

Finance & Operations Committee Meeting Transcript

November 7, 2019

1	THE CHILLDREN'S TRUST FINANCE AND OPERATIONS			
2	COMMITTEE MEETING			
3				
4	The Children's Trust Finance and Operations			
5	Committee Meeting was held on November 7, 2019,			
6	commencing at 9:30 a.m., at 3150 Southwest 3rd			
7	Avenue, 8th Floor, Conference Room A, Miami, Florida			
8	33129. The meeting was called to order by Steve			
9	Hope, Chair.			
10				
11	COMMITTEE MEMBERS:			
12	Steve Hope, Chair			
13	Dr. Magaly Abrahante			
14	Nelson Hincapie			
15	Javier Reyes			
16	Hon. Isaac Salver			
17	Kenneth Hoffman (ex-officio)			
18				
19	STAFF:			
20	Leigh Kobrinski			
21	Donovan Lee-Sin			
22	Imran Ali			
23	James Haj			
24	Juana Leon			
25	Juliette Fabien			

Page 2

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STAFF (continued):
 1
     Lisanne Gage
 2
 3
     Lori (Katherine) Hanson
     Maria-Paula Garcia
 4
     Muriel Jeanty
 5
     Stephanie Sylvestre
 6
 7
     Vivianne Bohorques
     Wendy Duncombe
 8
     William Kirtland
 9
     Ximena Nunez
10
11
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1
                         PROCEEDINGS
 2.
          (Recording of the meeting began at 9:38 a.m.)
          MR. HOPE: We want to welcome everyone to
 3
     November's meeting. It seems to be a very packed
 4
 5
     agenda, which is one resolution, so it's a good day.
          All right, so any public comments?
 6
          MS. JEANTY: No public comments.
 7
          MR. HOPE: Approval of the October 2019 Finance
 8
     Committee minutes. You can take a look.
 9
10
          And if I can have a motion, please?
11
          MR. REYES: So moved, Reyes.
12
          MR. HOPE: Can I have a second?
13
          MS. ABRAHANTE: I'm the only one, then I second
14
     it.
15
          MR. HOPE: Okay, all in favor?
16
          (WHEREUPON, the committee members all responded
17
     with "aye.")
18
          MR. HOPE: Minutes passed.
19
          Moving on to the budget amendment, there's a
20
     slight or small amendment to the 2018/2019 budget.
21
     I'll turn it over to the CEO.
22
          MR. HAJ: Mr. Chair, thank you.
23
          The budget amendment is the last tab on your
24
     iPad. And this is fairly simple and straightforward.
25
     There's an increase of $111,615 in tax collector fees.
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And to offset that cost, we have underspent in 1 2. salaries with \$111,615 to cover it. Will, did I miss anything? 3 MR. KIRTLAND: Just at the top of the schedule, 4 we are doing a prior period adjustment to the fund 5 balance. When we developed the '18/'19 budget, we 6 didn't yet have the actual and finalized numbers of 7 the fund balance that we would be starting with, so we 8 projected an ending fund balance or a starting fund 9 10 balance at our October 1, 2018 of \$78 million. I 11 think if you remember the discussion when we were 12 talking about our fund balance plan, we realized that 13 we actually had spent down more of our fund balance 14 than we had realized, so we were starting with the 15 \$69,000,000 balance. So we're just making that 16 adjustment here to reflect that on the schedule. 17 MR. HOPE: Okay. 18 Any questions or discussion on the budget amendment? 19 MR. HOFFMAN: How does it affect the 2019/2020 20 21 budget? 22 MR. KIRTLAND: We saw this before we developed 23 the '19/'20 budget, it just wasn't reflected in this 24 budget amendment yet. So we've already taken into

consideration the \$69,000,000 fund balance when we

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developed the '19/'20 budget.
 1
 2.
          MR. HOPE: Any other discussion?
          MR. HAJ:
                    We just need a motion, please.
 3
          MR. HOPE: Can we have a motion, please?
 4
          MS. ABRAHANTE:
                         So moved.
 5
          MR. HOPE: Can I have a second?
 6
          MR. REYES: Second, Reyes.
 7
          MR. HOPE: All in favor?
 8
 9
          (WHEREUPON, the committee members all responded
10
     with "aye.")
11
          MR. HOPE: Opposed?
12
          Amendment passes.
13
          Resolution 2020-A: Authorization to negotiate
14
     and retroactively execute a contract with Miami-Dade
15
     County, Community Action and Human Services
16
     Department, for match funding for the federal Early
17
    Head Start-Child Care Partnership (EHS-CCP) grant, in
18
     a total amount not to exceed $850,000.00 for a term of
19
     12 months, commencing November 1, 2019, and ending
20
     October 31, 2020, and amend the fiscal year 2019-20
21
     general budget by transferring $850,000.00 to provide
22
     the match funding for this resolution.
23
          Before I open it to the floor, just to indicate,
24
     I spoke with the CFO, and my understanding is that
25
     when the 2019/2020 budget was done, this amount was
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not allocated for in the budget. So this request
 1
 2.
     would be to amend the budget to reflect this 850 and
     also to pass the resolution.
 3
          Is that correct?
 4
 5
          MR. HAJ: Yes.
          MR. HOPE: So open it up to the floor for
 6
 7
     discussion, question?
          MS. ABRAHANTE: I have a question. When the
 8
 9
     county applied for this Early Head Start, is this a
10
     new Early Head Start grant that they will be applying
11
     for going forward or one that they already applied
12
     for?
13
          MS. SYLVESTRE: It's a new application for
14
     expansion.
15
          MS. ABRAHANTE: And did we provide a match in
     their previous applications?
16
17
          MS. SYLVESTRE: No, this is the first --
18
          MR. ALI: To my recollection, the few times they
19
     applied, they didn't get the grant.
20
          MR. HAJ: We applied the match for United Way,
21
     ELC, and the evidence in category.
22
          MR. ALI: When they applied with ELC, I think
23
     they didn't get it. I think this is the first time
24
     they're getting it.
25
          MR. HOPE: Any further discussion?
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Any recusals?
 1
 2.
          Can I have a motion?
          MR. HINCAPIE:
                         So moved.
 3
          MR. HOPE:
                     Second?
 4
 5
          MR. REYES: Second, Reyes.
          MS. ABRAHANTE: I really need to look at this
 6
 7
     further, so I can't.
          MR. HOPE: Yes, sir?
 8
 9
          MR. HINCAPIE: I apologize that I was late.
                                                        This
10
     is the Early Learning Coalition?
11
          MR. HOPE: No, Head Start.
12
          MS. ABRAHANTE: This is Miami-Dade County.
13
          MR. HINCAPIE: Is there a wait list for Head
14
     Start currently?
15
          MS. ABRAHANTE: This is Early Head Start.
16
     There's always a higher demand for Early Head Start.
17
          MR. HINCAPIE: So there are people currently not
18
     being able to get in to Head Start?
19
          MS. ABRAHANTE:
                          This is Early Head Start, which
     is different -- I don't think there's much of a wait
2.0
21
     list on Head Start, which is the three and four-year-
22
     old program. This is the birth through three program.
     And from our experience with the district, there's
23
24
     always a lot of demand for infants and toddlers. So,
25
     I would say there's probably a waiting list. I just
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had concerns about having The Trust be the match
 1
 2.
     source for this project, so I need to do a little more
     investigation before I can support it.
 3
          MR. HOPE: Well, we can move it through. It will
 4
 5
     get to the Board for additional discussion.
 6
          MS. ABRAHANTE: That's good.
 7
          MR. HOPE: And I think any additional information
     you have that can create value to the discussion, we
 8
 9
     can then present it there, if that's okay.
10
          MR. HAJ: Mr. Chair, this reso will also be going
11
     to the Programs Committee this afternoon.
12
          MR. HOPE:
                     Okay.
13
          Right, so we had a second. Any recusals?
         All in favor?
14
15
          (WHEREUPON, the committee members all responded
     with "aye.")
16
17
          MR. HOPE: All opposed?
18
          MS. ABRAHANTE:
19
          MR. HOPE: Okay, we have one opposed. Resolution
20
    passes.
21
          All right, we move on now to Mr. CEO.
22
          MR. HAJ: Thank you, sir.
          The first is an update on IG reports. I want to
23
24
     bring back and just summarize what's happened in the
25
     last couple of years. There's two providers that we
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1 have talked about over the course of three years and 2. IG has wrapped up their investigation. So one is Chabad Chayil, the IG issued a final report on 3 September 25, 2019. This report pointed to 4 5 allegations of misrepresentations made by Chabad Chayil to use Miami-Dade Public School facilities free 6 7 of charge. The report also indicated that Chabad was operating their programs unlicensed for a number of 8 years. And just as a reference point, The Trust, 9 10 since we started enforcing our licensing requirements, 11 Chabad has been in compliance. 12

As a result of the OIG report, Chabad has been denied access to the school site and currently does not have a location to provide services. Chabad has appealed to the schools decision and is waiting for a response. And the second one, if you remember, this was several --

MR. HOFFMAN: Do they have a licensed site that we're funding?

MR. HAJ: At this time, no.

MR. HOFFMAN: They don't, okay.

MR. HAJ: The second one I need to talk about was United Martial Arts back in 2017. A former staff member of United Martial Arts informed The Trust that the owner had been falsifying attendance records. We

2.

followed up on the claims and found sufficient evidence. We made a referral to the inspector general. The inspector general conducted an investigation and determined the complaint is credible and we will be pursuing criminal charges. We breached the United Martial Arts contract back in the summer of 2017, but we're bringing it now just because we want to let everyone know that they are now pursuing criminal charges.

The second part of the report, SEL, Social Emotional Learning Awareness, was conducted last Saturday. We had a great turn out.

Stephanie, how many people across the street?

MS. SYLVESTRE: We had about a 100 people show

up. We did cover ACEs, mental health, first aid, and

Ending The Silence. So definitely we have a need for

this in the community, both at a provider level for

the staff providing services and for the participants

receiving services.

MR. HAJ: And we also had Spooky Symphony last week.

Ken, Thank you very much for teaming up. And Mark Trowbridge, we need to bring pictures of him dressed as Anna as Frozen and a couple of other costume changes.

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1
          And just also want to congratulate Nelson for
 2.
     being on the cover of Indulge magazine.
          Mr. Chair, that is it.
 3
          MR. HOPE: Okay, any further discussion before
 4
 5
     we adjourn the meeting?
 6
          MS. ABRAHANTE:
                          Yes.
          MR. HOPE:
 7
                     Yes, ma'am.
          MS. ABRAHANTE: I would like to find out what is
 8
 9
     the appropriate process to obtain a copy of the EHS-
10
     CCP grant application that was submitted by the
11
     county.
          MR. HOPE: Okay.
12
13
          MR. HAJ: The grant from the county --
14
          MS. ABRAHANTE: The grant application that they
15
     submitted to the Feds for this grant that included a
     language that they would be match funding for The
16
17
     Children's Trust. [crosstalk] I know that, that's why
18
     I'm asking for it. So I would like a copy of that
19
     application. This is public information.
2.0
          MS. KOBRINSKI: Do you guys have a copy?
21
          MS. SYLVESTRE: No, we don't have a copy.
22
     go to the county and get the copies.
23
          MR. HINCAPIE: What's the concern, ma'am?
24
          MS. ABRAHANTE: The concern is that the --
25
     there's a lot of things. I don't want to discuss them
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1 at this point, but the county's Early Head Start 2. application is up for re-competition this year and there is a high possibility that the federal 3 government will allow for multiple applicants. 4 5 district has indicated to the county we are interested in being our own Head Start provider, and so I just 6 want to make sure that when this was submitted to the 7 federal government, it indicated where the match 8 9 funding -- because that's part of the application. 10 You have to indicate the source of the match and how 11 is that being provided. And the fact that this is 12 being brought at this point, after the fact that the 13 program time frame is already started, makes me believe that it was not. So I just want to understand 14 15 it better before I can support -- I mean, the program, the grant year already started, it started November 16 17 1st. 18 MR. HOPE: Question to the attorney. So if I 19 understand, the school system will also be competing for this? 20 21 MS. ABRAHANTE: Not for this grant, no. 22 MR. HOPE: Not for this, okay. 23 MS. ABRAHANTE: No, no. I just want to 24 understand how they went about this application 25 because we will be competing for another application.

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And so if the plan is then to do the same thing with
 1
 2.
     the other application, come to The Trust to ask for
     the match funds, I think that's something that the
 3
    district needs to know. Because we'll also need match
 4
 5
     funds for our grant.
          MR. HAJ: And just for clarification, the request
 6
 7
     from the mayor's office came in July. So it's coming
    now until November, but the request came in July.
 8
         MS. ABRAHANTE: Okay, so that's fine.
 9
10
         MR. HOPE: Would it require any recusal or
11
     conflict given that the school system is going to be
12
    possibly competing in the future for this grant?
13
          MS. ABRAHANTE: Not for this grant. It's a
14
     separate grant.
15
         MR. HOPE:
                     Something similar.
         MS. KOBRINSKI: The school system isn't competing
16
     for this grant, it's for the base grant.
17
18
         MR. HOPE:
                     Okay.
19
         MS. KOBRINSKI: Are you one of the Early Head
20
     Start delegates from the county?
21
         MS. ABRAHANTE:
                         Yes.
22
         MS. KOBRINSKI: Okay, so --
23
         MR. ALI: So you want to separate the action,
24
    receive the funds, and not be a delegate?
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MS. ABRAHANTE: That's correct.

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1
         MS. KOBRINSKI: But you are receiving funds --
 2.
         MS. ABRAHANTE: Right now we are a delegate
     agency under the county.
 3
         MS. KOBRINSKI: For the Head Start, but I'm
 4
 5
    asking for this --
 6
         MS. ABRAHANTE: And for Early Head Start.
 7
         MS. KOBRINKSKI: Early Head Start, okay.
         MS. ABRAHANTE: Well, Early Head Start has
 8
 9
    multiple grants. This CCP grant, it's like a
10
    different, a new funding source that the federal
11
    government is providing, which is what the United Way
12
    applied for and we partnered them with on. So this is
13
    a separate Early Head Start grant than the regular
14
    Head Start grant. We will not be applying for this.
15
         MS. KOBRINSKI: Will you be receiving funding
    under this grant?
16
17
         MS. ABRAHANTE:
                         This particular grant?
18
         MS. KOBRINSKI:
                         Yes.
19
         MS. ABRAHANTE:
                         No.
20
         MS. KOBRINSKI: So there's no recusal?
21
         MS. ABRAHANTE: No, not at all.
22
         MR. HOPE: All right, any further discussion
23
    before we adjourn?
24
          If none, the meeting is adjourned.
25
     (Whereupon, at 9:52 a.m., the meeting was adjourned.)
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1	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER			
2				
3	STATE OF FLORIDA			
4	COUNTY OF MIAMI-DADE			
5				
6	I, EMILIE BRAVE, court reporter and Notary			
7	Public do hereby certify that the foregoing proceedings			
8	were taken before me at the time and place therein			
9	designated, and that the foregoing			
10	pages numbered 1 through 15 are a true and correct record			
11	of the aforesaid proceedings.			
12	I further certify that I am not a relative			
13	or employee, attorney or counsel of any of the parties,			
14	nor am I a relative of any of the parties' attorney or			
15	counsel connected with the action, nor am I financially			
16	interested in the foregoing action.			
17	Under penalties of perjury, I declare that			
18	I have read the foregoing certificate and that the facts			
19	stated herein are true.			
20	Dated this 19th day of November 2019.			
21				
22	Emi Josephie			
23				
24	EMILIE BRAVE			
25				

	- 2020	affect		collector
\$	5:20	4:20	В	3:25
\$111,615	2020-A	afternoon	back	commencing
3:25 4:2	5:13	8:11	8:24	5:19
\$69,000,000		agenda	balance	comments
4:15,25		3:5	4:6,8,9,10,12,	3:6,7
\$78	31	ALI	13,15,25	committee
4:10	5:20	6:18,22	began	3:9,16 5:9 8:11,15
\$850,000.00		allocated	3:2	
5:18,21	8	6:1	birth	Community 5:15
	_	amend	7:22	5.15
1	850 - 6:2	5:20 6:2	Board	concerns
_	- 0.2	amendment	8:5	8:1
1 4:10 5:19	9	3:19,20,23	bring	consideration
		4:19,24 5:12	8:24	4:25
12 5:19	9:38	amount	budget	contract
	3:2	5:18,25	3:19,20,23 4:6,	5:14
18/'19		apologize	18,21,23,24	correct
4:6	A	7:9	5:1,21,25 6:1,2	6:4
19/'20	a.m.	application		cost
4:23 5:1	3:2	6:13	C	4:1
2	- ABRAHANTE	applications	Care	county
	3:13 5:5 6:8,15	6:16	5:17	5:15 6:9 7:12
2018	7:6,12,15,19	applied	category	couple
4:10	8:6,18	6:9,11,19,20,	6:21	8:25
2018/2019	Action	22	CEO	cover
3:20	5:15	applying	3:21 8:21	4:2
2019	actual	6:10	CFO	create
3:8 5:19	4:7	Approval	5:24	8:8
2019-20	additional	3:8	Chair	
5:20	8:5,7	Authorization	3:22 8:10	D
2019/2020	adjustment	5:13	Coalition	day
4:20 5:25	4:5,16	aye	7:10	3:5
		3:17 5:10 8:16		

demand	6:14	5:21	increase	lot
7:16,24	experience	good	3:25	7:24
Department	7:23	3:5 8:6	infants	
5:16		grant	7:24	M
developed	F	5:17 6:10,19	information	
4:6,22 5:1			8:7	making 4:15
didn't	fairly	Н	investigation	
4:7 6:19,23	3:24		8:3	match
	favor	HAJ		5:16,22 6:15,
discussion	3:15 5:8 8:14	3:22 5:3 6:5,20	ipad	20 8:1
4:11,18 5:2	federal	8:10,22	3:24	meeting
6:7,25 8:5,8	5:16	happened	it's	3:2,4
district		8:24	3:5 6:13	members
7:23	fees 3:25	Head	l'II	3:16 5:9 8:15
don't		5:17 6:9,10	3:21	Miami-dade
7:20	finalized	7:11,13,15,16,	l'm	5:14 7:12
	4:7	18,19,21	3:13	m:IIi.o.n
E	Finance	higher		million 4:10
	3:8	7:16	J	
Early	fiscal			minutes
5:16 6:9,10	5:20	HINCAPIE	JEANTY	3:9,18
7:10,15,16,19	floor	7:3,9,13,17	3:7	months
EHS-CCP	5:23 6:6	HOFFMAN		5:19
5:17		4:20	K	motion
ELC	forward 6:11	HOPE		3:10 5:3,4 7:2
6:21,22	0.11	3:3,8,12,15,18	KIRTLAND	move
ending	four-year-	4:17 5:2,4,6,8,	4:4,22	8:4,21
4:9 5:19	7:21	11 6:6,25 7:4,		
evidence	fund	8,11 8:4,7,12, 17,19	L	moved 3:11 5:5 7:3
6:21	4:5,8,9,12,13,		loto	
	25	Human	late 7:9	Moving
exceed	funding	5:15		3:19
5:18	5:16,22		Learning	
execute		<u> </u>	7:10	N
5:14	G		list	nogotists
expansion		8:23	7:13,21,25	negotiate 5:13
	general	0.23		5.15
		1		

November 5:19	plan 4:12	R		support 8:3
3.19	4.12			0.3
November's	present	realized	salaries	SYLVESTRE
3:4	8:9	4:12,14	4:2	6:13,17
numbers	previous	recollection	schedule	
4:7	6:16	6:18	4:4,16	ТТ
	prior	recording	Services	tab
0	4:5	3:2	5:15	3:23
October	PROCEEDING	recusals	simple	talking
3:8 4:10 5:20	S 3:1	7:1 8:13	3:24	4:12
offset		reflect	sir	tax
4:1	program 7:22	4:16 6:2	7:8 8:22	3:25
open		reflected	slight	term
5:23 6:6	Programs 8:11	4:23	3:20	5:18
opposed		remember	small	that's
5:11 8:17,19	project 8:2	4:11	3:20	8:6,9
		reports	source	there's
P	projected 4:9	8:23	8:2	3:19,25 7:16,
packed		request	spent	20,23,25 8:25
3:4	provide 5:21 6:15	6:1	4:13	they're
		reso	spoke	6:24
Partnership 5:17	providers	8:10	5:24	time
	8:25	resolution	Start	6:23
pass	public	3:5 5:13,22 6:3	6:9,10 7:11,14,	times
6:3	3:6,7	8:19	15,16,18,19,21	6:18
passed		responded	Start-child	toddlers
3:18	Q	3:16 5:9 8:15	5:17	7:24
passes	question	retroactively	starting	top
5:12 8:20	6:7,8	5:14	4:8,9,14	4:4
people	questions	Reyes	straightforward	total
7:17	4:18	3:11 5:7 7:5	3:24	5:18
period				
4:5			summarize 8:24	transferring 5:21

Trust	years	
8:1	8:25	
turn		
3:21		
U		
underspent		
4:1		
understanding		
5:24		
United		
6:20		
update		
8:23		
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7:13,20		
waiting		
7:25		
wasn't		
4:23		
we're		
4:15		
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4:24		
what's		
8:24		
Υ		
year		
5:20		