



Board of Directors Meeting

January 23, 2023

MDC CHILDRENS TRUST MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
(IN PERSON QUORUM WITH SOME VIRTUAL ATTENDANTS)

MEETING MINUTES
AUDIO TRANSCRIPTION

MDC Children's Trust Meeting was held on January
23, 2023, commencing at 4:04 p.m., at 3250 Southwest
rd
3 Avenue, Miami, Florida 33129, in the United Way
Ryder Room. The meeting was called to order by
Kenneth Hoffman, Chair.

1 APPEARANCES:

2

3 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

4

5 KENNETH C. HOFFMAN, CHAIR

6 PAMELA HOLLINGSWORTH, VICE CHAIR

7 MARK A. TROWBRIDGE, TREASURER

8 KAREN WELLER, SECRETARY

9 JAMES R. HAJ, PRESIDENT/CEO

10

11 BOARD MEMBERS

12

13 MATTHEW ARSENAULT

14 DR. DANIEL BAGNER

15 TA'MYAH BYARS

16 LOURDES DIAZ

17 VICTOR DIAZ-HERMAN

18 MARY DONWORTH

19 GILDA FERRADAZ

20 HON. NORMAN GERSTEIN

21 LOURDES P. GIMENEZ

22 VALROSE GRAHAM

23 MINDY GRIMES-FESTGE

24 MARISSA LEICHTER

25 ANNIE R. NEASMAN

1 BOARD MEMBERS, Continued

2

3 MARIA NORTON

4 Dr. Clara Lora Ospina

5 Javier Reyes

6 Dale Clarke

7

8 STAFF MEMBER

9

10 AMANDA GORSKI

11 BEVONE RITCHIE

12 CAROL BROGAN

13 DANIELLE BARRERAS

14 FELIX BECERRA

15 GINA ALONSO

16 GRETTEL SUAREZ

17 IMRAN ALI

18 JACQUES BENTOLILA

19 JAMES R. HAJ

20 JENNIFER MORENO

21 JOANNA REVELO

22 JUANA LEON

23 JULIETTE FABIEN

24 LINDSAY FRANCOIS

25 LISANNE GAGE

1 STAFF MEMBER, Contued

2

3 LISETE YERO

4 LORI HANSON

5 MICHELLE LOPEZ

6 NATALIA ZEA

7 PATRICIA LEAL

8 RACHEL SPECTOR

9 SEBASTIAN DEL MARMO

10 SUSAN MARIAN

11 TATIANA CANELAS

12 WENDY DUNCOMBE WILLIAM KIRTLAND

13 LIMENA NUNEZ

14 YULIET ALFONSO

15

16 GUESTS

17

18 LEIANN PALMA

19 NATHAN McNAMARA

20 LISA BUAIR

21 NATALIA COLETH

22 SABRINA TASSY-LEIMS

23 CORINA FIBRES CORDERO

24 ROSARIO HIDALGO-VARGAS

25 TAMMY COREY

1 GUESTS, Continued

2

3 NADJEJDA CHAPOTEAN

4 MAITE SCHENLAR

5 CORINA FEBRES

6 ANNETTE CACICEDO

7 TINA BROWN

8 FIORELLA CHRISTIE

9 KERRY ALLEN

10 BRITTANY LAMBERT-BROWN

11 RONY BARROW

12 MARISEL ELIAS-MIRANDA

13 RUBY NATALE

14 J MARTINEZ

15 LARONDA THOMAS

16 CONSTANCE COLLINS

17 DR. TIOMBE BISA KENDRICK-DUNN

18

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 (Thereupon, the following proceedings were held
3 at 4:04 p.m.)

4 MR. HOFFMAN: Thank you. It's 4:04 p.m.
5 Welcome everybody back for the new year. It
6 seems like the weather has told us it's summer
7 already. I thought we were on a winter break,
8 but in any event it's good to see everybody
9 here, including a few new faces.

10 First, just a couple of administrative
11 matters. I'd like to remind everyone to make
12 sure they turn their microphones on when they
13 speak, and off when they're not speaking. In
14 addition, if you need to recuse yourself from a
15 resolution, please make sure and state the name
16 -- your name, and the agency you're
17 representing, and the reason for recusal. In
18 addition, we do have a court reporter who is
19 virtual, and so if you are making or seconding a
20 motion, it would be helpful if you say your name
21 when you do make that motion, since the court
22 reporter can't see who's making the motions.
23 First order of business, like last year, this
24 new year has brought several changes to our
25 Board of Directors.

1 First, as we announced in the last few
2 meetings, the terms of four of our gubernatorial
3 appointees were up last year, Tiombe Bisa
4 Kendrick-Dunn, Constance Collins, Nicole Gomez,
5 and Lourdes Gimenez, all their terms had already
6 expired as of the end of the year. The
7 gubernatorial appointees continue to serve until
8 reappointed or until their replacements are
9 designated by the governor. And under the
10 ordinance creating the Children's Trust, the
11 Miami-Dade Board -- Miami-Dade Board of County
12 Commissioners proposes names to the governor for
13 his consideration.

14 Well, that happened well earlier in the
15 year, but the governor finally announces
16 appointments in mid-December and I'm happy to
17 announce that both Nicole Gomez and Lourdes
18 Gimenez have been reappointed to our board. I
19 would also like to welcome and introduce our two
20 newest gubernatorial appointees, Doctor
21 Clara Lora Ospina, and the Honorable Norman
22 Gerstein. I'll give you a little introduction
23 of each and if they want to say something, I'll
24 allow them to say something as well. Doctor
25 Lora Opsina is a licensed psychologist, with

1 over 20 years of combined clinical managerial
2 and super -- supervisory experience. She
3 currently works at Jackson Behavioral Health
4 Hospital as the Clinical Director of the Adult
5 Outpatient Center for Behavioral Medicine, and
6 the Director of Internship Training. Prior to
7 this, she worked for the VA Healthcare System,
8 and in the private sector in Boston for 11 years
9 and was Clinical Director at Commonwealth
10 Psychology Associates before returning to Miami
11 in 2014, set up her own practice in Coral
12 Gables.

13 Doctor Lora Ospina earned her bachelor's
14 degree in psychology from Florida International
15 University, and her master's in mental health
16 counseling, and doctorate in clinical psychology
17 from Nova Southeastern University. In addition
18 to her clinical supervisory work, Doctor Ospina
19 is currently a voluntary assistant professor in
20 the Department of Psychiatry at the University
21 of Miami's Miller School of Medicine. Welcome.
22 I know our directors have had an opportunity to
23 participate in the committee meetings already.
24 If you're welcome to say something if you'd like
25 or --

1 DR. OSPINA: I -- I'm very thankful for
2 this opportunity and I look forward to getting
3 to know all of you a little bit better
4 throughout the years. Thank you.

5 MR. HOFFMAN: Thank you. Our other
6 gubernatorial appointee is the Honorable Norman
7 Gerstein, who's dedicated his life to the
8 interest of justice and the needs of the South
9 Florida community. From 1973 to 1981, he served
10 as an assistant public defender and a special
11 assistant attorney.

12 He was appointed in 1981 to the County
13 Court and then in 1986 to the Circuit Court by
14 Governor Bob Graham. Until his retirement in
15 January 2010, he was a highly respected and
16 admired judge throughout his 29 year judicial
17 career, and now he's a successful mediator,
18 arbitrator, special master, umpire, and
19 receiver.

20 He's been recognized as a lifelong advocate
21 for the rights of children and persons with
22 disabilities, earned his bachelor's degree from
23 Rawlins College -- Rawlins College and his
24 juris doctor from the University of Miami.
25 Judge Gerstein was a member of the initial

1 Children's Trust Board of Directors, having
2 served as an at-large member from 20 -- 2004 to
3 2009. Judge --

4 HON. GERSTEIN: Thank you again. It's
5 wonderful to be a back. -- the difference is
6 astounding. -- for a while, but I had a chance
7 to walk around, meet a lot of the staff and the
8 sophistication here at the board now is
9 astounding, so I'm very excited to serve with
10 everybody.

11 MR. HOFFMAN: Thank you. Thank you and
12 welcome.

13 HON. GERSTEIN: Thank you.

14 MR. HOFFMAN: Finally, I'm happy to
15 announce that the Honorable Dorothy Bendross-
16 Mindingall has been reappointed as
17 Representative of the Miami-Dade County School
18 Board. A little later on in the meeting, we
19 will present service awards to our two outgoing
20 directors, Constance Collins, and Tiombe Bisa
21 Kendrick-Dunn.

22 Another announcement, on January 17th, the
23 Miami Community Newspapers, as part of the
24 Children's Trust 20th anniversary, hosted a
25 special breakfast celebrating the Children's

1 Trust Founding Chairman David Lawrence, and
2 featuring remarks by our own president and CEO
3 Jim Haj. More than 150 people attended,
4 including a who's who of elected officials,
5 business leaders, and child advocates, in
6 honoring David Lawrence's life -- longtime and
7 continuing efforts to improve the lives of
8 children.

9 Several of our board members, Matt
10 Arsenault and Gilda Ferradaz were also in
11 attendance, and our own Mark Trowbridge acted as
12 MC of the event. This was a great event. We've
13 had a number of good events highlighting the
14 Children's Trust anniversary in a very positive
15 way. And congratulations to Jim and staff for
16 your efforts in making this public recognition
17 happen. And thank you to Mark -- there you are,
18 Mark -- for serving as MC. Finally, just
19 another administrative matter, as we begin the
20 year, I'd like to remind our board members of
21 the importance of attendance of meetings. The
22 calendar for regular board meetings has been set
23 since the beginning of the fiscal year, and
24 while we appreciate that everyone has their own
25 busy agendas, and conflicts do arise, we hope

1 that to the greatest extent possible, our board
2 members will make every effort to attend the
3 scheduled board meetings. Our bylaws do provide
4 that if a board member has three consecutive
5 absences or a total of five absences from
6 regular board meetings within a fiscal year,
7 that the board chair must advise the appointing
8 authority of the board member's absences and
9 request that another board member be appointed
10 to serve on the Children's Trust.

11 If the absent board member is an at-large
12 member, the clerk of the board will consider the
13 member to have resigned from the board and the
14 board will fill the seat through the normal nom
15 -- nominating process for at-large members. And
16 with that, are there any public comments?

17 DR. OSPINA: No public comments, Mr. Chair.

18 MR. HOFFMAN: Thank you. Do we know who's
19 speaking to these, or -- oh, I'm sorry, right,
20 sorry. No public comments. We've talked about
21 it the last several board meetings, having field
22 trips to some of our agencies so that the board
23 members can visit, see our work in action. We
24 have now set up four different visits, one in
25 March, one in April, one in May, and one in the

1 June-July timeframe. I don't think the exact
2 dates have been set. The agencies we'll visit
3 in March will be FabLab, The Key Biscayne
4 Community Foundation, Thunder Collaboration. In
5 April, it'll be the YMCA.

6 In May, the Mexican American Council and in
7 June-July, Trinity Church. And we hope
8 everybody -- we did this -- we haven't done this
9 for a number of years. We hope everybody takes
10 the opportunity to join the Trust on it, it's
11 very, again, insightful to see what our funded
12 agencies are doing and to learn a little bit
13 about how our money is being spent. Okay. With
14 that, I'll turn it over to Karen Weller for the
15 approval of the minutes of our last board
16 meeting.

17 MS. WELLER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Good
18 afternoon, everyone. The board of directors met
19 on November 14th, 2022. The minutes are on page
20 five and six of this -- of your packet. May I
21 have a motion to approve, please?

22 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: --

23 MS. WELLER: Thank you, Ms. Hollingsworth.
24 And can -- may I have a second?

25 MR. TROWBRIDGE: Second, Trowbridge.

1 MS. WELLER: Thank you. All those in
2 favor?

3 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

4 MS. WELLER: Oppose? Hearing none, the
5 motion carries. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

6 MR. HOFFMAN: Thank you. So, the next item
7 on the agenda is appreciation for outstanding
8 services to the Trust for both Constance Collins
9 and Tiombe Bisa Kendrick-Dunn. I will --
10 Constance, would you come up and join us? This
11 is a sad day for all of us, I think, to --
12 you've been a very both vocal and active board
13 member.

14 Really a great advocate for, you know, your
15 -- you're both not just the cause of homeless,
16 but the cause of all of our recipients of
17 funding the light, and we just appreciate your
18 service, and we'll miss you. As I said, you
19 always have a seat at my table. Today you can
20 sit at our table, but I'd like to thank you for
21 your service. Jim, do you want to --

22 MR. HAJ: I'll use this mic. I just want
23 to thank Constance for your years of service. I
24 think everybody knows Constance's story and what
25 she's done at Lotus House, and how one lady can

1 make a difference in this community. What you
2 have done throughout your lifetime, what you
3 have done with Lotus House, and your
4 contributions to the board, you should be
5 exceptionally proud. You have made this
6 community better, you made this board better,
7 and you made this staff, and I think your fellow
8 colleagues better. So, Constance, thank you
9 very much for all you do for this community.

10 MS. COLLINS: I just want to say, both
11 personally and professionally, this has been an
12 extraordinary experience being on the board.
13 I've had a chance to get to know so many of you.
14 I have loved the opportunity to be a voice for
15 children who are so often invisible, and also to
16 really learn more about what providers like
17 ourselves face on a daily basis.

18 It was very humbling and gratifying to be
19 on this board in the middle of a pandemic and to
20 watch how the Children's Trust really stepped up
21 and forward as an organization despite all the
22 challenges we were facing to help providers like
23 ourselves somehow survive that incredible
24 challenge and to come out stronger from
25 everything that we experienced. And your

1 support was invaluable throughout that
2 timeframe. So, I just want to say it has been
3 an amazing experience. No one does anything by
4 themselves, I am always reminded of that. It
5 does take a village, and we're just grateful for
6 all the support you've given for Lotus Village
7 and soon to be our new Children's Village
8 coming. Thank you.

9 MR. HOFFMAN: Okay, and next up Tiombe Bisa
10 Kendrick-Dunn. Tiombe, you will also always
11 have a seat at my table at least, but it's been
12 really a pleasure having you at our table. I
13 know that sometimes you think that you're not
14 being heard or that you needed to speak out on
15 things that other people weren't, and you did.
16 And I think the fact that you did has educated
17 us all, opened our eyes to different points of
18 view, and I really appreciate everything you've
19 done in that regard. I also appreciate all your
20 leadership effort, in our ready effort, and
21 taking lead of that committee. I think we will
22 miss you in that effort and we hope that you
23 stay engaged with the Trust staff, and the team,
24 and help us navigate the things that we need to
25 as a Trust to help all children.

1 MR. HAJ: Tiombe, thank you for your
2 service on the board. I walked through, I think
3 you just came on board before I became CO. It's
4 been eight years, Tiombe served on the board,
5 and if you talk to someone who just really
6 shared her passion, her story publicly at the
7 board meetings, and individually and tried to
8 move the needle for this community, Tiombe did
9 that, and she did not stop. She pushed us -- as
10 -- after George Floyd, the Social Equity
11 Committee that we started, she led it and there
12 was a lot of work behind the scenes to get that
13 done, and all the work through Covid, and
14 everything you do.

15 I know your plate is full on your day job
16 and everything else, and getting your doctorate,
17 and everything she did, but she was committed to
18 this community and making sure that our most
19 vulnerable community is taken care of. So,
20 thank you very much. As Ken said, this is your
21 home. You are always part of the Trust, and we
22 look forward to seeing you at all the events.

23 DR. KENDRICK-DUNN: So, thank you to both
24 of you, and I want to thank the Children's Trust
25 for this opportunity. I'll keep it short and

1 sweet. I don't really need this because what
2 matters is the children, and I only can hope
3 that I made a difference. That's all that
4 matters, it's not about me.

5 I hope that the board continues with the
6 EDI work. And you know, don't forget our kids
7 that speak other languages, I'm always going to
8 push that. And continue to do great work. And
9 I don't really have much more to say because
10 again, this is not about me, this is about
11 everything that all of you do. Okay? And thank
12 you so much.

13 MR. HOFFMAN: Okay. We did have on the
14 agenda for this meeting, the code of ethics
15 training. Unfortunately, the gentleman who was
16 going to provide the training, the executive
17 director of the Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics
18 had a family emergency, so we will defer that to
19 another date.

20 Next on the agenda is approval of the
21 reappointment of Doctor Edward Abraham as an at-
22 large board member. Each of our at-large board
23 members serves a two-year term with the
24 opportunity for reappointment for no more than
25 three consecutive terms. The board term of

1 Doctor Abraham, one of our at-large members, is
2 up for renewal. He was appointed to the board
3 as an at-large member in April 2021 and his
4 first term will expire March 15th, 2023.

5 According to our bylaws, if an at-large member's
6 term is expiring and he or she is eligible for,
7 and interested in reappointment, the president
8 CEO will include on the board agenda the
9 reappointment of the at-large member.

10 Doctor Abraham has expressed his desire to
11 continue to serve -- serving on the board and as
12 I mentioned, he is eligible having served only
13 most of his first term. He has served as well
14 on the board. I don't think he's here today.
15 Let's see. But I would certainly recommend
16 wholeheartedly that we reappoint Doctor Abraham.
17 Could I have a motion to reappoint Doctor Edward
18 Abraham for another term?

19 DR. BAGNER: --

20 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Second, Hollingsworth.

21 MR. HOFFMAN: Okay, it's moved by Dan
22 Bagner and seconded by Pamela Hollingsworth.
23 Any discussion? Okay, all those in favor?

24 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

25 MR. HOFFMAN: Any opposed? Great. Well,

1 we'll look forward to welcoming Doctor Abraham
2 back at the next meeting for the beginning of
3 his second term. Okay, I'm going to turn this
4 over now to the Finance and Operations Committee
5 Report. Matt's going to get the report.

6 MR. ARSENAULT: Thank you. Is this okay,
7 microphone? Thank you. The Finance and
8 Operations Committee met, and we are bringing
9 forward three resolutions for the board's
10 consideration. The first of which is resolution
11 202317, which is authorization to release
12 competitive solicitations in alignment with the
13 board's strategic priorities and projected
14 available funding across multiple investment
15 areas with funding cycles that have ended or
16 ending within the 2022-2023 fiscal year. Is
17 there a motion?

18 HON. GERSTEIN: --

19 MR. NEASMAN: Second, Annie.

20 MR. ARSENAULT: So, that was Doctor Gers --
21 Norman Gerstein. Gerstein? The second? Annie -
22 - Annie Neasman? Any recusals? Okay. This --
23 describing this resolution authorized the Trust
24 to release competitive solicitations across the
25 initiatives listed starting on page seven, I

1 present each initiative's estimated timing to
2 release the solicitation and prepare the funding
3 recommendation as well as the funding amounts.
4 All funding recommendations will return to the
5 board for approval following the application
6 reviews. Any discussion or questions? Hearing
7 none. All in favor say aye.

8 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

9 MR. ARSENAULT: All opposed say nay.
10 Motion carries. The next resolution is
11 resolution 202318, authorization to release
12 multiple competitive solicitations that support
13 the infrastructure of the Children's Trust. Do
14 we have a motion?

15 MS. DONWORTH: So, move, Donworth.

16 MR. ARSENAULT: Donworth. Second?

17 MR. REYES: Reyes.

18 MR. ARSENAULT: Second from Reyes. Any
19 recusals? Okay. This resolution authorizes the
20 Trust to release multiple competitive
21 solicitations across the core business systems
22 and services listed on page 10 and 12 of the
23 agenda. It presents each initiative's estimated
24 timing to release a solicitation and prepare the
25 funding recommendation. All funding

1 recommendations will return to the board for
2 approval concurrent with the recommendation to
3 award. Any discussion or questions? Okay. If
4 none, all in favor say aye.

5 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

6 MR. ARSENAULT: All opposed say nay. Okay,
7 the motion carries. The last is resolution
8 202319, which is authorization to expend up to
9 \$49,999 for Kaufman, Rossem and Company to act
10 as technical advisors for a term of 10 months
11 commencing retroactively on December 1st, 2022,
12 and ending September 30th, 2023. Is there a
13 motion?

14 HON. GERSTEIN: -- Gerstein.

15 MR. TROWBRIDGE: Second, Trowbridge.

16 MR. ARSENAULT: Trowbridge. Thank you.

17 Any recusals? Okay. This motion -- this
18 resolution is for the Children's Trust sought
19 out to provide professional consulting services
20 with specializations in financial software,
21 human resources, information systems, and
22 software that includes, but it's not limited to
23 the payroll benefits administration, benefits
24 broker, performance management, and possible
25 assistance with integrated data repository and

1 visualizations for a variety of topics. Any
2 recusals? Any discussion or questions? Okay,
3 hearing none. All in favor say aye.

4 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

5 MR. ARSENAULT: Any opposed say nay.

6 Motion carries. And that concludes the Finance
7 and Operations Committee Report.

8 MR. HOFFMAN: With that I'll turn it over
9 to Pamela Hollingsworth with the Program
10 Services and Childhood Health Committee Report.
11 Thank you.

12 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
13 And directors thank you. On January 12th, the
14 Program Services and Childhood Health Committee
15 met to consider the resolutions we placed before
16 you today. And for the first several we are
17 punting to Karen Weller.

18 MS. WELLER: Thank you. Resolution 202320,
19 authorization to negotiate and execute contracts
20 with the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade
21 and Monroe. Miami-Dade County Community Action
22 and Human Services Department and the United Way
23 of Miami-Dade for local match funding for the
24 federal Early Head-Start Childcare Partnership
25 grant in a total amount not to exceed \$2,270,000

1 for a term of 12-months commencing October 1st,
2 2023, and ending on September 30th, 2024. May I
3 have a motion please?

4 DR. BAGNER: -- Bagner.

5 MS. WELLER: Thank you, Doctor Bagner. May
6 I have second?

7 MS. GIMENEZ: Second.

8 MS. WELLER: And thank you, Ms. Gimenez.
9 Do I have any recusals?

10 MS. DONWORTH: Donworth.

11 MS. WELLER: Any recuse --

12 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Recuse, Hollingsworth.
13 I work for the Early Learning Coalition.

14 MS. WELLER: Thank you.

15 MS. FERRADAZ: Recusal Ferradaz. I'm on
16 the board of the Early Learning Coalition.

17 MS. WELLER: Okay. Thank you so much. Are
18 there any discussion? Hearing none. All those
19 in favor?

20 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

21 MS. WELLER: Opposed? The motion carries.

22 Resolution 202321, authorization to negotiate
23 and execute a contract with the Early Learning
24 Coalition of Miami-Dade and Monroe for local
25 match funding for the State of Florida School

1 Readiness Program match grant in a total amount
2 not to exceed \$1,230,000 for a term of 12-
3 months, commencing October 1st, 2023, and ending
4 on September 30th, 2024. May I have a motion
5 please?

6 MS. DONWORTH: -- Donworth.

7 MS. WELLER: Thank you, Ms. Donworth.
8 Second?

9 MS. GRIMES-FESTGE: Second, Grimes-Festge.

10 MS. WELLER: And thank you so much. Any
11 recusals?

12 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Recuse, Hollingsworth.
13 I worked for the Early Learning Coalition.

14 MS. WELLER: Okay.

15 MS. FERRADAZ: Recusal, Ferradaz. I'm on
16 the board of the Early Learning Coalition.

17 MS. WELLER: Okay, thank you. Any
18 discussion? Hearing none. All those in favor?

19 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

20 MS. WELLER: Opposed? The motion carries.

21 Resolution 202322, authorization to negotiate
22 and execute contract renewals with six providers
23 identified herein for early childhood community
24 research demonstration projects within high need
25 communities, in amount not to exceed \$1,939,358

1 for a term of 12-months commencing October 1st,
2 2023 and ending on September 30th, 2024 with two
3 remaining contract renewals. May I have a
4 motion please?

5 HON. GERSTEIN: --

6 MS. WELLER: Thank you. And second?

7 MS. NORTON: --

8 MS. WELLER: Okay. Thank you. Any
9 recusals?

10 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Recu --

11 DR. BAGNER: Recusal -- oh, go ahead.

12 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thanks. Recuse,
13 Hollingsworth. I work for the Early Learning
14 Coalition, one of the six providers.

15 DR. BAGNER: And recusal, Bagner. I work
16 for FIU. I know it was recommended, I don't
17 have to, but at an abundance of caution because
18 of one of the consultants -- research
19 consultants, I -- is my colleague, I'm going to
20 recuse.

21 MS. WELLER: Okay. All right. Thank you.

22 MS. FERRADAZ: Recusal, Ferradaz. I'm on
23 the board of the Early Learning Coalition.

24 MS. WELLER: Okay. Is there any
25 discussion? Hearing none. All those in favor?

1 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

2 MS. WELLER: Opposed? The motion carries.

3 Resolution 2023-23 authorization to negotiate
4 and execute a single source contract with Miami-
5 Dade Family Learning Partnership for an expanded
6 reach out and read early literacy programming,
7 in a total amount not to exceed \$700,000 for a
8 term of 12-months commencing October 1st, 2023,
9 and ending September 30th, 2024.

10 We are asking to amend resolution number
11 2022-50, and the current contract for services
12 from October 1st, 2022 to September 30th, 2023,
13 and to add \$200,000 for a new total amount, not
14 to exceed \$555,664, and enter into a research
15 and evaluation agreement as part of a
16 collaborative research effort in a total amount
17 not to exceed \$50,000 for a term of 12-months
18 commencing retroactively on January 1st, 2023
19 and ending on December 31st, 2023. May I have a
20 motion please?

21 MS. GIMENEZ: -- Gimenez.

22 MS. WELLER: Thank you.

23 DR. BAGNER: Second, Bagner.

24 MS. WELLER: Thank you. Any recusals?

25 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Recuse, Hollingsworth.

1 The Early Learning Coalition CEO serves on the
2 board of the Miami-Dade Family Learning
3 Partnership.

4 MS. WELLER: Okay. Did you want to --

5 DR. BAGNER: I just want to make a comment.

6 MS. WELLER: Okay. Absolutely.

7 DR. BAGNER: And I had to be quiet during
8 the other resolution, so I'll just -- I'll put
9 it in both because I'm so proud of the
10 investments that we're making in research.
11 Those of you who are new to the board, this is
12 something I've been pushing for since I've been
13 on the board and I'm really proud that we are
14 collecting data and we're actually analyzing the
15 data and it's great to see that expansion here.
16 I love that we're continuing to do the early
17 childhood demonstration projects as well. So, I
18 -- I'm just thrilled to see us collect the
19 information and actually look at how we're doing
20 it, so --

21 MS. WELLER: Absolutely. Yes?

22 FEMALE SPEAKER: Comment. Well, as I said
23 in committee, I think this is so wonderful, for
24 me early literacy is the beginning of learning,
25 you know, when you go to kindergarten, you're

1 reading -- you're learning to read, to later
2 read to learn, and to start at such an early --
3 like I said in committee, even when the baby's
4 in the womb, it is amazing because there's a lot
5 of research, and I'm not a research person, I'm
6 more in the educational piece, early childhood,
7 but I do believe that that component is very
8 necessary because we will be able to -- lessons
9 learned from that, and tweak, and do what is it
10 that we can do to make sure that our children
11 are prepared when they're coming into preschool,
12 which starts now in two-year-old programs for
13 many of the children for actually learning to
14 read. So I am, like I said, at committee, I'm
15 very happy that we are doing this.

16 MS. WELLER: Thank you. Any more
17 discussion? Okay. Any all those in favor?

18 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

19 MS. WELLER: Opposed? Hearing none.
20 Motion carries. Resolution 202324,
21 authorization to amend resolution number 2022-
22 48, and the current contracts with the Miami-
23 Dade Family Learning Partnerships Incorporated,
24 and All In One Mail Shop Incorporated, doing
25 business as All In One Direct Marketing

1 Solutions, for services from October 1st, 2022
2 to September 30th, 2023, for the support and
3 marketing solutions for services from October
4 1st, 2022 to September 30th, 2023, for the
5 support and maintenance of a Birth to Five Book
6 Club, to add \$285,000 for Haitian Creole book
7 purchases, accompanying guide develop --
8 development and translation, and related
9 purchase and fulfillment costs, add \$15,000 for
10 outreach and community engagement activities for
11 Haitian American families for a new total amount
12 not to exceed 2,617,239. Further authorization
13 to approve a budget amendment to increase the
14 book club budget and allocate these funds in the
15 appropriate budget line. May I have a motion
16 please?

17 MS. DONWORTH: --

18 MS. WELLER: Thank you.

19 MS. GIMENEZ: --

20 MS. WELLER: Thank you. Any recusals?

21 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Recuse, Hollingsworth,
22 Coalition's CEO serves on the board of the
23 Miami-Dade Family Learning Partnership.

24 MS. WELLER: Thank you.

25 DR. BAGNER: Recuse -- recusal, Bagner,

1 Employed by FIU, and they receive funding from
2 it as well.

3 MS. WELLER: Thank you. Any discussion?
4 Hearing none. All those in favor?

5 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

6 MS. WELLER: Opposed? The motion carries.
7 Resolution 2023-25, authorization for a
8 procurement waiver from the formal competitive
9 procurement process, to award a total amount,
10 not to exceed \$27,890,000, for the delivery of
11 integrated childcare quality improvement
12 services described below. The total amount
13 includes \$14,900,000 to negotiate and execute
14 through multiple contracts with providers
15 identified herein, and \$12,990,000 for the
16 Children's Trust to encumber in purchase orders
17 for educator scholarship payments, salary
18 supplement payments to early learning educators,
19 and high quality tiered payment differentials to
20 providers, for a term of 12-months, commencing
21 October 1st, 2023 and ending on September 30th,
22 2024. May I have a motion please?

23 HON. GERSTEIN: --

24 MS. WELLER: Thank you. Second?

25 DR. OSPINA: --

1 MS. WELLER: Thank you. Any recusals?

2 MS. DONWORTH: Donworth, United Way.

3 MS. WELLER: Thank you.

4 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Hollingsworth, I work
5 for the Early Learning Coalition.

6 MS. WELLER: Thank you.

7 MS. FERRADAZ: Recusal, Ferradaz. I'm on
8 the board of the Early Learning Coalition.

9 MS. WELLER: Thank you. Any discussion?
10 Hearing none. All those in favor?

11 BOARD MEMBERS Aye.

12 MS. WELLER: Opposed? The motion carries.
13 And I turn it back over to you.

14 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you Ms. Weller.
15 Resolution 202326, authorization to negotiate
16 and execute a contract with Redlands Christian
17 Migrant Association, RCMA, for local match
18 funding to draw down federal state funds to
19 subsidized early childcare, in a total amount
20 not to exceed \$102,000, for a term of 12-months,
21 commencing October 1st, 2023, and ending
22 September 30th, 2024. May I have a motion
23 please?

24 MS. GIMENEZ: --

25 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: And a second?

1 MS. FERRADAZ: Second, Ferradaz.

2 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you, Ferradaz.

3 Are there any recusals? And we are open for
4 discussion, comments from the board. Hearing
5 none. All those in favor?

6 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

7 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Are there any opposed?
8 The resolution carries. Resolution 202327,
9 authorization to negotiate and execute a
10 contract with the University of Miami, Nova
11 Southeastern University, UM, NSU, Center for
12 Autism and Related Disabilities, CARD, for
13 Autism Spectrum Disorders, ASD, Diagnostic Elem
14 -- pardon me -- Evaluation Services, in a total
15 amount not to exceed \$264,000 for a term of 12-
16 months, commencing October 1st, 2023, and ending
17 September 30th, 2024. May I have a motion
18 please?

19 HON. GERSTEIN: --

20 MS. GIMENEZ: Thank you. Are there any --
21 and a second?

22 MS. WELLER: Weller.

23 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you, Karen. Are
24 there any recusals? Hearing none. The floor is
25 open for discussion. Feedback from the

1 committee, from the board? Hearing none. All
2 those in favor?

3 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

4 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Are there any opposed?

5 The resolution carries. Resolution 202328,

6 authorization to negotiate and execute a

7 contract renewal with the University of Miami

8 Miller School of Medicine, UM, in an amount not

9 to exceed \$1,500,000, for comprehensive early

10 intervention services for children with mild

11 developmental delays who do not meet eligibility

12 requirements for the Individuals with Disability

13 Education Act, IDEA, parts Part B or C, for a

14 term of 12-months, commencing October 1st, 2023,

15 and ending September 30th, 2024. May I have a

16 motion please?

17 MS. GIMENEZ: --

18 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: And a second?

19 MR. BAGNER: --

20 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Are there any recusals?

21 The floor is open for discussion or feedback

22 from the board.

23 MS. GIMENEZ: I'd just like to make a quick

24 comment. This is another area that I think is

25 so necessary, children, especially because we're

1 not identifying them, they may be
2 developmentally delayed and could fall later on
3 into special education.

4 If we catch them early, we could, a good
5 portion of those children could become regular
6 average students and I think early intervention
7 is a key component of any program for children
8 in any area. So, I'm glad that we are
9 supporting this as well.

10 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you, Lourdes.
11 Further comments from the board? Hearing none.
12 All those in favor?

13 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

14 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Are there any opposed?
15 The resolution carries. And our final
16 resolution for today, resolution 202329,
17 authorization to amend resolution number 202224,
18 and the current contract with United Way of
19 Miami-Dade, for services from October 1st, 2022,
20 to September 30th, 2023, to increase the
21 contract amount by \$100,000 for a new total
22 contract amount of \$1,100,000 for the purpose of
23 supporting staff retention. May I have a motion
24 please?
25

1 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Thank you. And a
2 second?

3 MS. FERRADAZ: Second, Ferradaz.

4 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Are there any recusals?
5 Mary Donworth. And the floor is open for
6 discussion, feedback from the board? Hearing
7 none. All those in favor?

8 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

9 MS. HOLLINGSWORTH: Are there any opposed?
10 The resolution carries. Sending it back to you,
11 Mr. Chair.

12 MR. HOFFMAN: Thank you. I think it shows
13 also what important work at the committee level
14 is, because I know that having attended the
15 program -- the services on the childhood health
16 committee that there was a little more
17 discussion than there is at the board level, but
18 thank you everybody for your participation.
19 With that, I will turn it over to our CEO Jim
20 Haj for CEO report.

21 MR. HAJ: Mr. Chair, thank you. And I just
22 wanted to point out with Reso 2021 and 26, are a
23 3.6 million investment, and drew down about 28
24 million dollars from the federal and state
25 government, so, it's a great way to get

1 additional dollars here into Miami. The
2 quarterly CEO reports on page 46, as well as the
3 great work the communications team's doing with
4 the monthly media report, celebrating our 20-
5 year.

6 And in front of you, I think it's in front
7 of you, you should have all seen the community
8 newspaper had a special addition 20-years that
9 hit the streets last week. Very proud of the
10 work that the Trust has done and the
11 communications team to get the word out to the
12 community. At programs, I think finance as
13 well, the Miami International Child and
14 Adolescent Mental Health Conference is coming up
15 February 8th to 10th, we ask many of our board
16 members, those who RSVP'd will be getting in
17 touch with you and getting you that information.
18 And the board retreat is right around the corner
19 Thursday, February 23rd. We encourage all the -
20 - and we -- as Ken said, we know how busy your
21 schedules are, February 23rd from 8:30 a.m. to
22 12:30. This is our one time a year to sit down
23 to set the goals for the year to give staff
24 direction.

25 So, we'd greatly appreciate all the board

1 members to be in attendance. February's the
2 board retreat, and the next board meeting is
3 going to be March, and if we can ask you, and
4 we'll give you notification, if you can come a
5 little bit ear earlier, we're going to bring our
6 mobile units, our mobile health units across the
7 street and park them, so those you'll be seeing,
8 but we want you to see the mobile units. We
9 have the injury prevention, the pediatric, the
10 hearing division, so we want to bring all the
11 buses here across the street so the board
12 members do a walk-through and see them before
13 the board meeting. And Mr. Chair, I believe
14 that is it for me. Thank you.

15 MR. HOFFMAN: Okay. Thank everybody for
16 their attendance and the meeting is adjourned.
17 (Thereupon, the meeting adjourned at 4:43 p.m.)
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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIPTION

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

RUBY BERRIOS, Transcriber

February 7, 2023