcomes relate to each program's specific activities or focus and will include measures related to success in school, and health, social and emotional wellness.

The amount of funding being recommended reflects the unit cost of the program per child. The unit cost of Youth Development programs averages \$20 per day per child for after-school and \$40 per day per child for summer camps. These costs double for programs serving children with disabilities exclusively. The actual cost per YD program includes several variables such as hours of operations; timeframe (school year, summer, or year-round); the number of full days offered during teacher's planning days and holidays; the number of service days offered during summer; youth-staff ratios, age groups served; the number of children with disabilities served; the number of children in need of differentiated literacy instructions; the number of enrichment activities offered; and types of facilities.

Year-Round Programs		
Agency * Denotes Subcontractors/Paid Partners who deliver specific components of the program	Populations: K-5=elementary; 6-8= middle school; 9-12=high school; FC=young adults transitioning from foster care services; SIY=systems- involved and/or disconnected youth	Amount Not to Exceed
Abundant Living Citi Church, Inc. *Inhale Fitness *GMoss Designs *Florida Flexible Printing *Mister Conjunto *Mady's Dance Project	K-5; 6-8	\$430,000.00
American Children's Orchestra for Peace, Inc.	К-5	\$590,000.00
Adults Mankind Organization, Inc.	K-5; 9-12	\$275,000.00
Amigos Together for Kids *Futbol con Corazon *Junior Achievement of Greater Miami	K-5; 6-8	\$570,000.00
Area Performance Gallery, Inc.	K-5; 6-8; 9-12	\$430,000.00
Armour Dance Theater, Inc. *Miamibloco *Triumph Steps *Healthy Connections CMHC	K-5	\$1,500,000.00
Arts for Learning/Miami, Inc. *Children's Bereavement Center	K-5	\$390,000.00
Ayuda, Inc. *City of Miami Beach *Snapology *Edge Above Academy *Normandy Arts, LLC	K-5; 6-8; 9-12	\$240,000.00
Barry University	6-8; 9-12	\$350,000.00
Belafonte Tacolcy Center, Inc. *Common Threads *Mentally FiTT *Emerging Creative Minds, Inc. *Up2Us	К-5; 6-8	\$580,000.00

The following agencies are recommended for funding:

Year-Round Programs		
Agency * Denotes Subcontractors/Paid Partners who deliver specific components of the program	Populations: K-5=elementary; 6-8= middle school; 9-12=high school; FC=young adults transitioning from foster care services; SIY=systems- involved and/or disconnected youth	Amount Not to Exceed
Big Ideas Educational Services, Inc. *MindWorks Resources *Snapology *Teeny Violini *ALM Sports, LLC *Hype Elite Dance Organization *Chivas Davis Enterprises, Inc. *TOPP PHLYTE Executive Step & Performing Arts Alliance, Inc.	K-5	\$450,000.00
Boys and Girls Club of Miami-Dade, Inc. *International Association of Alternative & Ancient Medicine *Flying Classroom	K-5; 6-8; 9-12	\$1,600,000.00
Branches, Inc. *Uplift Literacy, Inc. *First Class Prep, Inc. *The Children's Voice Chorus, Inc.	K-5; 6-8; 9-12	\$820,000.00
Carlmar, Inc. DBA Town Center Preschool *JM Dance Center *Trinity Church Peacemakers Family Center of Miami	К-5	\$250,000.00
Casa Valentina, Inc. *T Rose Foundation	SIY	\$215,000.00
Centro Campesino Farmworker Center, Inc. *Arts for Learning *Bricks 4 Kidz *Biznovator *Miami Lifeguards, LLC	К-5; 6-8	\$720,000.00
Centro Mater Childcare Services, Inc. *Futbol Con Corazon *El Ingenio Teatro *Nexplore, LLC	К-5	\$1,600,000.00
Children's Village DBA The Resource Room *JNCY Jewelers *JuiceDefined, LLC *Place of Aroma *YWCA	K-5; 6-8; 9-12	\$700,000.00
City of Hialeah *Arts for Learning *Dojo of Exceptional Wellness, Inc. *Edusource DBA Ceramics on Wheels *Energy Yoga and Wellness *Nexplore, Inc. *Teaching Digital Natives *Wholesome Harmonies	K-5; 6-8; 9-12	\$1,300,000.00

Year-Round Programs		
Agency * Denotes Subcontractors/Paid Partners who deliver specific components of the program	Populations: K-5=elementary; 6-8= middle school; 9-12=high school; FC=young adults transitioning from foster care services; SIY=systems- involved and/or disconnected youth	Amount Not to Exceed
City of Miami Beach *Edge Above Academy, LLC *F.I.T. Enterprises *FLIPANY *Futbol Con Corazon *Miami Martial Arts and Fitness *Snapology	К-5; 6-8	\$980,000.00
City of Miami Gardens *Crandon Academy *Diamond in the Ruff Fitness and Wellness Center *First Serve Miami, Inc. *Fitness by Fernando *FLIPANY *I love my Roots *Junior Achievement of Greater Miami, Inc. *Michanta, LLC *Next Generation Dance *Paint with Faith *S.E.E.K. Foundation, Inc. *Top Golf	К-5; 6-8	\$650,000.00
City of North Miami Employee Assistance Trust Fund, Inc. *Developing Dreams Foundation *Jump Start Tutoring	9-12	\$176,000.00
City of North Miami Beach *Augmented Intelligence Academy, Inc. *Focus Learning Academy, Inc. *Gmoss Designs, LLC *Institute of Wholistic Empowerment	K-5; 6-8; 9-12	\$580,000.00
Community Coalition *Millennium Martial Arts	К-5; 9-12	\$400,000.00
Concerned African Women, Inc. *Bringing the Globe *Chivas Davis Enterprises, Inc. *P.E. X-Games, LLC *Science Eye, Inc. *S.E.E.K. Foundation, Inc.	K-5; 6-8	\$990,000.00
Cuban American National Council (CNC) *Teaching Digital Natives	К-5	\$250,000.00
Dave and Mary Alper Jewish Community Center, Inc.	K-5; 6-8	\$400,000.00
Easter Seals South Florida, Inc. *Atlantis Swim School	K-5; 6-8; 9-12	\$940,000.00
Early Childhood Quality Consultants, LLC DBA Playing the Game of Life *Florida Dance, Inc. *Miami City Ballet *Kindness Matters 365 *Saturn STEM, LLC *Teaching Digital Natives *Uzo Media Productions *FLIPANY	K-5	\$300,000.00

Year-Roun	d Programs	
Agency * Denotes Subcontractors/Paid Partners who	Populations: K-5=elementary; 6-8=	Amount Not to Exceed
deliver specific components of the program	middle school; 9-12=high school; FC=young adults transitioning from foster care	
	services; SIY=systems- involved and/or	
	disconnected youth	
*Physical Youth Sports, Inc.	0.12.50	±2.42,000,00
Educate Tomorrow	9-12; FC	\$242,000.00
*Miami Dade College	K F: 0.12	+ 120,000,00
Empowering Youth, Inc. *Art Prevails	K-5; 9-12	\$430,000.00
*Community Learning Coalition		
*Empowerment Tutoring		
*Kidology		
*Miami Dance Project, Inc.		
*Prosperity Social & Community Development		
Group, Inc.		
*The Academic Hustle		+=========
EnFamilia, Inc.	K-5; 6-8	\$500,000.00
Excel Kids Academy, Inc.	K-5	\$500,000.00
*Belafonte Tacolcy Center, Inc.		
*Denetrya Brookins, LLC		+2.000.000.00
Family and Children Faith Association, Inc.	K-5; 6-8; 9-12	\$2,800,000.00
DBA Hope for Miami		
*Arts for Learning *LitArt		
*Local Civics		
*Love Equals Arts Foundation		
*Teaching Digital Natives		
Family Christian Association of America, Inc.	K-5	\$420,000.00
* Ferguson Shorin Ryu Karate		, ,
*TOPP PHLYTE Executive Step & Performing Arts		
Alliance, Inc.		
Family Action Network Movement, Inc.	K-5	\$600,000.00
*Alva Dance Meditation, LLC		, ,
*Otniel Taekwondo Institute		
*Teaching Digital Natives		
*Young Leaders Academy		
Fantasy Land Academy Corp	K-5	\$270,000.00
*Bricks 4 Kidz		
*Common Threads		
*Florida Dance, Inc. *Futbol Con Corazon		
Federation of Families, Miami-Dade Chapter,	6-8	\$320,000.00
Inc.		φυζυ,000.00
*Chef Mike Popola		
*Kidology		
*Sports Konnect to S.T.E.A.M.		
Fit Kids of America	K-5; 6-8	\$800,000.00
*Trinity Church Peacemakers Family Center of	-,	,,
Miami		
Florida International University Board of	K-5	\$740,000.00
Trustees: Center for Children and Families		

Year-Round Programs		
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Florida International University Board of Trustees: College of Engineering and Computing Sciences *Fit Kids of America *They Yaeger Foundation, Inc.	K-5; 6-8	\$580,000.00
Florida International University Board of Trustees: College of Arts, Sciences & Education *Arts for Learning *FLIPANY *S.E.E.K. Foundation, Inc.	6-8; 9-12	\$360,000.00
Florida Film Institute, Inc. *ShareNest	9-12	\$190,000.00
FLOTA, Inc. *ArtPad *Friends of South Florida Music, Inc. *Dade County Federal Credit Union *Mr. Gol's Soccer	K-5	\$230,000.00
Foundation of Community Assistance and Leadership, Inc.	K-5; 6-8; 9-12	\$670,000.00
Future Leaders Academy of Kendall, Corp. *All-in Education, Inc. *Black Belt for Life Studios *JM Dance Center *M & M West Kendall Swimming Club, Inc. *The Magic Bus	K-5	\$400,000.00
Gang Alternative, Inc. *Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship *The Motivational Edge, Inc.	K-5; 6-8; 9-12	\$1,600,000.00
Girl Power Rocks, Inc.	K-5; 6-8	\$380,000.00
Greater Miami Youth Symphony of Dade County, Florida, Inc. *FIU Herbert & Nicole Wertheim School of Performing Arts *Mindful Kids Miami *Saint Andrew Greek Orthodox Church	К-5; 6-8	\$450,000.00
Hosanna Community Foundation, Inc. *Sons of Little Haiti, Inc.	К-5	\$165,000.00
Jonathan Spikes Foundation, Inc.	SIY	\$320,000.00
Judah Christian Center Ministries, Inc. *Lee Arts Academy	K-5	\$400,000.00
Just Kids, Inc. *Dojo of Exceptional Wellness, Inc. *Sunset T.R.P. Inc, DBA Whispering Manes Therapeutic Riding Center	K-5	\$370,000.00
Kayleen's Learning Center Corp *FLIPANY	К-5	\$850,000.00
Kids Learning Center of South Dade, Inc. *Educational Leadership Institute, Inc. *KIDSology	K-5	\$480,000.00

Year-Round Programs		
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*Snapology Kids Learning Center of South Dade III, Inc. *CMS, LLC *Educational Leadership Institute, Inc. *KIDSology	K-5; 6-8	\$560,000.00
*Snapology Kidworks USA, Inc. Knowledge Builders of Florida, Inc. La Vina del Senor, Inc. Leadership Learning Center at Saint John Bosco, Inc.	K-5; 6-8 K-5; 6-8; 9-12 K-5 K-5; 6-8; 9-12	\$600,000.00 \$340,000.00 \$200,000.00 \$1,200,000.00
*Bricks 4 Kidz *Cervino Arts, LLC *Citizens for a Better South Florida, Inc. *Excavating Roots Yoga *Junior Achievement *Teaching Digital Natives *University of Miami Frost School of Music		
Liberty Academy, Inc. *A Girl and her H'art Learning Project, LLC *Augmented Intelligence Academy, Inc. *Berlitz Corporation *Community Learning Coalition *RM Robinson Solutions	K-5	\$270,000.00
Liberty City Optimist Club of Florida, Inc.	K-5; 6-8; 9-12	\$600,000.00
Llirrafo, Inc. DBA O'Farrill Learning Center *Kidology *305Bytes	K-5	\$300,000.00
Mexican American Council, Inc. *Teaching Digital Natives *The Princeton Review	9-12	\$440,000.00
Miami-Dade County: Parks, Recreation & Open Spaces *Colormotion *Futbol Con Corazon, Inc. *Guitars Over Guns *Rise up 4 Change, Inc. *Roxy Theater Group *S Foundation *Short Chef	K-5; 6-8; 9-12	\$2,500,000.00
Miami Dance Project, Inc. *ClubZ! In Home Tutoring Services *Empowerment Tutoring *Empowering Youth	K-5; 6-8; 9-12	\$280,000.00
Miami Music Festival, Inc.	9-12	\$115,000.00
Multi-ethnic Youth Group Association, Inc.	К-5; 6-8; 9-12	\$485,000.00
Musicall, Inc. *Barry University Institute for Immigration Studies	К-5; 6-8; 9-12	\$700,000.00
New Hope Development Center, Inc.	K-5	\$130,000.00
New Jerusalem, Inc.	K-5	\$990,000.00

Year-Round Programs		
Agency * Denotes Subcontractors/Paid Partners who deliver specific components of the program	Populations: K-5=elementary; 6-8= middle school; 9-12=high school; FC=young adults transitioning from foster care services; SIY=systems- involved and/or disconnected youth	Amount Not to Exceed
OIC of South Florida, Inc. *Baton Youth Services *The Motivational Edge, Inc.	6-8; 9-12	\$290,000.00
Opa-Locka Community Development Corp, Inc. *Art Prevails *Avatar Buddy, LLC *Next Generation Dance *Paint with Faith	K-5; 6-8	\$900,000.00
Overtown Youth Center, Inc. *Common Threads *Diamond in the Rough Fitness and Wellness Center *Girls, Inc. of Greater Miami *Junior Achievement *Nexplore, LLC *PowerUpEDU *The Lucy Project	К-5; 6-8; 9-12	\$990,000.00
Peace CDC, Inc. *Epic Dance Center *Teaching Digital Natives	К-5	\$800,000.00
Prosperity Social and Community Development Group, Inc. *U-Turn Consultant	SIY	\$368,000.00
Prosperity Social and Community Development Group, Inc. *Amsoul Illustrations, LLC *City of North Miami Parks & Recreation *Faithful Tutors, LLC *The Sweet Exchange Miami, Inc.	K-5; 6-8	\$400,000.00
Recapturing the Vision, International, Inc.	K-5; 6-8	\$1,190,000.00
Richmond Perrine Optimist Club, Inc.	K-5	\$300,000.00
Sanrau Corporation *Carlson Gracie Miami *Fit Sisters, LLC *GEN2050® STEAM modules *Wild and Free, LLC	К-5	\$300,000.00
SBC Community Development Corporation of Richmond Heights, Inc. *Dibia Dream, Inc.	K-5	\$280,000.00
Shepherd of God Christian Academy, Corp. *Global Steam Academy *Miami Youth Garden *U.S. Soccer Foundation	К-5	\$156,000.00
Small World Day Care and Preschool, Inc. *Snapology	K-5	\$250,000.00
Southern Homestead Soccer Academy, Inc. *Bricks 4 Kidz	K-5; 6-8	\$250,000.00
Sports Konnect, Inc. *My Life My Power Alpha, LLC	K-5	\$252,000.00
Start off Smart, Inc.	К-5; 6-8; 9-12	\$275,000.00

Resolution 2023-38 - Youth Development: After-school programs and summer camps (K-12; SIY) 13 April 17, 2023

Year-Roun	d Programs	
Agency * Denotes Subcontractors/Paid Partners who deliver specific components of the program	Populations: K-5=elementary; 6-8= middle school; 9-12=high school; FC=young adults transitioning from foster care services; SIY=systems- involved and/or disconnected youth	Amount Not to Exceed
*The Art of Family, Inc.		
Strong Girls, Inc. *Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship *YWCA	K-5; 6-8; 9-12	\$400,000.00
Sunflowers Academy, Inc.	K-5; 6-8	\$600,000.00
Teen Up-Ward Bound, Inc. *Avatar Buddy, LLC *Bricks 4 Kidz *Friends of South Florida Music, Inc. *Love Equals Art Foundation *Micha Yoga	К-5; 6-8; 9-12	\$570,000.00
The ARC of South Florida, Inc. *Arc Broward *Arts for Learning *CATCH Global Foundation *Fantasy Theater Factory *LitART *Little Swimmers *Mindful Kids Miami *Peace Education Foundation	K-5; 6-8; 9-12	\$2,200,000.00
The Motivational Edge, Inc.	K-5; 6-8; 9-12	\$380,000.00
The Optimist Foundation of Greater Goulds, Florida, Inc.	6-8; 9-12	\$95,000.00
The Promised Land Academy for Christian Education, Inc. *Friends of South Florida Music, Inc. *Sunset T.R.P., Inc. DBA Whispering Manes Therapeutic Riding Center *U.S. Soccer Foundation	К-5	\$624,000.00
The Thinking Child Educational Programs, Inc. *Miami Youth Garden *Moonlighter FabLab, Inc. *U.S. Soccer Foundation	К-5	\$160,000.00
The Urban League of Greater Miami, Inc.	K-5	\$468,000.00
Thumbelina Learning Center, Corp *JM Dance Center *Playmaker Basketball Academy *Reyes Martial Arts	К-5	\$800,000.00
Thumbelina Play and Learn Center, Inc. *Hialeah City Football Club *JM Dance Center *Pros2Go	К-5	\$340,000.00
Tiger and Dragon Group, Inc.	K-5; 6-8	\$296,000.00
Tiny Town Day Care Center, Inc. *FLIPANY *JM Dance Center	K-5	\$280,000.00
Touching Miami with Love Ministries, Inc. *Augmented Intelligence Academy, Inc. *Avatar Buddy, LLC	K-5; 6-8; 9-12	\$1,800,000.00

Year-Round Programs		
Agency * Denotes Subcontractors/Paid Partners who deliver specific components of the program	Populations: K-5=elementary; 6-8= middle school; 9-12=high school; FC=young adults transitioning from foster care services; SIY=systems- involved and/or disconnected youth	Amount Not to Exceed
*BLEStREBEL *Common Threads *Dibia Dream, Inc. *Greater Miami Youth Symphony *Ideas For Us *Miami City Ballet, Inc. *Simply M the Movement *The Dream Defenders *The Florida Film House *The Lucy Project *YWCA		
Touching Miami with Love Ministries, Inc. *Avatar Buddy, LLC *BLEStREBEL *Dream Defenders *Ideas For Us *The Florida Film House	SIY	\$324,000.00
Town of Bay Harbor Islands *Creece Coaching and Consulting *Dibia Dream, Inc. *Excavating Roots *Kingdom Performance, LLC *Mentally FiiT	K-5; 6-8	\$320,000.00
Town of Cutler Bay *Dibia Dream, Inc. *Paint with Faith *Place of Aroma *Short Chef	K-5; 6-8	\$228,000.00
Trinity Church, Inc. *Biscayne National Park *Children's Defense Fund *Environmental Awareness Academy, Inc. *Fit Sisters of Miami, Inc. *Frost Museum of Science *Great Love Gospel Baptist Church, Inc. *Holy Cross Lutheran Church and School of North Miami *La Luchi Foundation *Mountain to Sea Education	К-5; 6-8; 9-12	\$1,266,000.00
University of Miami: Frost School of Music	6-8; 9-12	\$236,000.00
United Cerebral Palsy Association of Miami, Inc. *Florida International University Theater Department *Know Thyself Enrichment Center *One On One Learning Corp	K-5; 6-8; 9-12	\$1,488,000.00
Urgent, Inc. *Avatar Buddy, LLC *Global STEM Academy *Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship *Overtown Children and Youth Coalition *Paint with Faith *PATH, Inc.	K-5; 6-8; 9-12	\$475,000.00

Year-Round Programs		
Agency * Denotes Subcontractors/Paid Partners who deliver specific components of the program	Populations: K-5=elementary; 6-8= middle school; 9-12=high school; FC=young adults transitioning from foster care services; SIY=systems- involved and/or disconnected youth	Amount Not to Exceed
*Pitch It, LLC *Teaching Digital Natives *WHQT HOT 105FM Miami		
Victory for Youth, Inc.	6-8; 9-12	\$300,000.00
WCA Private School, Inc. *Elite Basketball	K-5	\$180,000.00
Young Men's Christian Association of Greater Miami	K-5	\$2,900,000.00
Young Leaders Academy, Inc. *House of Muse *Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship	K-5; 6-8	\$270,000.00
Young Women's Christian Association of Greater Miami and Dade County, Inc. *Guitars Over Guns *M Ensemble Company *Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship *Play Sports 4 Fun *Snapology *The Lucy Project	К-5; 9-12	\$876,000.00
Zamlus, Inc.	K-5	\$240,000.00

*These are all proposed paid partners that were included in the applications. After contract negotiations, some paid partners might be dropped based on reduced award amounts, and these will be documented in the contract.

School-Year Only Programs		
Agency *Paid Partners (Additional direct services provided), if applicable	Populations: K-5=elementary; 6-8= middle school; 9-12=high school; FC=young adults transitioning from foster care services; SIY=systems-involved and/or disconnected youth	Amount Not to Exceed
Be Strong International	6-8	\$350,000.00
Blossom Group Florida, LLC *Junior Achievement of Greater Miami	9-12	\$280,000.00
Cayuga Home For Children, Inc. *Sports Konnect to S.T.E.A.M.	K-5	\$270,000.00
First Step Champions	K-5	\$130,000.00
Greater Miami Youth for Christ, Inc. *Trusted Passion, LLC *Victor Giralda Art & Design, LLC *Wellspring Counseling, Inc.	6-8; 9-12	\$220,000.00
Guitars Over Guns, Inc.	6-8; 9-12	\$630,000.00
Haitian Neighborhood Center Sant La, LLC *ShareNest *Up2Us, Inc.	6-8	\$144,000.00
Miami-Dade County: Community Action and Human Services Department	9-12	\$148,000.00

School-Year Only Programs		
Agency *Paid Partners (Additional direct services provided), if applicable	Populations: K-5=elementary; 6-8= middle school; 9-12=high school; FC=young adults transitioning from foster care services; SIY=systems-involved and/or disconnected youth	Amount Not to Exceed
*FLIPANY *RER Consulting		
Miami Music Project, Inc.	К-5; 6-8; 9-12	\$700,000.00
The Miami Children's Museum, Inc. *Best of the Bess, Inc. *Conscious Discipline *FLIPANY *IXL Learning *University of North Carolina: Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute *WRITE BRAIN WORLD, LLC	К-5	\$1,000,000.00
Young Musicians Unite, Inc.	6-8; 9-12	\$129,000.00

*These are all proposed paid partners that were included in the applications. After contract negotiations, some paid partners might be dropped based on reduced award amounts, and these will be documented in the contract.

Summer-Only Programs				
Agency *Paid Partners (Additional direct services provided), if applicable	Populations: K- 5=elementary; 6-8= middle school; 9- 12=high school; FC=young adults transitioning from foster care services; SIY=systems- involved and/or disconnected youth	Amount Not to Exceed		
Achieve Miami, Inc. *Artpad, Inc. *Guitars Over Guns *YWCA *FLIPANY	K-5; 6-8; 9-12		\$210,000.00	
Adrienne Arsht Center Trust, Inc.	6-8		\$200,000.00	
Breakthrough Miami *Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE) *Florida International University *Miami Waterkeeper *Metamorphosis *Q-Q Research Consultants *YWCA *Nyah Project *Project Destined	6-8; 9-12		\$660,000.00	
First Serve Miami, Inc.	K-5		\$78,000.00	

Resolution 2023-38 - Youth Development: After-school programs and summer camps (K-12; SIY) 17 April 17, 2023

	Summer-Only	Programs	
Agency	Populations: K-	Amount Not to Exceed	
*Paid Partners	5=elementary;		
(Additional direct	6-8= middle		
services provided), if	school; 9-		
applicable	12=high school;		
	FC=young adults		
	transitioning		
	from foster care		
	services;		
	SIY=systems-		
	involved and/or		
	disconnected		
Elevide Introduces Discoised	youth		270 000 00
Florida Introduces Physical	K-5; 6-8	4	\$270,000.00
Activity and Nutrition to			
Youth, Inc. *Center for Virtual			
*Center for Virtual Advancement, Inc.			
*F.I.T. Enterprises, Inc.			
Global Speech and Rehab	K-5	4	\$130,000.00
Services, LLC			
*Interactive Therapy			
Solutions			
*IScore Foundation			
*Triumph Steps, Inc.			
*The Lucy Project			
Honey Shine, Inc.	K-5; 9-12	4	\$220,000.00
*Diamond in the Rough			
*Dibia Dream, Inc.			
*From the Inside-Out School of Etiquette			
*Girls, Inc. of Greater Miami			
*Nexplore, LLX			
Lutheran Services Florida,	SIY	\$	133,000.00
Inc.			
*Harvest 107			
*Miami Dade College			
Miami Dade College	9-12	4	\$108,000.00
*Triumph Steps, Inc.			
Miami Lighthouse for the	K-5; 6-8; 9-12	٩	\$210,000.00
Blind and Visually			
Impaired, Inc.			
*Miami-Dade County: Parks, Recreation & Open Spaces			
*Network for Teaching			
Entrepreneurship			
Michael-Ann Russell Jewish	K-5	4	264,000.00
Community Center, Inc.			
Network for Teaching	9-12	\$	320,000.00
Entrepreneurship, Inc.			
S.E.E.K. Foundation, Inc.	9-12	4	\$126,000.00
*Kids N Touch Academy			
*Mentally FiTT, Inc.			
*The Ultimate Scholastic Athlete, Inc.			
Shake-A-Leg Miami, Inc.	K-5; 6-8; 9-12	d	360,000.00
Shake-A-Ley Mialili, Ill.	N ⁻ J, U ⁻ U, J ⁻ IZ	1 7	00.00.00

	Summer-Only	Programs
Agency *Paid Partners (Additional direct services provided), if applicable	Populations: K- 5=elementary; 6-8= middle school; 9- 12=high school; FC=young adults transitioning from foster care services; SIY=systems- involved and/or disconnected youth	Amount Not to Exceed
South Florida Autism Center, Inc.	K-5; 6-8; 9-12	\$218,000.00
St. Alban's Day Nursery, Inc. *Dibia Dream, Inc.	К-5	\$120,000.00
University of Miami: School of Education and Human Development	6-8	\$150,000.00
University of Miami: School of Law *Afterschool Film Institute *Avatar Buddy, LLC *Educate Tomorrow *Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship *YES Institute	SIY	\$206,000.00
University of Miami-Nova Southeastern University: Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD)	К-5	\$108,000.00

*These are all proposed paid partners that were included in the applications. After contract negotiations, some paid partners might be dropped based on reduced award amounts, and these will be documented in the contract.

Background: The Children's Trust engaged in over two years of widespread communications and community engagement efforts to develop and disseminate this competitive solicitation, including holding an information and input session with more than 500 attendees. The Children's Trust issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) #2023-01 on October 26, 2022, to fund after-school and summer programs for elementary, middle and high school age children and youth for a five-year cycle with one-year contract renewals. The foundational assumption for this investment is that children and youth need safe and engaging opportunities outside of school time. Quality after-school and summer programs have been shown to improve academic performance, decrease risky behaviors and support working families.

One hundred sixty-seven applications were submitted by the RFP deadline, and 154 were reviewed, as 13 applications did not meet the eligibility requirements for a review. The above 143 applications are recommended for funding based on a comprehensive review process, which included:

• Fiscal health review: The Children's Trust's finance department reviewed and scored the agency audit.

- Program proposal: Each application was independently reviewed and scored by a team of reviewers that may have included Children's Trust staff, experts in the field and trained community volunteers.
- Review team debriefing: Following each reviewer's individual rating, the review team met in a publicly noticed debriefing meeting to discuss each proposal and assigned a consensus team score, including explanatory comments.
- Interviews: At The Children's Trust's discretion, publicly noticed interviews were conducted with viable applicants regarding the agency fiscal health and/or program proposal.
- Staff recommendations: Taking into consideration the above review process results, consideration is also given to factors such as alignment with The Children's Trust's priority investment areas, effective and economical distribution of funding across Miami-Dade County and/or in underserved geographic areas/populations in Miami-Dade County (if applicable), minimizing duplication of efforts, and reasonable program cost for the services and outcomes proposed.

Geographic Area: Countywide

The foregoing recommendation was reconsidered 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 17th

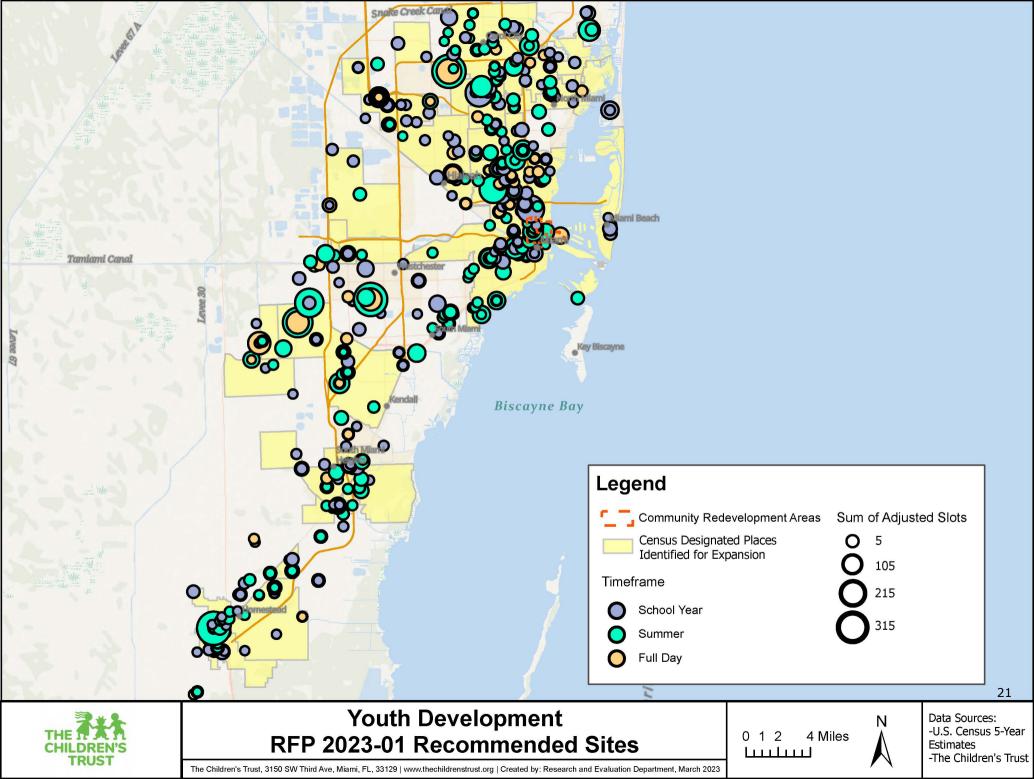
day of April 2023.

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: April 17, 2023

Resolution: 2023-39

Strategic Plan Priority Investment Area: Youth Development: Reading enhancements.

Strategic Plan Headline Community Results: Children are ready for kindergarten, and students are succeeding academically.

Recommended Action: Authorization to negotiate and execute a final contract renewal
with Florida International University Board of Trustees (FIU) for
reading enhancement services, in a total amount not to exceed
\$945,752.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1,
2023, and ending September 30, 2024.

Budget Impact: Funding in the amount of \$945,752.00 for this resolution is Projected to be available in FY 2023-2024.

Description of Services: The FIU Reading Explorers program provides reading enhancement services to existing Trust-funded after-school and summer programs and Trust-affiliated early childhood education programs. FIU delivers literacy interventions directly for young children attending these programs during the summer. Reading Explorers provides on-site coaching and support during the school year to assist after-school program staff in the delivering effective differentiated (individualized) literacy instruction (DLI).

Summer services are the most intensive and include:

- pre/post reading assessments for children entering kindergarten, first and second grades to identify children in need of individualized reading intervention beyond what is typically provided by Trust-funded summer camps and affiliated early childhood education programs;
- small-group tutoring services (with no more than five children, four days per week for 30-45 minutes per session, led by certified teachers or the equivalent) for struggling readers and pre-readers using an age-appropriate, evidence-based curriculum; and
- parent involvement activities to engage families in supporting literacy skills at home, including book giveaways.

School-year services include:

- On-site collaborative coaching.
- Observation.
- Consultation for Children's Trust-funded after-school program staff to ensure the delivery of high-quality, evidence-based DLI.

Background: As part of The Children's Trust efforts to reduce summer learning loss, reading enhancement services have been funded by The Children's Trust since 2013, starting with summer reading services. During the second funding cycle, 2016-2018, the program was expanded year-round to include after-school staff coaching and consultation during the school year.

On February 19, 2019, The Children's Trust board approved the funding recommendation from the competitive request for proposals, RFP# 2019-03, to fund one agency with demonstrated expertise to provide reading enhancement services, for a five-year funding

cycle. FIU demonstrated its capacity, expertise, and qualifications through the competitive solicitation process, to continue providing the services. Contract performance has consistently met or exceeded expectations for numbers served and participant outcomes.

In the summer of 2022, Reading Explorers continued its partnership with the fourth annual Trust-led Battle of the Books to mitigate summer learning loss. Coaches supported the planning, hosting, and materials distribution across six weeks of events, and 14 sites with 900 children participated in the finale and received books. Additionally, Reading Explorers provided high-quality literacy intervention services to 10 Thrive by 5 early learning programs and 60 Trust-funded summer camps. After assessing 1,424 children, nearly 900 struggling with reading received in-person small group literacy intervention, receiving an average of 17 sessions throughout the summer. Children demonstrated meaningful growth, with 74 percent increasing reading levels or performing at instructional level or higher. For children who received the recommended dose of intervention, 77 percent showed a meaningful improvement.

Reading Explorers hosted 57 family engagement activities with 421 participants. Caregivers and children were invited to the event where the team conducted an interactive read-aloud. Each family received the showcased book as they entered the event and could follow along with the leader as they modeled each of the dialogic reading skills that could be used when reading the book at home. After modeling the strategies, staff discussed some back-to-school tips for parents while children engaged in a fun craft activity (i.e., bookmark making). At the end of the event, children were able to choose a second book to take home. Videos were produced (in English, Spanish, and Creole) with a local children's artist to reinforce the strategies discussed. The videos were made available to families after the events and were used to engage families who could not attend the scheduled event in virtual make-up sessions. Over 842 books were distributed at family engagement events, and more than 3,500 books were distributed to children enrolled in services. Parents of participating children and camp program staff were highly satisfied with the services, and parents would recommend the program to others.

From October 2022 to January 2023, 54 after-school program staff at 10 sites received nearly 130 hours of coaching and consultation to improve their delivery of DLI. Coaching hours varied by location depending on site needs and mutually developed coaching support plans. Topics included: improving adherence to recommended instructional time (DLI and whole group literacy), enhancing the reading environment, providing high-quality teacher modeling and feedback, improving student engagement, incorporating active fluency and comprehension strategies into reading time, and using reading fluency pre-test data for DLI grouping.

As in previous years, to assist with DLI implementation, literacy kits containing 47 lesson plans and related instructional materials from the Florida Center for Reading Research in convenient storage bins were distributed to after-school literacy teachers. Sites serving large populations of English as a Second Language (ESL) learners were provided with ESL resource workbooks. Based on the needs of providers to date for 2022-23, five literacy kits and 217 books were provided to after-school programs receiving consultation services. Coaching recipients are highly satisfied with the reading enhancement supports.

Additional funding was added to the 2022-2023 contract through an amendment in order to support the increased cost of employing highly qualified teachers. This contract renewal takes the additional funds into account for the final contract of the funding cycle.

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 17th

day of April 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: April 17, 2023

Resolution: 2023-40

Strategic Plan Priority Investment Area: Health and Wellness: Food and Nutrition Services.

- **Strategic Plan Headline Community Results:** Students are succeeding academically; children have healthy lifestyle habits.
- **Recommended Action:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract with Florida Introduces Physical Activity and Nutrition to Youth (FLIPANY) for after-school snacks and meals, in a total amount not to exceed \$600,000.00, 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 \$600,000.00 for this resolution is projected to be available for FY 2023-2024.

Description of Services: Through partnerships with the Florida Department of Health (DOH) and the Florida Department of Agriculture (FDA), FLIPANY provides nutritious lunches, snacks, and suppers to 91 Trust-funded after-school sites for children and youth in grades K-12. In addition to food distribution, FLIPANY offers administrative services to these agencies to help them meet the requirements of the Afterschool Meals Program funded by the FDA and administered by DOH.

The Children's Trust requires all after-school and summer programs to provide participating children with food that meets the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) nutrition program requirements. FLIPANY is the after-school snack and meal provider for programs not located in a Miami-Dade County Public School or a licensed child care center since those locations are already served through separate food programs. FLIPANY delivers healthy snacks to after-school providers weekly based on the average number of snacks consumed in the prior week.

Additionally, an increasing number of sites are serving evening suppers daily. This service is highly rated by the children and the staff and is available as a hot or cold meal. FLIPANY encourages providers to serve evening suppers meet basic nutritional needs.

FLIPANY regularly surveys after-school program staff about the food services provided. Last year, they received positive reviews from site staff indicating that students were satisfied with the food choices. Furthermore, staff were delighted with snack delivery and quality. Performance for last year and current year-to-date are noted in the table below.

	School Year 2021-22	First Quarter 2022-23
Snacks	380,548	102,748
Suppers/Lunches	96,310	42,368
Federal Funding Leveraged	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 257,814.88

Background: After-school sites with children who meet free and reduced-price lunch criteria or within school boundaries that include children who meet the requirements are approved by the DOH for federal reimbursement for after-school snacks and meals. FLIPANY assists sites in getting approved for reimbursement by the DOH. During the last contract year, 13 new sites were approved by the DOH; and during the current contract year one additional site was approved. The Children's Trust uses payment rates established by the DOH Child Care Food Program as a guideline for the cost of meals per participant and will not reimburse at a rate greater than the established reimbursement rates. The only exception is supper, which is reimbursed at a rate of \$4.33. The Children's Trust pays for snacks, meals, beverages, and food administration at sites that do not meet the DOH requirements.

On February 8, 2021, The Children's Trust released a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) #2021-05 for one agency to act as the After-school Meals Program Food Sponsor. One application was received, reviewed, and recommended for funding. FLIPANY has been providing snacks and meals to Trust-funded providers since June 2015. FLIPANY has demonstrated the established infrastructure and capacity to continue this critical nutrition component, supporting the health and development of participating children and youth.

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 **17th day** of April 2023.

THE CHILDREN'S TRUST MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

ΒΥ _____

SECRETARY

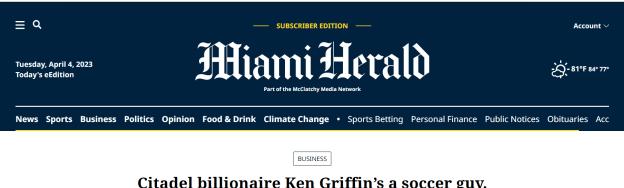
Approved by County Attorney for form and legal sufficiency _____

Qty Organia Young Mens Christian Ass 1 Inc 1 5000 Role Models of Exce 2 93rd St Community Devel 3 A Worthy Cause Inc	ociation of South Florida 2.	50 participants/provide Subtotal	Final Agreement Amount Final Agreement Agreement Amount Final Agreement Amou	•
1 Inc 1 Inc 1 5000 Role Models of Exce 2 93rd St Community Devel 3 A Worthy Cause Inc	2. Ilence Project	50 participants/provider Subtotal Promo	rs \$13,800.00 \$13,800	
1 Inc 1 Inc 1 5000 Role Models of Exce 2 93rd St Community Devel 3 A Worthy Cause Inc	2. Ilence Project	Subtotal Promo	\$13,800	Spark Trainings
2 93rd St Community Devel 3 A Worthy Cause Inc		Promo		
2 93rd St Community Devel 3 A Worthy Cause Inc			te Citizen Engagement and L	
2 93rd St Community Devel 3 A Worthy Cause Inc		2,000		Leadership
3 A Worthy Cause Inc	lopment Corporation Inc	•	\$10,000.00	Annual MLK Scholarship Breakfast
		250	\$7,000.00	Financial seminars/workshops for underserved families in low-income communities.
AToo Food Deinte Day		50 Youth	\$8,000.00	Afterschool Program to support HS students with Academics, Life skills, Driving Instruction, First Aid/CPR.
4 Pointe Dance Company	Company dba Focal	15	\$12,500.00	Dance scholarships for youth whose families are facing challenging socio-economic circumstances.
5 Childrens Bereavement Co	enter Inc	280	\$15,000.00	An afterschool emotional and mental health program for children ages 4 and up
Dr Martin Luther King Jr F 6 Committee Inc	Parade and Festivities	30,000	\$10,000.00	Support for the annual MLK Parade activities
7 Encouraging Dreamers Br	eaking Barriers	15	\$17,500.00	System involved youth with life skills and employment opportunities services
Esther Johnson LLC dba Y 8 Academy LLC	oung Excellent Scholar	100	\$10,000.00	Classes, workshops and book clubs via zoom and in-person for children and parents
9 Flota Inc		75	\$20,000.00	Afterschool/summer camp for children ages 5-10 promoting arts/literacy/math and science based learning opportunities and field trips.
10 Gamebred Youth and Fam	nilies Inc	30	\$4,500.00	Afterschool program promoting healthy lifestyles through multi-disciplinary approach with sports and martial arts training.
11 Greater St Matthews Holin	ness Church Inc	35	\$15,000.00	Services for children K-8 providing reinforcement on academic skills like math, reading, writing and citizenship.
12 Helping Individuals Succe	ed	100	\$10,000.00	Community-level planning sessions to facilitate a strategic comprehensive plan for Liberty City community.
13 Hope Heart and Home dba	a Eric Schwindeman	500	\$10,000.00	Coordination of services to provide support and share best practices, promote teamwork, and educate volunteers to support children
14 Human Trafficking Front I	nc	1,000	\$5,000.00	Support for children and families to educate them regarding cybercrime and the exploitation of children.
15 Kids N Touch Academy In	c	30	\$8,000.00	This program supports students with opportunities to develop, refine and apply various SEL skills outside of school hours.
16 Level Up Tutoring Service	LLC	30	\$10,000.00	A Tutoring Service that targets specific areas of educational needs for children in grades k-12.
17 Miami Immortals Corp		25	\$5,000.00	Program to assist children ages 5-18 in academic enhancement and physical activity.
18 Miami Strike Force Inc		60	\$17,000.00	A specialized soccer program for children with disabilities.
19 MJ Hoops Inc		60	\$10,000.00	Afterschool program ages 5-18 in STEM activities relevant to sports
20 Mosaic Dance Project Inc		15 Youth	\$10,000.00	Program that provides weekly movement therapy classes for children with disabilities between the ages of 8-15 years old.
21 Mothers Fighting 4 Justice	e Inc	50,000	\$10,000.00	Program that brings resources to families to prevent gun violence and provide trauma support for victims, including youth.
22 Omega Power and Praise	Ministry Inc	550	\$2,500.00	A family-oriented community awareness program to assist children and families of Miami Dade County needing access to supportive services.
23 Pswap Mentoring and Swi	m Organization Inc	25	\$18,000.00	Program addresses water safety measures by educating parents and children through CPR training and other skills.
24 RER Consulting Enterprise	e LLC	60	\$20,000.00	Program that facilitated youth and police dialogue sessions designed to open communication between Police officers and youth via group discussions.
The Center for Virtual and 25 Advancement Inc	d Community	35	\$15,000.00	Summer academic enrichment services to students K-8 for STEM based activities and performing arts.
26 The Education Fund Inc		1,000	\$12,500.00	Supports for children in afterschool programs and summer camps providing families with necessary resources to assist them
27 The Green Haven Project	Inc	25	\$10,000.00	Food poverty program in Overtown offering gardening nutrition education classes for youth.
The Historic Hampton Hou 28 Inc	use Community Trust	300	\$15,000.00	This program will host tours for fourth graders in the Brownsville community with workshops on the history of the community
29 The Home Team Miami In	c	50 Youth	\$10,000.00	After-school Anti-Bullying Program in South Miami for children 2nd-5th grade.
30 The Miami Center for Raci	al Justice	50	\$20,000.00	Tours for high school students from Miami-Dade to locations that provided important information on Black history
31 The Miami Childrens Muse	eum Inc	1,000	\$10,000.00	Read Across Miami is a Literacy Celebration that commemorates Read Across America Week through a museum-wide event.
The West Perrine Commu 32 Corporation Inc	nity Development	3,800	\$10,000.00	MLK parade supports

33 Young Musicians Unite Inc	615 Subtotal	\$15,000.00 \$382,500.00	Afterschool program that nurtures the education, creative development and career potential of youth in Miami.
		wareness and Program	Promotion
1 Agape 4 Orphans International Inc	500 - 250 Youth, 250 Adults	\$2,500.00	Annual Christmas event in Coconut Grove helping families in need with clothing, toys, health care products, educational supplies
2 Avenues of Excellence Inc	250 - 220 Youth, 30 Adults	\$2,500.00	An event dedicated to educating and preparing high school age girls for college.
3 Miami Diaper Bank Inc	1,600 - 1,000 Youth, 600 Adults	\$7,500.00	Diaper Distribution events to underserved families of Miami Dade County
4 The Education Fund Inc	1,850 - 400 Youth, 1,450 Adults	\$10,000.00	The Education Fund's annual For the Love of Art Charity Auction that provides resources for children who participate in visual arts programs
The West Perrine Community Development 5 Corporation Inc	350 professional adults	\$10,000.00	"Battle of the Bands" event at Miami Southridge Park will be a family music event for South Dade
	Subtotal	\$32,500.00	
	Promote Publi	ic Policy, Advocacy & Le	gislative Agenda
1 Childrens Forum Inc	N/A	\$2,300.00	Children's Week 2023 Sponsor/Capitol Level Partnership
	Subtotal	\$2,300	
	Total	\$431,100.00	
Program	Total Funded	# Agreements	
Learning: Trust Academy Partners	\$13,800	1	
Promote Citizen Engagement and Leadership	\$382,500	33	
Promote Public Policy, Advocacy & Legislative Agenda	\$2,300	1	
Public Awareness and Program Promotion	\$32,500	5	
ΤΟΤΑΙ	\$431,100.00	40	



Media Highlights March-April 2023



Citadel billionaire Ken Griffin's a soccer guy. His \$5 million gift will boost play across Miami

BY ANDRES VIGLUCCI UPDATED APRIL 03, 2023 3:30 PM

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Kenneth Griffin, the hedge-fund billionaire who's making a well-publicized mark on Miami by moving his Citadel financial empire from Chicago to Brickell, while donating millions to local civic and philanthropic projects, is now looking to different fields for his gifting — soccer fields, that is.

Griffin, a longtime futbol aficionado, is donating \$5 million to build 50 "mini-pitches" across Miami-Dade County as part of a plan by the U.S. Soccer Foundation to increase opportunities for children in local "underresourced" communities to play soccer. A "pitch" is the traditional English soccer term for a playing field.

Working in tandem with The Children's Trust, a publicly funded agency in Miami-Dade, the foundation plans to begin installing the mini-pitches and establishing league play in neighborhoods across the county in June. The trust, funded by a small portion of property taxes, provides financial support for children's services at nonprofits and community groups and would cover the cost of programming at the new mini-pitches.

The \$10 million Miami-Dade Soccer Initiative's ambitious goal: to have all 50 miniature soccer fields open by 2026, when Miami will host a round of World Cup tournament matches, and to serve 36,000 kids by 2030.

The local initiative, unveiled Monday at an affordable community in Miami Gardens that will be home to the pitches, will also expand a foundation-run after-school program, Soccer for Success, that's been in place in Miami-Dade since 2017 with funding from the Children's Trust.

"Through soccer, children can experience the benefits of teamwork, the discipline of being an athlete, and the joy of competition," Griffin said in a statement released by the foundation prior to Monday's public unveiling. Griffin, 54, A Daytona Beach native, played soccer in high school and college and helped coach his kids' soccer teams in Chicago, a spokesman said.

The founder and CEO of the Citadel hedge fund and owner of the separate Citadel Securities has an estimated net worth of \$32.6 billion. Last year, Griffin announced he was moving the firms' headquarters from Chicago to Miami's Brickell financial district, a process that will take several years.

It's not the first time the hedge-fund billionaire has made a large soccer-related donation. In Chicago, he made a key \$3 million gift in 2017 to a similar project by the U.S. Soccer Foundation, the charitable offshoot of the U.S. Soccer Federation, to develop 50 mini-pitches at parks across the city.

The sites for the Miami-Dade pitches will be selected by the Children's Trust, the soccer foundation, local governments and community groups. The foundation's Just Ball League would run teams and matches. Sites for league teams could also include some already existing "community hubs" with outdoor activity such as parks, playgrounds, schools and recreation centers.

Mini-pitches, which are a fraction of the size of a regulation field and usually have an artificial playing surface, are not new to Miami-Dade. The relative scarcity of regulation-size fields combined with the high price of real estate and scarcity of open land have made some mini-pitches and indoor soccer facilities a popular option for youths and adult amateurs in suburbs like Homestead and Hialeah, as well as dense urban neighborhoods like Wynwood. The Underline's Brickell Backyard section has a busy combination mini-pitch and basketball court, while a nearby garage rooftop is home to a privately run pitch available for a fee.

The soccer foundation's pitches would be located principally in underserved neighborhoods where kids may be looking to play but where opportunities to do so are rare, and the cost of leagues or travel to fields in other areas can be a barrier.

The foundation said its soccer-based after-school program, which also provides tutoring, nutrition counseling and other supportive services, has been found to improve participants' health and social and emotional behavior.

Griffin has made other substantial donations locally, including \$5 million to Miami's Underline 10-mile trail and linear park and \$5 million to help launch Miami Connect, which provides free high-speed internet to needy families.

In January, Griffin donated \$25 million to Nicklaus Children's Hospital to help pay for a new five-story surgical tower set to open in 2024. The tower, which will be named the Kenneth C. Griffin Surgical Tower, will house pre- and post-surgical care suites.

Griffin and his companies have also been on a real-estate buying spree in South Florida. Last year, Griffin bought the sprawling former Arsht Estate in Coconut Grove for \$106.9 million, a Miami-Dade record for a residential sale. He subsequently made news when his representatives began looking into the possibility of moving the historic William Jennings Bryan house, Villa Serena, that's part of the estate somewhere else, although so far nothing has come of the idea.

Before buying Villa Serena, Griffin paid \$137 million for a mansion and two adjacent lots on Miami Beach's Star Island. He spent even more — \$350 million — to assemble a 20-acre estate stretching from Lake Worth to the Atlantic Ocean on the island of Palm Beach, where he demolished an existing mansion to make way for a new megahome.

Citadel, meanwhile, has been snapping up commercial properties in Brickell. Earlier this year, Citadel intermediaries paid a record \$363 million for a vacant 2.5-acre parcel on Brickell Bay Drive, where the company plans to build a new headquarters skyscraper, and an office tower at 1221 Brickell for \$286.5 million.



The Children's Trust kept its promises to Miami-Dade, helping kids reach their full potential | Opinion

BY DAVID LAWRENCE JR., KENNETH C. HOFFMAN AND JAMES R. HAJ MARCH 21, 2023 1:48 PM

Twenty years ago, a group of prominent community leaders made a promise that stands apart for its effectiveness, results and impact.

In September 2002, Miami-Dade County voters responded by approving a referendum creating The Children's Trust, a community-funded entity accountable for investing, supporting and advocating for children and families throughout the county.

In 2008, voters overwhelmingly reauthorized The Children's Trust to continue its essential work. With this mandate in hand, the Trust's commitment to the community has taken root and blossomed, resulting in measurable and meaningful impacts through strategic investment in programs developed and funded using evidence-based research and data.

During its first 20 years, the Trust has engaged more than 2.2 million children and family members, enabling 41,000 full-time early-learning opportunities for children under 5 and more than 600,000 after-school and summer program opportunities for youth in grades K-12.

Building on a more than 300% increase in funded programs, The Children's Trust has achieved a long list of accomplishments to help children and families, from free monthly book mailings, complete with family reading guides, and activities that encourage early literacy to providing thousands of free parenting workshops across the county. In addition, the Trust has helped ensure that school-based health staff are in half of all Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

The services that The Children's Trust funds build a successful community. Communities thrive when government, citizens and businesses work together to support children to create a brighter future. There are many signs of progress.

The percentage of high school students graduating on time in Miami-Dade has increased from 56% to 90% since 2002. The birth rate for teen mothers has dropped by 75% in the past 20 years, and there has been a 31% decrease in violent teen deaths. Miami-Dade County's

ranking on the Florida Child Well-Being Index also significantly improved, from 56th of 67 counties in 2017 (when first measured) to 22nd in 2022.

What the community leaders who worked hard to create The Children's Trust realized all those years ago — and what our community continues to endorse today — is the scientifically proven belief that our children's futures depend on a solid start. To be our best as a community, we must ensure children learn and thrive by age 5. The Trust's aptly named "Thrive by 5" program seeks to do just that, ensuring that children receive high-quality early learning during the most critical years of brain growth.

At the same time, The Trust is committed to investing in children's well-being throughout their entire growth cycle, from before birth to adulthood. Family and neighborhood supports, after-school and summer camp programming, and a broad range of health, nutrition, parenting and other programming mean that children and youth in Miami-Dade County, and their families, have the kind of care and resources they deserve.

We also know it takes a village to reverse the pandemic's impact on children's learning. Summer learning loss has long been a concern to us all but was exacerbated recently. The Trust partners with Miami-Dade County Public Schools as part of the Summer 305 initiative to bring teachers into Trust-funded summer camps to teach reading and math to combat the summer slide.

Healthy communities are built on solid foundations. The Children's Trust has laid that foundation one brick at a time through nearly 5,300 contracted programs, 14.6 million snacks and meals provided and 3.4 million children's books distributed.

The Children's Trust promised 20 years ago to do everything possible to help children achieve their full potential. We remain committed to delivering on that promise. We know well the significance of keeping our word. The future of our community depends upon it.

MIAMI HERALD **Opinion**

MIAMI HERALD | OPINION

Why aren't curfew holdouts on Miami Beach sick and tired of being held hostage by spring break?

re we go again. Miami Beach is Miami Beach is entering the third and jam-packed weekend of spring break with few additional tools to prevent the un-checked rowdiness and violence that have marred the annual, increasingly unwelcome event stretching across South Beach.

This quandary follows last weekend when two people were killed, one a college student from Georgia. The murders, one captured in a security video, have made headlines world-

have made headlines word-wide. And this is Miami Music Week, which features Ultra Music Festival in Miami's Bay-front Park and other events throughout South Florida, in-cluding Miami Beach. Clay, Galiyato Miagan Sangara, Sangara Mianghi curfew as Clay Manag-ra Alan Hadak wisely had done last weekend following the fatal shootings.

last weeken rousing. shootings. This vote was a dereliction of the commissioners' duty to keep everyone as safe a possible with-in city limits.

OPEN MIC

Florida's

bad for

insurance

overhaul is

Floridians

Proposed State House Bill 837 and Senate Bill 236 make it harder for Floridians to sue insur-

ance companies and would weaken more than 100 years of legislation meant to help customers

get honest treatment. The bill also would expand corporate protection to auto, life, liability and health insurers. Changes to insurance

health insurers. Changes to insurance legislation have long been sought by giants like State Farm, a frequent defen-dant in many lawsuits and a major campaign backer of Gov. Ron DeSantis. The Florida Insurance Council and the Associ-ated Industry of Florida have paid more than \$3 million in contributions to DeSantis' political action committee. Insurance companies have contrib-uted more than \$5' million to o tate legislators, De-Santis and business groups like the Florida Chamber of Commerce. Since 2010, Insurance companies have donated more than \$7' million to Florida politicians.

companies have donated more than 874 million to Florida politicians. According to Bill New-ton, director of Florida Consumer Action Net-work, Floridians pay the highest premiums in the country, at an annual rate of \$3,585. According to the Consumer Federation of America, health insure-rs have seen vast profits in recent years by managing Medicare Advantage plans, while auto insurer profits soared to \$30 bil-

profits soared to \$30 bil-

lion in 2020.

We agree with Miami Beach Mayor Dan Gelber, police Chief Richard Clements and Hudak that it's time to shut down the partying, or at least stifle it as much as possible. They recom-mended the city enter the week end with a midnight-to-6 a.m. curfew.

Commissioners bent a bit, voting 6-1 to support the ban on alcohol sales for off-premises consumption in South Beach after 6 p.m. That includes packarter 6 p.m. Inat includes pack-age liquor stores and any other stores that sell alcohol. But that vote is being challenged by a liquor-store owner, who says he and other merchants like him are being singled out. He has a rout

are being singled out. He has a point. In addition, Ocean Drive will be open to traffic, which will impede gatherings along the stretch. And the city has an-nounced two drunk-driving checkpoints throughout the city. Fine, however, these should not turn into a blanket stop-and-frisk tactic.

Trisk tactic. We hope the commission's decision to forgo a curfew doesn't come back to bite with more deadly violence.

The commissioners who sided with nightclubs, Kristen Rosen Gonzalez, Ricky Arriola, David Richardson and Laura Dominguez, should hope everything goes well this weekend. Their rationale: It's not expected to be so busy as predic-ted. They contend that it's a

knee-jerk reaction to respond with a business-crippling cur-few; party-goers this weekend should not be punished for the deeds of partygoers last week-end; the murders appeared to be the result of personal beefs — as if we should find comfort in that

if we should find comfort in that — not random shootings. But in a shoulder-to-shoulder crowd, people were lucky there were no more fatalities. But the real reason to main-tain the status quo was, why should businesses on South Beach — mainly bars and night-clubs — be financially impacted when they have been waiting all year for this boon? They took a hit last year under a midnight curfew, also prompted by vio-lence.

lence. Vice Mayor Steve Meiner and Commissioner Alex Fernandez, along with the mayor, voted for



A man sits on a ground handcuffed Sunday night after witnesses say he had a knife. The detention came after a pair of deadly shootings over the weekend rocked this year's spring break on Miami Beach

the curfew, which successfully curtailed street partying over

the weekend. Fernandez is tired of the same old "We can't control spring break" refrain. "Upon consulting with our break retrain. "Upon consulting with our city manager and city attorney, 1 strongly feel the city must an-nounce that, for next year, Mia-im Beach will shut the door on spring break by announcing – from now – a curfew for the historically violent third week-end of March," Fernandez told the Editorial Board. He also wants to bring metal detectors and a fenced-in perim-ter int othe equation for spring break 2024. He says he has the backing of club and bar owners.

Fernandez says he will place a resolution on the agenda direct-ing city administration to find

ing city administration to find such a private partner to stage a ticketed, fenced-in event with security, a la Ultra. Fernandez has a solid idea here. We commend Gelber, Hudak, Meiner and Fernandez for trying their best in an impos-sible situation. But for next year, there must be radical changes made to the spring break and they should be announced well ahead of time before people make their hotel reservations.

reservations. Spring break 2024 on Miami Beach should usher in a new day, as many have said. Enough is enough.

choosing. The experiences of 10 other states where such freedom already exists demonstrate that medical aid in dying can be man-aged without the risk of abuse.

I hope to live the rest of my life knowing that if I or my wife ever gets a ter-rible terminal diagnosis, we will be able to get medical aid in dying to experience a comfortable end of life without having end of lite without to leave our home. - Thomas Nagle, Miami

COMFORT ZONE

COMFORT ZONE Gov. DeSantis said that paying hush money to a porn star is "just outside my wheelhouse." He often talks about representing "the agenda of the peo-ple." What people? Certainly not law-abid-ing citizens, women or girls, children or students, educators or teachers, physicians, the poor, the uninsured, seniors, the LGBTQ, immigrants and librarians, to name only a few

librarians, to name only a few. Who's left? The only people whose agenda the governor rep-resents who aren't "out-side his wheelhouse" are fellow Republican leaders and their donors, such as the NRA and large corpo-rations. - Enid Garbe

- Enid Garber, Palmetto Bay

FOOD WASTE The Herald's March 22 story "Feed the hungry, fight climate change The campaign to curb food waste in South Florida," raised a question in my mind. mind. If millions of pounds of If millions of pounds of perfectly good food are being thrown away, why do grocery stores keep raising their prices? Carrots have risen from Carrots have risen from \$1 a pound to \$1.25; brus sel sprouts from \$1 to \$1.39; frozen lima beans from \$2.59 to more than \$3. Meanwhile, landfills

gases. supermarkets are also "full of gas?"

are loaded with wasted food, creating noxious Can it be that our major

- Karin Stahl, North Miami

NANCY ANCRUM

SENIOR MANAGING EDITOR EDITORIAL PAGE EDITOR Customer Service 1-800-843-4372 or customercente JAMES L. KNIGHT (1909-1991)

A M

sing out on the myriad o education, counseling, nutritional and other programs that enhance the lives of thousands of our children each year. Therefore, on this its 20th anniversary, lurge the board of directors to rename The Children's Trust in honor of its form der, forever calling it the "Pavid Lawrence fr. Children's Trust." ance industry he is sup-posed to regulate. When officials elected to protect us don't have our backs, it's tough to fight back. Perhaps De-Santis could grow a back-bone and start taking care of Floridians by lowering - Kenneth Karger, Kendadi

A DEDICATED LIFE

A DEDICATED LIFE The Miami-Pade community is ruly indebted to the vision and streless efforts of David Law-rence, Jr. in creating The Children's Trust 20 years ago. In the beginning, he nearly single-handedly raised \$1.64 million – enough to support a full-bore, multi-faceted elec-toral campaign that has been twice approved overwhelmingly by voters to tax themselves in per-petuity on behalf of the county's children. Since then, The Chil-uted nearly \$2 billion in funding without a hint of

Former Insurance Com-missioner David Altmaien stepped down in Decem-ber and took a job as an funding without a hin scandal. Without Law insurance lobbyist. Florida Chief Financial Officer Jimmy Patronis, whose rence's experience, dedi cation and leadership, the Children's Trust would not exist — and our youth would be mis office regulates insurance companies, received \$2 million from the insur-

Hiami Herald

Write to us: Send your 150-word letter to HeraldEd@MiamiHerald.com; Fax: 305-376-8950; or The Readers' Forum, Miami Herald, 11410 NW 20th St. Suite 222, Miami, Fla, 33172. Include your name, address and a daytime phone number. Letters may be edited for grammar, brevity and clarity. All letters submitted become property of the Miami Herald.

ourselves? The opinion page is an example of freedom. While we may not all agree, we can express ourselves here. Never forget we do have a great

country whom I had the pleasure of speaking with said, "People unhappy about this country should

Coral Gables LIFE AND DEATH Recently, a "Death with Dignity" bill (SB864) was filed in the Florida Senate and should be of para-mount importance to every Floridian. Every one of us will face death. For some of us and our loved ones, death may come easily. For those unfortunate enough to be diagnosed with one of many terrify-ing and incurable dis-eases, the prognosis for a natural death can be filled with intense pain, serious mental deterioration and loss of control over func-

idians to request, and

ALEX MENA INTERIM EXECUTIVE EDITOR DANA BANKER

In a humane society, no one should be forced to experience such an end by legal restrictions that prevent physicians from giving medical aid in dy-ing. Senate Bill 864 would enable terminally ill Flor-

live in Cuba for six the immigrants, business months and in Venezuela for six months and then owners, government and return to the United States. I urge Sens. Marco

JOHN S. KNIGHT (1894-1981)

Opinion content from syndicated sources may be trimmed from the original length to fit available space.

legally obtain, medication to die in a peaceful, hu-mane and dignified manner at a time of their

"They will appreciate life here." No place on earth is perfect. We must never lose hope. - Myrna Silver, Coral Gables Rubio and Rick Scott, and our representatives in the U.S. House to change this rule that curbs the initia-tive of these immigrants. - Carmen Gloria Mayer, Miami

FREEDOM AND HOPE When I read comments about our beautiful Flor-ida losing freedoms, I am confused. In spite of all the conflicts and dissent-ing opinions, we are all truly blessed to be living in this state and in a free country. Of course, we have many differences and

loss of control over func-tions as basic as breathing.

Of course, we have many differences and difficulties, but where else on this planet are we al-lowed to have so many opportunities to express ourselves?

country. Someone from another

EAGER TO WORK As the owner of a small business, I am regularly approached by newly arrived immigrants who are seeking employment. The federal government grants them entry to our country, but not a work permit, so they do not have the right to work. These immigrants man

These immigrants want to work. Many companies need employees now, so why not give them a tempo-rary working permit at

thout a hint o

entry? Making this change would be a win-win for

our community

EAGER TO WORK

- Doug Maye Coral Gabl