

# CHILDREN'S BOARD OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

## REGULAR BOARD MEETING

### JUNE 26, 2025 ~ 3:00 PM

## AGENDA

**MISSION:** The Children's Board invests in partnerships and quality programs to support the success of all children and families in Hillsborough County.

### CALL TO ORDER

Attendance Verification  
Quorum Verification  
Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

R. DeLaVergne  
R. DeLaVergne  
K. Essrig

### PUBLIC COMMENT

The Children's Board of Hillsborough County welcomes comments from the public. Those who wish to address the Board may do so at this time. Those to address the Board should state their full name and affiliation for the official record. In the interest of time, we ask that one person be designated to speak on behalf of a constituency and that all comments are limited to three (3) minutes.

R. DeLaVergne

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DISCLOSURE

R. Bacon

### ACTION ITEMS

1. **Approval;** May 22, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
2. **Approval;** Children's Board of Hillsborough County Fund Balance Policy
3. **Approval;** Preliminary FY 2025-2026 Millage Rate
4. **Approval;** Preliminary FY 2025-2026 Budget
5. **Approval;** Audit Extension Request for ALK of Florida, Inc.
6. **Approval;** Audit Extension Request for Corporation to Develop Communities of Tampa, Inc.
7. **Approval;** Contract Amendment for The Skills Center, Inc.
8. **Approval;** Audit Firm Recommendation

R. DeLaVergne  
D. Monasterio  
D. Monasterio  
D. Monasterio  
D. Monasterio  
D. Monasterio  
M. Negron  
R. DeLaVergne

### PROVIDER PRESENTATIONS

Early Learning Coalition/ Quality Performance and Gold Seal Incentive Funding

M. Negron

### REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS

1. Executive Director Reports
  - A. Activities – May 23, 2025- June 26, 2025
  - B. Strategic Planning Session Summary
  - C. Children's Board Strategy Workplan

R. Bacon

- |   |               |
|---|---------------|
| 2. Programs Report                                  | M. Negrón     |
| A. Draft Funding Release Timeline                   |               |
| B. 2025 QTR 2 Preliminary Demographic Report        |               |
| C. Preliminary FY2025 Highlights                    |               |
| D. FY2024 Technical Assistance Grant Summary Report |               |
| 3. Public Relations Report                          | D. Lewis      |
| 4. Finance Report                                   | D. Monasterio |

## ADJOURNMENT

## ATTACHMENTS

- Contract Signature Logs (ASO, Programs, Vendors)
- May 2025 Financial Statements
- ASO Report
- Good News
- Outreach Calendar

# IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

## August

Budget Workshop	August 28, 2025	2:00 PM
Regular Board Meeting	August 28, 2025	3:00 PM

## September

Executive/Finance Committee Meeting	September 11, 2025	4:00 PM
Preliminary TRIM	September 11, 2025	5:01 PM
Regular Board Meeting	September 25, 2025	3:00 PM
Final TRIM	September 25, 2025	5:01 PM

# CHILDREN'S BOARD OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

## BOARD MEETING

### May 22, 2025 ~ 3:00 PM

### MEETING MINUTES

<b>Subject</b>	Regular Board Meeting	<b>Date</b>	May 22, 2025
<b>Facilitator</b>	Robin DeLaVergne, Chair	<b>Meeting Time</b>	3:00 PM
<b>Location</b>	1002 East Palm Ave. Tampa, FL 33605	<b>Actual Meeting Time</b>	3:00 PM – 4:43 PM
		<b>Adjourned</b>	4:43 PM
<b>Board Member Attendance</b>	Robin DeLaVergne, Chair Katherine Essrig, Vice-Chair Andy Mayts, Secretary/Treasurer	Gwen Myers Van Ayres - absent Beth Pasek Ed Narain	Sarah Naumowich - absent Shake Washington - absent Megan Proulx Dempsey
<b>Other Attendees</b>	Rebecca Bacon, Executive Director Dave Adams, CBHC Board Attorney Kristina Austin, Recorder Paula Scott, CBHC Staff	Maria Negron, CBHC Staff Daniel Monasterio, CBHC Staff Wendy Perez, CBHC Staff Kelly Hickman, CBHC Staff	Jamie Robe, CBHC Staff Genet Stewart, CBHC Staff Dexter Lewis, CBHC Staff

### SUMMARY

No.	Topic	Highlights
<b>I.</b>	<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	R. DeLaVergne called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>R. DeLaVergne called for Board attendance verification.</li> <li>E. Narain led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Invocation.</li> </ul>
	<b>PUBLIC COMMENT</b>	R. DeLaVergne asked for Public Comment. The following individuals provided public comment for the Board meeting: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rick Rampersad, Early Learning Coalition</li> <li>Anna X, Public Citizen</li> <li>Bobbi Davis</li> <li>Kristen Brown, TRIBE</li> </ol>
<b>II.</b>	<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	
	<b>1. 4-24-25 Regular Board Meeting Minutes</b>	R. DeLaVergne requested approval of the April 24, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.  <b><i>Motion (1): Motion by Gwen Myers to approve April 24, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes; second by Ed Narain; Motion carried (7-0).</i></b>
	<b>2. FY 25 Contract Amendment for the Corporation to Develop Communities of Tampa</b>	G. Stewart requested approval of a contract amendment for the Corporation to Develop Communities of Tampa, Inc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contract term effective June 1, 2025 – September 30, 2025;</li> <li>Additional funding not to exceed \$90,730;</li> <li>Funds used to expand Wealth Builders Program into zip code 33619;</li> <li>Amended contract amount totaling \$490,730.</li> </ul> <b><i>Motion (2): Motion by Megan Proulx Dempsey to accept the FY 24-25 contract amendment for the Corporation to Develop Communities of Tampa; second by Ed Narain. Motion carried (7-0).</i></b>

## SUMMARY

No.	Topic	Highlights
II.	ACTION ITEMS CONT.	
3.	<b>FY 25 Contract Amendment for Children's Home, Inc.</b>	<p>M. Negrón requested approval of a contract amendment for Children's Home Inc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contract term effective July 1, 2025 – September 30, 2025;</li> <li>Additional funding not to exceed \$77,662;</li> <li>Funds used to increase capacity of early literacy supports for the Supporting &amp; Empowering Educational and Developmental Services Program;</li> <li>Amended FY24-FY25 contract amount totaling \$2,902,961.</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion (3): Motion by Ed Narain to accept the FY 24-25 contract amendment for the Children's Home, Inc.; second by Megan Proulx Dempsey. Motion carried (7-0).</b></p>
4.	<b>FY 25 Contract for Boys and Girls Club Additional Summer Camp Slots</b>	<p>M. Negrón requested approval of a onetime independent contract for Boys and Girls Club Additional Summer Camp Slots.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contract term effective May 27, 2025 – August 1, 2025;</li> <li>Total FY24-FY25 funding not to exceed \$471,329;</li> <li>Funds used for 422 children across nine sites in Hillsborough County.</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion (4): Motion by Gwen Myers to accept the FY 24-25 contract for Boys and Girls Club Additional Summer Slots; second by Megan Proulx Dempsey. Motion carried (6-0) with an Abstention by Ed Narain.</b></p>
5.	<b>FY 25 Contract for Early Learning Coalition of Hillsborough County</b>	<p>M. Negrón requested approval of a one time independent contract for Early Learning Coalition of Hillsborough County.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contract term effective May 27, 2025 – September 30, 2025;</li> <li>Total funding not to exceed \$800,000 for FY25;</li> <li>Funds used for a one-time Summer Boost Program to serve Early Education Providers and children enrolled in their programs.</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion (5): Motion by Ed Narain to accept the FY 24-25 contract for Early Learning Coalition of Hillsborough County; second by Gwen Myers. Motion carried (7-0).</b></p>
III.	PROVIDER PRESENTATION	
	<b>Bay Area Legal Services: Housing Stability Program</b>	<p>M. Negrón introduced Savannah Mata, Lauren Lambert, &amp; Tom DiFiore, Team Leader, from Bay Area Legal Services (BALS).</p> <p>L. Lambert, social worker for BALS, shared the following information on the Housing Stability Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Housing Stability program has been funded since January of 2024;</li> <li>BALS began in 1967 providing free civil legal services to low income residents;</li> <li>The organization has 180 staff and tailors their services to meet the needs of each individual family;</li> <li>Services are provided in person at their Ybor office and in the community as well as via phone or virtual video calls.</li> </ul> <p>S. Mata shared information on several client stories and the following 2024 outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>206 households received legal services concerning housing issues;</li> <li>157 households received R3 rental assistance totaling \$295K;</li> <li>31 households received ASO funds totaling \$82K for housing expenses;</li> <li>27 households received technical assistance in applying for rental assistance;</li> <li>46 households received holistic social services.</li> </ul>



## SUMMARY

No.	Topic	Highlights
IV.	REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS	
	<b>1. Executive Director Report</b>	<p>R. Bacon reported attending (40) significant meetings between April 25, 2025– May 22, 2025.</p> <p>R. Bacon provided an update on Strategic Planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A draft summary of prioritized strategies, compiled by facilitator, Michele Watson from the Florida Association of Children’s Councils and Trusts, (FACCT), was provided to the Board for their review;</li> <li>• A finalized report will be released with solutions that are being implemented and included in the upcoming budget;</li> <li>• The FY2025 -26 budget is being developed and new funding will be directed to priority areas;</li> <li>• Our goal is to spend down the fund balance responsibly while maintaining reserves for already committed multiyear funding;</li> <li>• Meetings will occur with the Early Learning Coalition and information is being gathered from Jacksonville on their accreditation academy.</li> <li>• While funding has expanded to middle school in some programs, additional teen services are being considered for future funding;</li> <li>• Information from a variety of resources is being compiled and reviewed to inform new funding;</li> <li>• Community input will be a part of the process as well as input from teens;</li> <li>• An analysis of the fiscal handbook, budget instructions, and contract language is in process, utilizing providers’ input;</li> <li>• Additional training for general grant writing and support through the grant process is also being planned;</li> <li>• Our goal is to achieve increased provider support and flexibility without sacrificing accountability;</li> <li>• A timeline will be brought to the June Board meeting.</li> </ul>
	<b>2. Programs Report</b>	<p>M. Negron provided the following Programs related updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To increase summer capacity, the provider community was reached out to and some were already at capacity and unable to increase slots based on space they had. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Other agencies could not increase capacity and were interested in outreach assistance and the CBHC Public Relations team was thanked for getting information out to the community quickly through flyers and social media.</li> <li>○ Providers called us back that they were at capacity after the outreach assistance.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• As approved today the Boys and Girls Clubs received funding because they were able to increase slots, other agencies received funds however it did not rise to the occasion of completing a Board action memo. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Gentlemen’s Quest received an additional \$5K to enhance programming through existing summer services;</li> <li>○ Tampa Housing Authority received funds for an additional twenty-five slots and the YMCA made available forty slots;</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Additional information regarding Summer Camps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A total of four hundred and eighty-seven slots made available through summer camps;</li> <li>• The Board’s approval of the Early Learning Coalition’s Summer Boost program resulted in another four hundred and thirty opportunities for children to enhance their services.</li> </ul>

## SUMMARY

No.	Topic	Highlights
	<b>3. Finance Report</b>	D. Monasterio presented information on the projected spend down of the fund balance.
	<b>4. ASO Report</b>	K. Hickman reviewed the Administrative Services Organization Report.
	<b>5. Public Relations Report</b>	<p>D. Lewis provided a recap to the Board of the April Child Abuse Prevention Month activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A video was shown documenting the April Child Abuse Prevention month event.</li> </ul> <p>May was recognized as Water Safety Month.</p>
	<b>6. Strategic Initiatives Report</b>	<p>G. Stewart reviewed the contracts and partnership opportunities that fall under the Strategic Initiatives Dept and introduced information on Barbershop Conversations, one of the newest contracts for the ONEhillsborough team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The community kickoff will be held June 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Skills Center;</li> <li>This is a project based out of Atlanta and will be their first Florida location;</li> <li>Casey Family Programs will be sending barbers from Jacksonville and South Florida and training will occur at the Children's Board;</li> <li>The original goal was to train thirty barbers the first fiscal year and ninety barbers the following fiscal year.</li> </ul>
	<b>7. Human Resources Report</b>	<p>W. Perez introduced the newest member of the Children's Board staff: - Raffaella Stein Elger, Program Evaluator.</p>
	<b>OLD/NEW BUSINESS</b>	
	<b>ADJOURNMENT</b>	The meeting adjourned at 4:43 PM.

## MOTIONS

1.	<b><i>Motion (1): Motion by Gwen Myers to approve April 24, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes; second by Ed Narain; Motion carried (7-0).</i></b>
2.	<b><i>Motion (2): Motion by Megan Proulx Dempsey to accept the FY 24-25 contract amendment for the Corporation to Develop Communities of Tampa; second by Ed Narain. Motion carried (7-0).</i></b>
3.	<b><i>Motion (3): Motion by Ed Narain to accept the FY 24-25 contract amendment for the Children's Home, Inc.; second by Megan Proulx Dempsey. Motion carried (7-0).</i></b>
4.	<b><i>Motion (4): Motion by Gwen Myers to accept the FY 24-25 contract amendment for Boys and Girls Club Additional Summer Slots; second by Megan Proulx Dempsey. Motion carried (6-0) with an Abstention by Ed Narain.</i></b>
5.	<b><i>Motion (5): Motion by Ed Narain to accept the FY 24-25 contract amendment for Early Learning Coalition of Hillsborough County; second by Gwen Myers. Motion carried (7-0).</i></b>

READ AND APPROVED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
ROBIN DELAVERGNE  
BOARD CHAIR

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**Approval of Fund Balance Policy**

**Initiator:** Daniel Monasterio, Director of Finance

**Action:** Approval of the Children's Board of Hillsborough County Board Fund Balance Policy

**Date:** Regular Board Meeting, Thursday, June 26, 2025

**Recommended Action**

Approval of the Children's Board of Hillsborough County Board Fund Balance Policy and attached resolution.

**Background**

- The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 54 requires the Board to establish a Fund Balance Policy that is reviewed and approved each year.
- This statement provides required categories to be used when presenting the Fund Balance in the Financial Statements.
- The Board Fund Balance Policy was originally approved January 26, 2012.
- Please see the attached Board Fund Balance Policy for the details of the policy, the category definitions, and items in each category.
  - Section I describes the purpose
  - Section II includes definitions for each category
  - Section III includes the specific areas that the Children's Board will include in the financial statements
- There are no recommended changes to the current policy at this time.

**Attachments**

- A.** Children's Board of Hillsborough County Board Fund Balance Policy
- B.** Resolution 24/25 – 05 Adopting a Fund Balance Policy

## Children's Board of Hillsborough County Board Fund Balance Policy

### I. PURPOSE

- To establish and maintain reservations of Fund Balance, as defined herein, in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54 (GASB 54), Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions.
  - The categories of Fund Balance, as defined by GASB 54, shall be composed of:
    - Non-spendable
    - Restricted
    - Committed
    - Assigned
    - Unassigned
  - The Children's Board of Hillsborough County's (CBHC) accounting procedures will determine the classifications for year-end fund balance categories.

### II. CATEGORY DEFINITIONS PER GASB 54

- **Fund Balance** – The difference between assets and liabilities in a governmental fund.
  - **Non-Spendable Fund Balance**
    - The portion of fund balance that cannot be spent because of form or because it must be maintained intact.
      - Examples include:
        - Inventory
        - Long-term Receivables
        - Pre-paid Expenses
        - Compensatory Absences
  - **Restricted Fund Balance**
    - The portion of fund balance with limitations imposed by creditors, grantors, laws, regulations, or enabling legislation.
  - **Committed Fund Balance**
    - The portion of fund balance that can be used only for the specific purposes determined by a formal action (resolution) of the organization's highest decision making authority.
    - Commitments may be changed or lifted only by the organization taking the same formal action (resolution) that imposed the original constraint.
  - **Assigned Fund Balance**
    - The portion of fund balance that includes spendable amounts established by the board and functions as a declaration of the board's intent.
    - Funds in this category are neither considered restricted nor committed.
    - Intent can be expressed by the governing body or by an official or committee which the governing body delegated the authority.

- **Unassigned Fund Balance**
  - The residual portion of fund balance that has not been restricted, committed, or assigned and is available for general purposes.

### III. CHILDREN'S BOARD RESERVATIONS OF FUND BALANCE

- **Non-Spendable Fund Balance**
  - This category will consist predominantly of:
    - Pre-Paid Expenditures
    - Long Term Receivables
    - Reserve for Compensatory Absences
  - The items and amounts in this category are determined during year end processes.
- **Committed Fund Balance**
  - Building and Capital Reserve
    - This amount is to be determined each year as part of the budgetary process.
    - This reserve is designated for use on projects of a capital nature such as building or building systems improvements and information technology infrastructure.
  - Minimal Operational Expenditures
    - CBHC will maintain a minimum committed fund balance of 5.01% of budgeted operating expenditures based on best practices as outlined by the Government Finance Officers Association.
    - This minimum amount will allow CBHC to maintain operations at times when cash outflow exceeds cash inflow, typically during the first two months of the fiscal year.
- **Assigned Fund Balance**
  - Amounts in this category to be determined each year as part of the budgetary process.
    - This category consists of future commitments included in the five year projections that spend down dollars from the fund balance.
- **Unassigned Fund Balance**
  - Represents the difference between the total fund balance and all other categories.

### IV. ANNUAL REVIEW AND DETERMINATION OF FUND BALANCE POLICY

- Compliance with the provisions of this policy shall be reviewed annually.

RESOLUTION 24/25 – 05  
OF THE CHILDREN’S BOARD OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY  
ADOPTING A FUND BALANCE POLICY

Upon motion by Board Member \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by Board Member \_\_\_\_\_, the following Resolution was adopted by a vote of \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_.

WHEREAS, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board issued Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*, in order to clarify the meaning and reporting of fund balance on financial statements; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to establish a Fund Balance Policy for its governmental funds consistent with the Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54; and

WHEREAS, such a policy has been prepared and a copy thereof is attached; and

WHEREAS, the Children’s Board of Hillsborough County believes that it is necessary, appropriate and in the public interest to establish fund balance reserves,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CHILDREN’S BOARD OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA, IN PUBLIC MEETING THIS 26th DAY OF JUNE 2025 that:

1. The Children’s Board of Hillsborough County adopts the “Children’s Board of Hillsborough County Fund Balance Policy”, attached hereto and hereby directs the Executive Director to implement said policy.
2. All resolutions or parts of resolutions, insofar as they are inconsistent or in conflict with the provisions of the Resolution, are hereby repealed.
3. This Resolution shall be effective for financial reporting purposes for fiscal year 2025 - 2026.

STATE OF FLORIDA  
COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH

I, Robin DeLaVergne, Chair of the Children's Board of Hillsborough County, Florida, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted by the Children's Board of Hillsborough County, Florida, at its meeting of June 26, 2025, as the same appears of record in the Minutes Book of the Children's Board of Hillsborough County, Florida.

WITNESS my hand and official seal this 26th day of June, 2025.

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Robin DeLaVergne, Board Chair

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**Approval of Preliminary FY 2025 - 2026 Millage Rate**

**Initiator:** Daniel Monasterio, Director of Finance

**Action:** Approval of Preliminary FY 2025 - 2026 Millage Rate

**Date:** Regular Board Meeting, Thursday, June 26, 2025

**Recommended Action**

Approval of a Preliminary FY 2025 - 2026 Millage Rate of .4589.

**Background and Next Steps**

- The Board Approved Preliminary FY 2025 - 2026 Budget and Millage Rate must be filed with Hillsborough County by July 1, 2025.
- The Final Millage Rate approved by the Board cannot be higher than the preliminary rate submitted to Hillsborough County on July 1, 2025.

**Highlights**

- The budgeted millage rate of .4589 is unchanged from the current FY 2024 - 2025 millage rate.
- It is estimated that the tax base will increase by 6.2%, for an additional \$4.8 million in current tax revenue.
- The estimated rolled-back rate is .4404.
- .5000 millage rate is the maximum allowable millage rate under the Children's Board statute.

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**Approval of Preliminary FY 2025 - 2026 Budget**

**Initiator:** Daniel Monasterio, Director of Finance

**Action:** Approval of Preliminary FY 2025 - 2026 Budget

**Date:** Regular Board Meeting, Thursday, June 26, 2025

**Recommended Action**

Approval of a Preliminary FY 2025 - 2026 Budget of \$101,649,073.

**Background and Next Steps**

- The Board Approved Preliminary FY 2025 - 2026 Budget and Millage Rate must be filed with Hillsborough County by July 1, 2025.
- A presentation of the FY 2025 - 2026 Final proposed Budget will be made at the August 28, 2025 budget workshop and will be brought to the August 28, 2025 Board meeting for approval.
- Two Budget TRIM Hearings will be scheduled in September 2025.
- The budget detail is attached to this memo.

**Budget Highlights**

- The total revenue is budgeted at \$86.1 million; an increase of \$5.6 million.
- The FY 2025 - 2026 budget includes a spend-down of \$15,513,546 from the fund balance.
- The total expenditures are budgeted at \$101.6 million; an increase of \$10 million.
  - Operating expenditures have increased by \$457,984.
  - Mandatory government fees have increased by \$96,192.
  - Capital expenditures are budgeted at \$4 million.
  - Program expenditures have increased by \$9.4 million.
- The continuation grants budget has increased by \$10.5 million.
- The \$5.3 million in New Program Funding includes opportunities to apply for new or to expand existing grants in traditional Children's Board focus areas, as well as to address targeted community needs identified through Board strategic planning which occurred during the current fiscal year.

**Attachment**

- A.** FY 2025 - 2026 Annual Budget Report



**Provider Audit Submission Extension**

**Initiator:** Daniel Monasterio, Director of Finance

**Action:** Provider Audit Submission Extension for ALK of Florida, Inc.

**Date:** Regular Board Meeting, Thursday, June 26, 2025

**Recommended Action**

Decision to continue payments to ALK of Florida, Inc.

**Background**

- Board Policy 2.13.E states:  
Failure to Submit Audits or Reviews. The approval of the Executive Committee of the Children's Board shall be required to continue payments under the Agreement to any provider who has not furnished the Children's Board with an acceptable audit or review report within 180 days after the close of the provider's fiscal year or before the end of the contract period in the case of newly funded agencies who lack prior audits or reviews as described in "Newly Funded Agencies Without Audits or Reviews" above.
- CBHC received a request for extension from ALK of Florida, Inc. on May 27, 2025. The agency recently engaged a new firm to conduct its audit, which will need some additional time to become familiar with the agency's operations and reporting before it can complete its work.
- CBHC provided the extension request form to ALK of Florida, Inc., which documents the agency's formal request for an extension.
- ALK of Florida, Inc. has requested an extension to September 29, 2025.

**Attachments**

A. Request for Extension of Audited Financial Statement Submission

## Children's Board of Hillsborough County

### Request for Extension of Audited Financial Statement Submission

#### Board Policy:

#### 2.13 Audit Requirements

- A. The Agreement between the Children's Board and Funded Agencies. The Agreement between the Children's Board and funded agencies states that for any funded agency's fiscal year ending during the term of the Agreement and for any fiscal year during which revenues or expenditures are recognized by the provider for the program covered by the Agreement, the provider will submit to the Children's Board (within 180 days after the close of the provider's fiscal year) year-end audited financial statements and any related management letters, any related communications or reports on internal control, and any related reports on compliance with laws and regulations.
- B. A Review of the Provider Agency's Financial Statements. A review of the provider agency's financial statements is acceptable for provider agencies with a current fiscal year budget of less than \$300,000.
- C. Newly Funded Agencies without Audits or Reviews. For provider agencies who have not previously received Children's Board funding and who do not have audited or reviewed financial statements, the Children's Board staff may conduct a review of such provider agency's fiscal capacity during the first quarter of the contract period. The Children's Board staff will require that the provider agency put in place a written audit preparation process that includes at least the following items:
  - 1. Preparation of monthly financial statements
  - 2. General ledger (reconciled)
  - 3. Source documents (checks, reconciled bank statements)The written audit preparation process shall be subject to review and written approval by the Children's Board staff.
- D. An Audit or Review. An audit or review (depending on the total agency budget amount for such newly funded agencies) must be completed by the end of the contract period.
- E. Failure to Submit Audits or Reviews. The approval of the Executive Committee of the Children's Board shall be required to continue payments under the Agreement to any provider who has not furnished the Children's Board with an acceptable audit or review report within 180 days after the close of the provider's fiscal year or before the end of the contract period in the case of newly funded agencies who lack prior audits or reviews as described in "Newly Funded Agencies Without Audits or Reviews" above.

**Request for Extension:**

**Agency:** ALK of Florida, Inc. dba The Resource Empowerment Centre

**Other Agency Information:**

**Program(s):** Villages Children and Families Engaging (CAFÉ) and Coaching Dreams Into Success (CDIS)

**FY 2024 - 2025 Program Funding Amount(s):** FY25 Villages CAFÉ Funding Amount - \$465,811 and FY25 CDIS Funding Amount - \$338,558

**Agency Fiscal Year:** January - December

**Audited Financial Statements Due Date:** June 29, 2025

**Extension Request Date:** September 29, 2025

**Reason for Extension:** We recently onboarded a new financial firm with expertise in taxes, annual reports, and audits. As they get to know our business to better support us long-term, they're also reviewing our records to ensure everything is accurate, compliant, and audit ready. To allow them sufficient time to complete this work, we're requesting a short extension to finalize and submit the report. We truly appreciate your continued support as we remain committed to upholding and meeting all grant guidelines.

**Executive Committee Meeting Date - Extension was requested:** June 26, 2025

**Provider Audit Submission Extension**

**Initiator:** Daniel Monasterio, Director of Finance

**Action:** Provider Audit Submission Extension for Corporation to Develop Communities of Tampa, Inc.

**Date:** Regular Board Meeting, Thursday, June 26, 2025

**Recommended Action**

Decision to continue payments to Corporation to Develop Communities of Tampa, Inc.

**Background**

- Board Policy 2.13.E states:  
Failure to Submit Audits or Reviews. The approval of the Executive Committee of the Children's Board shall be required to continue payments under the Agreement to any provider who has not furnished the Children's Board with an acceptable audit or review report within 180 days after the close of the provider's fiscal year or before the end of the contract period in the case of newly funded agencies who lack prior audits or reviews as described in "Newly Funded Agencies Without Audits or Reviews" above.
- CBHC received a request for extension from Corporation to Develop Communities of Tampa, Inc. on June 16, 2025. The agency's auditors will not be presenting the results of the audit to the Board of Directors for approval until August 26, 2025; it will then take 30-60 days for the auditors to publish the financial statements.
- CBHC provided the extension request form to Corporation to Develop Communities of Tampa, Inc., which documents the agency's formal request for an extension.
- Corporation to Develop Communities of Tampa, Inc. has requested an extension to October 31, 2025.

**Attachments**

A. Request for Extension of Audited Financial Statement Submission

## Children's Board of Hillsborough County

### Request for Extension of Audited Financial Statement Submission

#### Board Policy:

#### 2.13 Audit Requirements

- A. The Agreement between the Children's Board and Funded Agencies. The Agreement between the Children's Board and funded agencies states that for any funded agency's fiscal year ending during the term of the Agreement and for any fiscal year during which revenues or expenditures are recognized by the provider for the program covered by the Agreement, the provider will submit to the Children's Board (within 180 days after the close of the provider's fiscal year) year-end audited financial statements and any related management letters, any related communications or reports on internal control, and any related reports on compliance with laws and regulations.
- B. A Review of the Provider Agency's Financial Statements. A review of the provider agency's financial statements is acceptable for provider agencies with a current fiscal year budget of less than \$300,000.
- C. Newly Funded Agencies without Audits or Reviews. For provider agencies who have not previously received Children's Board funding and who do not have audited or reviewed financial statements, the Children's Board staff may conduct a review of such provider agency's fiscal capacity during the first quarter of the contract period. The Children's Board staff will require that the provider agency put in place a written audit preparation process that includes at least the following items:
  - 1. Preparation of monthly financial statements
  - 2. General ledger (reconciled)
  - 3. Source documents (checks, reconciled bank statements)The written audit preparation process shall be subject to review and written approval by the Children's Board staff.
- D. An Audit or Review. An audit or review (depending on the total agency budget amount for such newly funded agencies) must be completed by the end of the contract period.
- E. Failure to Submit Audits or Reviews. The approval of the Executive Committee of the Children's Board shall be required to continue payments under the Agreement to any provider who has not furnished the Children's Board with an acceptable audit or review report within 180 days after the close of the provider's fiscal year or before the end of the contract period in the case of newly funded agencies who lack prior audits or reviews as described in "Newly Funded Agencies Without Audits or Reviews" above.

**Request for Extension:**

**Agency:** CDC of Tampa Inc.

**Other Agency Information:**

**Program(s):** WealthBuilders

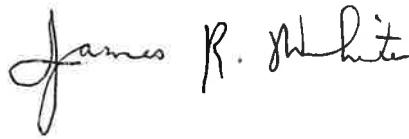
**FY 2024-2025 Program Funding Amount(s):** \$400,000

**Agency Fiscal Year:** 1/1/2024 – 12/31/2024

**Audited Financial Statements Due Date:** 6/29/2025

**Extension Request Date:** 10/31/2025

**Reason for Extension:** Auditors will not present audit results to Board of Directors for approval until 8/26/2025. It will then take 30-60 days for auditors to publish audited financial statements.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James R. White". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "J" and "W".

**Executive Committee Meeting Date – Extension was requested:**

## **Approval of One-Time Independent Contract Amendment**

**Initiator:** Maria Negrón, Director of Programs

**Action:** Approval of One-Time Independent Contract Amendment

**Date:** Regular Board Meeting, Thursday, June 26, 2025

### **Recommended Actions**

Recommend the approval to amend a one-time independent contract for Summer Camp Slots with The Skills Center to fund 150 youth residing across Hillsborough County in the amount of \$49,200 for a total FY 2024-2025 award of \$124,200 through August 1, 2025.

### **Background**

- This is in response to a continued effort to assess capacity and expand the availability of summer camp slots.
- This request specifically supports a unique opportunity to provide a high quality 6-week evening camp for middle and high school students.
- The contract was initiated on June 10, 2025 for a partial amount, \$75,000, the allowable Executive Director approval amount so the program could initiate planning.
- Camp services run from June 23, 2025 through August 1, 2025.

## ACTION ITEM NO. 8

### Audit Firm Recommendation

**Initiator:** Robin DeLaVergne, Board Chair

**Action:** Audit Firm Recommendation

**Date:** Regular Board Meeting, Thursday, June 26, 2025

**Recommended Action:**

Accept Carr, Riggs, & Ingram, LLC as the audit committee's recommended firm to perform the professional audit services, and authorize staff to enter into negotiations for a five-year audit services contract with Carr, Riggs, & Ingram, LLC.

**Background**

The Professional Audit Services RFP was issued on April 25, 2025 and posted on [www.demandstar.com](http://www.demandstar.com) and [www.childrensboard.org](http://www.childrensboard.org).

- One hundred sixty-six (166) firms were notified through DemandStar.
- Four (4) audit firms submitted an Intent to Respond by May 12, 2025.
- Two (2) firms submitted proposals by June 2, 2025.

Advertisements were placed in the Florida Sentinel Bulletin, La Gaceta and Tampa Bay Times.

On June 9, 2025 the Audit Selection Committee comprised of Robin DeLaVergne (Chair) - CBHC Board Chair, Andy Mayts - CBHC Board Secretary Treasurer, and David Adams - Community member reviewed and scored the two proposals based on experience with similar agency audits and price.

The scores from the June 9, 2025 auditor selection committee were as follows:

Rank	Firm	Score	Bid Price
1.	Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC	101.45	\$36,825
2.	Baker Tilly US, LLP	81.70	\$32,250

Based on the information submitted in the proposals, the committee recommends Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC to the full Board for approval.





# CBHC Funded Program: Quality Performance & Gold Seal Incentives

6/26/2025



**EARLY LEARNING**  
COALITION OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

## Why ELCHC exists:

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**90%**

of a person's brain development occurs **before age 5.**

Source: [Neuropsychol Rev.](#)



**47%**

of families with children in Hillsborough County are **living in poverty** or don't earn enough to support their families.

Source: [United For ALICE](#)



**1/2**

of children in Hillsborough County are **not ready for kindergarten** when they start.

Source:  
[Hillsborough County Public Schools](#)



**Ready for kindergarten = ready for life**

Children who are **ready for kindergarten** are more likely to:

- ✓ Graduate from high school
- ✓ Earn higher incomes
- ✓ Have a lower risk of chronic disease and obesity

## More about our core programs

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### School Readiness

- Federally-funded program that offers **financial assistance for low-income families for early child education** and care so families can become financially self-sufficient, and their young children can be successful in school and life
- Supports children from **birth to 13 years**
- **Serves about 18,000** children annually in private centers and homes






### VPK (Voluntary Pre-kindergarten)

- Free, state-funded program for all Florida **4-year-olds and pre-kindergarten 5-year-olds**
- Parents choose between **full-day** school year program (540 hours) or **half-day** summer program (340 hours)
- Parents can select from VPK program-approved **private and public providers**
- **Serves about 11,000 children** annually

# Mission priorities:

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	<p><b>Access:</b> We increase access to early learning experiences from day one, regardless of a family's income or life circumstances.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• School Readiness</li><li>• School Readiness +150</li><li>• VPK</li></ul>
	<p><b>Quality:</b> We empower teachers with skills and support to prepare children for school and life.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Business Leadership Institute</li><li>• T.E.A.C.H. financial assistance</li><li>• Professional development and training</li><li>• Coaching and mentoring</li></ul>
	<p><b>Education:</b> We collaborate with families, educators and our community to raise awareness that learning starts at birth and improve educational outcomes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Child Care Resource &amp; Referral</li><li>• On My Way to Kindergarten</li><li>• iSpy Tampa Bay</li><li>• Literacy All Year</li></ul>



# A deeper look at QUALITY:

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## CLASS

Developed by Teachstone, A classroom observation tool is a **structured way to collect data about the quality of interactions and practices in a classroom**. It helps educators assess and improve teaching, learning environments, and student outcomes.



## Gold Seal

The Gold Seal Quality Care (Gold Seal) program was established in 1996 to acknowledge child care facilities and family day care homes that have gone above the required minimum licensing standards to become accredited by recognized agencies whose standards reflect quality in the level of care and supervision provided to children



## Accreditation

Accreditation is a **voluntary process where programs demonstrate their commitment to quality standards beyond basic licensing**. It's a way for child care providers to show they meet higher standards in areas like curriculum, teaching practices, and safety. (FLAEYC, NAEYC)

## Impact\*:

---

### QUALITY PERFORMANCE

1

\$296,496

2

# of Providers: 361

3

# of Children: 8,024

### GOLD SEAL

1

\$484,881

2

# of Providers: 136

3

# of Children: 4,120

\*May 2025

## With Much Appreciation:

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**Dr. Fred Hicks**

Chief Executive Officer  
(813) 515-2340  
fhicks@elchc.org



**Casie Haines**

Director, Provider Supports  
(813) 515-2340  
chaines@elchc.org

**Children's Board of Hillsborough County**  
**Executive Director Report**  
**May 23, 2025 – June 26, 2025      59 Meetings**

Brian Butler – Vistra
Glazer Vision Foundation – Let's See Event
Daphne Fudge
Kelsy Long & Maureen Butler (Vistra Communications) & Christine Barker & Tim Nickens (Catalyst Communications)
Commission on the Status of Women
Daphne Fudge
Safe and Sound Leadership Council
Tim Nickens - (Catalyst Communications)
Sarah Heath – Florida Association of Children's Councils & Trusts (FACCT)
Sarah Cole – Glazer
Michele Watson – FACCT
Florida Chamber Foundation Webinar
Asha Patel – WTSP Interview
Danielle Barreras – Children's Trust
Cassandra Thomas - ABC Action News Interview
FACCT Policy Affinity Group
FACCT Executive Committee Meeting
Dr. Fred Hicks – Early Learning Coalition (ELC)
Jerelyn Allen & Saralyn Grass – Kids Hope Alliance
Tyheshia Scott – Lutheran Services Florida
Florida Philanthropic Network (FPN) Florida Education Funders
Rooted in Play Service Observation
Hillsborough County Public Schools Meeting – Owen Young & Monica Narain
FACCT Policy Affinity Group
Monti Larsen – FACCT
Kimberly Stattery–Gaston – Frameworks
Lena Young Green – Tampa Heights Junior Civic Association
Weekly FACCT Meeting
Salesian Youth Center 30 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration
Kelsy Long & Maureen Butler – Vistra
Marcela Jimenez Ramirez - Metropolitan Ministries Nursery Tour
Heather Leigh – WTSP Interview
Anna X, Dr. Fred Hicks (ELC) & Daphne Fudge
Daphne Fudge
Community Alliance
Tampa Bay Lightning Summer Camp Observation
Workforce Development Partners Collaborative Strategy Session
Kelsy Long – Vistra
Disaster Resilience Convening
FACCT Policy Affinity Group
Thomas Mantz & Lorena Hardwick - Feeding Tampa Bay
Kelsy Long & Maureen Butler – Vistra
Weekly FACCT Meeting



**Children's Board of Hillsborough County**  
**Executive Director Report**  
**May 23, 2025 – June 26, 2025      59 Meetings**

Gulf Coast Jewish Family Community Services Teen Engagement Event
Kelsy Long – Vistra
Michele Watson – FACCT
Dr. Fred Hicks - ELC
Celeste Roberts & Angela Moore – Skills Center
Joe Mangione & Rick Gould – Afterschool Allstars
Weekly FACCT Meeting
Tampa Theatre Service Observation
SPEAKING EVENT - Barbershop Community Conversations Kick-Off
Thrive by Five Leadership Council Meeting
ELC Board of Directors Annual Meeting
Commission on the Status of Women
2025 Learners to Earners Workforce Summit
COSW Childcare Professional Event
Daphne Fudge
Thomas Mantz, Lorena Hardwick, & Rhonda Gindlesberger - Feeding Tampa Bay



## **THE CHILDREN'S BOARD OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION SUMMARY**

Prepared by Michele Watson, CEO



**FACCT**  
Florida Alliance of  
Children's Councils & Trusts

The Children's Board of Hillsborough County was created in 1988 to invest dollars to fund a wide variety of programs designed to help children lead a healthy, safe and productive life, making a difference for all residents of Hillsborough County. Recently the Children's Board engaged in a strategic planning session with its Board Members on April 24, 2025, to provide guidance to staff on areas of focus identified by the Board. The following report outlines the preparation, discussion, and priorities outlined for further research as a part of the strategic planning exercise.

## PREPARATION

Leading up to the strategic planning session, the Executive Director and staff of the Children's Board collected significant local data and deployed a provider survey in addition to providing results from a previous town hall. This approach was devised to understand any new and relevant data that could be presented to the Board as part of the prioritization exercise included on the Children's Board Strategic Planning Agenda ([Linked Here - Attachment A](#)). Additionally, strategies were placed under each funding category to better be able to focus on specific strategies for prioritization. The Children's Board's four major funding categories were broken down by the following headings and strategies:

Developmentally on Track	Healthy and Safe	Ready to Learn & Succeed	Family Support
Behavioral Supports	Water Safety	Trauma- Informed Schools	Self- Sufficiency
Child Developmental Screening & Referral	Physical Fitness	Early Learning Child Care Provider Support	Mental Health Supports
Home Visiting	Prenatal/Postnatal Supports	Afterschool Programs	Service Member/ Veterans Programs
Developmental Supports Birth – Kindergarten	Unintentional Injury/ Safety Education	Literacy Interventions	Children's Board Family Resource Centers
Supporting Children with Autism or Varying Abilities	Fatherhood Initiatives	Child Care Slots	Economic Security/ Financial Literacy
Parent/ Caregiver and Child Playgroups	Substance Abuse Supports	Education Resources for Parents & Children	Homeless or at Risk of Homelessness
Teen Parenting Supports	Infant/ Child Wellness/ Vaccinations	Character Development	Case Management
	Health Care Access	Mentoring	Kinship Supports
	Food Security	Music Programs	Parenting Workshops
		STEM Programs	Respite Programs
		Technology Access	Legal Services
		Arts Programs	Domestic Violence Programs
		Educator Supports (Birth – Middle School)	Recreational Access

## DISCUSSION

The three-hour strategic planning session resulted in considerable discussion. The following is a high-level recap of the discussion among Board Members after staff had presented local data per the agenda ([Linked Here - Attachment B](#)):

1. Identification of the need to increase opportunities to spend down fund balance.
2. The ability to determine if there could be an expansion of summer services for summer 2025.
3. Determining if the application and funding process could be updated for efficiencies and ease of use.
4. Revisiting the administrative/indirect rate for program contracts.
5. Opportunities to support smaller non-profits in being able to access Children's Board funding.
6. Looking at opportunities to serve teens and potential for expansion of service areas.
7. The results of the prioritization exercise completed by the Board and community members as outlined in the prioritization summary table below - Attachment C.

Additionally, members of the public were given time for public testimony in which they outlined opportunities for administrative review, provided suggestions such as creating a provider liaison, and highlighted community needs including the need for child care supports, more child care slots, and food opportunities.

## PRIORITIES

The Children's Board of Hillsborough County, along with attending community members, were given a sheet of 24 colored dots, more than the 15 dots per person envisioned due to the number of individuals participating in the prioritization activity. Each participant was asked to place the dots under each strategy. An individual could place as many dots as they wanted next to a strategy as they felt necessary and include notations on the dot itself of a zip code in which they would like to see that strategy available. Furthermore, before the dot activity began, we asked the Board if there were any additional strategies that were missing. It was noted that the Board identified three additional strategies for consideration to include Teens, Supports for Child Care Accreditation, and Mental Health\*. These strategies were added for inclusion before the prioritization activity began. The results of the dot prioritization activity are as follows:

Service Area	Strategy	Total Dots	Notes
New Focus Areas	Accreditation for Child Care	64	
New Focus Areas	Teens	49	
Family Support	Mental Health Supports	39	
Ready to Learn & Succeed	Early Learning Child Care Provider Support	26	Zip Code: 33584
Developmentally on Track	Supporting Children with Autism or Varying	21	
Ready to Learn & Succeed	Child Care Slots	19	
Ready to Learn & Succeed	Literacy Interventions	18	Zip Codes: 33610, 33604, 33603, 33617, 33510, and 33579

<b>Ready to Learn &amp; Succeed</b>	Educator Supports (Birth – Middle School)	17	
<b>Family Support</b>	Homeless or at Risk of Homelessness	17	
<b>Developmentally on Track</b>	Teen Parenting Supports	16	
<b>Healthy and Safe</b>	Fatherhood Initiatives	15	
<b>Healthy and Safe</b>	Food Security	14	
<b>Ready to Learn &amp; Succeed</b>	Arts Programs	14	
<b>Developmentally on Track</b>	Behavioral Supports	12	
<b>Ready to Learn &amp; Succeed</b>	Afterschool Programs	10	
<b>Ready to Learn &amp; Succeed</b>	STEM Programs	10	
<b>Developmentally on Track</b>	Developmental Supports Birth – Kindergarten	9	
<b>Ready to Learn &amp; Succeed</b>	Mentoring	9	
<b>Ready to Learn &amp; Succeed</b>	Music Programs	9	
<b>Ready to Learn &amp; Succeed</b>	Technology Access	9	
<b>Family Support</b>	Children's Board Family Resource Centers	9	
<b>Ready to Learn &amp; Succeed</b>	Education Resources for Parents & Children	8	Zip Code: 33584
<b>Ready to Learn &amp; Succeed</b>	Character Development	8	
<b>Developmentally on Track</b>	Child Developmental Screening & Referral	7	
<b>Healthy and Safe</b>	Infant/Child Wellness/Vaccinations	7	
<b>Healthy and Safe</b>	Health Care Access	7	
<b>Family Support</b>	Legal Services	7	
<b>Developmentally on Track</b>	Parent/Caregiver and Child Playgroups	6	
<b>Ready to Learn &amp; Succeed</b>	Trauma-Informed Schools	6	
<b>Healthy and Safe</b>	Water Safety	5	
<b>Healthy and Safe</b>	Substance Abuse Supports	5	
<b>Family Support</b>	Economic Security/Financial Literacy	5	
<b>Family Support</b>	Case Management	5	
<b>Family Support</b>	Parenting Workshops	5	
<b>Family Support</b>	Respite Programs	5	
<b>Healthy and Safe</b>	Unintentional Injury/Safety Education	4	
<b>Family Support</b>	Self-Sufficiency	4	
<b>Family Support</b>	Kinship Supports	4	
<b>Family Support</b>	Domestic Violence Programs	4	
<b>Developmentally on Track</b>	Home Visiting	3	
<b>Family Support</b>	Recreational Access	3	
<b>Healthy and Safe</b>	Physical Fitness	2	
<b>Healthy and Safe</b>	Perinatal/Postnatal Supports	1	
<b>Family Support</b>	Service Member/Veterans Programs	1	

\*Noted within the prioritization is that while Mental Health was identified by the Board, it was already also a strategy included under the Family Support funding category. When compiling the results, the dots placed next to these two strategies were combined and totaled as one strategy, so as not to dilute the results.



The results of the prioritization exercise outlined two new strategies that are not currently addressed under any existing funding portfolio. Those were accreditation supports for child care providers and services for teens. Currently, the Kids Hope Alliance in Jacksonville supports a Child Care Accreditation Academy that may be a turnkey opportunity to bring to Hillsborough County. Furthermore, as iterated at the meeting regarding teen supports, considerations could begin with establishing a Teen Council or Youth Advisory Council to get input into what supports and services would be most beneficial to this newly identified service priority. The Children's Trust of Miami-Dade has a long standing and active Youth Advisory Council (YAC) that could be a model for the Children's Board to consider. The other existing strategies that were prioritized may need a thorough review by staff to determine if additional services and/or initiatives may need to be created to meet the need.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUPPORTS**

As the Children's Board continues to work to identify new opportunities and reduce administrative burdens, the following recommendations are proposed by FACCT.

1. Ensure more opportunities for community feedback to adequately determine the community's needs, including a larger sample of citizens representing the geographic make up of Hillsborough County.
2. Research opportunities to implement strategies prioritized as a part of the strategic planning exercise, starting with the top 5.
3. Collect other Children's Services Councils applications for funding and processes to determine if opportunities exist to better support community providers.
4. Finalize a fiscally responsible plan to spend down the fund balance while ensuring continuity of existing services and expansion to priorities identified during the strategic planning session.
5. Support smaller community providers in being able to access Children's Board funding through increased training, support, and building relationships with fiscal agents.
6. Continue to monitor state and federal budget discussions to be able to support programs that may receive substantial cuts in funding.
7. Forecast multiple budget scenarios based on a reduction of potential ad-valorem revenues due to economic or legislative shifts and ballot initiatives.
8. Determine the feasibility, workflows, and staffing supports needed to move from paper processes to electronic opportunities for the application and review process to create efficiencies.
9. Review Children's Board FTE's to ensure that there are enough staff to complete the work required by the Board.
10. Conduct a full policy review to determine if the current policies could be modernized or updated to reflect the current business practices and environment.

On behalf of the Florida Alliance of Children's Councils and Trusts, we stand at the ready to share information, solutions, and best practices to support the strategic goals of the Children's Board of Hillsborough County.

# DEVELOPMENTALLY ON TRACK

Behavioral Supports

Child Developmental Screening  
Referral

Home Visiting

Developmental Supports Birth-K

Supporting Children with Autism or  
Varying Abilities

Parent/Caregiver and Child  
Playgroups

Teen Parenting Supports

# HEALTHY AND SAFE

Water Safety ●●●●

Physical Fitness ●●

Prenatal / Postnatal Supports ●

Unintentional Injury / Safety Education ●●●●

Fatherhood Initiatives ●●●●●●●●●●

Substance Abuse Supports ●●●●●●

Infant / Child Wellness / Vaccinations ●●●●●●

Health Care Access ●●●●●●

Food Security ●●●●●●●●●●



READY TO  
LEARN  
&  
SUCCEED

Trauma-Informed Schools  
• Early Learning Child Care  
• Provider Supports  
Afterschool Programs  
• Literacy Interventions  
Child Care Slots  
Education Resources for Parents  
& Children

Character Development  
Mentoring  
Music Programs  
STEM Programs  
Technology Access  
Art Programs  
Educator Supports (birth-middle school)

# FAMILY SUPPORT

Self-Sufficiency

Mental Health Supports

Service Member/Veteran Programs

Children's Board Family Resource  
Centers

Economic Security / Financial Literacy

Homeless or at risk of  
Homelessness

Case Management

Kinship Supports

Parenting Workshops

Respite Programs

Legal Services

Domestic Violence Programs

Recreational Access



Teens

Mental Health

Accreditation for Child Care





## Children's Board of Hillsborough County Strategy Workplan

As we move forward, the Children's Board remains committed to focusing on our primary responsibility as a special taxing district created to provide funding for high-quality services to children throughout Hillsborough County. We remain dedicated to listening to community voices and implementing strategies to demonstrate trust, transparency and enhance the positive impact we were created to deliver. Our overarching responsibilities are to:

- Fund services that help children lead healthy, safe and productive lives and
- Maintain accountability to the community that funds our work.

Aligned with these responsibilities, we have plans to enhance **Provider Engagement**, **Community Relations**, **Long-Term Funds Management**, and **Process Modernization**. Below are key initiatives to ensure we meet our responsibilities and deliver services efficiently and effectively.

Provider Engagement	Community Relations	Long Term Funds Management	Process Modernization
Improve provider support and expand access for small nonprofit providers.	Strengthen community input mechanisms and improve external communication.	Align fund balance use with long-term service continuity, funding variability and public funding trends.	Modernize grant processes, update policy frameworks and assess capacity of CBHC.

In Table 1 on the following page, we outline our implementation timeline for each initiative during FY24-25 and FY25-26.

## TOP SERVICE PRIORITIES

The Children's Board has identified six service priorities that shape its investment and program strategies: **summer camp expansion**, **accreditation for child care**, **support for teens**, **mental health supports**, **early learning child care supports**, and **supports for children with autism or varying abilities**. These focus areas serve as a framework for addressing critical community needs and ensuring that services remain inclusive, accessible, and aligned with the lived experiences of Hillsborough County's children and families.

Initial efforts are underway to address the identified priority service areas, along with two additional service areas introduced by the Board during its April 24, 2025 workshop. A timeline of current and planned activities is provided on pages 3–4 (Table 2).

## IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE (Table 1)

The table below outlines each initiative along with its planned implementation timeline, including those that are already underway or completed.

	Q3 2025	Q4 2025	Q1 2026	Q2 2026	Q3 2026	Q4 2026
	<b>PROVIDER ENGAGEMENT</b>					
Benchmark Peer CSC Processes to Inform Provider Support Improvements						
Expand Access for Small Non-Profits Through Training and Supportive Application						
	<b>COMMUNITY RELATIONS</b>					
Strengthen Community Input Mechanisms						
Improve External Communication						
	<b>LONG-TERM FUNDS MANAGEMENT</b>					
Align Fund Balance Use with Long-Term Service Continuity and Strategic Priorities						
Plan For Funding Variability Driven by Economic or Policy Change	Ongoing					
Track Public Funding Trends to Proactively Support At-Risk Programs	Ongoing					
	<b>PROCESS MODERNIZATION</b>					
Evaluate Workflows to Modernize Grant Processes						
Assess CBHC Capacity for Effective Service Delivery						
Update Policy Framework to Reflect Modern Business Needs						

## TOP SERVICE PRIORITIES & RESULTS (Table 2)

The table below summarizes current activities for each service priority identified during the Board workshop.

	Q3 2025	Q4 2025	Q1 2026	Q2 2026	Q3 2026	Q4 2026
<b>SUMMER CAMP EXPANSION</b>						
Contact Providers for Expansion Potential						
Establish Additional Contracts						
Release RFP for Both Enhancement and Slots						
<b>ACCREDITATION FOR CHILD CARE</b>						
Review Accreditation Academy Program						
Review ELC's Work on Accreditation						
Compare Models and Obtain Stakeholder Input						
Release Allocated Funding for Accreditation						
<b>TEENS</b>						
Review Miami Youth Advisory Council and Other Local Program Models						
Review Existing CBHC Programs for Increase of Age Access						
Expand Age Eligibility for ASO Request for Applications for FY26						
Release RFP for Youth Council						

	MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORTS				
Scan current CBHC Funded Programs, Resources and Gaps					
Include Priority Area in FY26 RFP					
	EARLY LEARNING CHILD CARE SUPPORTS				
Scan current CBHC Funded Programs, Resources and Gaps					
Research Strategies for Support & Training for Child Care Teachers					
Include Priority Area in FY 26 RFP					
	SUPPORTING CHILDREN WITH AUTISM OR VARYING ABILITIES				
Scan current CBHC Funded Programs, Resources and Gaps					
Include Priority Area in FY26 RFP					



Children's Board of Hillsborough County - Funding Release Timeline through FY2026-2027 (Subject to change)

DRAFT Activity Period		Technical Assistance Grant Release	Release New Funding	Investment Grants re-release & new competitive RFP (6-year term)	Leading Grants re-release & new Competitive RFP (4-yr term)	Uniting Grants re-release & new Competitive RFP (5-year term)
	Oct - Dec	<b>Cycle (1) TA Capacity TA Safety</b>	Investment (4) Focus Areas; Uniting Padres de Crianza; Leading Small Nonprofits; Uniting New Programs; Investment - SDHC Resource; Water Safety, ITN OST.			
	Jan - Mar	<b>Cycle (2) TA Capacity</b>	Summer Services (w/renewal); Water Re-released; Pediatric Care; Storywalk; ITN Trauma;			
	Apr - Jun					
	Jul - Sep		Leading; Uniting; & Investment.			
	Oct - Dec	<b>TA Capacity &amp; Safety</b>	Summer; Leading/Uniting	<b>For FY 24-2025 Released PRO 2024-06 for reapplying and new Investment</b>		
	Jan - Mar		ONEHillsborough: Leading			
	Apr - Jun					
	Jul - Sep		Leading: Exhibit Space	<i>Last year of Investment Grants</i>		
	Oct - Dec	<b>TA Capacity &amp; Safety</b>	Holiday OST; Mentoring; Uniting; Free Family Days. ONEHillsborough: Leading & Uniting.			
	Jan - Mar		Summer Services			
	Apr - Jun					
	Jul - Sep		Small Nonprofits; Accreditation			
	Oct - Dec	<b>TA Capacity &amp; Safety</b>	Strategic Plan; ONEHillsborough; Mentoring; Youth		<b>For FY 26-2027</b>	
	Jan - Mar		Summer Services or Slots			
	Apr - Jun					
	Jul - Sep				<i>Last year of Leading Grants</i>	
	Oct - Dec					<b>For FY 27-2028</b>
	Jan - Mar					
	Apr - Jun					
	Jul - Sep					<i>Last year of Uniting Grants</i>

# Demographic Highlights



Children's Board  
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY  
[www.ChildrensBoard.org](http://www.ChildrensBoard.org)

*Preliminary Demographics*

**FY 2025  
Q2**

06/25

**33,935**

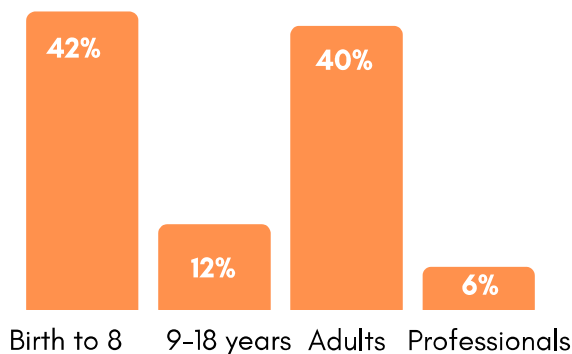
Number of unduplicated participants served by our funded programs from October 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025

**31,757 Adults and Children**

**2,178 Professionals**

## Participant Ages

Our Children's Board funded programs primarily serve children birth to age 8 and their caregivers



## Gender

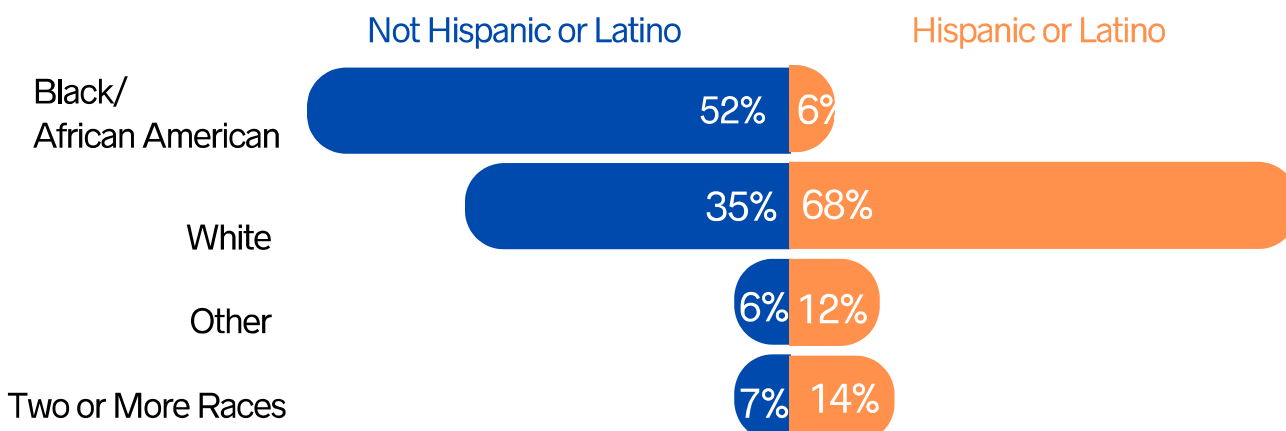
The majority of program participants served are **Female**

**67%**



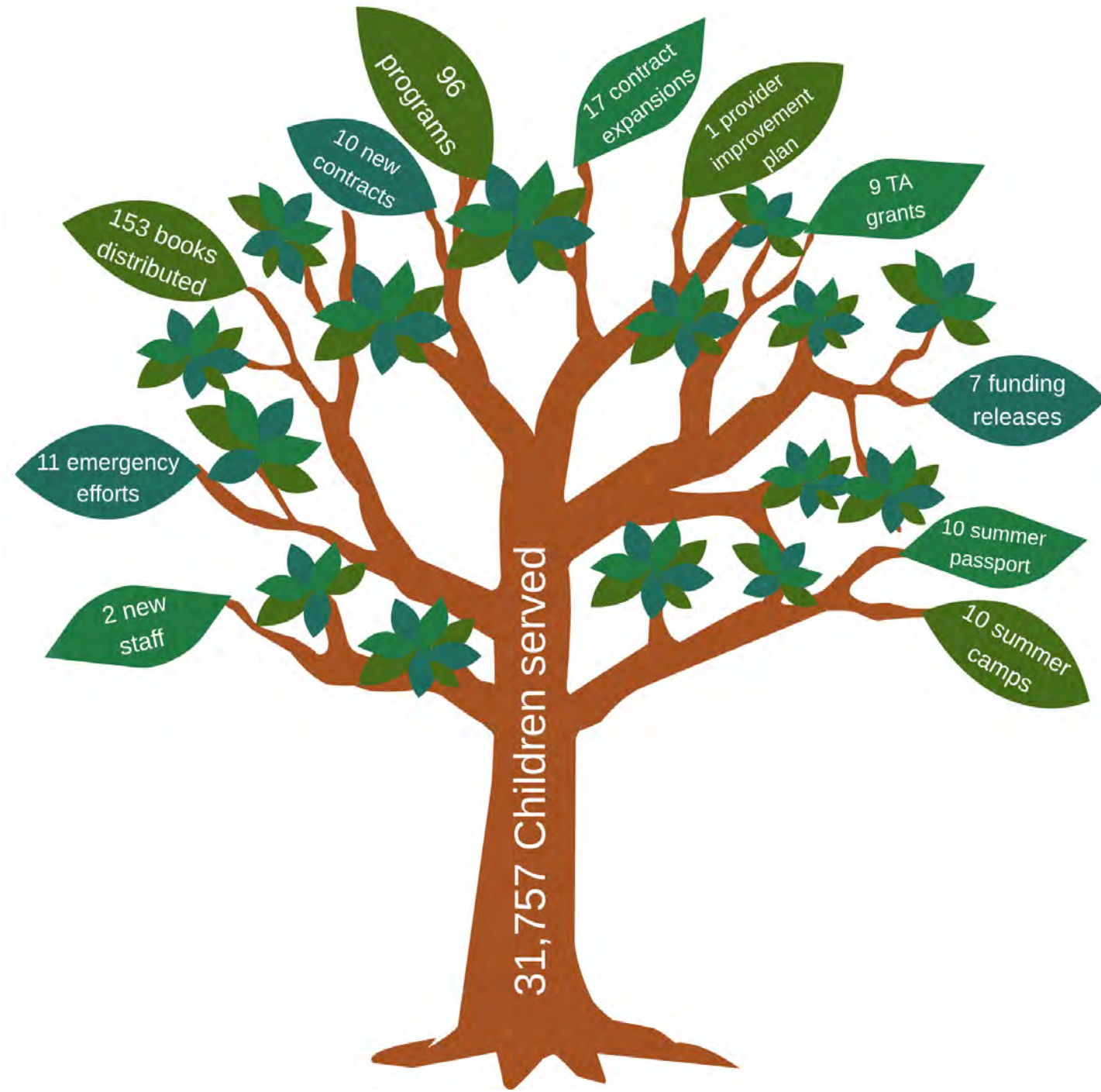
More than 68% Hispanics reported White for race, with 6% reported as Black or African American which differed greatly from the Non-Hispanic population.

## Race and Ethnicity



# CHILDREN'S BOARD OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY – PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT UPDATE

*Preliminary FY 2025  
Highlights*



# TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

# 2024

Children's Board of Hillsborough County



The Children's Board of Hillsborough County is dedicated to improving the quality and availability of services and resources for children and their families. As part of this commitment, this year we funded 13 Technical Assistance (TA) grant awards of up to \$10,000 to non-profit organizations with a budget of \$2 million or less that are seeking to improve their service quality. These grants can be used for a variety of purposes, including technology upgrades, staff development, marketing, and strategic planning.



Children's Board  
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY  
[www.ChildrensBoard.org](http://www.ChildrensBoard.org)

## Annual Survey Reveals Positive Feedback

Twelve of the 13 grantees participated in the annual survey. All respondents agreed that TA grants were beneficial, especially for smaller organizations, as they provided resources that were not usually available for technological upgrades and quality enhancements. Additionally, the success of obtaining a TA grant has fostered the confidence of these smaller non-profits in their ability to grow their organizations.



12/12

Survey respondents agreed TA grants are a **valuable community resource**.

100%

Survey respondents were **satisfied** or **very satisfied** with the TA grant process from application through reporting.

## Significant Results

### Increased Access to Services



Improvements to websites, technology, and marketing materials for better and increased family access to services.

### Increased Program Capacity



Improved staff training allowed for fewer external contractors and better services.

### Increased Systems Capacity



Updated computer equipment and software allowed for streamlined processes, quality assurance, and improved communication between providers and families.

**“Due to the increase in donation bin locations across the county, OASIS was able to increase our support from 2 to 3 outfits for economically disadvantaged students and from 3 to 4 outfits for our homeless students because of increased stock, especially in adult-sized clothing”**

- OASIS Network of New Tampa, Inc.

**“This internal capacity-building has not only resulted in cost savings but also fostered a more cohesive and adaptable team, capable of addressing the evolving needs of our community.”**

- Community Roots Collective



# PUBLIC RELATIONS UPDATES



Children's Board  
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

[www.ChildrensBoard.org](http://www.ChildrensBoard.org)



# IN THE NEWS

## Summer Camp Funding



Tampa Bay Boys and Girls Clubs get financial boost for summer camps

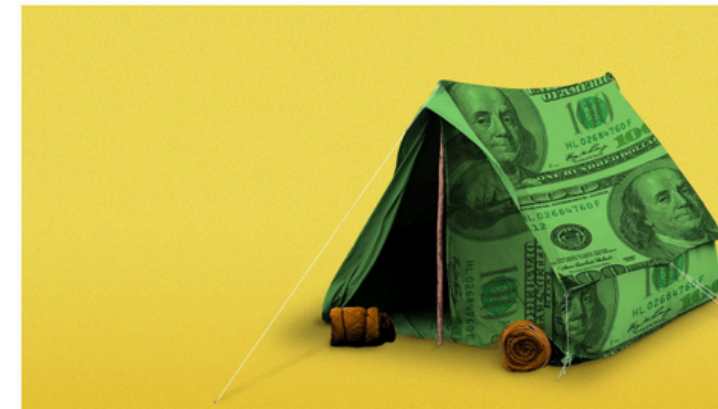
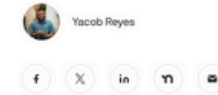
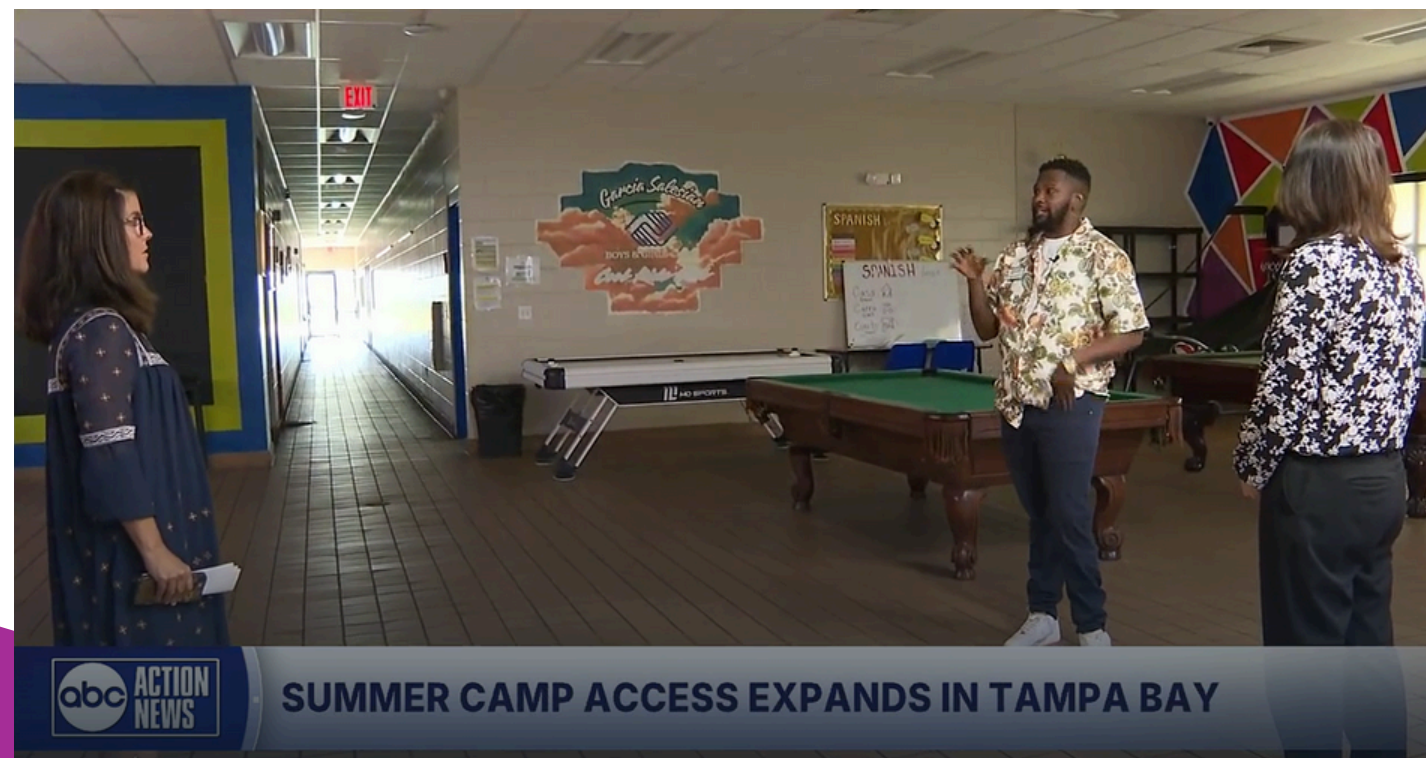


Illustration: Alire Carlilovics

Thanks to a \$400,000 boost from the Children's Board of Hillsborough County, hundreds of kids won't be stuck at home this summer.

We have been able to amplify the positive impact of our summer camp expansion and additional slot opportunities. These efforts have generated multiple press releases, and television segments.



Summer Boost Program to serve 430 children.



# IN THE NEWS

## Barbershop Conversations



Sean Daly - Daly Discoveries Show!



Frontpage Tampa Bay with Ed Narain - Radio Show!



# SAFE POOLS DAY IN THE NEWS

## Hillsborough County Florida



### Water safety starts at home

The Children's Board of Hillsborough County also joined the event, providing practical guidance for families to help prevent drownings and injuries:

- Designate a "water watcher" - An adult whose only job is to actively supervise swimmers, switching off every 10-15 minutes to stay alert
- Install pool alarms - Use alarms on doors and gates leading to pools, and consider surface alarms that alert when someone enters the water
- Invest in swim lessons - Drowning is a leading cause of death of children age 4 and under in Florida. Swim instruction can be a life-saving skill, with local programs available for children as young as 6 months old



# SAFE POOLS DAY IN THE NEWS



**FOX 13**  
**TAMPA BAY**

"Install two barriers in the home," Dexter Lewis, Director of Public Relations for the Children's Board of Hillsborough County, said. "A door alarm and a pool fence really can save a life this weekend. Make sure you know where your kids are at all times, and then we want to make sure that parents enroll their kids into swimming lessons. Swimming lessons reduce the risk of drowning by 88 percent," Lewis said.

Lewis said the Children's Board is offering free children's swim lessons in Brandon for kids three to 18-years-old through its partnership with High 5, Inc. It's eight swimming lessons at no cost throughout the summer.

"We also did learn, unfortunately, that there were five accidental deaths last year due to drowning, according to the Hillsborough County Medical Examiner, and that's 112 child deaths in the last 11 years. But the good news is that it is a 100 percent preventable child death if you take a couple of those tips away," Lewis said.

# Total of 21 Earned Media opportunities in May and June!



Contact: Dexter Lewis, Director of Public Relations  
Office: (813) 204-1772  
[LewisBD@childrensboard.org](mailto:LewisBD@childrensboard.org)

## **Tampa Barbers Take a Bold Stand on Mental Health** *Barbershop Conversations Launches in Hillsborough County to Train Barbers as Community Mental Health Advocates*

**DATELINE** – In a powerful move to break the silence around mental health in underserved communities, a national movement is arriving in Tampa—and it's not happening in a clinic. It's happening in the barbershop. On Sunday, June 22nd from 4:00 to 7:00 PM at The Skills Center (5107 N. 22nd Street, Tampa, FL 33610), *The Confess Project of America* will officially launch its *Barbershop Conversations* program in Florida. This Harvard-reviewed initiative trains barbers to serve as frontline mental health advocates, turning local barbershops into trusted spaces for healing, dialogue, and community care.

"We know that barbers are more than just barbers—they're mentors, listeners, and leaders," said Rebecca Bacon, Executive Director of the Children's Board of Hillsborough County. "When we equip them with tools to support mental wellness, we support not just individuals, but entire families and communities."

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 15, 2025



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 23, 2025

Contact: Dexter Lewis, Director of Public Relations  
Office: (813) 204-1772  
[LewisBD@childrensboard.org](mailto:LewisBD@childrensboard.org)

## **CHILDREN'S BOARD APPROVES \$471,329 TO EXPAND SUMMER CAMP ACCESS FOR 422 CHILDREN ACROSS NINE BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS SITES**

(Tampa, FL – May 23, 2025) – In direct response to a request by the Board of Directors with the Children's Board of Hillsborough County during the April 24 board meeting, staff engaged community partners to assess the demand and capacity for expanded summer programming. Leveraging the flexibility of Children's Board funding, a contract in the amount of \$471,329 has been approved to support the Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay in meeting this critical need. The funding will provide 422 additional summer camp slots across nine standalone sites from May 27 to August 1, 2025, helping ensure more children in high-demand areas have access to safe, enriching summer experiences.

The Summer Camp is from May 27 to August 1, 2025, and provides eligible youth ages 6 to 14 with scholarships to attend summer camps in Hillsborough County. While the Children's Board has been a supporter of Boys & Girls Club for over a decade, this summer's allocation of 422 slots available exclusively for Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Tampa Bay members marks historic growth in the partnership. The scholarships will be applicable for use at 9 local Clubs: Belmont, Brandon, Dover, Freddie Solomon, Garcia Salesian, Riverview, Temple Terrace, West Plant City, and Wimauma.

"Summer can be a really challenging time for families," stated Rebecca Bacon, Executive Director of Children's Board of Hillsborough County. "This program ensures that local youth are in safe, enriching camps and supports families with additional resources. Partnering with organizations like The Boys & Girls Clubs enables us to respond quickly to emerging family needs".



# NEW SOCIAL MEDIA SERIES

*Highlighting Programs Every Friday*

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# WHERE THE FUNDING GOES

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# FIRST PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT

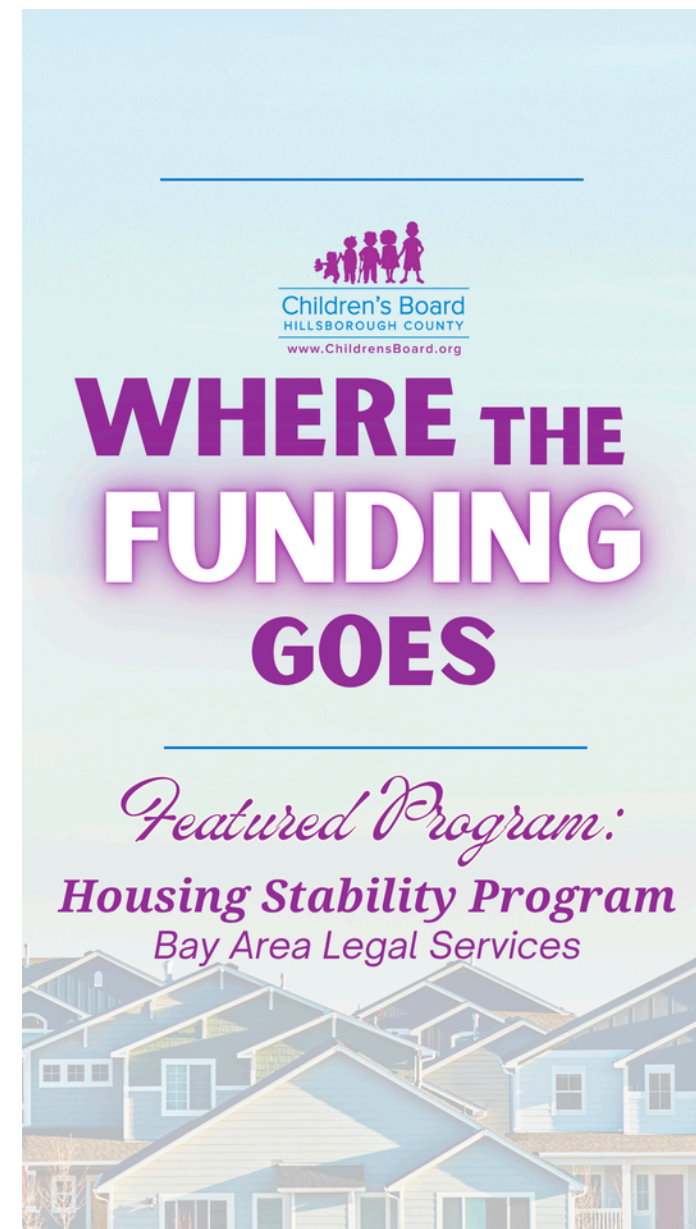
**High 5 Inc.**  
*Water Warriors*



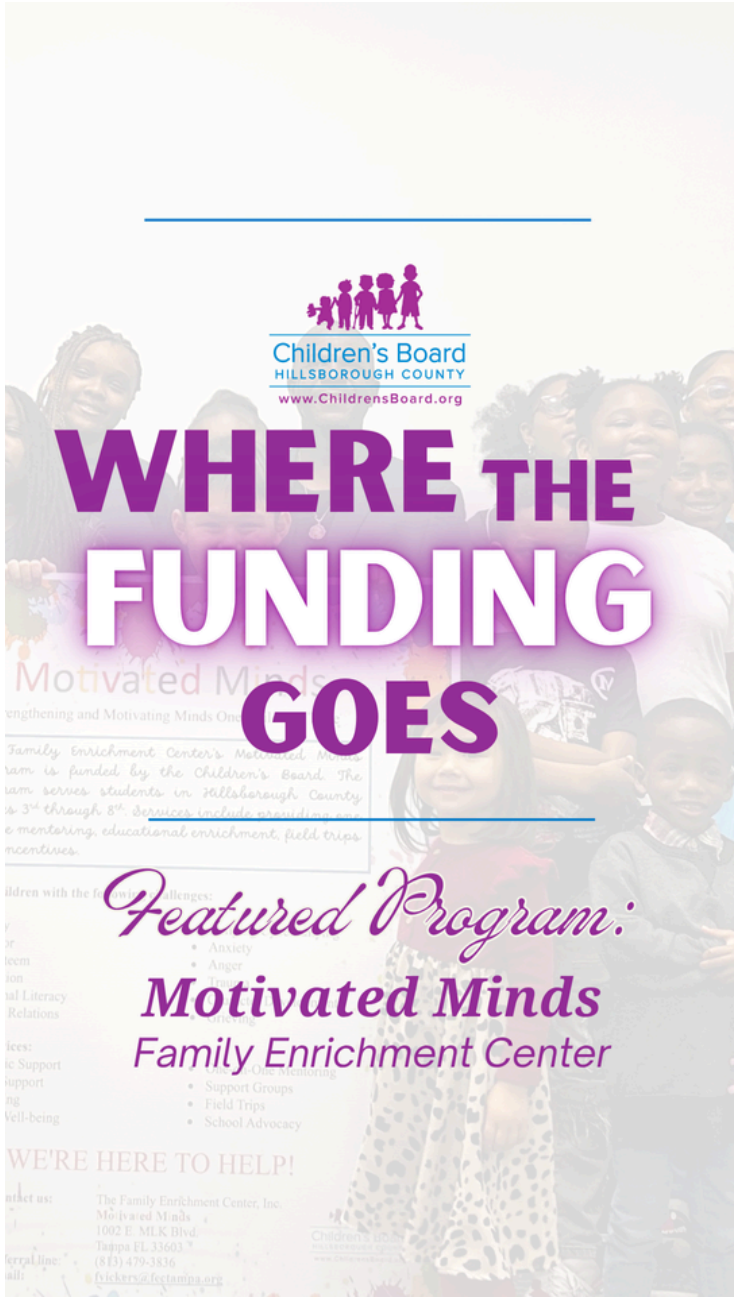
## Posted on:

- Facebook
- Instagram
- YouTube

# MOST RECENT HIGHLIGHT

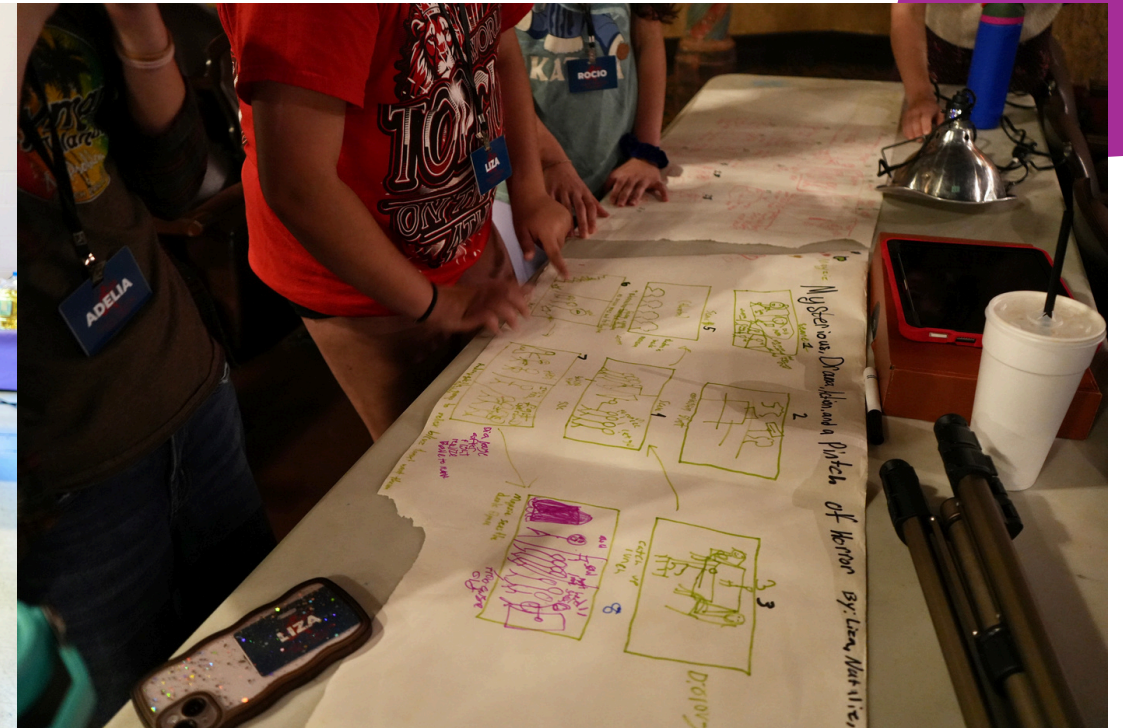


# UPCOMING HIGHLIGHT





# SUMMER PASSPORT





# SUMMER PASSPORT





# BARBERSHOP CONVERSATIONS KICK OFF EVENT







# WATER SAFETY MONTH



Former Buccaneer Shaq Barrett promotes drowning prevention.





# OUTREACH EVENTS



Successfully connected  
with and directly engaged  
with 1,013 community  
members in May and June  
through community  
outreach efforts.





# Thank you!



## Revenue Variance Analysis

May-2025

	FY 2024- 2025 YTD Budget	FY 2024- 2025 YTD Actual	FY 2024- 2025 Variance \$	FY 2024- 2025 Variance %
<b>Revenues</b>				
Ad-Valorem Taxes	69,485,514	72,246,755	2,761,241	4%
Investment Income	3,719,766	4,287,154	567,388	15%
Administrative Services Organization Funding	400,000	362,439	(37,561)	-9%
Other Community Partner Funding	80,000	80,000	0	0%
Miscellaneous Income	7,333	6,566	(767)	-10%
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>73,692,613</b>	<b>76,982,914</b>	<b>3,290,301</b>	<b>4%</b>

- **Ad-Valorem Taxes**
  - The ad-valorem tax revenue received year-to-date is in line with what was budgeted.
- **Investment Income**
  - Interest received year-to-date is over budget due to a budgeted 4% yield in the Florida Prime investment account, with the actual yield approximating 4.5%.
- **Administrative Services Organization**
  - ASO funding revenue received year-to-date is slightly under budget but is expected to be received at the budgeted amount by the end of the fiscal year.
- **Other Community Partner Funding**
  - Funding received is in line with what was budgeted.
- **Miscellaneous Income**
  - Income received year-to-date is slightly under budget.



## Expenditure Variance Analysis

### Statement of Expenditures

May-2025	FY 2024- 2025 YTD Budget	FY 2024- 2025 YTD Actual	FY 2024- 2025 Variance \$	FY 2024- 2025 Variance %
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Program Expenditures:				
Program Funding (Including Unallocated)	39,955,657	32,823,794	7,131,863	18%
Total Program Expenditures:	39,955,657	32,823,794	7,131,863	18%
Operating				
Employee Salaries and Benefits	4,458,553	4,199,424	259,129	6%
Contracted Professional Services	365,830	252,024	113,806	31%
CBHC FRC Occupancy Expenditures	356,324	323,146	33,178	9%
Facility Expenditures	291,379	203,145	88,234	30%
Other Operating	458,442	442,477	15,965	3%
Total Operating	5,930,528	5,420,216	510,312	9%
Capital Expenditures	2,666,667	0	2,666,667	100%
Mandatory Government Fees	1,701,693	1,744,854	(43,161)	-3%
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>50,254,545</b>	<b>39,988,864</b>	<b>10,265,681</b>	

**Contract Signature Log**  
**ASO ONLY**  
**FY 2025**

Entity/Agency	Contract Type	Brief Description	Contract Period	Contract Amount	Board Approved	Signed By	Date Signed
Judi del Carmen Guzman Noguerras	ASO Provider	Tutoring	5/29-25 - ongoing	Varies	No	Rebecca Bacon	5/29/2025
Achieve Tutoring, LLC	ASO Provider	Tutoring	6/2/25 - ongoing	Varies	No	Rebecca Bacon	6/2/2025
Luval Ventures	ASO Provider	Tutoring	6/10/25 - ongoing	Varies	No	Rebecca Bacon	6/10/2025
Marisa E Quinta	ASO Provider	Tutoring	6/10/25 - ongoing	Varies	No	Rebecca Bacon	6/10/2025

**Contract Signature Log**  
**Programs ONLY**  
**FY 2025**

Entity/Agency	Contract Type	Brief Description	Contract Period	Contract Amount	Board Approved	Signed By	Date Signed
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA BOARD OF TRUSTEES, A PUBLIC BODY CORPORATE	Investment	Hillsborough HIPPY Parent Involvement Project - AMENDMENT #2- New subcontractor - Crisis Center	10/01/2024 - 09/30/2025	N/A	N/A	REBECCA BACON	5/20/2025
REDEFINERS WORLD LANGUAGES, INC.	Leading	Global Explorers Program (Amendment)	10/01/2024 - 09/30/2025	\$218,840.00	YES	REBECCA BACON	5/21/2025
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF TAMPA BAY, INC.	Leading	Hillsborough Education Funders Research Project	05/01/2025 - 09/30/2025	\$19,000.00	Executive Director	REBECCA BACON	5/27/2025
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF TAMPA BAY, INC.	Leading	Thrive by Five Early Literacy Guides	05/01/2025 - 09/30/2025	\$44,825.00	Executive Director	REBECCA BACON	5/27/2025
TAMPA METROPOLITAN AREA YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION, INC.	Leading	2025 Summer Camp Slots	05/27/2025 - 08/08/2025	\$65,600.00	Executive Director	REBECCA BACON	6/5/2025
BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF TAMPA BAY, INC.	Uniting	2025 Summer Camp Slots	05/27/2025 - 08/01/2025	\$471,329.00	YES	REBECCA BACON	6/11/2025
GENTLEMEN'S QUEST	Leading	2025 Youth Wellness Camp	05/12/2025 - 07/10/2025	\$22,000.00	YES	REBECCA BACON	6/11/2025
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY SCHOOL READINESS COALITION, INC. D/B/A EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, INC.	Uniting	Quality Performance and Gold Seal Incentives	04/01/2025 - 06/30/2025	\$600,000.00	YES	REBECCA BACON	6/12/2025
METROPOLITAN MINISTRIES, INC.	Investment	Pathways to Hope - AMENDMENT	10/01/2024 - 09/30/2025	N/A	N/A	REBECCA BACON	6/13/2025
HILLSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION, INC.	Investment	Quality Early Education System - AMENDMENT	10/01/2024 - 09/30/2025	\$3,080,437.00	YES	REBECCA BACON	6/13/2025

**Contract Signature Log**  
**Vendors ONLY**  
**FY 2025**

Entity/Agency	Contract Type	Brief Description	Contract Period	Contract Amount	Board Approved	Signed By	Date Signed
Distinctive Painting Company Db a CertaPro Painters	Vendor	Exterior envelope cleaning & painting services for CBHC HQ	5/13/25 - 8/30/25	\$24,095.00	No	Rebecca Bacon	5/15/2025
Builder's Risk Insurance Policy	Vendor	Brandon FRC Buildout Coverage	4/29/25 - 11/19/25	\$34,786.00	No	Rebecca Bacon	5/14/2025
Risk Management Associates	Vendor	Builder's Risk Policy for new Brandon FRC	4/29/25 - 11/19/25	\$34,782.00	No	Rebecca Bacon	5/21/2025
AVI-SPI LLC	Vendor	Projector Motor Replacement	5/19/25 - 9/30/25	\$335.00	No	Rebecca Bacon	5/22/2025
Ramcon Roofing	Vendor	Roofing Membrane Repair - new Brandon location	5/30/25 - 9/30/25	\$2,500.00	No	Rebecca Bacon	6/3/2025
Mid Florida Tree Service, Inc.	Vendor	Additional Palm Removal & Stump grinding at CBHC HQ - AMENDMENT	5/12/25 - 6/20/25	\$700.00	No	Rebecca Bacon	6/9/2025
Florida Family Support Network	Vendor	Protective Factors Training - T. James	6/12/25 - 6/13/25	\$620.00	No	Rebecca Bacon	6/9/2025



Fiscal Year 2024 - 2025

Monthly Financial Report

**May 2025**

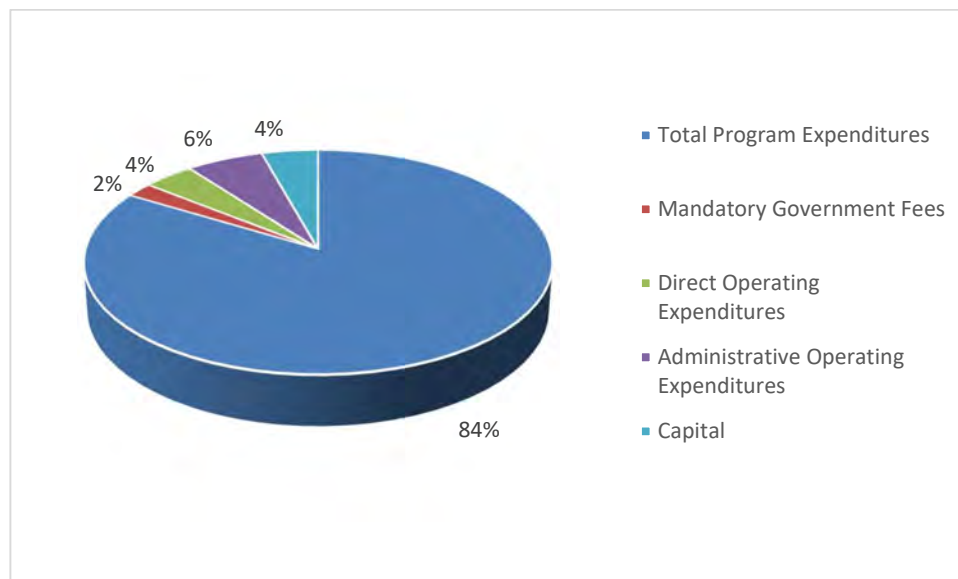
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- 5. Revenue Variance Analysis
- 6. Expenditure Variance Analysis
- 7. Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Estimated Spending
- 8. Narrative/Assumptions for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Estimated Spending
- 9. Investments Statement
- 10. New Program Funding (Unallocated) Report
- 14. New Program Funding Report – Detail

## Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget

	<b>FY 2024-2025 Original Budget</b>
<b>Revenues</b>	
Ad-Valorem Taxes	73,920,760
Investment Income	5,579,649
Administrative Services Organization Funding	600,000
Other Community Partner Funding	410,000
Miscellaneous Income	11,000
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b><u>80,521,409</u></b>
<b>Expenditures</b>	
Program Expenditures:	
Program Funding (Continuation Grants)	70,457,801
New Program Funding (unallocated)	6,380,000
Total Program Expenditures:	<u>76,837,801</u>
Operating	
Employee Salaries and Benefits	6,687,829
Contracted Professional Services	548,745
CBHC FRC Occupancy Expenditures	534,486
Facility Expenditures	437,069
Other Operating	687,663
Total Operating	<u>8,895,792</u>
Capital Expenditures	4,000,000
Mandatory Government Fees	1,912,015
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b><u>91,645,608</u></b>
<b>Net Spend Down of Fund Balance</b>	<b><u>(11,124,199)</u></b>





## ***Financial Statement Category Definitions***

- **Revenue**

- **Ad-Valorem Taxes** includes current and delinquent ad-valorem tax revenue and excess fees returned to the Children's Board originally paid to the County based on the tax revenue.
- **Investment Income** includes revenue from various interest-bearing accounts.
- **Administrative Services Organization (ASO)** funding represents contributions from other funders specifically designated for use by providers in the community, managed by the Children's Board ASO staff. These dollars are also included in the program expenditure line. An example is the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC).
- **Other Community Partner funding** represents funds contributed from community partners that are added to our provider contract amounts and included in the program funding line, for example, the School District of Hillsborough County and Hillsborough County BOCC.
- **Miscellaneous Income** consists of match revenue from the insurance company, cash back from the credit card, and any other miscellaneous revenue received during the year.

- **Expenditures**

- **Program Funding (Continuation Grants)** represents provider contracts funded by Children's Board, property tax revenue and funds contributed from our community partners. This amount also includes the dollars managed through the ASO to provide support to participants of case management programs.
- **New Program Funding (unallocated)** includes dollars budgeted for new program contracts and one-time funding that will be released and awarded by a competitive or application process.
- **Employee Salaries and Benefits** include wages paid to all non-contractor employees. Benefits represent costs provided for salaried and hourly wage employees including Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA), life and health insurance, short-term and long-term disability insurance, unemployment, and retirement benefits.
- **Contracted Professional Services** represents amounts budgeted for contracted information technology services, legal, media buys, auditing, and other professional services.
- **Facility Expenditures** represents necessary costs to operate the Children's Board offices, conference center, and seven (7) CBHC Family Resource Centers (CB FRC) occupancy expenditures, including utilities, information technology, maintenance, and repairs.
- **Other Operating** contains staff training, conference and meeting travel, postage, insurance, promotional activities, printing, supplies, advertising for Truth In Millage (TRIM), budget ads and other public notices, memberships, and subscriptions. Also included are support activities with provider agencies and community organizations for training and events.
- **Capital Expenditures** include the budget for building expenditures.
- **Mandatory Government Fees** include Tax Collector's fee, Property Appraiser's fee as well as the City Storm Water fee.

## Statement of Revenues and Expenditures

**May-2025**

	<b>FY 2024- 2025 YTD Budget</b>	<b>FY 2024- 2025 YTD Actual</b>	<b>FY 2024- 2025 Variance \$</b>	<b>FY 2024- 2025 Variance %</b>
<b>Revenues</b>				
Ad-Valorem Taxes	69,485,514	72,246,755	2,761,241	4%
Investment Income	3,719,766	4,287,154	567,388	15%
Administrative Services Organization Funding	400,000	362,439	(37,561)	-9%
Other Community Partner Funding	80,000	80,000	0	0%
Miscellaneous Income	7,333	6,566	(767)	-10%
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>73,692,613</b>	<b>76,982,914</b>	<b>3,290,301</b>	<b>4%</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Program Expenditures:				
Program Funding (Including Unallocated)	39,955,657	32,823,794	7,131,863	18%
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Operating Expenditures				
Employee Salaries and Benefits	4,458,553	4,199,424	259,129	6%
Contracted Professional Services	365,830	252,024	113,806	31%
CBHC FRC Occupancy Expenditures	356,324	323,146	33,178	9%
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Capital Expenditures	2,666,667	0	2,666,667	100%
Mandatory Government Fees	1,701,693	1,744,854	(43,161)	-3%
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>50,254,545</b>	<b>39,988,864</b>	<b>10,265,681</b>	
<b>Net Cash Flow</b>	<b>23,438,069</b>	<b>36,994,050</b>	<b>13,555,981</b>	

## Revenue Variance Analysis

May-2025

	FY 2024- 2025 YTD Budget	FY 2024- 2025 YTD Actual	FY 2024- 2025 Variance \$	FY 2024- 2025 Variance %
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  - The ad-valorem tax revenue received year-to-date is in line with what was budgeted.
- **Investment Income**
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- **Administrative Services Organization**
  - ASO funding revenue received year-to-date is slightly under budget but is expected to be received at the budgeted amount by the end of the fiscal year.
- **Other Community Partner Funding**
  - Funding received is in line with what was budgeted.
- **Miscellaneous Income**
  - Income received year-to-date is slightly under budget.

## Expenditure Variance Analysis

### Statement of Expenditures

May-2025	FY 2024- 2025 YTD Budget	FY 2024- 2025 YTD Actual	FY 2024- 2025 Variance \$	FY 2024- 2025 Variance %
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<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>50,254,545</b>	<b>39,988,864</b>	<b>10,265,681</b>	

- **Program Expenditures**
  - Continuation grants are under budget due to certain providers not being current on invoicing the Children's Board, in addition to a portion of new program funding having yet to be allocated.
- **Employee Salaries and Benefits**
  - This line is slightly under budget due to some positions being vacant at various points during the fiscal year thus far.
- **Contracted Professional Services**
  - This line item is under budget due to a delay in billing for legal services, as well as underspending in Community Education & Awareness. However, spending is expected to be in line with what was budgeted by the end of the fiscal year.
- **CBHC FRC Occupancy Expenditures**
  - This line item is under budget due to underspending in building repairs/maintenance, janitorial services, and utility services. Overall, spending is expected to be slightly under budget for the fiscal year.
- **Facility Expenditures**
  - This line item is under budget due to underspending in building repairs/maintenance and lawn maintenance services.
- **Other Operating**
  - Spending is in line with what was budgeted.
- **Capital Expenditures**
  - This line item is under budget due to the planned build out of the property purchased for a Family Resource Center in Brandon (which is expected to begin in the coming months), as well as the planned purchase of property for an additional Family Resource Center in the Riverview area.
- **Mandatory Government Fees**
  - Spending is in line with what was budgeted.

**Children's Board Of Hillsborough County**  
**FY 2024 - 2025 Estimated Spending**

	<b>FY 2024 - 2025 Budget</b>	<b>FY 2024 - 2025 Estimated Actual</b>	<b>FY 2024 - 2025 Projected Difference</b>
<b>Revenue</b>			
Ad-Valorem Taxes	73,920,760	74,765,018	844,258
Investment Income	5,579,649	6,126,000	546,351
Administrative Services Organization (ASO)	600,000	600,000	-
Other Community Partner	410,000	235,521	(174,479)
Miscellaneous Income	11,000	43,888	32,888
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>80,521,409</b>	<b>81,770,427</b>	<b>1,249,018</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Program:			
Program Funding (Continuation Grants)	70,457,801	65,672,186	4,785,615
CBHC Unallocated Program Funding	6,380,000	5,469,548	910,452
Total Program Expenditures:	<b>76,837,801</b>	<b>71,141,734</b>	<b>5,696,067</b>
Operating Expenditures			
Employee Salaries and Benefits	6,687,829	6,219,682	468,147
Contracted Professional Services	548,745	581,648	(32,903)
CBHC FRC Occupancy Expenditures	534,486	514,054	20,432
Facility Expenditures	437,069	363,798	73,271
Other Operating	687,663	614,670	72,993
Total Operating Expenditures	<b>8,895,792</b>	<b>8,293,852</b>	<b>601,940</b>
Capital Expenditures	4,000,000	2,948,585	1,051,415
Mandatory Government Fees	1,912,015	1,919,478	(7,463)
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>91,645,608</b>	<b>84,303,649</b>	<b>7,341,959</b>
<b>Total Projected Difference</b>			<b>8,590,977</b>

## ***Narrative/Assumptions for FY 2024 - 2025 Estimated Spending***

- **Revenue**

- Total Revenue is projected to be over budget by a net amount of \$1,249,018.
- Ad-Valorem Tax Revenue is projected to be over budget by \$844,258 as more than 95% of the tax revenue is expected to be received.
- Investment Income is projected to be over budget by \$546,351. The current interest rate is 1.08% with Wells Fargo and 4.48% with Florida Prime, which is higher than the 4% budgeted.
- The Administrative Services Organization (ASO) revenue is expected to be received at the budgeted amount.
- Other Community Partner Revenue is projected to be under budget by \$174,479 because summer services expenses and revenue will be lower than budgeted.
- Miscellaneous Income is projected to be over budget by \$32,888 due to provider repayments received from the prior fiscal year.

- **Expenditures**

- **Program Expenditures**

- Total Program Expenditures are projected to be under budget by \$5.7 million.
  - Continuation Grants are projected to be under budget by \$4.8 million.
    - Negotiated Continuation Contracts were under budget by \$1,052,665, of which \$372,464 has been repurposed and awarded during the year, leaving \$680,201 unallocated.
    - Estimated underspending of the remaining continuation contracts is \$4.1 million.
  - Unallocated Program Funding is projected to be under budget by \$910,452 based on contracts awarded year to date.

- **Operating Expenditures**

- Salaries and Benefits are projected to be under budget by \$468,147 because of vacant positions throughout the year.
- Contracted Professional Services are projected to be over budget by \$32,903 (6%).
- CBHC FRC Occupancy Expenditures are projected to be under budget by \$20,432 (4%).
- Facility Expenditures for the Palm Avenue building are projected to be under budget by a net amount of \$73,271 due to underspending in building repairs/maintenance and lawn maintenance services.
- Other Operating Expenditures are projected to be under budget by a net amount of \$72,993. This includes underspending in staff local travel, professional development, and training & events.

- **Capital Expenditures**

- Capital Expenditures are projected to be under budget by \$1.1 million because the planned purchase of property for an additional Family Resource Center in the Riverview area is not expected to occur until at least FY 2025 – 2026.

- **Mandatory Government Fees**

- Mandatory Government Fees are projected to be over budget by \$7,463 (less than 1%).

Children's Board Of Hillsborough County  
Investments Statement

**May-2025**

<u>Investment Instrument</u>	<u>Financial Institution</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Maturity</u>	<u>Yield</u>
Checking	Wells Fargo Government Advantage	1,490,949	1 day	1.08%
LGIP	Florida State Board of Administration	<u>142,661,457</u>	N/A	4.50%
		<b><u>144,152,406</u></b>		



**FY 2024-2025 NEW PROGRAM FUNDING (UNALLOCATED) REPORT**  
**Regular Board Meeting - June 26, 2025**

	<b>Beginning Budget</b>	<b>Adjustments</b>	<b>Revised Budget</b>	<b>YTD Amount Approved</b>	<b>YTD Uncommitted Funds Available</b>	<b>Current Funding Requests</b>	<b>Uncommitted Funds Available</b>
<b>Technical Assistance Funding</b>	225,000	(148,210)	76,790	70,142	6,648		6,648
<b>Spring &amp; Summer Passports</b>	250,000		250,000	190,612	59,388		59,388
<b>Leading Grants (Summer Funding)</b>	200,000	(183,000)	17,000	17,000	-		-
<b>Emerging Needs Funding</b>	300,000		300,000	63,825	236,175		236,175
<b>Emergency Funding</b>		320,221	320,221	320,221	-		-
<b>Match</b>	300,000		300,000	73,480	226,520		226,520
<b>Leading Grants - Free Family Day</b>	150,000	(124,200)	25,800	-	25,800		25,800
<b>Leading Grant - Strategic Initiatives - Barbershop Conversations</b>	140,000		140,000	125,000	15,000		15,000
<b>Leading Grant - Strategic Initiatives - Palm River/Clair Mel Family Support</b>	140,000		140,000	110,000	30,000		30,000
<b>Uniting Grants - Support New Programs</b>	4,000,000	(3,318,411)	681,589	673,113	8,476		8,476
<b>Holiday Out of School Time Grants</b>	250,000		250,000	100,000	150,000		150,000
<b>Mentoring Program for Children with Varying Abilities Grants</b>	300,000		300,000	271,755	28,245		28,245
<b>Exhibit Space at Plant City CBFRC Grant</b>	125,000		125,000	125,000	-		-
<b>Totals</b>	<b>6,380,000</b>	<b>(3,453,600)</b>	<b>2,926,400</b>	<b>2,140,148</b>	<b>786,252</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>786,252</b>

Original Continuation Funding Budget	70,457,801
Actual Contract Amount Negotiated	(69,405,136)
<b>Additional Amt Available from Continuation Funding</b>	<b>1,052,665</b>

Remaining from Continuation Summer Contracts	1,066
Joshua Way of Hope - Achievers - 20% admin	(114,553)
Joshua Way of Hope - Life Skills 360 Training Institute - 20% admin	(13,833)
Rooted in Play - Pop Up Adventure Playground Project - 20% admin	(2,743)
Just Initiative - Woven Empowerment - 20% admin	(23,054)
PCAT - South County - 20% admin	(51,737)
PCAT - Sulphur Springs - 20% admin	(14,060)
Positive Family Partners - Learning Connections - 20% admin	(4,682)
Instruments for Life - Music Outreach Program - 20% admin	(9,114)
Joshua Way of Hope - Building a Stronger Me - 20% admin	(9,968)
Rebuilding Together Tampa Bay - contract abandonment	357,000
National Youth Advocate Program - provider decided not to proceed	252,824
Bay Area Legal Services - emergency funding contract - provider withdrew	60,390
ELC Summer Boost one-time	(800,000)
ELC Q4 contract	(15,500)
<b>Net Additional \$\$ Available</b>	<b>664,701</b>

The following are reflected in the “Adjustments” column on the previous page:

**Contract Amendments**

Seniors in Service of Tampa Bay, Inc. – Foster Grandparent Program with Readers in Motion

Expansion of existing program  
Ongoing funding  
\$75,000

Preserve Vision Florida, Inc. – Children’s Vision Health and Safety

Expansion of existing program  
Ongoing funding  
\$25,000

Joshua Way of Hope, Inc. – Building a Stronger Me

Expansion of existing program  
Ongoing funding  
\$48,210

Glazer Children’s Museum – Children’s Board Free Tuesday

Funds added to existing program  
One-time funding  
\$21,624

REACHUP, Inc. – GROWTH with Doulas and Dads

Expansion of existing program  
Ongoing funding  
\$42,707

Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay, Inc. – Afterzone Initiative at Giunta Middle

Expansion of existing program  
Ongoing funding  
\$45,313

Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay, Inc. – Afterzone Middle School Initiative

Expansion of existing program  
Ongoing funding  
\$421,851

ReDefiners World Languages, Inc. – Global Explorers Program

Expansion of existing program

Ongoing funding

\$67,640

Instruments 4 Life, Inc. – Music Outreach Program

Expansion of existing program

Ongoing funding

\$32,642

The Spring of Tampa Bay, Inc. – Family Safety from Domestic Violence

Replacement of lost funding

Ongoing funding

\$88,000

Corporation to Develop Communities of Tampa, Inc. – CDC of Tampa Wealth Builders

Expansion of existing program

Ongoing funding

\$90,730

Children's Home Network – Supporting and Empowering Educational and Developmental Services (SEEDS)

Expansion of existing program

Ongoing funding

\$77,662

Children's Home Network – Caregiver Support Services

Expansion of existing program

Ongoing funding

\$226,955

Hillsborough Community College Foundation, Inc. – Quality Early Education System

Expansion of existing program

Ongoing funding

\$140,957

University of South Florida – Hillsborough HIPPY Parent Involvement Project

Expansion of existing program

Ongoing funding

\$278,930

Early Learning Coalition of Hillsborough County, Inc. – School Readiness Funding  
Funding to support a portion of a shortfall in DEL funding  
One-time funding  
\$600,000

### **Summer Services**

Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay, Inc. – Summer Camp Slots  
422 slots  
One-time funding  
\$471,329

Gentlemen's Quest of Tampa – 2025 Youth Wellness Camp  
Funding to serve an additional ten children  
Ongoing funding  
\$5,000

The Skills Center, Inc. – 2025 Summer Camp Slots  
150 slots  
One-time funding  
\$124,200

Housing Authority of the City of Tampa – 2025 Summer Camp Slots  
25 slots  
One-time funding  
\$4,250

Tampa Metropolitan Area YMCA, Inc. – 2025 Summer Camp Slots  
40 slots  
One-time funding  
\$65,600

**FY 2024-2025 NEW PROGRAM FUNDING (UNALLOCATED) REPORT**  
**Regular Board Meeting - June 26, 2025**

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MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY, INC	MOSI in Motion at Children's Board Family Resource Center in Plant City	The "Be the Astronaut" exhibit at CBFRC in Plant City offers interactive space missions, STEM workshops, and family events to engage elementary -aged children and their families in STEM learning, enhancing their knowledge, interest in STEM careers, and overall family engagement in science education.													125,000
OASIS Network of New Tampa, Inc. DBA: OASIS Opportunities	EF-Student Disaster Recovery Assistance	Funds will be utilized to aid in recovery efforts due to recent hurricanes by providing students in Hillsborough County Public Schools with uniform, basic clothing items and hygiene kits. The school social workers will identify students in most need.					24,794								



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Gentlemen's Quest of Tampa Inc.	EF-Project Hope	Funds will be utilized to alleviate immediate needs to families post Hurricane Milton by hosting a Family Night November 21, 2024, at Town and Country Elementary with hot meals, family engagement activities, and prepaid cards for essential items. A grocery and prepaid card distribution will also be provided on November 25, 2024, to Sulphur Springs Elementary family homes. The school social workers will identify families in most need.					5,170								
Born to Care	EF-Recovery Care	Funds will be utilized to aid in hurricane recovery efforts to replenish and distribute groceries, toiletries, diapers, wipes, and jackets to children and families in Hillsborough County.					14,300								
Positive Spin, Inc.	EF-Disaster Recovery	Funds will be utilized to hire a staff member for short term emergency case management to address financial stability with rent and/or utilities to families impacted by recent hurricanes within Hillsborough County.					63,965								

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Better Together Strengthening Families	EF- Better Together Hurricane Relief	Funds will be utilized to aid in recovery efforts in Hillsborough County due to recent hurricanes by providing child safety such as beds, clothing, shoes, cribs, and first aid kits for children.					27,500								
The Crisis Center of Tampa Bay	EF-Post Hurricanes Trauma Therapy	Funds will be utilized to provide therapy to four uninsured families residing in Hillsborough County that were psychologically impacted by Hurricane Helene and Milton.					13,200								
Children's Network of Hillsborough	EF-Hurricane Relief Child Sfaety Event	Funds will be utilized to aid in recovery efforts due to recent hurricanes by providing car seats and education to families with young children.					11,000								
New Life Warehouse Inc.	EF-Hurricane Help Beds for Families	Funds will be utilized to aid in recovery efforts for families impacted by the recent hurricanes in Hillsborough County by providing beds for safe sleep practices.					9,702								
Bay Area Legal Services, Inc.	EF-Expanded Disaster Services Initiative	Funds will be utilized to aid additional disaster phone line support, mediation, and/or court appearances post recovery efforts due to recent hurricanes with a staff attorney. Hillsborough County families are eligible with children and up to 300% poverty level.					60,390								

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I-Supplies Foundation Inc.	EF-Keeping Families Warm	Funds will be utilized to aid in recovery efforts for families impacted by the recent hurricanes in Hillsborough County by providing blankets in designated zip codes: Silver Oaks 33610, Jackson Heights 33610, Columbus Courts 33607, and Central Courts 33602.					11,000								
Tampa Metropolitan Area YMCA, Inc.	EF-BASE Hurricane Assistance	Funds will be utilized to support recovery efforts for families impacted by the recent hurricanes in Hillsborough County by providing financial aid to children of BASE families (not currently receiving assistance) in out of school time programs at 25 school-based sites.					79,200								
Frameworks of Tampa Bay, Inc.	Pathways to EQ: Strengthening the Foundation of Hillsborough County through Emotional Intelligence for Youth	Funds were approved for the purchase of: a wheel graphic to visually define EQ's evidence-based components for varied platforms; a redesigned cover and section template for Frameworks' Community Building Sessions™ (CBS) Guide, and a Design consultation services to further align new branding .	10,000												

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We Gonna Learn Today	Building WGLT Capacity	Funds were approved for the purchase of: a Smart Board, Set of Training Books for facilitators, a Laptop, and a tracking platform will allow WGLT to monitor participant demographics and engagement metrics.	5,629												
REDEFINERS WORLD LANGUAGES, INC.	Academic Achievers	Academic Achievers will provide awareness of tutor opportunities to individuals 18-54 years of age. The program will also conduct outreach to families to promote their tutoring services for children Kindergarten through 5 <sup>th</sup> grade. The program will support children and families through literacy activities and tutoring sessions.						73,480							
GREATER PALM RIVER POINT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION	Palm River Family Services	The program will support local families by helping them to improve their economic stability, physical health, oral health, education access, and socio-emotional/ mental well-being by providing support and educational advocacy, job fairs, educational workshops, and social service referrals for the appropriate resources.									110,000				

**FY 2024-2025 NEW PROGRAM FUNDING (UNALLOCATED) REPORT**  
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ENVISION RESOLUTION FOUNDATION, INC., THE	Barbershop Conversations Mental Health Training	The program proposes to train barbers serving residents of ONEhillsborough zip codes, develop partnerships with community-based mental health professionals, provide mental health and other community-based resources to barber and conduct quarterly meetings with trained barbers, mental health professionals, and ONEhillsborough staff.								125,000					
CHILDREN'S HOME, INC., THE D/B/A CHILDREN'S HOME NETWORK	Guiding Stars Mentoring Program	GUIDING STARS mentoring program for K-8 children with varying abilities and their families will provide personalized support that fosters academic, social, and emotional development. Mentors will work with families in providing guidance, resources, and advocacy for children through inclusion, building confidence, and family engagement to promote growth and success.												271,755	



**FY 2024-2025 NEW PROGRAM FUNDING (UNALLOCATED) REPORT**  
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ROOTED IN PLAY CORP	Every Child Plays	A supportive environment for child-led play, creativity, and exploration. Running 9 AM–4 PM, the camps feature inclusive, developmentally appropriate schedules incorporating loose parts play, self-directed discovery, and reflective practices. The program ensures individualized attention and fosters autonomy for children of all abilities with a low playworker-to-child ratio.											100,000		
MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY, INC	2025 Spring and Summer Passports	Provide programming for a full day of camp from 9:00am to 4:00pm with extended care from 7:00am-9:00am and 4:00pm-6:00pm. Hands-on, inquiry-based STEAM (science, technology, and engineering, art and mathematics)		30,950											
LIGHTNING FOUNDATION, INC.	2025 Spring and Summer Passports	Provide programming for a full day of camp from 8:00 am- 5:30 pm including T-shirt, swag bag, training, lunch, snacks per child/per week. Provide a variety of sports, crafts, and entertainment for the children during all day camp.		73,500											

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CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF TAMPA, INC., THE, D/B/A GLAZER CHILDREN'S MUSEUM	2025 Spring and Summer Passports	Provide programming for a full day of camp from 9:00am – 4:30pm. Includes two snacks, Camp Imagination T-shirt, backpack, and program supplies per child/per week. Daily activities to include story time, museum play time, and play-based activities.		21,000											
National Youth Advocate Program, Inc.	Strengthening Families	Strengthening Families Program is an evidence-based parenting and family skills program delivered to the whole family in a family group setting or in-home. The program is designed to improve parenting skills and family relationships, improve social competencies, and reduce family conflict.										252,824			
Bay Area Youth Services, Inc.	Elevate Beyond Barriers	A program to equip youth and families with the tools to succeed through emotional growth, educational support, and self-advocacy. By enhancing emotional skills and fostering academic achievement, Elevate Beyond Barriers works to reduce negative behaviors and violence, creating stronger, safer communities where youth and families can thrive.										300,000			

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Champions for Children, Inc.	Great We Grow	Great We Grow is an early childhood learning and resource center located in Town N' Country neighborhood of Hillsborough County. The program offers bilingual (English and Spanish) services for families with children aged birth to 5 years old, including playgroups, workshops, developmental checkups, and community activities.										120,289			
Girls Empowered Mentally for Success, Inc.	Transitions Candle Capacity Building	Equipment and supplies for the candle making- including a specialized label making printer; printer ink; blank labels; candle containers and lids; candle making supplies such as wax melter, scents, wicks, and soy; scale; packaging bags; and shelving.	7,428												
Joshua Way of Hope, Inc.	Case Management Data Base System	Purchase of a case management database system along with the training and support features needed to effectively utilize the system.	10,000												
Parents & Children Advance Together Literacy Ministries, Inc.	Read, Grow & Protect Literacy Initiative	10 laptops (under \$600 each), 9 headsets, and 3 printers.	7,341												

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Positive Family Partners, Inc.	TA Infrastructure Support	Dell Vostro tower, six HP 17T Cn400 laptops, including associated warranties, software to include Microsoft Office for all computers, Norton virus protection for all computers, 10 flash drives, and 1 large ink cartridges for the Konica Minolta printer/scanner.	5,019												
ReDefiners World Languages Inc.	FY25 Cyber Security & IT Project	Hire an IT consultant to conduct a comprehensive risk assessment of hardware and software; Consultant will develop security policies, train employees on best practices, network computers for remote monitoring, implement encryption, and establish protocols for incident response and data backups.	10,000												

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Wheels of Success, Inc.	Wheels of Success Technology Upgrades	Essential Technology Upgrades, including a new desktop, Four monitors and Required cables; Two medium-capacity shredders, A large-capacity shredder; One shared laser printer and printer ink; Software, Adobe Pro and Microsoft products, Adobe CreativeCloud, QuickBooks; Organizational accounts for Constant Contact, Grant Station, Zoom, and Survey Monkey; Staff Development Training for the Executive Administrator and Client Coordinator/Case Manager.	9,968												
Where Love Grows Inc	WLG Mobile Cooking Program and Family Dinner Nights	Computer, Printer and ink, Aprons, Microsoft Laptop & Screen Extender, and a Shoulder Rig for a DSLR camera.	4,757												
Gentlemen's Quest of Tampa Inc.	Youth Wellness Camp	Gentlemen's Quest of Tampa Inc. offers a Youth Wellness Camp focused on mental health, fitness, and nutrition for youth ages 8-13. The camp includes educational daily lessons, physical activities, and life skills sessions. The program will have various guest speakers to offer diverse programming for six weeks of camp.			17,000										

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Agency	Program	Funding Description	Technical Assistance Funding	Spring & Summer Passports	Leading Grants Summer Funding	Emerging Needs Funding	Emergency Funding	Match	Leading Grants - Free Family Day	Leading Grant - Strategic Initiatives - Barbershop Conversations	Leading Grant - Strategic Initiatives - Palm River/Clair Mel Family Support	Uniting Grants - Support New Programs	Holiday Out of School Time Grants	Mentoring Program for Children with Varying Abilities Grants	Exhibit Space at Plant City CBFRC Grant
Community Foundation of Tampa Bay, Inc.	Hillsborough Education Funders Group	The Hillsborough Education Funders group identified the need to conduct early learning research to inform early education locally, across six counties in Florida, and explore recommendations regarding the best practices to achieve kindergarten readiness.				19,000									
Community Foundation of Tampa Bay, Inc.	Thrive by Five Community Resources	Thrive by Five proposes the following: provide all Thrive by Five materials in Spanish by translating the TB5 website, TB5 Connects online resource, Early Literacy Guide and TB5 postcard and flyers; update and print Early Literacy Guide for English/Spanish speakers for Hillsborough County; and expand awareness and access through distribution of materials to community partners.				44,825									
Tampa Theatre	2025 Summer Passports	Each full day camp week consists of five days of film camp (full days 9am-4pm), a camp t-shirt, daily snacks, daily lunch, and a digital copy of all the finished films from the week.		900											
Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center d/b/a Straz Center for the Performing Arts	2025 Summer Passports	Offering full day, performing arts camp for six weeks during summer for children 6-14 years of age for a total of 50 slots.		26,068											



**FY 2024-2025 NEW PROGRAM FUNDING (UNALLOCATED) REPORT**  
**Regular Board Meeting - June 26, 2025**

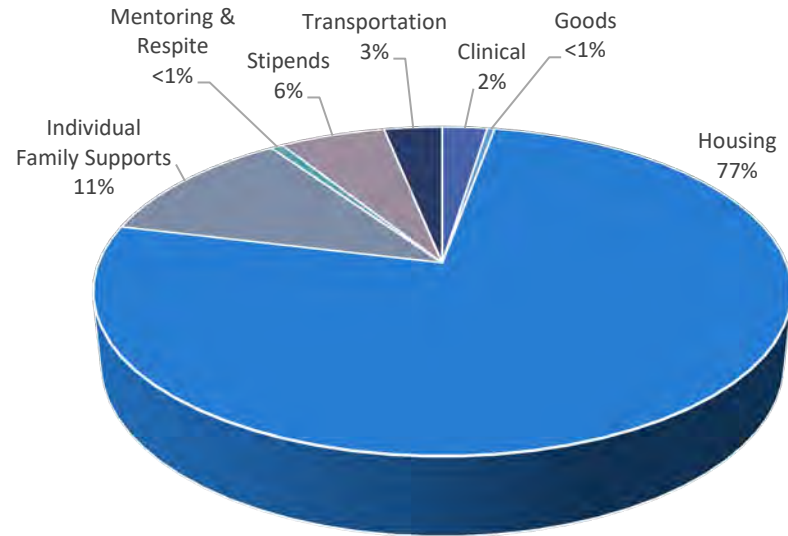
Agency	Program	Funding Description	Technical Assistance Funding	Spring & Summer Passports	Leading Grants Summer Funding	Emerging Needs Funding	Emergency Funding	Match	Leading Grants - Free Family Day	Leading Grant - Strategic Initiatives - Barbershop Conversations	Leading Grant - Strategic Initiatives - Palm River/Clair Mel Family Support	Uniting Grants - Support New Programs	Holiday Out of School Time Grants	Mentoring Program for Children with Varying Abilities Grants	Exhibit Space at Plant City CBFRC Grant
Lowry Park Zoological Society of Tampa, Inc. d/b/a ZooTampa at Lowry Park	2025 Summer Passports	Offering full day camp dedicated to rescue, rehabilitation, and care for animals for nine weeks during summer for children kindergarten through eighth grade for a total of 106 slots.		38,194											
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>70,142</b>	<b>190,612</b>	<b>17,000</b>	<b>63,825</b>	<b>320,221</b>	<b>73,480</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>125,000</b>	<b>110,000</b>	<b>673,113</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>271,755</b>	<b>125,000</b>
<b>Total Approved</b>			<b>2,140,148</b>												

## Children's Board ASO - Fiscal Year 2025 Update as of 6-16-2025

	Funds Available	Funding Reserves	Allocated to Programs	Budgeted	Program Reserves	Expenses Paid	Percent Budgeted
<b>Children's Board</b>	\$4,100,000	\$502,000	\$3,598,000	\$2,894,821	\$703,179	\$2,687,799	71%
<b>BOCC DV</b>	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000	\$86,799	\$13,201	\$84,051	87%
<b>BOCC Social Services</b>	\$500,000	\$1,887	\$498,113	\$487,809	\$10,304	\$480,181	98%
	<b>\$4,700,000</b>	<b>\$503,887</b>	<b>\$4,196,113</b>	<b>\$3,469,429</b>	<b>\$726,684</b>	<b>\$3,252,031</b>	

Top Ten Services All Funding Sources		
Service	# of Budgets	Funds Budgeted
Tutor	923	\$310,495
Rental Assistance	806	\$1,232,363
Electric	741	\$282,851
Baby Items	466	\$98,672
Public Transportation	458	\$29,088
Emergency Shelter	403	\$335,667
Security Deposit	217	\$428,593
Furniture	196	\$113,860
Food Stipend	174	\$47,271
Water	153	\$60,694

Top Ten Services Children's Board Funds Only		
Service	# of Budgets	Funds Budgeted
Tutor	923	\$310,495
Electric	730	\$279,805
Rental Assistance	641	\$989,549
Baby Items	461	\$97,951
Emergency Shelter	403	\$335,667
Public Transportation	269	\$17,518
Furniture	192	\$112,971
Food Stipend	174	\$47,271
Water	153	\$60,694
Clothing Stipend	129	\$38,251



**Funds Budgeted by Category - All Funds**

	FY25 YTD	FY24 Total
<b>Programs</b>	63	60
<b>Case Managers</b>	390	335
<b>Providers Utilized</b>	732	771
<b>Providers Added</b>	317	373
<b>Families</b>	3,274	4,349
<b>Budgets</b>	5,668	7,150
<b>Payments</b>	6,031	8,662

6-16-25 is day number 259 (of 365) of FY25 (71%).

# Good News

*from our funded partners*

**Regular Board Meeting  
June 1 2025**



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# Children's Home Network

## Supporting and Empowering Educational and Developmental Services (SEEDS)

The SEEDS program hosted its annual literacy event at Lowry Park on May 17 to kick off a summer of reading with children and families. This year's theme was The Reading Road Trip, and the event featured a variety of activities to promote literacy, along with community providers who shared valuable resources with families.

Tampa Bay Lightning's ThunderBug greeted families as they arrived and engaged them in fun, interactive activities. Community service providers—including the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, MyOn, The Skills Center, Early Childhood Council, Challenge Island, Tampa Police Department, and local educators—were on site to support families and promote learning.

Children had the chance to create driver's licenses for their road trip, collect books for summer reading, and participate in engaging literacy activities throughout the "Reading Road Trip." Attendees enjoyed refreshments and Kona Ice on a warm spring day. Families expressed their gratitude for a fun and memorable time at the park, and many shared their commitment to making reading a part of their summer routine. Happy Reading!!!



# Children's Home Network

## Supporting and Empowering Educational and Developmental Services (SEEDS)



During a recent home visit, Tristen was thrilled to share some exciting news with his SEEDS Family Support Coordinator (FSC). He had completed a school assessment and could not wait to talk about his progress. Tristen began the school year reading at a kindergarten level (he is currently in third grade), but his most recent assessment showed he is now reading at a second-grade level. He was overjoyed when his teacher confirmed that he will be promoted to fourth grade for the 2025–2026 school year.

Leading up to this milestone, the SEEDS FSC worked closely with the family to help Tristen get evaluated to rule out a learning disability and to connect him with tutoring support. Tristen's mother later shared that he will have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and will continue to receive school accommodations. She also noted that Tristen is enrolled in the school's summer reading program to help him feel more prepared for fourth grade.

Just a few months ago, the school had begun discussing the possibility of retention in third grade. Through SEEDS services, the family was connected to the Administrative Services Organization (ASO), which helped provide access to weekly individual tutoring. Since then, Tristen and his family have embraced daily reading, a habit encouraged by their SEEDS FSC. His mom shared that Tristen is now much more confident when reading and looks forward to their reading time together.

We are so proud of Tristen and his family's dedication. Their commitment to reading is paying off, and we're celebrating his continued growth and success in school!

# Children's Home Network

## Reaching and Inspiring Students Everywhere (RAISE)

The Bell Family Success Story; A Letter from Mr. Bell (Father)



"We just completed the RAISE Program, and I have to say—it was truly life-changing to have both RAISE workers in our home. I've seen a huge improvement in my son, both at school and in his social life. He now has friends, which is wonderful to see. Earlier this year, he was diagnosed with two behavioral disorders, and since then, I've witnessed such a positive turnaround.

The staff helped bring more structure to our home, and I was able to apply the rules and strategies they taught me to better support my son's behavioral needs. I will absolutely recommend this program to anyone facing similar challenges. The bond we created with the two workers was fantastic—my son already misses them very much. He's a really good and sensitive boy, and he understood that they were here to help him become the best version of himself.

This program didn't just help my son—it helped me too. I've made improvements in my own health and how I manage daily life with my two children. The tools and equipment we received are used every single day. My son now wants to eat healthier, drink healthy drinks, and is eager to learn more at school. Even my three-year-old daughter is joining in—she wants to earn five stars to get a reward!

I can't thank you enough for this wonderful program. It's made a lasting difference in all of our lives."



# Housing Authority of the City of Tampa (THA)

## Building Family Financial Skills



During one of my classes, a student approached me with concerns about credit repair. He shared that his girlfriend was \$30,000 in debt and was considering hiring a lawyer to file for Chapter 13 bankruptcy to manage her financial situation. At 32 years old, she wanted to buy a house but felt overwhelmed by her debt.

I asked him how much the legal services would cost, and he said she was paying \$2,000 to retain the lawyer. I suggested that instead of spending that money on bankruptcy proceedings, she could use it to pay down some of her debt or negotiate settlements with her creditors.

He had previously encouraged her to take my class, believing it would help, but she dismissed his suggestion, feeling he lacked the knowledge to advise her. In every class I teach, I emphasize the importance of maintaining good credit and share strategies for building financial stability. To support my students, I created a sample credit repair kit that includes dispute letters and references to Fair Credit Reporting Act statutes. These tools help individuals request debt validation, seek goodwill adjustments, and negotiate settlements with creditors.

The student was excited to receive the information and shared it with his girlfriend. As a result, she changed her approach—deciding against filing for Chapter 13 and instead focusing on improving her credit. She is now on the path to homeownership, avoiding the long-term impact of bankruptcy, which would have remained on her credit report for seven years and made getting a mortgage far more difficult.

This experience reinforced the power of financial literacy. Not only did the class benefit the student, but it also empowered him to positively influence someone close to him. This program continues to make a meaningful impact—strengthening financial stability, encouraging savings, and protecting credit and identities for a more secure future.

# Seniors in Service of Tampa Bay

## Foster Grandparent Program with Readers in Motion

When Erick walks into his classroom, the day can often feel overwhelming. Diagnosed with autism, he struggles to keep up with lessons and connect with his classmates. Frustration sets in quickly, leaving him feeling isolated and defeated. For his mother, each morning brought worry: Would Erick have another hard day? Would he feel out of place again?

Everything changed when Ms. Thomas, his Classroom Grandma from the Foster Grandparent Program, came into his life. With her calm and reassuring presence, she provides the one-on-one support Erick needs—offering patience, encouragement, and steady guidance during his toughest moments. Under her care, Erick has transformed. He's more engaged in class, taking pride in his work, and making social strides that once felt out of reach.

"She's always calm, even when Erick has his tough moments," his mother shared. "I know it's a challenge, but I'm glad that he's improving and learning just like his classmates."

Thanks to Ms. Thomas's unwavering support, Erick is now thriving in ways his family once only dreamed of. Classroom Grandparents like her bring time, compassion, and belief in every child's potential—making all the difference, one student at a time.



*Pictured left to right: Grandma Rubio and Grandma Everett at Bricks 4 Kidz Event and Ms. Frisby and Grandma Rubio at Oak Grove Elementary*

In Ms. Frisby's first-grade classroom, Grandma Rubio is a steady source of warmth and encouragement, helping students grow both academically and emotionally. Her care and consistency have made a lasting impact—families have noticed real improvements in their children's confidence and success thanks to her support.

But her influence doesn't stop at the classroom door. Whether cheering at school events like Bricks 4 Kidz or simply sharing a smile in the hallway, Grandma Rubio's presence lights up every moment. Her enthusiasm and dedication show that learning is about more than academics—it's about connection, love, and the power of showing up.

Through the Foster Grandparent Program and the Readers in Motion initiative, Grandma Rubio is changing lives and creating meaningful bonds that extend far beyond the school day.

# Seniors in Service of Tampa Bay

## Foster Grandparent Program with Readers in Motion

As the school year comes to a close, we celebrate the remarkable impact of twenty-six Classroom Grandparents who showed up day after day across four Tampa elementary schools to tutor and mentor students. Thanks to their unwavering dedication, students have flourished—benefiting from one-on-one attention, encouragement, and guidance that has boosted their confidence, strengthened their reading skills, and helped them feel seen and supported every step of the way.

Mrs. Stacey Rothfarb, a kindergarten teacher at Seminole Heights Elementary, shared it best:

“As an educator with thirty years of experience, I have always believed in the power of reading to transform lives. Programs like Readers in Motion are essential to this mission. The Classroom Grandparents bring wisdom, warmth, and a deep sense of community into our classrooms. They provide not just academic support, but also vital social-emotional connections that help our students thrive. Their impact is profound and lasting—both for the students and for the seniors who serve.”

We are deeply grateful for the Classroom Grandparents whose compassion and commitment continue to shape brighter futures for our children and communities.



*Pictured left to right: Grandpa Sessions at Oak Grove Elementary and Grandma Norton assisting with Bricks 4 Kidz at Booker T. Washington Elementary*

(Continues on next page)

# Seniors in Service of Tampa Bay

## Foster Grandparent Program with Readers in Motion

At Seminole Heights Elementary, a dedicated team of six Grandmas and one Grandpa has become an integral part of the school community over the past five years. Their warmth and wisdom have provided students with more than academic guidance—they've offered emotional support that has helped shape confident, capable learners.

The story is similar at Oak Grove Elementary, where twelve Classroom Grandparents serving grades Kindergarten through Second have devoted countless hours to fostering a love of learning and building students' self-esteem.

At Booker T. Washington Elementary, four Classroom Grandparents have enriched the lives of kindergarten and first-grade students, even joining in extracurricular activities like Bricks 4 Kidz and Croc Encounters to make learning fun and interactive.

Meanwhile, at Mendenhall Elementary, three Classroom Grandparents have shown exceptional dedication—some spending up to forty hours a week working with kindergarteners. Their presence has created meaningful bonds, nurtured growth, and helped young students reach their full potential.

The impact of these Classroom Grandparents extends far beyond the classroom walls. Their unwavering commitment not only enhances academic success but also provides children with a deep sense of belonging, support, and love—lessons that stay with them long after the school year ends.



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# Gulf Coast Jewish Family and Community Services (GCJFCS)

## Teen Parent Engagement Program



At our April workshop, our teens had the pleasure of participating in a Drum Circle experience led by Giving Tree Music, Inc. The session was a powerful, hands-on opportunity for self-expression, teamwork, and joy through rhythm and sound.

Watch the highlights here: <https://youtu.be/jz-1e3yjoSI?si=g7tZulQDgN2spMFt>

We're grateful to Giving Tree Music for creating such a meaningful and memorable experience!



# Gulf Coast Jewish Family and Community Services (GCJFCS)

## Padres De Crianza

We chose to hold this special event on Mother's Day—a meaningful occasion for families to come together and honor the incredible women who play a vital role in raising and caring for their children.

During the event, community partners such as the Children's Home Network's RAISE Program, Metropolitan Ministries, and Simply Healthcare provided caregivers with valuable information about available support services.

The day featured inspiring success stories, delicious food, fun games, and thoughtful gifts. A total of thirty-six caregivers attended and shared with our Community Navigators how happy, relaxed, and welcomed they felt throughout the celebration.

The event concluded with a beautiful flower arrangement created by one of the caregivers, along with a heartfelt card filled with messages of gratitude from attendees—each expressing deep appreciation for the program and the support it provides.



# Gulf Coast Jewish Family and Community Services (GCJFCS)

## Padres De Crianza



A Community Navigator was referred to a caregiver and her grandson who were experiencing significant economic, socio-emotional, and health-related challenges. After relocating to the area about a year before enrolling in the program, the family felt lost and overwhelmed, lacking access to the resources they needed to overcome the difficulties they faced.

Recognizing how quickly these stressors could escalate into a crisis, the Community Navigator acted swiftly to provide support. She connected the family with a dental office for the child's treatment, a free community clinic where both could receive medical care, and a therapist to support their emotional well-being and behavioral needs. Additionally, the family received information on local resources that offered food and clothing assistance to help ease financial burdens.

With the support of the Community Navigator and Program Counselor, the caregiver gained tools to manage stress and care for her family with greater confidence. Both the caregiver and her grandson expressed deep gratitude for the Padres de Crianza Program, provided by Gulf Coast Jewish Family and Community Services and generously funded by the Children's Board of Hillsborough County.

Thanks to the dedication and teamwork of the professionals involved, the family has overcome many of their challenges and now feels hopeful and supported in their new community.

# Gulf Coast Jewish Family and Community Services (GCJFCS)

## Padres De Crianza



This loving and protective pair of caregivers is doing everything they can to give their granddaughter the best possible life and future. When they came to the Padres de Crianza Program, they were seeking support across several areas—socio-emotional, financial, academic, clothing, medical, and holiday needs.

Recognizing the unique challenges grandparents face when stepping into a parental role, and the urgency required to help stabilize families, the Community Navigator quickly took action. She connected the family with local resources and secured additional financial assistance in areas where community support was limited at the time.

Thanks to the guidance of the Community Navigator, the family gained access to services and information they can continue to use in the future. With support from the Program Counselor, they also learned valuable skills in stress management, coping, and communication.

The family is deeply grateful for the support provided by Gulf Coast Jewish Family and Community Services and the Children's Board of Hillsborough County. Through the combined efforts of a dedicated team, they were able to reach their goals and now look toward the future with renewed hope and confidence.



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# Gulf Coast Jewish Family and Community Services (GCJFCS)

## Padres De Crianza



The caregiver is a humble, strong, and dedicated grandmother raising four grandchildren. Despite facing significant challenges—including health issues, language barriers, and financial hardship—she remains motivated and open to receiving support, doing everything she can to provide her grandchildren with a safe, loving, and stable home.

Padres de Crianza has had the privilege of walking alongside this family for many months. During that time, they formed a strong bond with their Community Navigator, who has provided vital referrals and connections to help the family navigate difficult circumstances. With the support of the Children's Board and ASO funding, the Navigator was able to secure beds for the children, assist with utility payments, provide Thanksgiving meals, Christmas gifts, and school supplies, and help the family access affordable housing—

ensuring safety, stability, and comfort for all.

The Program Counselor also played a key role by offering parenting guidance and counseling to help the children process the emotional toll of their biological mother's absence. Throughout this journey, the grandmother has remained active and engaged, faithfully attending monthly support groups, offering encouragement to other families, and introducing new families to the program.

This caregiver and her family have been a true blessing to the Padres de Crianza program. It has been an honor to support them and witness their resilience, love, and unwavering commitment to each other.

# Hispanic Services Council

## La Red de Padres Activos / Network of Active Parents

### Ruskin Area



Ms. X is a devoted mother raising a young daughter on the autism spectrum. When she arrived in the Wimauma community in September, she was facing tremendous challenges. At the time, she shared that she and her daughter were living in the nail salon where she worked. Despite these difficult circumstances, we immediately began working to find ways to support her and her child.

Although attending our workshops was challenging—she lived in Apollo Beach and relied on Uber rides to reach us—Ms. X remained in regular contact, and we continued to offer support however we could.

Through the HSC Puentes de Salud program, she received assistance applying for Medicaid and food stamps. She was also referred to the RAISE program through the Children's Home Network. Over time, her determination paid off, and she was able to secure a room for

herself and her daughter—a significant milestone on their journey to stability.

In February, when our new community site opened in Ruskin, I called to share the news. Ms. X was overjoyed to learn it was just two blocks from her home. She expressed heartfelt gratitude for the organization's continued support and was thrilled to finally begin attending workshops in person on a regular basis.

Today, her daughter is receiving care through the RAISE program, and the school is effectively implementing her Individualized Education Plan (IEP). She is thriving—and Ms. X is filled with hope and appreciation for the positive changes that have taken place in their lives.

# Hispanic Services Council

## La Red de Padres Activos / Network of Active Parents

### Gibsonston Area



A deeply moving story is that of Mrs. X, a mother of three living in a mobile home in the Gibsonston area, who lost everything during Hurricane Helen—her home, furniture, household items, appliances, and car.

Despite these heartbreaking losses, Mrs. X remains remarkably cheerful and positive. Her family has faced numerous challenges: her teenage daughter dropped out of school three years ago due to bullying, and her husband was recently hospitalized for alcohol-related issues.

Still, Mrs. X never gave up. She faithfully attends our workshops, often walking there with a baby in her arms and bringing her daughter along. In the beginning, her daughter was completely disengaged—she avoided social interaction, resisted participation in activities, and was adamant about not returning to school.

But over time, with patience, consistency, and support from the program, a transformation began. Today, her daughter is back in school, regaining her confidence and hope for the future. Her husband has made significant strides as well, overcoming his personal crisis and now actively participating in *La Red de Padres Activos*.

Thanks to Mrs. X's unwavering resilience and the collective support of the community, this family is moving forward—stronger, more united, and full of renewed possibility.



# Hispanic Services Council

## La Red de Padres Activos / Network of Active Parents

### University Area

Ms. X is a devoted mother of four children—ages two, three, five, and thirteen—two of whom have been diagnosed with autism. Despite the daily challenges she faces, Ms. X remains a vibrant and steady presence in our community. She participates in our workshops with unwavering dedication, always eager to learn how to better support her children. She listens with intention, shares with sincerity, and grows alongside other families with grace.

What inspires us most about Ms. X is her spirit. She carries a smile wherever she goes and rarely shows the exhaustion that must come from her demanding days.

Her openness in sharing the realities of her children's educational journeys brings depth and connection to the group. Her insights create a space of understanding and solidarity that other parents deeply value.

Whenever she is unable to attend, her absence is truly felt. We look forward to her return each time—because Ms. X is the very definition of resilience and a shining example of strength in our community.





# Hispanic Services Council

## La Red de Padres Activos / Network of Active Parents

### Town 'N County Area



The X family participated in a recent vision screening event organized in our community through the Preserve Vision program. During the event, they received assessments and valuable guidance, and they expressed heartfelt gratitude to HSC and La Red de Padres for the opportunity.

“We are extremely thankful and happy to have participated in the program. We have learned so much. I feel more at ease and better adjusted to this country,” shared Mrs. X, who also expressed her desire to volunteer with the program in the future.

Like many families, they have faced financial challenges and were recently referred to Housing HSC for assistance with their water bill.

The family graduated from the program on April 8, 2025, and shared this message during the celebration:

“Thank you to Hispanic Services. Participating in *La Red* has truly been an incredible experience. We are very satisfied, and my daughter Valery has greatly enjoyed it as well,” said Mrs. X.

Their journey reflects the positive impact of community-based support and the strength that comes from connection, learning, and hope.

# Hispanic Services Council

## La Red de Padres Activos / Network of Active Parents

### Dover Area



Mrs. X is a devoted participant from the Dover community—a hardworking farmworker and mother of two children: a kindergartener and an eighth grader.

From the very first workshop, Mrs. X stood out as a committed and engaged mother. She attended each session with enthusiasm, consistently sharing her insights and experiences related to her children’s educational journey. Her passion for learning and growing as a parent was evident in every discussion.

She expressed deep gratitude for the valuable information and resources she discovered through the program—tools that helped her establish effective study routines and create a more supportive learning environment at home.

The confidence Mrs. X has gained throughout the workshops is truly inspiring. She now feels empowered to advocate for her children’s needs and to actively collaborate with school staff. Currently, she volunteers twice a week at her daughter’s elementary school, supporting both the library and cafeteria.

Perhaps most notably, Mrs. X has become a source of inspiration for other mothers. She has encouraged new parents to attend school events and participate in our program. Her vibrant presence has transformed the group dynamic—fostering an atmosphere of joy, support, and mutual encouragement. Her willingness to share and connect has helped others find the confidence to speak up and engage.

At our graduation celebration, Mrs. X beamed with pride, bringing her husband along to witness the incredible progress she has made. Her dedication to her children’s education and to the community is both admirable and uplifting.

# Children's Board Family Resource Centers (CBFRC)

## Central

### Testimonial



"It all started with a simple referral from our public school to see if we could get immunizations for our kids. But to our surprise, the Children's Board turned out to be so much more—and now we consider it an extension of our home.

From the very first time we stepped through the doors, we felt a strong sense of inclusivity, especially from Ms. Leo and the entire team.

Since then, we've made it a point to participate in the activities offered by the Children's Board—and they've been exactly what our family needed. Through the Explorer's Club, our child made new friends, and the language course introduced them not only to a new language but also to a new culture.

What stood out the most is the unwavering support we received as a family starting fresh in a new country. The team has guided us in so many ways, and we are incredibly grateful.

We hope the Children's Board continues to support other families just like ours. Our experience has been truly special, thanks to the kindness and dedication of the amazing staff."



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# Children's Board Family Resource Centers (CBFRC)

## Plant City

### Testimonial



Ms. Tamarria brings her daughters to as many activities as possible at the Children's Board Family Resource Center (CBFRC) in Plant City. When she learned the Center would be hosting a Community Baby Shower, she was overjoyed—especially since she is currently expecting a baby boy.

Though she wasn't sure what to expect, Ms. Tamarria was deeply moved by the care and thoughtfulness that went into the event. She shared that attending the *Safe Baby* presentation by the Healthy Start Coalition of Hillsborough County was incredibly informative and eye-opening. It helped ease some of her pregnancy concerns and even inspired her to make important changes in her plans for future caregivers.

So impacted by what she learned, Ms. Tamarria took detailed notes and shared them with her family members—encouraging them to participate in Center activities as well. This baby shower was especially meaningful to her, as she had never experienced one with any of her other children.

Ms. Tamarria expressed her sincere gratitude for the beautifully presented gifts and the warm, welcoming atmosphere of the Center.

"I am so thankful to the Center for making me feel special," she shared. "This baby shower was a first for me, and the information I learned has truly helped me and my family."



# Just Initiative

## Woven Empowerment –WE Program

### Testimonial

When “M” and her family first connected with us, she was overwhelmed. A single mother to a nine-month-old baby, she had also just become the legal guardian of her niece and nephew—both in foster care. As a former foster child herself, M’s greatest hope was to keep her brother’s children together and provide them all with a safe, stable home. Practically overnight, her household doubled in size, now caring for three young children—all under the age of five.

It wasn’t easy. M was starting over completely. A survivor of domestic violence, she had recently emerged from homelessness and was navigating a complex system of social services without a clear understanding of how to access the help she needed. She was seeking childcare, employment, and a sense of stability—but more than anything, she was craving connection and support.

When M joined Woven’s Family Support Services, she found more than just resources—she found community. Since enrolling, she and her children haven’t missed a single *Tuesday Night Live*.

Tuesday nights with Woven have become a cornerstone of support for M’s family. She enjoys a warm, home-cooked meal and time to connect with other parents who are also working toward their goals. Her three children participate in age-appropriate programming and love spending time with kids their age. M often shares how much she values the consistency and safety that Tuesday nights offer—a space where her family can grow, set goals, and be part of something greater.

Since becoming part of the Woven community, M has secured daycare for her children, received developmental referrals, and recently started a new job. She shares that when she first joined, she was consumed by stress—but now, she feels she can finally exhale. With every week, she sees her own progress and is starting to believe in what’s possible for her and her children.

We at Just Initiative and the Woven team are incredibly proud of M’s journey. Her strength and commitment are inspiring, and we look forward to celebrating the many successes still ahead for her and her family.

# Tampa Metropolitan Area YMCA

## Operation Strong Families



Launched in November 2024 with funding from the Children's Board of Hillsborough County, the Tampa YMCA's Operation Strong Families (OSF) is a free, 10-week program that supports active military and veteran families by providing tools for stress management, wellness, and a strong sense of community.

The program is offered at three YMCA locations: Spurlino Family YMCA in Riverview, North Brandon Family YMCA in Seffner, and South Tampa YMCA. Participants gather two evenings a week for sessions that include small group discussions focused on the real-life experiences of military families, as well as group workouts that support both physical and emotional well-being. While adults take part in their

sessions, children engage in their own age-appropriate group activities. The curriculum—developed by the Armed Services YMCA—is tailored specifically to address the unique challenges of military life.

Nicole Kettermann, Youth Health and Wellness Director at Tampa YMCA, explains the program's impact:

*"Operation Strong Families brings small groups of military and veteran families together in the safe, resource-rich YMCA environment. Frequent family moves and deployments impose unique stresses on military families—particularly the children and the parent providing care while the service member is away. OSF aims to equip families with tools and resources to reduce stress, boost youth self-esteem, and build their confidence through the many social and community supports available to them."*

Marine Master Sergeant Rosmell Mejia Escobar, who has served nearly twenty years and is a father of four, praised the program:

*"My wife now understands what I do and the structure that comes with being a Marine," he said. "OSF gave us a community of people who get it. My kids and my wife are happier—and so am I." Nicole added, "I'm excited to see this program grow and its continued impact. We want to be the place where military families connect, feel supported, and build community."*

# Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tampa Bay (BBBS)

## 1-to-1 Mentoring (Middle)

We recently received some heartwarming news from Krina, a volunteer Big at IEL Shipping Solutions, who participates in our School-to-Work (STW) program. Krina proudly attended her Little Sister Rebecca's graduation from Jefferson High School and shared this beautiful reflection:

"Just wanted to share and again thank everyone at BBBS. I went to Becca's graduation and met her entire family, which was amazing. Her mom and I were lowkey tearing up together—it was the sweetest thing ever! I genuinely want to thank you all for this program. I truly did gain a lil sister for life through this, and we're already making plans!"

She added a heartfelt message directly to Rebecca:

"To my Little Sister: I am so beyond proud of you. Being your mentor and watching you grow over the past three years has been such an honor. I can't wait to see you flourish in this next chapter."

Krina and Rebecca were first matched in December 2022 through the School-to-Work program and have since developed a meaningful, lasting relationship. Rebecca shared that her favorite part of the program was simply "being able to talk with Krina about life—past, present, and future."

Rebecca has been accepted to Florida Atlantic University (FAU) and will begin her next journey this fall. And the best part? Their story doesn't end here—Krina and Rebecca are already planning to continue their connection through our Big Futures program.

Congratulations, Rebecca—and thank you, Krina, for being such an incredible mentor and friend!





## Outreach Calendar of Events

The Children's Board will have a presence at the following community events. Contact Timothy Bennett, Community Relations Manager, at [bennettta@childrensboard.org](mailto:bennettta@childrensboard.org) for more information about a particular event.

### July

- 07.01.25     **Children's Board Free Tuesday**  
Glazer Children's Museum  
110 West Gasparilla Plaza, Tampa  
11:00 am-4:00 pm
- 07.08.25     **Peer Support Group – Reach Up**  
Children's Board Conference Center  
1002 East Palm Avenue, Tampa  
10:30 am-12:30 pm
- 07.26.25     **Florida Penguin – Back to School Bash**  
Brandon Exchange Mall  
459 Brandon Town Center Drive, Brandon  
10:00 am-2:00 pm

### August

- 08.02.25     **18<sup>th</sup> Annual Back to School Fair**  
Westshore Plaza  
250 WestShore Plaza, Tampa  
10:00 am-2:00 pm
- 08.02.25     **Back 2 School Resource Fair – Community Alliance**  
University Area Community Center & Park  
14013 North 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, Tampa  
10:00 am-2:00 pm
- 08.02.25     **Community Back 2 School Bash**  
Emanuel P. Johnson Recreation Center  
5855 South 78<sup>th</sup> Street, Tampa  
9:00 am-3:00 pm
- 08.02.25     **Back Pack Hero Day**  
Greater Hillsborough County Fair Grounds  
215 Sydney Washer Road, Dover  
9:00 am-1:00 pm
- 08.03.25     **Back to School Event**  
Rowlett Park



241 East Yukon Street, Tampa  
11:00 am-3:00 pm

08.06.25      **Community Consortium Meeting – Reach Up**  
Living Faith Bible Fellowship  
6400 North 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Tampa  
9:30 am-12:00 pm

08.30.25      **Children’s Board Free Family Day**  
Tampa Museum of Art  
120 West Gasparilla Plaza, Tampa  
10:00 am-4:30 pm