



**Program Svcs & Childhood Health Committee Meeting**  
Thursday, March 4, 2021  
3250 S.W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue (Coral Way)  
United Way – Ryder Room  
**“Virtual Meeting via Zoom Webinar”**  
3:30 p.m. – 5 :30 p.m.

Board of Directors

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County Attorney's Office  
Legal Counsel

**AGENDA**

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

Pamela Hollingsworth  
*Committee Chair*

3:35 p.m. **Public Comments**

Pamela Hollingsworth  
*Committee Chair*

3:40 p.m. **Approval of January 7, 2021 Program Svcs. & Childhood Health Committee minutes summary**  
*(Addl. Items packet, Pgs. 4-5)*

Pamela Hollingsworth  
*Committee Chair*

3:45 p.m. **Resolutions**

Pamela Hollingsworth  
*Committee Chair*

**Resolution 2021-A:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract with the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe for an amount not to exceed \$10,000,000.00 for the disbursement of slot payments to early learning programs for The Children's Trust Child Scholarship program, and for The Children's Trust to encumber a purchase order in the amount of \$10,000,000.00 for high-quality tiered payment differentials, in a total amount not to exceed \$20,000,000.00 for a term of 15 months, commencing July 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022. *(Pgs. 6-9)*

**Resolution 2021-B:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract renewal with United Way of Miami-Dade to provide early childhood development supports for an ongoing, observation-based assessment system for young children, in a total amount not to exceed \$1,166,667.00 for a term of 14 months, commencing August 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022, with one remaining 12-month renewal, subject to annual funding appropriations. *(Pgs. 10-12)*

**Resolution 2021-C:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract renewal with the University of Miami (UM) in a total amount not to exceed \$3,500,000.00, to provide infant and early childhood mental health consultation (I/ECMHC) services, for a term of 14 months, commencing August 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022, with one remaining 12-month renewal, subject to annual funding appropriations. *(Pgs. 13-15)*

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.

**Resolution 2021-D:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract with the Children’s Forum for the administration of the Child Care INCENTIVE\$ Florida (formerly known as WAGE\$ Florida) program for the education and employment stability of child care practitioners for a term of 12 months commencing October 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$250,000.00; and authorization for The Children’s Trust to encumber a new purchase order in the amount of \$1,990,000.00 for wage supplement payments, in a total amount not to exceed \$2,240,000.00 *(Pgs. 16-17)*

**Resolution 2021-E:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract renewal with the Children’s Forum for an amount not to exceed \$600,000.00 for the management of the Early Learning Career Center, and for The Children’s Trust to expend up to \$1,000,000.00 for educator scholarships, in a total amount not to exceed \$1,600,000.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022, with one remaining 12-month renewal, subject to annual funding appropriations. *(Pgs. 18-19)*

**Resolution 2021-F:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract renewal with the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine (UM) in an amount not to exceed \$1,516,667.00 for comprehensive early intervention services for children with mild developmental delays who do not meet eligibility requirements for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) parts B or C, for a term of 14 months, commencing August 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022, with one remaining 12 month renewal, subject to annual funding appropriations. *(Pgs. 20- 21)*

**Resolution 2021-G:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract with the University of Miami-Nova Southeastern University (UM-NSU) Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) for autism spectrum disorders (ASD) diagnostic evaluation services, in a total amount not to exceed \$264,000.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022. *(Pgs. 22-23)*

**Resolution 2021-H:** Authorization to negotiate and execute contract renewals with six providers for comprehensive school-based health services, each for a term of 12 months, commencing July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2022, in a combined total amount not to exceed \$16,250,000.00, with one additional 12-month renewal, 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 (LIP). *(Pgs. 24-27)*

**Resolution 2021-I:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract with Nova Southeastern University for capacity building for school nurses focused on oral health screening, prevention and referrals, in a total amount not to exceed \$312,500.00 for a term of 15 months commencing, July 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022. *(Pgs. 28-29)*

**Resolution 2021-J:** 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, 2021, and ending June 30, 2022, in a total amount not to exceed \$400,000.00. *(Pgs. 30-31)*

**Resolution 2021-K:** Authorization to negotiate and execute contract renewals with three providers identified herein, to deliver oral health preventive services, in a total amount not to exceed \$639,350.00 for a term of 14 months, commencing August 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022, with one remaining 12-month renewal. *(Pgs. 32-33)*

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.

**Resolution 2021-L:** Authorization to negotiate and execute contract renewals with five providers, identified herein, to deliver public benefits enrollment, in a total amount not to exceed \$852,542.00, for a term of 14 months, commencing August 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022, with one remaining 12-month renewal, subject to annual funding appropriations. *(Pgs. 34-37)*

5:25 p.m. **CEO Report**

James R. Haj  
*President/CEO*

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

**Reminder:**  
**Next Committee Meeting: Thursday, April 8, 2021**

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.



**Program Services & Childhood Health Committee Meeting  
Summary of Actions Taken  
January 7, 2021  
3:30 p.m.**

**These actions were taken by the Program Services & Childhood Health Committee meeting held on January 7, 2021, with a quorum of members physically present and some members attending virtually:**

**\*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 October 8, 2020 Program Services & Childhood Health Committee meeting minutes was made by Mary Donworth and seconded by Dr. Tiombe Bisa Kendrick-Dunn. Motion passed unanimously, 11-0.**

**Motion to recommend to the Board of Directors on January 19, 2021 the authorization for The Children's Trust to apply for the Racial Equity 2030 Challenge issued by W.K. Kellogg Foundation and Lever for Change was made by Tiombe Bisa Kendrick-Dunn and seconded by Pastor Richard Dunn. Motion passed unanimously, 12-0.**

**Resolution 2021-A: Motion to recommend the resolution to the Board of Directors on January 19, 2021 was made by Tiombe Bisa Kendrick-Dunn and seconded by Dr. Daniel Bagner.** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract with Miami-Dade County, Community Action and Human Services Department (CAHSD), for match funding for the federal Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership (EHS-CCP) grant, in a total amount not to exceed \$991,667.00, for a term of 14 months, commencing August 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022. **Motion passed unanimously, 12-0.**

**Resolution 2021-B: Motion to recommend the resolution to the Board of Directors on January 19, 2021 was made by Pastor Richard Dunn and seconded by Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall.** Authorization to negotiate and execute contracts with the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe in an amount not to exceed \$758,333.00 and the United Way of Miami-Dade in an amount not to exceed \$408,333.00 for match funding for the federal Early Head Start- Child Care Partnership (EHS-CCP) grant, in a total amount not to exceed \$1,166,666.00 for a term of 14 months, commencing August 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022. **Motion passed, 10-0. Recusals by Mary Donworth and Pamala Hollingsworth.**

**Resolution 2021-C: Motion to recommend the resolution to the Board of Directors on January 19, 2021 was made by Tiombe Bisa Kendrick-Dunn and seconded by Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall.** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract with the United Way of Miami-Dade for match funding for the federal Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership (EHS-CCP) grant, in a total amount not to exceed \$490,000.00 for a term of 14 months, commencing August 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022. **Motion passed, 11-0. Recusal by Mary Donworth.**

**Resolution 2021-D: Motion to recommend the resolution to the Board of Directors on January 19, 2021 was made by Tiombe Bisa Kendrick-Dunn and seconded by Dr. Daniel Bagner.** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract with the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe (ELC) for match funding for the State of Florida Child Care Executive Partnership (CCEP) grant, in a total amount not to exceed \$1,537,500.00 for a term of 15 months, commencing July 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022. **Motion passed, 11-0. Recusal by Pamela Hollingsworth.**

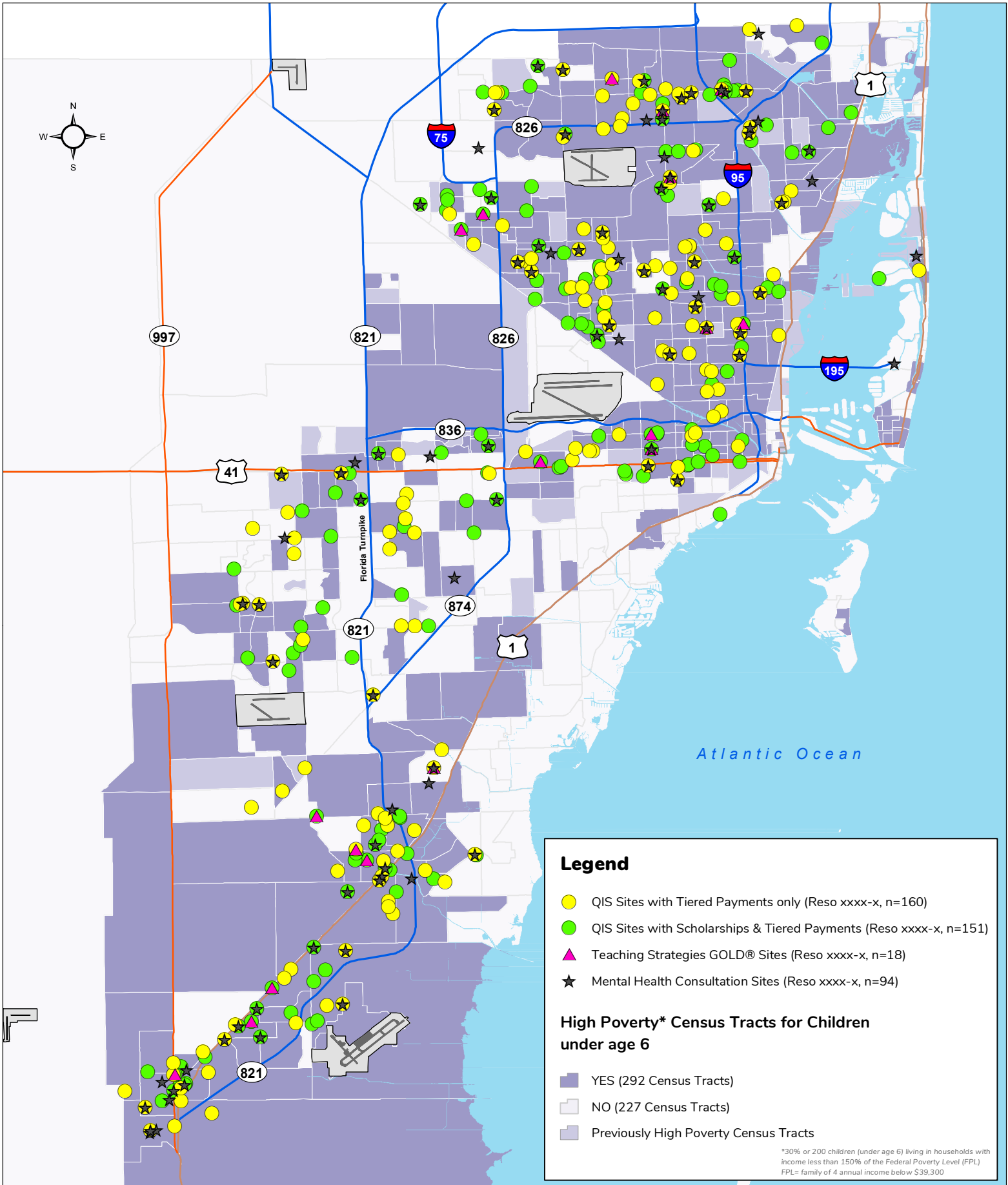
**Resolution 2021-E: Motion to recommend the resolution to the Board of Directors on January 19, 2021 was made by Pastor Richard Dunn and seconded by Karen Weller.** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract with Redlands Christian Migrant Association (RCMA) for local match funding to draw down federal-state funds to subsidize child care for the working poor, in a total amount not to exceed \$127,500.00, for a term of 15 months, commencing July 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2021. **Motion passed unanimously, 12-0.**

**Resolution 2021-F: Motion to recommend the resolution to the Board of Directors on January 19, 2021 was made by Laura Adams and seconded by Mary Donworth.** Authorization to negotiate and execute a one-time match contract with Voices For Children Foundation, Inc., in a total amount not to exceed \$95,000.00 for a term of 8 months, commencing February 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2021. **Motion passed unanimously, 12-0.**

**Resolution 2021-G: Motion to recommend the resolution to the Board of Directors on January 19, 2021 was made by Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall and seconded by Karen Weller.** Authorization to execute a contract amendment with Florida Introduces Physical Activity and Nutrition to Youth, Inc. (FLIPANY), to remove a subcontractor in Contract #2114-4450. **Motion passed unanimously, 12-0.**

**Resolution 2021-H: Motion to recommend the resolution to the Board of Directors on January 19, 2021 was made by Tiombe Bisa Kendrick-Dunn and seconded by Pastor Richard Dunn.** Authorization to release a Request for Qualification (RFQ) competitive solicitation for the development of The Children's Trust website. **Motion passed unanimously, 12-0.**

**Meeting adjourned at 4:01 p.m.**



# The Children’s Trust Board Meeting

**Date: March 15, 2021**

**Resolution: 2021-A**

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

**Strategic Plan Headline Community Results:** Children attend quality child care; and children are ready for kindergarten.

**Recommended Action:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract with the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe for an amount not to exceed \$10,000,000.00 for the disbursement of slot payments to early learning programs for The Children’s Trust Child Scholarship program, and for The Children’s Trust to encumber a purchase order in the amount of \$10,000,000.00 for high-quality tiered payment differentials, in a total amount not to exceed \$20,000,000.00 for a term of 15 months, commencing July 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022.

**Budget Impact:** Funding in the amount of \$20,000,000.00 for this resolution is allocated for FY 2020-21 and is projected to be available in FY 2021-22.

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**Description of Services:** As part of the Thrive by 5 quality improvement system (QIS), financial incentives to support high-quality services are available to early learning providers through tiered payment differentials and child care scholarships.

Per chapter 1002.82(n), Florida Statutes, the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe (ELC) categorizes programs into quality tiers, from one to five (lowest to highest quality), based on Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS®) assessments measuring teacher-child interactions. More than 200 studies demonstrate that children in classrooms with more effective teacher-student interactions, as measured by CLASS, have better social and academic outcomes, such as math, literacy, cognition, and classroom engagement. The Children’s Trust leverages state funding for the CLASS assessments through this coordinated approach.

With the purchase order encumbered through this resolution, programs at tiers two and above receive payment differentials for all children ages birth to 5 years attending their program (not only those receiving school readiness subsidies). Early learning providers receive a payment differential according to their quality tier. The tiered payment differential is additional funding on top of the base school readiness subsidy rate. The breakdown of differential payment percentages by quality tier level are noted in the following table.

<b>Tier 1</b>	<b>Tier 2</b>	<b>Tier 3</b>	<b>Tier 4</b>	<b>Tier 5</b>
None	3%	10%	12%	15%

The Early Learning Coalition manages the child care scholarship enrollment and payments to address early learning capacity issues in our community. Miami’s significant oversaturation of the child care market, coupled with low payment rates for children receiving school readiness subsidies, pose significant challenges for providers to meet and maintain high-quality standards. The Thrive by 5 QIS offers guaranteed payment for slots in high-quality programs to serve children not otherwise served by the school readiness program. The Children’s Trust child care scholarships help children who become ineligible for a school readiness subsidy during the school year, eligible families have incomes from 150 to 300 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. To date, 896 children have received a scholarship and are enrolled across 135 high-quality early learning programs.

The funding in this resolution will support more than 23,000 children in early learning programs. There are currently 312 programs participating in the Thrive by 5 QIS, and the distribution across quality tiers is shown in the table below.

Contract year	Number of Programs					Total
	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5	
2018-19	2	28	106	50	3	189
2019-20	3	45	131	88	8	275
2020-21	5	36	149	114	8	312

**Background:** The Thrive by 5 quality improvement system (QIS), strives to increase access to high-quality early learning for young children in high poverty neighborhoods. The QIS builds on prior Trust efforts, evaluation, and board policy guidance, and the state's early learning performance funding project. Using an equity lens, the QIS intervenes across systems to promote healthy development for children living in poverty by helping to build two-generational economic stability for families. Support of high-quality tiered payment differentials and child scholarship slot payments were strategies added to the QIS in late 2018.

Last year, Thrive by 5 QIS was recognized nationally as a Pacesetter community by the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading for the community solutions impact area of Meeting Fiscal Challenges. Our QIS was also highlighted in a national story about child care industry hurdles during COVID-19 by the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta.

Licensed child care programs that meet all the following criteria qualify to participate in the Thrive by 5 QIS.

- 1) 30+ percent of children under age 6 served receive a Florida school readiness subsidy.
- 2) Located in a high poverty area.
- 3) Provide services for infants and toddlers.

This contract’s funding amount is higher than the prior-year because the upcoming contract term is for 15 months to align with The Children’s Trust fiscal year. The annual funding allocation remains the same.

Florida Statute created the ELC to enact school readiness programs and administer federal, state and local funds allocated by the State Office of Early Learning (OEL) within the Department of Education for subsidized child care in Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties. The ELC has a contract with OEL to administer school readiness payments, Gold Seal payments, tiered payment differentials due to HB 1091, which was adopted on March 30, 2018, and became effective on July 1, 2018. As such, ELC is the sole entity responsible for determining eligibility and administering all state and federal child care payments to early learning providers. As such, and per The Children’s Trust’s procurement policy section 2000. General Purchasing and Procurement Policy, Exemptions to Formal Competitive Procurement Process (G-4, single- source purchases), a competitive solicitation is not required.

**Geographic Area:** High poverty areas across the county (see map).



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 **15<sup>th</sup> day of March 2021.**

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 15, 2021**

**Resolution: 2021-B**

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

**Strategic Plan Headline Community Results:** Children attend quality child care; children are supported by nurturing and involved parents; children are ready for kindergarten; and children behave appropriately in schools, homes and communities.

**Recommended Action:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract renewal with United Way of Miami-Dade to provide early childhood development supports for an ongoing, observation-based assessment system for young children, in a total amount not to exceed \$1,166,667.00 for a term of 14 months, commencing August 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022, with one remaining 12-month renewal, subject to annual funding appropriations.

**Budget Impact:** Funding in the amount of \$1,666,667.00 for this resolution is allocated for FY 2020-21 and is projected to be available for FY 2021-22.

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**Description of Services:** Through the Thrive by 5 early learning quality improvement system (QIS), The Children’s Trust aims to support better outcomes for young children and ensure their school readiness. The United Way of Miami-Dade (UW) will manage, coordinate and deliver high-quality, comprehensive Teaching Strategies GOLD® (GOLD®) training and support services for educators working at eligible early learning programs. GOLD® is a valid and reliable observation-based assessment system to measure children’s growth and development from birth through kindergarten. The primary purposes of GOLD® are to document children’s learning over time, inform instruction, and facilitate communication with families and other stakeholders.

UW is providing the following services as part of the GOLD® implementation plan:

- 1) phased rollout for early learning programs to include program readiness, a technological needs assessment, and cohort development;
- 2) create professional development plans for GOLD® assessment coaches;
- 3) provide training for early learning educators;
- 4) offer ongoing on-site coaching and technical assistance;
- 5) manage data systems; and
- 6) develop data dissemination process and feedback loops.

UW also subcontracts with Teaching Strategies, LLC to provide several of the service components. Support of GOLD® was a strategy added to the Thrive by 5 QIS in late 2018. The table below identifies the cohorts that are simultaneously receiving services both virtually and in-person.

<b>Contract Year</b>	<b>Programs</b>	<b>Teachers</b>	<b>Children</b>
2019-20- Cohort I	29	267	1,482
2020-21- Cohort II	22	109	692

Additionally, the following activities were conducted:

1. 51 program readiness and technology assessments;
2. eight specialized trainings and three Community of Practice sessions in English and Spanish for child care directors and teachers; and
3. more than 11 GOLD® trainings and courses completed by implementation coaches.

**Background:** High-quality early learning experiences benefit children’s school readiness and later life success. While these experiences positively affect all children, the most significant impact is for young children who are economically disadvantaged, resulting in a narrowing of the readiness or achievement gap when entering kindergarten. One of the most important outcomes of a quality early learning program is its ability to prepare children for kindergarten, which includes developing children’s basic skills in literacy, math and science, as well as their social and emotional development.

As a child assessment system, GOLD® is culturally and linguistically responsive. It is designed to assess the ongoing developmental learning of all young children, including English language learners and children with disabilities. GOLD® assesses developmental skills for 38 research-based objectives in the following 10 areas: Social-Emotional, Language, Physical, Cognitive, Literacy, Science and Technology, Mathematics, Social Studies, the Arts and English Language Acquisition. GOLD®’s objectives are aligned with Florida’s Early Learning and Developmental Standards for Birth to Kindergarten (2017).

The purpose and value of implementing GOLD® are to:

- 1) train teachers to link instructional curriculum with individual child assessment;
- 2) accurately evaluate children’s progress and conduct authentic observations;
- 3) inform program and classroom practice - such as learning processes, lesson planning and instruction to address the individual needs of children;
- 4) provide trend data to make decisions about the professional development needs of the early learning workforce;
- 5) measure child progress and provide child-level data to demonstrate children’s readiness for kindergarten;
- 6) inform communication with families about their children’s learning and developmental gains to ensure meaningful family engagement; and
- 7) improve experiences, learning outcomes, development and well-being of young children and their families in the community.

On January 22, 2019, The Children’s Trust board approved the funding recommendation from the request for proposals, RFP#2018-14, for early childhood development supports for an ongoing, observation-based assessment system for young children for a five-year funding cycle. Following a comprehensive review process, the UW demonstrated their capacity, expertise, and qualifications to provide the services.

This contract’s funding amount is higher than the prior year because the upcoming contract term is for 15 months to align with The Children’s Trust fiscal year. The annual funding allocation remains the same.

**Geographic Area:** High poverty areas across the county.

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 **15<sup>th</sup> day of March 2021.**

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 15, 2021

Resolution: 2021-C

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

**Strategic Plan Headline Community Results:** Children attend quality child care; children regularly access medical, dental and behavioral health care; children are supported by nurturing and involved parents; children are ready for kindergarten; and children behave appropriately in schools, homes and community.

**Recommended Action:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract renewal with the University of Miami (UM) in a total amount not to exceed \$3,500,000.00, to provide infant and early childhood mental health consultation (I/ECMHC) services, for a term of 14 months, commencing August 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022, with one remaining 12-month renewal, subject to annual funding appropriations.

**Budget Impact:** Funding in the amount of \$3,500,000.00 for this resolution is allocated for FY 2020-21 and is projected to be available in FY 2021-2022.

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**Description of Services:** As part of the Thrive by 5 early learning quality improvement system (QIS), The Children's Trust invests in infant and early childhood mental health consultation (I/ECMHC) to support children's social and emotional development. This is done by improving early care providers' capacity to address mental health needs and challenging behaviors. Consultants work with early childhood educators, directors, parents, and other caregivers. I/ECMHC consultants adhere to the following practice-based principles:

- relationship-based;
- collaborative;
- individualized;
- culturally and linguistically responsive;
- integrated with community services and supports;
- grounded in developmental knowledge;
- evidence-informed;
- data-driven;
- delivered in natural settings; and
- spans the continuum from promotion through intervention.

The Children's Trust adopted the nationally-recognized Georgetown model of I/ECMHC for providing support in school-based settings. The model was developed and evaluated by the Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development in conjunction with researchers and clinical experts across the country. It is an effective model to promote social-emotional development, effectively address young children's challenging behaviors and reduce preschool expulsions' need. The three core components of the model are:

- 1) a solid program infrastructure,
- 2) highly qualified mental health consultants,

Resolution 2021-C - Early Childhood Development: Early Intervention (University of Miami)  
March 15, 2021

### 3) high-quality early learning services.

UM operates the program and all licensed early learning programs in Miami-Dade County are eligible to receive services; however, programs participating in The Children's Trust Thrive by 5 Quality Improvement System are prioritized. From August 2019 through July 2020, UM served two cohorts for a cumulative number of 177 early learning programs, 168 administrators, 112 teachers, and 4 children and their families. Early learning programs received an average of 3 hours of consultation per week. UM partners with the following subcontractors to provide I/ECMHC services:

- Family Central, Inc.
- Community Health of South Florida, Inc.
- Jewish Community Services of South Florida, Inc.

In 2020, services were delivered remotely during the late spring and summer, and a COVID-19 online toolkit was developed and made available to administrators and teachers to support the children and families in their programs. UM provided supports for more than 200 parents and child care staff through online workshops, webinars, and peer support groups. On average, participants reported feeling better able to handle the difficulties they experienced due to COVID-19 because of these supports. UM also provided virtual professional development trainings for child care staff and supervisors on identifying signs of anxiety in young children and adults, and trainings on self-care, and building a resiliency plan.

Consultants work with early learning leadership staff to assess and improve structural issues, including policies, program philosophy and teacher professional development regarding expulsion and child social-emotional health. Classroom-level consultation is provided directly with teachers about how to best support children's social and emotional development and address challenging behaviors in their classrooms. Child and family consultation is offered with families and teachers to address factors that contribute to a child's challenging behaviors in an early childhood setting. Teachers are aided in developing supportive and appropriate communication with families.

Outcome achievement for the 2019-2020 contract year, based on pre/post-test comparisons, demonstrated significant improvement of:

- child care expulsion and suspension prevention policies;
- classroom promotion of optimal social-emotional development;
- teacher job-related stress;
- teacher self-efficacy; and
- teacher-child interactions.

**Background:** High-quality early learning experiences benefit children's school readiness and later life success. While these experiences positively affect all children, the most significant impact is for young children who are economically disadvantaged, resulting in a narrowing of the readiness or achievement gap when entering kindergarten. One of the most important outcomes of a quality early learning program is its ability to prepare children for kindergarten, which includes developing children's basic skills in literacy, math, and science, and their social and emotional development.

Research has linked children's social and emotional regulatory skills in kindergarten to later outcomes in adult life. Children who have difficulty with prosocial behaviors and social-emotional regulation early in life are more likely to experience adverse health and social problems later. They are less likely to obtain higher education and/or full-time employment and are more likely to have greater involvement with substance abuse and the law.

Support of I/ECMHC was a strategy added to the Thrive by 5 QIS in late 2018. On November 19, 2018, The Children's Trust board approved the funding recommendation from the competitive request for proposals, RFP#2018-11, for infant and early childhood mental health consultation, for a five-year funding cycle. Following a comprehensive review process, UM demonstrated their capacity, expertise, and qualifications to provide the services.

This contract's funding amount is higher than the prior--year because the upcoming contract term is for 14 months to align with The Children's Trust fiscal year. The annual funding allocation remains the same.

**Geographic Area:** High poverty areas across the county.

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 **15<sup>th</sup> day of March 2021.**

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 15, 2021**

**Resolution: 2021-D**

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

**Strategic Plan Headline Community Results:** Children attend quality child care; children are ready for kindergarten; and children behave appropriately in schools, homes & communities.

**Recommended Action:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract with the Children's Forum for the administration of the Child Care INCENTIVE\$ Florida (formerly known as WAGE\$ Florida) program for the education and employment stability of child care practitioners for a term of 12 months commencing October 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$250,000.00; and authorization for The Children's Trust to encumber a new purchase order in the amount of \$1,990,000.00 for wage supplement payments, in a total amount not to exceed \$2,240,000.00.

**Budget Impact:** Funding in the amount of \$2,240,000.00 for this resolution is projected to be available for FY 2021-22.

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**Description of Services:** As part of the Thrive by 5 initiative, The Children's Trust invests in the Child Care INCENTIVE\$ Florida program, which helps early learning programs in Miami-Dade County attract and retain more educated practitioners. Higher practitioner wages are linked to teacher retention and staff stability, markers of high-quality child care. Children benefit from stable relationships with caregivers they know and form trusting relationships. Teacher and program director competency and stability are directly related to children's optimal development and learning gains. Preschools with highly qualified and well-paid teachers are better equipped to narrow the achievement gap.

Currently, 1,073 practitioners working in 365 child care programs to date this year are receiving wage supplements from the Child Care INCENTIVE\$ Florida program in Miami-Dade County. Turnover among recipients was only 10 percent, compared with national average annual turnover rates for child care staff of approximately 30 percent. The average hourly rate of pay for INCENTIVE\$ participants is \$11.63, which is higher than the average rate of pay overall for early learning practitioners in Miami-Dade County of about \$10/hour. Last year's median educator annual award was \$1,125.00, a significant support for such a low-paid profession, particularly considering Miami-Dade County's high cost of living.

The Children's Trust contracts with the Children's Forum, in the amount of \$250,000.00 annually, to administer the program. A purchase order in the amount of \$1,990,000 is encumbered by The Children's Trust solely for the salary supplement payments. Key components to be delivered include:

- Management of the INCENTIVE\$ Florida program in Miami-Dade by counselors who meet with participants and center directors, review eligibility for payments, verify credentials and coach teachers on strategies to ascend the salary scale; and
- Maintenance of accurate records and submission of detailed check requests via The Children's Trust's Core Integrator accounts payable system.



**Background:** The Children’s Trust has funded the Child Care INCENTIVE\$ Florida program for the past 15 years as a core component to its early child care quality improvement efforts. During 2019-2020, 1,586 early learning practitioners in 401 programs received salary supplements. The 2019 Miami-Dade Workforce Study found that early learning educators participating in the Thrive by 5 initiative have higher quality interactions with children in their classrooms when they hold degrees, accept more scholarships and salary incentives, and remain in the quality improvement system longer.

The Children’s Forum holds exclusive distributor rights and is the sole licensee in Florida for the Child Care INCENTIVE\$ Florida (formerly known as WAGE\$ Florida) program. As such and per The Children’s Trust’s procurement policy section 2000. General Purchasing and Procurement Policy, Exemptions to Formal Competitive Procurement Process (G-4, single source purchases), a competitive solicitation is not required. A single source determination was posted to The Children’s Trust website on January 19, 2021 for a period of seven business days. The Children’s Forum was the only respondent to the single source posting.

**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 **15<sup>th</sup> day of March 2021.**

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 15, 2021**

**Resolution: 2021-E**

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

**Strategic Plan Headline Community Results:** Children attend quality child care; children are ready for kindergarten; and children behave appropriately in schools, homes & communities.

**Recommended Action:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract renewal with the Children's Forum for an amount not to exceed \$600,000.00 for the management of the Early Learning Career Center, and for The Children's Trust to expend up to \$1,000,000.00 for educator scholarships, in a total amount not to exceed \$1,600,000.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022, with one remaining 12-month renewal, subject to annual funding appropriations.

**Budget Impact:** Funding in the amount of \$1,600,000.00 for this resolution is projected to be available for FY 2021-22.

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**Description of Services:** Through the Thrive by 5 initiative, The Children's Trust is committed to improving the quality of early learning child care programs throughout Miami-Dade County to support better outcomes for young children and ensure readiness for school. The Early Learning Career Center (Center) provides early learning educators with opportunities to advance their education and professional development, ultimately improving teaching practices and interactions with children.

The Center supports the creation of a qualified, well-trained early learning workforce in Miami-Dade County through a comprehensive professional development system. There are more than 1,500 licensed child care programs in Miami-Dade County, and all have access to Center supports. The Children's Forum will manage the Center, provide career advising services, administer scholarships for early learning educators and administrators, and ensure training and education received by practitioners are tracked in Miami-Dade County's Professional Development Registry (PDR). The Children's Forum will analyze data and report salient findings to The Children's Trust regarding the status of the early learning workforce, such as changes in education levels and certifications, and the use of professional development supports.

From August 2019 through July 2020, the Children's Forum awarded 2,973 scholarships to early learning educators. This is an increase of 287 scholarships from the previous year. There are a wide range of bilingual opportunities available, including college credit-earning courses and continuing education unit (CEU)-bearing trainings. Of those educators captured in the PDR, 85 percent have since earned a staff credential. The 2019 Miami-Dade Workforce Study found that Thrive by 5 early learning educators have higher quality interactions with children in their classrooms when they hold degrees, accept more scholarships and salary incentives, and remain in the quality improvement system longer. Additionally, 36 percent of participating practitioners have an associate degree or higher, a six percent increase since 2018.

**Background:** The Children’s Forum is a statewide, not-for-profit organization focused on making Florida a state where children grow and thrive in quality environments and where families have access to information, resources and options to assist them in their parenting roles. Through a broad array of programs, research and education, the Children’s Forum is committed to achieving their vision by targeting and supporting those who care for and educate children daily—the early care and education workforce.

On July 9, 2018, the board of The Children’s Trust approved the funding recommendation from the request for proposals, RFP #2018-06, for an early learning career center and scholarship administration for a five-year funding cycle. Following a comprehensive review process, the Children’s Forum demonstrated its capacity, expertise and qualifications to provide the services.

**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 **15<sup>th</sup> day of March 2021.**

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 15, 2021**

**Resolution: 2021-F**

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**Strategic Plan Priority Investment Area:** Early Childhood Development: Developmental screening, assessment and early intervention.

**Strategic Plan Headline Community Results:** Children regularly access medical, dental and behavioral health care services; children are ready for kindergarten; and children behave appropriately in schools, homes and communities.

**Recommended Action:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract renewal with the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine (UM) in an amount not to exceed \$1,516,667.00 for comprehensive early intervention services for children with mild developmental delays who do not meet eligibility requirements for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) parts B or C, for a term of 14 months, commencing August 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022, with one remaining 12 month renewal, subject to annual funding appropriations.

**Budget Impact:** Funding in the amount of \$1,516,667.00 for this resolution is allocated for FY 2020-21 and is projected to be available for FY 2021-22.

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**Description of Services:** The Early Discovery program serves young children exhibiting mild developmental delays (10-29 percent) that are not severe enough to meet state eligibility criteria for federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) early intervention services, but are in need of early intervention services nonetheless. Children are referred through Early Steps (for children under 36 months screened for Part C services) or Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FDLRS/for children 36 months and older screened for Part B services). Through Early Discovery, UM conducts domain-specific follow-up assessments for speech and language development, fine and gross motor skills, and social, emotional, and behavioral development.

Early Discovery offers short-term speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, and/or behavioral and developmental intervention in the area(s) of concern based on needs identified. Services typically range from 12 to 16 sessions, one to three times per week for 30 to 60 minutes, as indicated in the child’s individualized care plan.

In contract year 2019-20, 412 children received an average of seven short-term intervention sessions. During the first quarter of the current contract year (August-October 2020), 89 children have been served.

<b>2019-20 Child Outcome Improvement for:</b>			
<b>Speech and Language Skills</b>	<b>Social-Emotional Development</b>	<b>Gross/Fine Motor Skills</b>	<b>Overall Development</b>
95% (191/202)	88% (21/24)	65% (13/20)	100% (16/16)

Notably, 86 percent of Early Discovery participants later enrolled in public schools did not need special education placement.

Additionally, Early Discovery offers care coordination for families, follow-up with parents, and a needs assessment for the child and family. The Early Discovery care coordinator ensures all early intervention assessments are completed, and services are provided, and coordinates timely follow-up assessments and referrals for other community resources. Early Discovery assists families with health insurance coverage (including Medicaid and private insurance) for early intervention services. If a family has insurance, Early Discovery helps navigate the insurance process and The Children's Trust pays solely for services not covered by insurance.

UM partners with the following subcontractors to provide several of the therapeutic service components described above:

- Florida Rehab Professionals Group, Inc.
- Sunshine Therapy Partners, LLC
- My Time, Inc.
- Therapy by Design, Inc.
- Adriana Tafur Services, Inc.
- Speech Pathology and Educational Center, Inc.

**Background:** On April 9, 2018, The Children's Trust released a request for proposals, RFP #2018-05, for comprehensive early intervention services for a five-year funding cycle. Through the competitive solicitation, UM demonstrated its capacity, expertise, and qualifications to provide these services for 520 children per year. UM has successfully operated Early Discovery with Trust funding since 2007.

This contract's funding amount is higher than the prior year because the upcoming contract term is for 14 months to align with The Children's Trust fiscal year. The annual funding allocation remains the same.

**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 **15<sup>th</sup> day of March 2021.**

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 15, 2021**

**Resolution: 2021-G**

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**Strategic Plan Priority Investment Area:** Early Childhood Development: Developmental screening, assessment and early intervention.

**Strategic Plan Headline Community Results:** Children regularly access medical, dental and behavioral health care services; children are ready for kindergarten; and children behave appropriately in schools, homes and communities.

**Recommended Action:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract with the University of Miami-Nova Southeastern University (UM-NSU) Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) for autism spectrum disorders (ASD) diagnostic evaluation services, in a total amount not to exceed \$264,000.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022.

**Budget Impact:** Funding in the amount of \$264,000.00 is projected to be available for FY 2021-22.

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**Description of Services:** Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) and the Florida Department of Health Early Steps providers often identify young children who need specialized evaluation due to complex behaviors and symptoms that suggest the presence of autism spectrum disorders (ASD). This funding supports comprehensive psychoeducational diagnostic evaluation services for children ages 2 through 5 years (before kindergarten entry), provided by UM-NSU CARD at a reduced unit cost. Evaluation services include the components listed below, and the current Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders and best practices in ASD assessment.

- Behavioral observations focused on social interaction, social communication skills and restricted or repetitive patterns of behavior, interests or activities across settings.
- Social/developmental history based on an interview with parent(s) or guardian(s).
- Psychological evaluation that includes assessment of academic, intellectual, social-emotional and behavioral functioning, as well as at least one standardized instrument specific to ASD, such as the Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS) and/or the Autism Diagnostic Interview, Revised (ADI-R).
- Language evaluation that includes assessment of pragmatic (both verbal and nonverbal) and social interaction components of social communication.
- Observation of the child's social communication skills by a speech-language pathologist.
- Standardized assessment of adaptive behavior.
- Functional behavioral assessment.
- Parent feedback session with individualized recommendations related to needed interventions and/or specialized learning environments, as well as connection to ASD-related community resources.

This contract is based on a unit cost method of payment of \$2,500.00 per completed comprehensive psychoeducational diagnostic evaluation. This is more than a 20 percent reduced rate from the standard fees at UM-NSU CARD for providing comprehensive evaluations of \$3,200.00 per child.

In the first six months of the current contract, 67 children have been referred, 39 completed evaluations and 31 children were diagnosed with ASD. The table below summarizes the services provided during prior contract years.

<b>Contract period</b>	<b>Number of children referred</b>	<b>Number of evaluations completed</b>	<b>Number of children with ASD diagnoses</b>
2018-2019	111	99	85
2019-2020	107	82	75

**Background:** UM-NSU CARD is one of seven state-funded, university-based outreach and support centers in Florida dedicated to optimizing the potential of people with ASD. Per The Children’s Trust’s procurement policy section 2000. General Purchasing and Procurement Policy, Exemptions to Formal Competitive Procurement Process (G-3), health services involving examination, diagnosis, and treatment are exempt from a formal competitive procurement process and therefore do not require a formal solicitation. UM-NSU CARD has been implementing the program for the past four years and is satisfactorily meeting all contractual requirements.

UM-NSU CARD has worked collaboratively with M-DCPS, Early Steps, and The Children’s Trust to develop the referral criteria and processes to ensure children in need of specialty evaluation services without other means of accessing them are identified and referred for evaluation. Also, reporting processes have been established to track the use of diagnostic results for appropriate school placement and special education services.

**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 **15<sup>th</sup> day of March 2021.**

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 15, 2021**

**Resolution: 2021-H**

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**Strategic Plan Priority Investment Area:** Health and Wellness: Comprehensive School-based Health.

**Strategic Plan Headline Community Results:** Children regularly access medical, dental and behavioral health care; 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 contract renewals with six providers for comprehensive school-based health services, each for a term of 12 months, commencing July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2022, in a combined total amount not to exceed \$16,250,000.00, with one additional 12-month renewal, 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 (LIP).

**Budget Impact:** Funding in the amount of \$16,250,000.00 is allocated for FY 2020-21 and is projected to be available in FY 2021-22. There is no budget impact for LIP.

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**Description of Services:** The overarching goal of school-based health services is to improve access to quality health care by delivering essential services in schools and through community referrals. Services promote a healthy school environment that identifies, prevents, and remedies student health problems.

The school health program is implemented in 145 school health suites across 141 Miami-Dade County Public Schools (MDCPS) with a collective student population of nearly 120,000, in collaboration with MDCPS and the Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County. School health teams include 17 social workers, 40 mental health professionals, 6 advanced registered nurse practitioners (ARNP), 70 registered nurses (RN), 115 licensed practical nurses (LPN), and 16 health aides/medical assistants. High school sites are staffed with RNs with required bachelor's degrees. Middle schools are staffed by a pool of nurses, including one RN assigned to two schools and an LPN. Some high need middle schools are also staffed with one full-time RN. Each elementary school is assigned one full-time LPN, all of whom are supported by a rotating RN, who provides ongoing consultation, review of clinical notes, observations of LPN encounters, and shadowing.

Essential nursing care, disease prevention and health promotion activities provided include:

- nursing care;
- medication administration and assistance with self-administration;
- chronic disease management, including one-on-one education for children with chronic conditions such as asthma, diabetes, severe allergies, seizures and sickle cell;
- state-mandated screenings such as vision, Body Mass Index (BMI);
- oral health risk assessment, health education and disease prevention counseling based on individual health needs and fluoride varnish application; and
- referral and connection of families with needed community services and resources,



including other programs funded by The Children’s Trust.

Behavioral health services are delivered within a multi-tier model of services that includes schoolwide and small group interventions, and more intensive, individualized interventions when indicated. To ensure successful implementation, school administrators and staff are involved in planning and conducting interventions.

Key mental health and social work services include:

- screenings for developmental, social, emotional, and behavioral well-being for early identification of students with developmental, mental health, or behavioral concerns;
- timely and responsive assessment and intervention services for at-risk students and students with developmental and behavioral concerns;
- individual, group, and family counseling to address specific problems interfering with student functioning and well-being;
- risk reduction for vulnerable students by promoting awareness, responding to crises and assisting schools in reinstating a state of functional safety and security; and
- schoolwide, preventive education, and supports that promote a healthy school climate.

The Low-Income Pool (LIP) program consists of a broad allotment of state and federal funding primarily through intergovernmental transfers from local governments, matched by federal funds through the Agency for Healthcare Administration (ACHA). The LIP’s objective is to ensure continued government support for the provision of health care services for uninsured/underinsured populations. Based on state appropriations of LIP, a percentage of the contracted amount from the four Federal Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) may be used to draw down LIP funding, through agreements between The Children’s Trust and AHCA on behalf of these FQHCs. These contracts will be used as leverage to draw down the LIP funding to Miami-Dade County’s most vulnerable populations. Said funding would be used exclusively for the provision of health services for children in Miami-Dade County. The funded FQHCs are Borinquen Health Care Centers, Citrus Health Network, Community Health of South Florida and Jessie Trice Community Health Center. Last year, this arrangement drew down nearly 3.5 million dollars.

In addition, school health providers are required to bring at least a ten percent match to The Children’s Trust funding, but last year they contributed 19 percent, or more than \$3 million.

The following table shows the agencies recommended for renewal, as well as the number of schools and students to be served.

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Amount not to Exceed</b>	<b># of Schools</b>	<b># of Students</b>	<b>2019-20 # of Visits<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>2019-20 Unduplicated Students</b>
Borinquen Health Care Centers	\$3,481,000.00	31	28,666	57,731	19,035
Citrus Health Network	\$2,227,200.00	19	14,427	27,993	9,614
Community Health of South Florida	\$3,649,000.00	29	29,590	46,261	17,257
Jessie Trice Community Health Center	\$4,399,000.00	40	28,169	67,209	21, 182
University of Miami <sup>2</sup>	\$1,027,000.00	9	8,916	15,713	5,918
Variety Children’s Hospital d/b/a Nicklaus Children’s Hospital	\$1,466,800.00	13	9,659	31,751	7,760
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>16,250,000.00</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>119,427</b>	<b>246,658</b>	<b>80,436<sup>3</sup></b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes all visit types, such as non-routine medication, routine medication, social worker, consultation.

<sup>2</sup> These numbers represent holistic primary care services in addition to the types of school health services provided by other providers.

<sup>3</sup> Some students were served by more than one agency due to school transfers, so the total unduplicated students for each agency cannot be added to get the total unduplicated across agencies.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, school nurses, social workers and mental health professionals were able to pivot to telehealth services in lieu of in-person health services, delivering nearly 8,000 telehealth services in 2020 from March to June. Similarly, school nurses were redeployed to support COVID-19 testing at their community-based clinics during the time when schools were physically closed. Importantly, as immunization rates declined dramatically during the COVID-19 shutdown, school health providers were able to administer needed vaccinations for students who were out of compliance with the Florida Department of Health’s requirements to ensure they were prepared to return to school upon reopening. Additional 2019-20 school health program highlights:

- More than 80,000 individual students served with nearly 247,000 school health visits.
- 83% of visits to health suites resulted in students returning to class.
- Nearly 8,000 students with chronic conditions received nursing assessments to help determine their needs for individual health care plans and to ensure the successful management of their health conditions.
- Nearly 13,000 mental health and social work services provided.
- More than 31,000 school health referrals were made for community follow-up services.
- Nearly 36,000 BMI screenings, with 1 in 4 students referred for weight follow-up services.
- Nearly 34,000 vision screenings, with 28 percent referred for vision follow-up services.
- More than 3,000 oral health screenings, with more than 1 in 3 students referred for oral health follow-up services.

**Background:** Physical and emotional health are critical for children to attend, learn and perform their best in school, and ultimately become contributing members of society. Most risk factors for chronic adult diseases, mental health conditions and social challenges arise in childhood. Child health, development and well-being affect educational achievement, behavior and future employment. Furthermore, families who lack health insurance or are underinsured, low-income or have children with special needs can especially benefit from school health services.

On March 12, 2018, the board of The Children’s Trust approved funding recommendations from the request for proposals, RFP #2018-01, for comprehensive school health services for a five-year funding cycle. Through the comprehensive review process, the agencies listed above demonstrated their capacity, expertise and qualifications to provide these services.

**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 **15<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2021.**

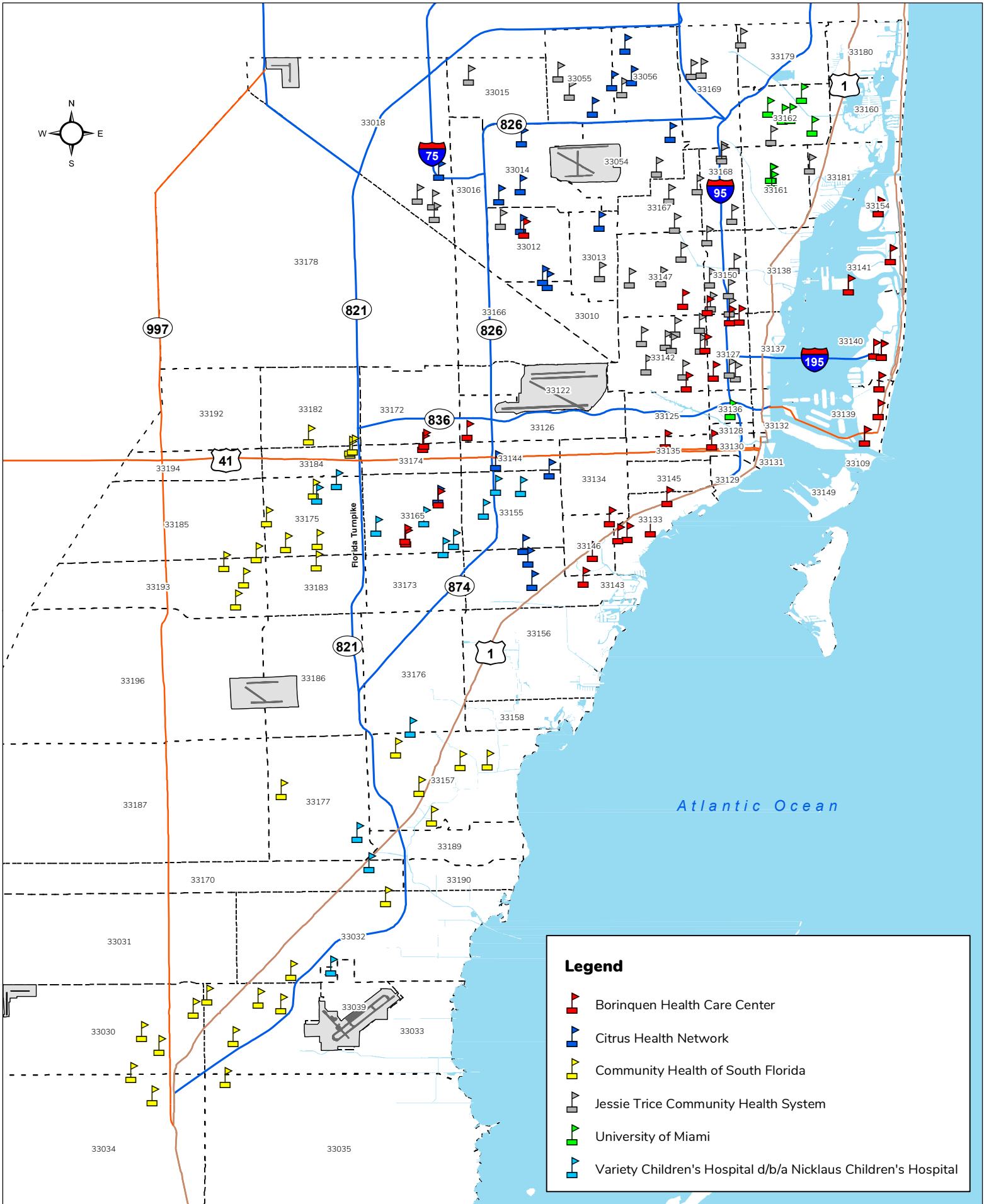
THE CHILDREN’S TRUST  
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY \_\_\_\_\_

SECRETARY

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

Resolution 2021-H – Health and Wellness: Comprehensive School-based Health  
March 15, 2021



**School-base Health Sites  
(FY 2020-2021)**

Data Sources:  
-The Children's Trust

Location:  
Miami-Dade County,  
Florida

Created by  
Research and  
Evaluation  
January 2021

The Children's Trust  
3150 SW Third Ave  
Miami, FL 33129  
www.thechildrenstrust.org

## The Children's Trust Board Meeting

Date: March 15, 2021

Resolution: 2021-I

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**Strategic Plan Priority Investment Area:** Health & Wellness: Comprehensive School-based Health, Oral Health Training & Education

**Strategic Plan Headline Community Results:** Children regularly access medical, dental and behavioral health care services; and students are succeeding academically.

**Recommended Action:** Authorization to negotiate and execute a contract with Nova Southeastern University for capacity building for school nurses focused on oral health screening, prevention and referrals, in a total amount not to exceed \$312,500.00 for a term of 15 months commencing, July 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022.

**Budget Impact:** Funding in the amount of \$312,500.00 for this resolution is allocated for FY 2020-21 and projected to be available in FY 2021-22.

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**Description of Services:** Nova Southeastern University provides oral health training and coaching for all Trust-funded school nurses. The program focuses on reducing the oral disease prevalence among students through nurses' preventive oral health training on screening, education, counseling, varnish application, connection to a dental home, risk assessment, and quality assurance.

The Children's Trust integrates the oral health capacity building program within the comprehensive school-based health initiative. Through this program, school nurses are equipped to:

- promote preventive oral health approaches within the school;
- conduct a risk assessment and oral health screening that will identify students with dental concerns;
- implement protocols that ensure screenings are performed efficiently and respectfully;
- administer fluoride varnish, with parental consent, for students enrolled in pre-kindergarten and kindergarten;
- connect students and their families with appropriate dental intervention services; and
- deliver culturally competent services and supports.

During the 2019-20 contract year, 189 medical staff members across the six funded school-based health providers were trained on oral health risk assessment, screening, education, counseling, varnish application for young children, and connection to dental homes, detailed in the following table.

<b>Services Provided</b>		
<b>School-based Health Provider Agencies</b>	<b># of Nurses Trained</b>	<b># of Technical Assistance &amp; Quality Assurance Observations Conducted</b>
Borinquen Medical Centers	41	16
Citrus Health Network	27	6
Community Health of South Florida	39	0
Jessie Trice Community Health Center	54	12
Nicklaus Children's Hospital	10	15
University of Miami	18	7
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>56</b>

**Background:** Tooth decay is one of the most common chronic diseases of childhood. If left untreated, it can lead to severe infection and complex treatments with negative implications for routine behaviors like eating, speaking, and school performance. According to the Centers for Disease Control’s 2019 Oral Health Surveillance report, tooth decay prevalence was 17 percent among 6 to 11-year-olds and 57 percent among 12 to 19-year-olds. One study found children with poor oral health status nearly three times more likely to miss school due to dental pain, and absences caused by pain were associated with poorer school performance. Low-income, underserved and uninsured minority populations suffer the most from dental disease and typically lack proper treatment access.

The Children’s Trust has provided funding to Nova Southeastern University for oral health training for school-based health staff since 2015. Per The Children’s Trust’s procurement policy section 2000. General Purchasing and Procurement Policy, Exemptions to Formal Competitive Procurement Process (G-3), health services involving examination, diagnosis, and treatment are exempt from a formal competitive procurement process and therefore do not require a formal solicitation.

**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 **15<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2021.**

THE CHILDREN’S TRUST  
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY \_\_\_\_\_

SECRETARY

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

Resolution 2021-I – Health & Wellness-Oral Health Education (Nova Southeastern University)  
March 15, 2021

# The Children’s Trust Board Meeting

March 15, 2021

## Resolution 2021-J

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**Strategic Plan Priority Investment Area:** Health and Wellness: Comprehensive School-based Health, Vision Services.

**Strategic Plan Headline Community Results:** Children regularly access medical, dental and behavioral health care services; children are ready for kindergarten; and students are succeeding academically.

**Recommended Action:** 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, 2021, and ending June 30, 2022, in a total amount not to exceed \$400,000.00.

**Budget Impact:** Funding in the amount of \$400,000.00 for this resolution is allocated for FY 2020-21 and projected to be available in FY 2021-22.

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**Description of Services:** The comprehensive vision program, implemented by Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Inc. (MLB), provides free eye examinations and prescription eyeglasses for preschool and school-age children who are financially disadvantaged. The primary goals are early detection of vision impairments, facilitation of access to vision care, and promotion of optimal visual functioning to ensure students succeed academically and socially.

Services are delivered using the instant vision program (IVP) and the in-office voucher program. Through the IVP, four mobile clinics visit various schools daily to serve students referred by Miami-Dade County Public Schools, The Children’s Trust’s school health staff, and parents. The in-office voucher program provides services through vouchers dispensed by MLB and accepted by local participating optometrists.

This contract is paid on a unit cost basis of \$92.00 per exam with eyeglasses when medically necessary. This is a reduction from the actual cost of \$181.00, since MLB leverages \$750,000.00 from other sources, including The Miami Foundation, Florida Department of Health, and the Dr. John T. MacDonald Foundation. Based on the contracted unit cost and total allocation, services are available for 4,348 children, but typically more are served using the leveraged funding.

2019-2020 Vision Services	Number
Eye examinations completed	5,351
Eyeglasses provided	2,642

The numbers of exams for 2019-2020 declined significantly from prior years because more than half of the past year was dominated by the COVID-19 shutdown, and school sites and childcare centers closed and then resumed virtually or did not permit outside agencies onsite. However, we expect the service delivery will rebound in the coming year when schools return to normal.

**Background:** Vision impacts a child’s physical, cognitive and social development, and vision functioning is a predictor of academic achievement for school-age children. Early identification of vision problems is critical to a child’s health and school outcomes. National adolescent health survey data reveal more than 90 percent of visual impairment among 12 to 19-year-olds is due to uncorrected refractive error, which is easily remedied by eyeglasses. The Children’s Trust has funded MLB to provide vision follow-up services since 2006.

Per The Children’s Trust’s procurement policy section 2000, General Purchasing and Procurement Policy, Exemptions to Formal Competitive Procurement Process (G-3), health services involving examination, diagnosis and treatment are exempt from a formal competitive procurement process, and therefore do not require a formal solicitation.

**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 **15<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2021.**

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 15, 2021**

**Resolution: 2021-K**

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**Strategic Plan Priority Investment Area:** Health and Wellness: Community-based oral health services.

**Strategic Plan Headline Community Results:** Children regularly access medical, dental and behavioral health services; children are ready for kindergarten; and students are succeeding academically.

**Recommended Action:** Authorization to negotiate and execute contract renewals with three providers identified herein, to deliver oral health preventive services, in a total amount not to exceed \$639,350.00 for a term of 14 months, commencing August 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022, with one remaining 12-month renewal.

**Budget Impact:** Funding in the amount of \$639,350.00 for this resolution is allocated for FY 2020-21 and projected to be available in FY 2021-22.

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**Description of Services:** The Children’s Trust expanded its health and wellness investments in 2019 to include community-based oral health preventative services, building upon the existing oral health screenings supported by school nurses. The agencies below provide oral health education and preventive services for uninsured and underinsured preschool and elementary-aged children attending The Children’s Trust’s affiliated early child care centers, after-school and summer programs, and Women, Infant and Children (WIC) offices. Services are provided on-site at the program locations where the children attend. Required service components include:

- oral health education and counseling,
- screening for oral diseases,
- fluoride varnish application,
- dental sealants,
- referrals for connection to a dental home for comprehensive continuity of care and any needed restorative services.

Parental consent and engagement are obtained in collaboration with the agencies operating the direct service programs for children.

The chart below shows the numbers served last year for dental services. These services took place in 87 Trust-affiliated child care centers, 10 WIC offices, and 41 Trust-funded after-school programs. In addition to the data below, 663 school-age children received 2,052 sealants.

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Recommended Amount not to Exceed</b>	<b>19-20 Contracted # Children*</b>	<b>19-20 Actual # Children</b>
Community Health of South Florida	\$221,667.00	1,167	1,337
Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade	\$222,585.00	1,800	2,301
Jessie Trice Community Health System, Inc.	\$195,098.00	667	727
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$639,350.00</b>	<b>3,634</b>	<b>4,365</b>

\*Services minimally include oral health education/counseling and screening for oral diseases.



**Background:** Tooth decay is one of the most common chronic diseases of childhood. If left untreated, it can lead to severe infection, and complex treatments with negative implications for routine behaviors like eating, speaking, and school performance. According to the Centers for Disease Control’s 2019 Oral Health Surveillance report, tooth decay prevalence was 17 percent among 6 to 11-year-olds and 57 percent among 12 to 19-year-olds. One study found children with poor oral health status nearly three times more likely to miss school due to dental pain, and absences caused by pain were associated with poorer school performance. Low-income, underserved and uninsured minority populations suffer the most from dental disease and typically lack access to proper treatment.

On January 22, 2019, The Children’s Trust board approved the funding recommendations for the request for proposals, RFP #2018-15, for oral health education and preventive services for a five-year funding cycle. Following a comprehensive review process, the agencies listed above demonstrated their capacity, expertise, and qualifications to provide the services. Overall performance has met expectations, and all three agencies are recommended for renewal.

**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 **15<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2021.**

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 15, 2021

Resolution: 2021-L

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**Strategic Plan Priority Investment Area:** Health and Wellness: Other Health Programs, Benefits Enrollment.

**Strategic Plan Headline Community Results:** Children regularly access medical, dental and behavioral health services.

**Recommended Action:** Authorization to negotiate and execute contract renewals with five providers, identified herein, to deliver public benefits enrollment, in a total amount not to exceed \$852,542.00, for a term of 14 months, commencing August 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022, with one remaining 12-month renewal, subject to annual funding appropriations.

**Budget Impact:** Funding in the amount of \$852,542.00 for this resolution is allocated for FY 2020-21 and projected to be available in FY 2021-22.

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**Description of Services:** Based upon the critical impact of social determinants on child health and well-being, The Children's Trust invests in supports to assist families with public benefits enrollment. With the significant economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on our already impoverished community, these benefits are needed more than ever.

This initiative aims to maximize economic benefits for low-income children and their families, ultimately contributing to the broader local economy and child well-being. One goal is for eligible families participating in other Trust-funded services to be offered benefits enrollment supports. Additionally, benefits enrollment providers support hard-to-reach families in settings they naturally frequent, such as schools, child care centers, healthcare facilities and faith institutions. Although no single strategy can increase enrollment in public benefit programs, strong community partnerships, combined broad and targeted outreach strategies, and one-on-one enrollment assistance are strongly associated with increased enrollment rates.

Priority benefits programs supported include family-relevant federal means-tested programs, as well as other entitlement and assistance programs, including but not limited to:

- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC),
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP),
- Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA), including TCA-Relative Care Program,
- National School Lunch Program,
- Emergency Food Assistance,
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF),
- Medicaid and KidCare (Florida's Children's Health Insurance Program),
- Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) / Child Tax Credit,
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program,
- Housing assistance programs, including homeless assistance benefits,
- Child Care and Development Fund,
- Head Start, Early Head Start,

Resolution 2021-L- Health and Wellness: Other Health Programs Benefits Enrollment  
March 15, 2021

- Other low/no cost after-school and summer programs (including Trust programs),
- Discount phone, wireless and broadband services,
- Adult education and employment assistance programs,
- Financial literacy education and supports,
- Supplemental Security Income/Disability, and
- Unemployment

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there was an increase in the number of families connected to unemployment and emergency food assistance services this year. Throughout the pandemic, these providers have been an integral part of connecting families with public benefits. Many shifted to supporting participants virtually, while others were challenged with agency closures during the pandemic. Each contract focuses on serving a particular region of the county, and collectively they ensure countywide coverage.

In 2019-2020, 2,734 families were supported with enrollment in at least one benefit program. Many families are assisted with multiple benefits for several family members. In total, 7,508 benefits were approved that supported more than 3,000 children and youth. For the subset of benefits that can be easily monetized (EITC, SNAP, home energy and unemployment), nearly \$2 million in benefits were obtained for more than 1,500 children and parents. Agency-level performance is noted in the following table.

<b>Agency</b>	<b>19-20 Funded Amount</b>	<b>20-21 Amount Not to Exceed</b>	<b>19-20 #Applications Approved</b>	<b>19-20 % of applications approved out of Contracted</b>
Citrus Health Network, Inc.	\$100,000.00	\$116,667.00	290	43%
Community Health of South Florida	\$111,000.00	\$188,125.00	636	85%
Family Central, Inc.	\$75,750.00	\$165,375.00	503	90%
Jessie Trice Community Health System, Inc.	\$166,500.00	\$194,250.00	579	97%
Sant La, Haitian Neighborhood Center, Inc.	\$111,000.00	\$188,125.00	726	97%

**Background:** In addition to reducing children’s poverty and hunger, public nutrition benefits like food stamps during childhood are associated with health, school success, graduation and adult economic success. Many eligible families do not access benefits due to enrollment barriers such as lack of awareness, low family literacy levels, language barriers, differing immigration statuses among family members, excessive paperwork and other procedural hurdles.

To assist families in accessing benefits, The Children’s Trust board of directors approved the funding recommendation from the competitive request for proposals, RFP #2018-12, on November 18, 2018, awarding six benefits enrollment contracts for a total amount of \$730,750. One provider, Catalyst Miami, decided not to renew their contract for FY 20-21. Therefore, this resolution seeks to renew five of the six originally awarded contracts. With the ever-present need in the community, their award amount has been reallocated to Community Health of South Florida, Family Central and Sant La. These three providers received the increase because they are able to support the communities previously served by Catalyst and can directly provide Earned Income Tax Credit services. This contract’s funding amount is higher than the prior year because the upcoming contract term is for 14 months to align with The Children’s Trust fiscal year.

Resolution 2021-L- Health and Wellness: Other Health Programs Benefits Enrollment  
March 15, 2021

The review process for contract renewal included qualitative and quantitative data reviews, site visits and activity observations. Overall performance has met expectations, and the agencies listed above are recommended for renewal.

**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:

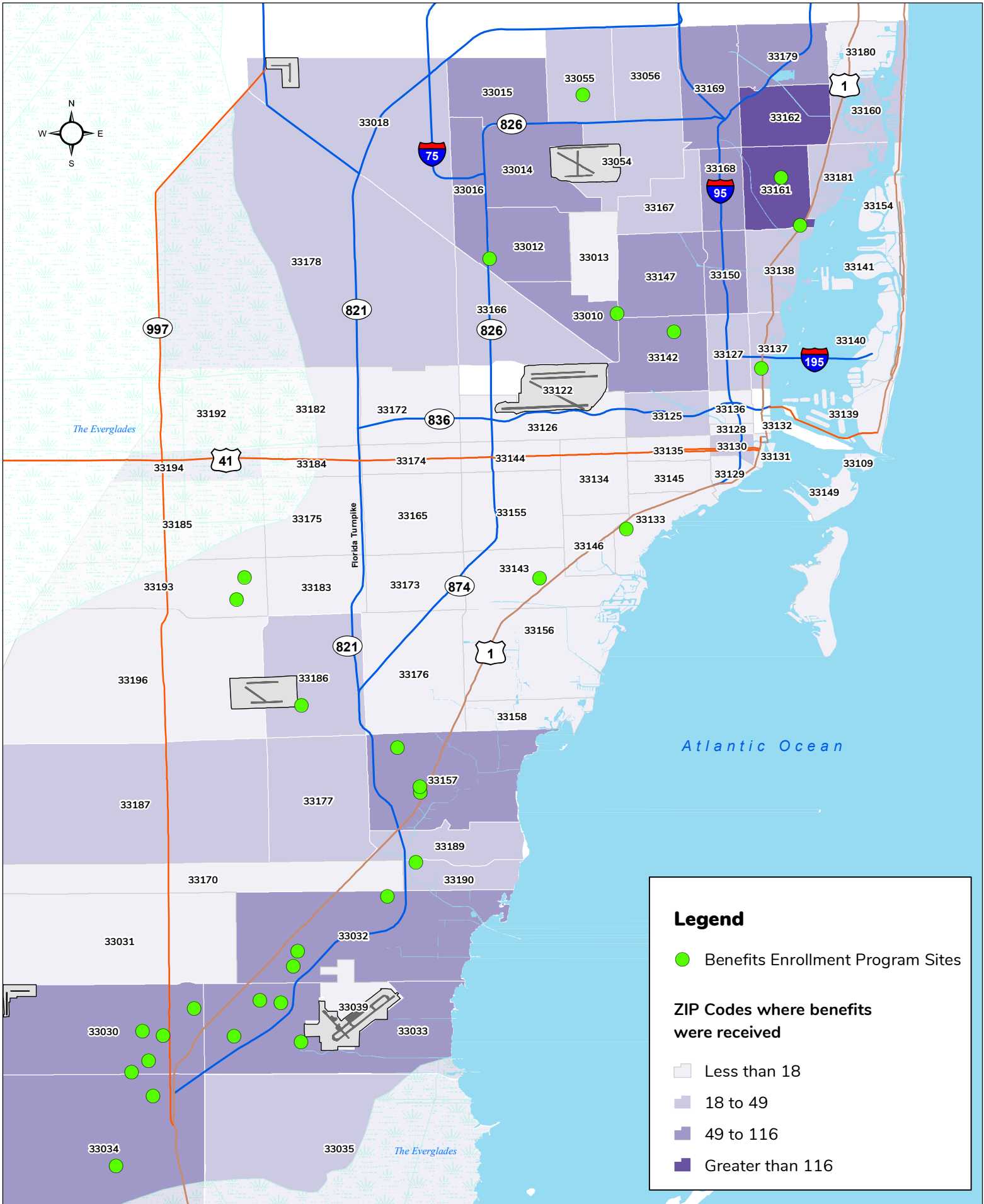
The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this **15<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2021.**

THE CHILDREN'S TRUST  
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY \_\_\_\_\_

SECRETARY

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



## Family Benefits Enrollment

Data Sources:  
-The Children's Trust

Location:  
Miami-Dade County,  
Florida

Created by  
Research and  
Evaluation  
February 2021

The Children's Trust  
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