



## Program Services and Childhood Health Committee Meeting

Thursday, July 6, 2017

3250 S.W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue (Coral Way)

United Way - Ryder Room

3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

### Board of Directors

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Chair

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Vice Chair

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Karla Hernandez-Mats

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Pamela Hollingsworth

Steve Hope

Esther Jacobo

Tiombe Bisa Kendrick-Dunn

Inson Kim

Marissa Leichter

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Marta Pérez, Ph.D.

Judge Orlando Prescott

Hon. Isaac Salver

Com. Xavier L Suarez

Mark Trowbridge

Karen Weller

David Lawrence Jr.  
Founding Chair

James R. Haj  
President & CEO

County Attorney's Office  
Legal Counsel

### AGENDA

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

Pamela Hollingsworth  
*Chair*

3:40 p.m. **Public Comments**

Pamela Hollingsworth  
*Chair*

3:45 p.m. **Approval of June 8, 2017 Program Services & Childhood Health Committee minutes summary**  
*(Additional items packet, Pg. 2)*

Pamela Hollingsworth  
*Chair*

4:00 p.m. **Resolutions**

Pamela Hollingsworth  
*Chair*

**Resolution 2017-A:** Authorization for the President/CEO to accept a \$93,600.00 contribution from Miami Beach Chamber Foundation, the fiscal agent for the City of Miami Beach and neighboring municipalities, to negotiate with Borinquen Medical Health Center, a funded school health provider, to provide behavioral health enhancements in all eight Miami Beach Public Schools for a term of nine months, commencing October 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018. *(Pgs. 3-4)*

**Resolution 2017-B:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a third year contract renewal with Miami Children's Initiative (MCI) for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2017 and ending September 30, 2018, in an amount not to exceed \$235,000.00. *(Pgs. 5-7)*

**Resolution 2017-C:** Authorization to negotiate and execute contract amendments to extend the 2017-18 Quality Counts contract year through July 31, 2018 for seven contracts and three purchase orders, and to increase funding for the month services are being extended, in order to align the contracts with the competitive solicitation funding cycles anticipated to begin August 1, 2018, in a total amount not to exceed \$772,955.00. *(Pgs. 8-19)*

5:15 p.m. **CEO Report**

James R. Haj  
*President/CEO*

5:30 p.m. **Adjourn**

### Reminder:

**Next Committee Meeting: Thursday, August 3, 2017**

The public is allowed to comment before presentation of resolutions but must register with the Clerk of the Board prior to being allowed to comment.



## **Programs & Childhood Health Committee Committee Meeting Summary**

**June 8, 2017  
3:35 – 4:05 p.m.**

**These actions were taken by the Program & Childhood Health Committee on June 8, 2017:**

**Motion to approve the May 4, 2017 Program Services and Childhood Health Committee meeting minutes was made by Rodester Brandon and seconded by Karen Weller. Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.**

**Resolution 2017-A: Motion to recommend the resolution to the Board of Directors on May 22, 2017 was made by Rodester Brandon and seconded by Karen Weller.** Authorization to negotiate and execute a one year contract with Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, for a local funding match for cultural arts programs. The contract shall extend for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2017 and ending September 30, 2018, in a total amount not to exceed \$1,245,328.00. **Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.**

**Resolution 2017-B: Motion to recommend the resolution to the Board of Directors on May 22, 2017 was made by Rodester Brandon and seconded by Karen Weller.** Authorization to negotiate and execute a second and final contract with Catalyst Miami, Inc., to manage the small Community Based Organizations (CBO) capacity building initiative. Contract renewal to be for a term of 13 months, commencing July 1, 2017 and ending July 31, 2018, in a total amount not to exceed \$200,000.00. **Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.**

**Resolution 2017-C: Motion to recommend the resolution to the Board of Directors on May 22, 2017 was made by Rodester Brandon and seconded by Tiombe Bisa Kendrick-Dun.** Authorization to negotiate and execute a second and final contract with 21 small Community Based Organizations (CBOs) to continue participation in a two year capacity building initiative. Each small CBO receives an award to support an individualized capacity-building plan. Amounts awarded will range from \$20,000.00 to \$50,000.00. Contract renewals will be for a term of up to 12 months, commencing August 1, 2017 and ending July 31, 2018, in a total amount not to exceed \$585,000.00. **Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.**

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

## The Children's Trust Board Meeting

Date: July 10, 2017

Resolution: 2017-A

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**Strategic Plan Priority Investment Area:** Health and Wellness.

**Strategic Plan Headline Community Result(s):** Children regularly access medical, dental, and behavioral health services.

**Recommended Action:** Authorization for the President/CEO to accept a \$93,600.00 contribution from Miami Beach Chamber Foundation, the fiscal agent for the City of Miami Beach and neighboring municipalities, to negotiate with Borinquen Medical Health Center, a funded school health provider, to provide behavioral health enhancements in all eight Miami Beach Public Schools for a term of nine months, commencing October 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018.

**Budget Impact:** This item is cost neutral because it is contingent upon receiving \$93,600.00 in external funding from Miami Beach Chamber Foundation, Inc.

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**Background:** In 2013, the Miami Beach Chamber Education Foundation ("The Foundation") spearheaded an effort with several community stakeholders to create a health task force. The Foundation sought guidance from the three HealthConnect partners (The Children's Trust, Miami-Dade Health Department, Miami-Dade County Public Schools) and other school health stakeholders to develop a plan of action to address the healthcare needs of students attending the eight Miami Beach public schools (North Beach Elementary School, Treasure Island Elementary School, Ruth K. Broad K-8 Center, Miami Beach Senior High School, Nautilus Middle School, Feinberg-Fisher Elementary School, Biscayne Elementary School, and South Pointe Elementary School).

The Children's Trust was responsible for selecting the healthcare providers as well as managing and monitoring the health services provided at the schools. Three years ago, The Children's Trust selected Borinquen Medical Health Center, a participating member of the task force who responded to the bid request with matching funds to provide the behavioral health services.

The Foundation served as the fiscal agent in charge of collecting the funds from all the participating municipalities and dispersing such funds to The Children's Trust for the provision of behavioral health services at the eight schools.

**Description of Services:** The early implementation of the healthcare program focused on delivering nursing services enhancement, which was very successful. Two years ago, the Miami Beach health task force identified behavioral health as a priority and ultimately raised funds to staff the eight schools with two licensed mental health professionals to:

- Promote a wellness approach within each participating school by training various school staff members;
- Implement protocols that ensure behavioral screenings are administered briefly, efficiently, and respectfully;

- Support identified students and their families by linking them to appropriate clinical intervention and supportive services;
- Collaborate with various clinical teams at the participating schools and in the community; and
- Deliver culturally competent services and support systems.

These services will continue to be implemented during the 2017-18 school year starting October 1, 2017.

**Geographic Area:** City of Miami Beach, North Bay Village, the Town of Bay Harbor Islands, the Town of Surfside, and Bal Harbour Village.

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 10<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2017.**

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: July 10, 2017

Resolution: 2017-B

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**Strategic Plan Priority Investment Area:** Community Awareness and Advocacy, Cross-funder Collaboration

**Strategic Plan Headline Community Result(s):** Children attend quality child care; Children regularly access medical, dental and behavioral health care services; Children are supported by nurturing and involved parents; Children are ready for kindergarten; Students are succeeding academically; Children meet recommended levels of physical activity; Children behave appropriately in schools, homes and communities; Youth successfully transition to adulthood.

**Recommended Action:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a third year contract renewal with Miami Children's Initiative (MCI) for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2017 and ending September 30, 2018, in an amount not to exceed \$235,000.00.

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**Budget Impact:** Funding is projected to be available in FY 2017-18.

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**Background:** Since the Fall of 2015, The Children's Trust has worked with other funders, which currently include Key Biscayne Community Foundation, Himan Brown Charitable Trust, and Citi Community Development, in support of Miami Children's Initiative (MCI). This collaboration includes shared performance measures and reports, and the exchange of resources that strengthen the infrastructure of MCI and support its provision of a cradle-to-career strategy for children and families in the Liberty City community. This joint effort provides resources and support in a more efficient manner for all involved and results in: a) increased quality programming for children and families; b) improved data collection focused on a common set of performance measures; c) comprehensive strategic planning; d) greater accessibility to community resources; and, e) additional individual donor investments.

**Description of services:** Utilizing the framework of the Harlem Children's Zone, MCI is a place-based cradle-to-career initiative that seeks to facilitate and catalyze effective, sustainable transformation in a targeted area of Liberty City known as MCI's Impact Zone. MCI offers a variety of care programs and services to children across the age spectrum, including: after-school academic supports and enrichment programming for children (birth to 17 years of age); frequent community events that bring residents together as a form of community-building and resident engagement; parenting education courses designed to strengthen parenting skills; job training classes and job placement assistance that lead to workforce placement for parents; career and college track support for youth, young adults who might otherwise not receive these supports; health and wellness opportunities such as a fresh food cooperative, vegetable gardens, UFit Gym and a bike share program; and enhanced summer opportunities for children and youth through partnerships with Miami Children's Museum, the Seaquarium, Summer by the Sea, and Dibia Basketball Camp.

This year (through April of 2017), the collaboration has had the following notable results:

- Community Program
  - Expanded the MCI Impact Zone to include Lincoln Fields Apartments, an assisted housing complex with 214 units
  - Opened a second community space at Lincoln Fields (monthly visits average 450 residents) to complement the existing community space at Annie Coleman public housing complex (monthly visits average 380 residents)
- Early Childhood Programs and Parenting
  - Coordinating the Shared Services Alliance with 11 early learning programs, of which four are in Liberty City
  - 90% of MCI's young children ages 3 to 5 attend Head Start or VPK programs
- School-age Children's Programs
  - Charles R. Drew K-8 Center, located in MCI's Impact Zone, experienced a 29 point increase in the percentage of 3rd grade students reading at or above grade level – now at 53% of its 49 3rd grade students, up from 24% of students last year
  - 92% of MCI's 40 Promising Futures high school participants earned an A, B or C in English/Language Arts at the mid-point of the school year
- College & Career Development Program
  - 12 of MCI's graduating Miami Northwestern seniors have been accepted into and will be attending college this summer or fall
  - 224 residents received resume, employment preparation, and job search assistance, and 119 residents secured employment
- Health & Wellness Program
  - Opened a free community gym at Charles R. Drew K-8 Center for all residents
  - Providing Common Threads curriculum (healthy cooking and nutrition) weekly to an average of 170 three- to 11-year old children
  - Tracking BMIs on 200 children to see improvement
- Additional Investments for 2017-18 budget
  - Florida Early Comprehensive Childhood Systems Impact Grant (through Florida Association of Healthy Start Coalitions) of \$100,000.00

**Geographic Area:** Liberty City

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

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted **this**  
**10<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2017.**

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: July 10, 2017

Resolution: 2017-C

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**Strategic Plan Priority Investment Area:** Early Childhood Development (Quality Counts)

**Strategic Plan Headline Community Result(s):** Children attend quality child care; and are ready for kindergarten.

**Recommended Action:** Authorization to negotiate and execute contract amendments to extend the 2017-18 Quality Counts contract year through July 31, 2018 for seven contracts and three purchase orders, and to increase funding for the month services are being extended, in order to align the contracts with the competitive solicitation funding cycles anticipated to begin August 1, 2018, in a total amount not to exceed \$772,955.00.

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**Budget Impact:** Funding is projected to be available in FY 2017-18.

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**Description of Services:** Contracts related to Quality Counts are currently on a funding cycle that ends June 30, 2018 (current term for all contracts is 7/1/17-6/30/18). This resolution authorizes the extension of contract terms to July 31, 2018, increases the associated funding in the 2017-18 contract year, in the amounts noted in the following table. The purpose for the extension is to align the contract year with the new solicitation funding cycles and ensure that there are no gaps in services.

Quality Counts Initiative Component	Provider	Current Annual Contract Amount	Addition Authorized by Current Resolution	Total Amended Amount Not to Exceed
Administration	Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe	1,200,000.00	100,000.00	1,300,000.00
Support grants (part of administration)	Purchase order paid directly by The Trust	300,000.00	25,000.00	325,000.00
Professional development	Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe	3,000,000.00	250,000.00	3,250,000.00
Professional development	United Way of Miami-Dade	1,500,000.00	125,000.00	1,625,000.00
Administrators' institute	United Way of Miami-Dade	260,000.00	21,667.00	281,667.00
Career center training registry	The Children's Forum, Inc.	365,000.00	30,417.00	395,417.00
Career center scholarships	The Children's Forum, Inc.	278,450.00	23,204.00	301,654.00
Scholarships (part of career center)	Purchase order paid directly by The Trust	1,150,000.00	95,000.00	1,245,000.00
Wage incentives	The Children's Forum, Inc.	200,000.00	16,667.00	216,667.00
Wage incentive payments (part of wage incentives)	Purchase order paid directly by The Trust	1,042,000.00	86,000.00	1,128,000.00

**Background:** For a historical perspective, the resolutions approving these seven contracts and three associated purchase orders proposed for a one month extension are included as attachments to this resolution.

**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 10<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2017.**

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: March 13, 2017

Resolution: 2017-64

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**Strategic Plan Priority Investment Area:** Early Childhood Development, Child Care Quality Improvement

**Strategic Plan Headline Community Result(s):** Children attend quality child care; and children are ready for kindergarten

**Recommended Action:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a third and final contract renewal with the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe for the operation of Quality Counts, for a term of 12 months, commencing July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018, for a total amount not to exceed \$1,200,000.00, and to encumber \$300,000.00 to be used exclusively for Quality Counts support grants that will be issued by The Children's Trust, for a total amount of \$1,500,000.00 subject to approval for form and legal sufficiency.

**Budget Impact:** Funding is allocated for FY 2016-17 with a projected availability in FY 2017-18.

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**Description of services and current status:**

Quality Counts (QC), Miami-Dade County's quality rating and improvement system (QRIS) for early care and education (ECE) programs, is administered by The Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe (ELC). The ELC has been administering Quality Counts since 2008. During this time, it has satisfactorily, met all contractual requirements and responsibilities, including, but not limited to:

- Project management over the Quality Counts system and its partners;
- ECE program quality reviews for all participating programs;
- Data management;
- Coordination of support grants provision;
- Parental/consumer awareness; and
- Provision of community-wide early education trainings

In addition to the services listed above, the staffing and funding for this contract also include The Early Learning Coalition's responsibility to:

- Lead the statewide QRIS collaborative with 23 Early Learning Coalitions and three Children's Service Councils representing 23 counties;
- Provide oversight and funding for the Web-based Early Learning System (WELS) database;
- Oversee the work of Devereux of Florida which conducts observational assessments of over 250 ECE programs annually and maintains 94% to 100% reliability across its assessors;
- Coordinate a QC Provider Advisory Committee; and
- Coordinate provision of support grants for early care and education providers; over 75 applications approved to date this year

During the upcoming contract year, the ELC will shift the allocation of supports to focus more heavily on low income neighborhoods. To date there are 396 programs participating in Quality Counts, of which 324, or 82 percent, are priority programs. Priority programs are those located in a low income census tract or serving 30 percent or more children receiving a school readiness subsidy.

**Background:**

In 2004, The Children's Trust Board of Directors voted to establish Quality Counts, a quality rating and improvement system (QRIS) for early care and education programs that aims to increase the quality of child care and in turn improve children's readiness for school. Quality Counts provides support to early care and education programs around teacher education, training, and retention; quality of the classroom environment and curriculum; and program administration.

The Quality Counts system initiative was implemented in 2007. As of January 2016, it has served over 420 child care programs, representing 30 percent of all such programs in Miami-Dade County, along with nearly 4,500 practitioners and over 26,000 children. Quality Counts continues to increase focus on programs in low income neighborhoods and serving low-income children.

The long-term goals of Quality Counts are to create a coherent, coordinated early childhood education system in the community and to improve children's readiness for school. Quality improvement of ECE programs is accomplished by ensuring child care programs are accountable, through a voluntary rating system based on nationally-recognized standards, for program quality, incentivizing ongoing professional development among early care and education practitioners, supporting child care program improvement through financial and technical incentives, and educating consumers to demand quality programs for young children.

**Geographic Area:** Countywide.

The foregoing recommendation was offered by **Kenneth Hoffman** who moved its approval. The motion was seconded by **Judge Orlando Prescott** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

**Motion passed unanimously, 18-0.**

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted **this 13<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2017.**

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: March 13, 2017

Resolution: 2017-65

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**Strategic Plan Priority Investment Area:** Early Childhood Development, Child Care Quality Improvement

**Strategic Plan Headline Community Result(s):** Children attend quality child care; and children are ready for kindergarten

**Recommended Action:** Authorization to negotiate and execute two, third and final contract renewals with the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe and the United Way Center for Excellence for the program and professional development network of Quality Counts, for a term of 12 months, commencing July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018, in a total amount not to exceed \$4,500,000.00, subject to approval for form and legal sufficiency.

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**Budget Impact:** Amount of funding for this resolution allocated for FY 2016-17 with a projected availability in FY 2017-18.

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### Description of services and current status:

The program and professional development network services for Quality Counts early care and education (ECE) programs are provided by the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe (ELC) and the United Way Center for Excellence (UW).

During the current contract year, the ELC and UW satisfactorily met all contractual requirements and responsibilities for implementation of a coordinated program and professional development network for Quality Counts program participants, including, but not limited to, providing:

- On-site technical assistance and coaching;
- Director support through a community of practice;
- General ECE communities of practice;
- Accreditation supports; and
- Child behavioral health supports.

As a result of the services provided, the Quality Counts Program and Professional Development Network achieved the following:

- Early care and education programs have received multiple on-site coaching visits from their assigned Quality Improvement Specialist; over 10,000 hours of coaching have been provided to date this year;
- 158 children and their families received social emotional support services in the child's ECE program and in their homes;
- 185 teachers and directors have participated in Communities of Practice; 20 cohorts were offered to date; and
- Nine early care and education programs have achieved first time accreditation.

Additionally, the Quality Counts system is working to streamline supports and focus on neighborhoods most in need; particularly neighborhoods serving low income families and where few high quality child care options exist. In an effort to test and identify the most effective practices and supports for improving program quality in these neighborhoods, The Children's Trust, the ELC, UW and each of the Quality Counts partners are actively working to implement case studies this spring that will focus on different combinations of promising practices and supports that are currently provided. . This work is being led by the Quality Counts evaluation team at the University of Miami.

**Contracts for Renewal:**

AGENCY	AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED
Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe	\$3,000,000.00
United Way Center for Excellence	\$1,500,000.00

**Background:**

In 2004, The Children's Trust Board of Directors voted to establish Quality Counts, a quality rating and improvement system (QRIS) for early care and education programs that aims to increase the quality of child care and in turn improve children's readiness for school. Quality Counts provides support to early care and education programs around teacher education, training, and retention; quality of the classroom environment and curriculum; and program administration.

The Quality Counts system initiative was implemented in 2007. As of January 2016, it has served over 420 child care programs, representing 30 percent of all such programs in Miami-Dade County, along with nearly 4,500 practitioners and over 26,000 children. Quality Counts continues to increase focus on programs in low income neighborhoods and serving low-income children.

The long-term goals of Quality Counts are to create a coherent, coordinated early childhood education system in the community and to improve children's readiness for school. Quality improvement of ECE programs is accomplished by ensuring child care programs are accountable, through a voluntary rating system based on nationally-recognized standards, for program quality, incentivizing ongoing professional development among early care and education practitioners, supporting child care program improvement through financial and technical incentives, and educating consumers to demand quality programs for young children.

**Geographic Area:** Countywide.

The foregoing recommendation was offered by **Kenneth Hoffman** who moved its approval. The motion was seconded by **Mark Trowbridge** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

**Motion passed, 15-0. Recusals by Claudia Grillo,  
Dr. Daniel Bagner, and Dr. Antonia Eyssallenne.**

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted **this 13<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2017.**

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: March 13, 2017

Resolution: 2017-66

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**Strategic Plan Priority Investment Area:** Early Childhood Development, Child Care Quality Improvement

**Strategic Plan Headline Community Result(s):** Children attend quality child care; and children are ready for kindergarten

**Recommended Action:** Authorization to negotiate and execute three contract renewals with The Children's Forum: 1) up to \$365,000.00 for the administration of a professional development registry; 2) up to \$278,450.00 for the management of scholarships and the Quality Counts Career Center and for The Children's Trust to encumber a Purchase Order for scholarships in the amount of \$1,150,000.00; and 3) up to \$200,000.00 for the administration of a wage incentive program for the education and employment stability of child care practitioners and for The Children's Trust to encumber a Purchase Order in the amount of \$1,042,000.00 for wage incentive payments, each for a term of 12 months, commencing July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018, in a combined total amount not to exceed \$3,035,450.00, subject to approval for form and legal sufficiency.

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**Budget Impact:** Funding is allocated for FY 2016-17 with a projected availability in FY 2017-18.

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### Description of services and current status:

#### Administration of a Professional Development Registry (PDR):

The PDR is a data management system for tracking the size and accomplishments of the Quality Counts workforce, which include educational achievements, career advising activities, and scholarships. This system provides a vehicle for answering key questions about the workforce such as trends and distribution across settings, training and levels of education, workplace conditions and compensation, and diversity and longevity of the workforce. **There are currently more than 3,600 active practitioners in the PDR.** The data system also produces records to validate and verify qualifications or ongoing professional development for licensing, program accreditation, wage incentives, and credentials. Funding for the PDR contract will not exceed \$365,000.00.

#### Key Components to be delivered include:

- Maintenance of the data management system.
- Maintenance of a website for practitioners with on-line community training calendar of classes as well as information about local education institutions and their training and education programs.
- Verification of all educational and continuing education records submitted by practitioners.
- Management of all data for the staff qualifications component of the Quality Counts quality rating and improvement system, including producing a comprehensive Workforce Report.

### **Administration of scholarships:**

The Career Center helps teachers working in centers and family child care homes access educational opportunities through scholarships. Research has identified a strong association between credentialed practitioners and high-quality programs, while high quality programs have been found to positively impact children's school readiness. **Since the inception of Quality Counts 84% of teaching staff who did not have a Florida Staff Credential now have one.** In addition, teachers with higher educational attainment are more likely to earn better wages. Teaching staff that have 18+ early childhood credits can expect to earn **\$1.17** more per hour while staff with a college degree could earn **\$1.50** more per hour than their peers. Funding under this contract for the administration of scholarships will not exceed \$278,450.00.

Key Components to be delivered include:

- Provision of information and support to child care staff participating in Quality Counts.
- Administration of the Quality Counts educational scholarship program. Scholarships are awarded for credit bearing and Continuing Education Units (CEU) coursework, conferences, credentials, training and translations. Scholarship dollars are providing this service. **During the previous contract year, 2,069 practitioners at 341 programs accepted 2,603 scholarships.**
- Lead local collaborative efforts to support an emerging Early Childhood Education (ECE) professional development system, engaging educational institutions and community agencies in data analysis and planning to meet the needs of Miami-Dade County early childhood practitioners, and working with the state Office of Early Learning (OEL) to coordinate activities in Miami-Dade County with emerging statewide activities.

### **Administration of wage incentive program for child care practitioners:**

Provision of a wage subsidy and incentive program is intended to help programs attract and retain more educated practitioners. Higher practitioner wages have been linked to program retention, while staff stability has been shown to allow programs to successfully carry out quality improvement over time. In addition, children benefit from establishing long-term relationships with caregivers they know and whom they can form trusting relationships, which is an element critical to optimal learning and development. Research shows the competencies and stability of teachers and program directors are directly related to children's development and learning gains. Research has also shown that preschool works to narrow the achievement gap when teachers are highly qualified and well paid. Funding under this contract for the administration of the wage incentive program for child care practitioners will not exceed \$200,000.00.

Currently, **778 practitioners in 207 programs are receiving wage supplements.** These practitioners have a **turnover rate of 10%** (compared to a median turnover rate of approximately 20% for all Quality Counts programs). More than 85% of practitioners who participate in the wage supplement program for two or more years improve their education level by one level or already have an AA degree in child development or higher.

Key Components to be delivered include:

- Manage the entire program with counselors who meet with participants and center directors, review eligibility for payments, verify credentials and discuss with teachers ways they can ascend the salary scale.
- Maintain accurate records and submit detailed check requests.

**Background:**

In 2004, The Children's Trust Board of Directors voted to establish Quality Counts, a quality rating and improvement system (QRIS) for early care and education programs that aims to increase the quality of child care and in turn improve children's readiness for school. Quality Counts provides support to early care and education programs around teacher education, training, and retention; quality of the classroom environment and curriculum; and program administration.

The Quality Counts system initiative was implemented in 2007. As of January 2016, it has served over 420 child care programs, representing 30 percent of all such programs in Miami-Dade County, along with nearly 4,500 practitioners and over 26,000 children. Quality Counts continues to increase focus on programs in low income neighborhoods and serving low-income children.

The long-term goals of Quality Counts are to create a coherent, coordinated early childhood education system in the community and to improve children's readiness for school. Quality improvement of ECE programs is accomplished by ensuring child care programs are accountable, through a voluntary rating system based on nationally-recognized standards, for program quality, incentivizing ongoing professional development among early care and education practitioners, supporting child care program improvement through financial and technical incentives, and educating consumers to demand quality programs for young children.

**Geographic Area:** Countywide.

The foregoing recommendation was offered by **Rodester Brandon** who moved its approval. The motion was seconded by **Dr. Daniel Bagner** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

**Motion passed unanimously, 18-0.**

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted **this 13<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2017.**

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: March 13, 2017

Resolution: 2017-67

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**Strategic Plan Priority Investment Area:** Early Childhood Development, Child Care Quality Improvement

**Strategic Plan Headline Community Result(s):** Children attend quality child care; and children are ready for kindergarten

**Recommended Action:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract renewal for the second year of the contract cycle, with the United Way of Miami-Dade for the administration of the Early Childhood Program Administrators Institute (ECPAI), for a term of 12 months, commencing July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018, in a total amount not to exceed \$260,000.00, subject to approval for form and legal sufficiency.

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**Budget Impact:** Funding is allocated for FY 2016-17 with a projected availability in FY 2017-18.

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**Description of services to be provided:**

This contract renewal with United Way will provide key Early Childhood Program Administrators Institute (ECPAI) elements which include: English and Spanish cohorts of series of three, college credit courses comprising the coursework for the FL Advanced Child Care Director Credential; Continuous Education Unit (CEU) bearing series of courses mirroring credit course content; specialized consultation that enhances coursework in areas according to participant's assessed needs; use of the Program Administration Scale (PAS) and Business Administration Scale (BAS) as measures of sustained application of coursework to practice; evidence-based trainings in topics including cultural competency, technology, marketing, finance, assessment and screeners; and, continuous, evidence-based, improvement of the ECPAI program.

ECPAI graduates emerge with stronger leadership skills and an increased understanding of how quality is measured and how it affects their business. Participants also enhance and update their knowledge and practice in instructional leadership, such as early literacy and intentional interactions. Finally, ECPAI participants clarify how their engagement with families and staff and their preparation of children for later successes fulfill their roles as community change agents.

**Background:**

Quality Counts, designed and funded by The Children's Trust in partnership with the ELC, was established to improve the quality of Miami-Dade County's Early Childhood Education programs and to professionalize Early Childhood Education practitioners by:

- 1) Establishing accountability for voluntary standards of high quality ECE;
- 2) Building the professional capacity of ECE providers and practitioners;
- 3) Ensuring high quality ECE is more widely accessible to children birth to five; and
- 4) Influencing consumer demand for high quality ECE services.

The knowledge and competence of child care program directors is linked by research to higher quality programs poised to result in better child outcomes. Therefore, increasing director competence is a critical activity of the professional development work of Quality Counts. Building up the abilities of program directors supports the larger goal of raising child care quality sufficiently to improve child outcomes.

**Current Status:**

Provision of targeted capacity building for child care center directors working in child care centers and family child care homes to improve their program administration knowledge and skills. At the completion of the yearlong institute, Directors have the necessary competencies to apply for the Advanced Director's credential. Since the inception of Quality Counts, 32% of program sites whose director did not have an Advance Director Credential have attained one. The knowledge and competence of child care program directors is linked by research to higher quality programs poised to result in better child outcomes.

During the first seven years of implementation, 670 child care directors/owners have completed the program. For contract year 2015-16, 93 child care directors/owners have received at least 96 hours of coursework and mentoring, and 87% realized improvement in effective ECE program leadership and management.

**Geographic Area:** Countywide.

The foregoing recommendation was offered by **Lily de Moya** who moved its approval. The motion was seconded by **Gilda Ferradaz** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

**Motion passed, 17-0. Recusal by Claudia Grillo.**

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted **this 13<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2017.**

THE CHILDREN'S TRUST  
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY \_\_\_\_\_

SECRETARY

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