



CHILDREN'S
SERVICES
FUND
OF JACKSON COUNTY

Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

CSF Community Room
2345 Grand Blvd, 14th Floor, Kansas City, MO 64108
Thursday, November 21, 2024 – 2:30 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Jessica Ramirez (Chair)
Judy Morgan (Secretary)
Brian Kaberline
Monica Meeks

Board Members Absent:

Amy Harris (Vice- Chair)

Staff Present:

Rob Whitten (CEO)
Russell Anderson
Seth Baker
Kia Cannon
Shannon Dupree
Jane Mosley
Katherine Rivard
Jovanna Rohs
Moji Shogbamimu

Guest Affiliations:

Jim Giles, University Health

Tiffany Starkey, Synergy

- I. Call to Order Jessica Ramirez, Chair

The Children's Services Fund of Jackson County (CSF) meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m.
- II. CSF Board Roll Call/Guest Introductions Jessica Ramirez, Chair

Roll call was taken, and guests were invited to introduce themselves.
- III. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes Jessica Ramirez, Chair
 - A. Dir. Ramirez called for a motion to approve or make comments regarding changes to the October 17, 2024, board meeting minutes circulated in the board packet. There were no changes forthcoming.

A motion was made to approve the October 17, 2024, board meeting minutes.

First: Dir. Kaberline

Second: Dir. Morgan

Motion: Approved

Aye: 4

Nay: 0

B. There were no comments regarding changes to the proposed agenda.

IV. Partner Spotlight: The Children's Place Therapy Bus

The Children's Place CEO Ann Thomas showcased their mobile therapy bus, "The Children's Place on Wheels," which is retrofitted for therapy sessions. The bus supports early childhood educators and children. It also provides therapy services and educates families on available resources.

V. Investing in Children

Jessica Ramirez, Chair

A. Financial Update- Moji Shogbamimu, Chief Financial Officer

- i. A review of the financials circulated in the board packet was completed with the following highlights from October 2024.

Revenue

Category	October 2024	YTD	Budget
Tax Revenue Received	\$2.8M	\$28.2M	\$32M
Investment Income	\$10k	\$431k	\$337k
Interest Income			
Total Revenue	\$2.8M	\$28.6M	\$32.3M

Program Support

Category	October 2024	YTD	Budget
Core Funding	\$1.6M	\$13.7M	\$22.3M
Capacity Building	\$118k	\$1.7M	\$3.5M
Collaboration	\$12k	\$2M	\$3M
Community Projects	\$3.5k	\$130k	\$500k
Program Support (Total)	\$1.7M	\$17.5M	\$29.3M

Operating & Overhead

Category	October 2024	YTD	Budget
Personnel	\$150k	\$1.3M	\$2.2M
Professional Contracts	\$14k	\$333k	\$441k
Administration	\$2k	\$52k	\$105k
Occupancy	\$15.5k	\$142k	\$202k
Professional Insurance		\$43k	\$49k
Technology	\$2K	\$12k	\$22k
Transportation		\$1.4k	\$7.5k
Depreciation	\$3.6K	\$35.6k	\$48k
Operating & Overhead (Total)	\$187k	\$2M	3.1M
Total Expense	\$1.9M	\$18M	\$32.3M

Financial Position as of 10/31/24 YTD

Assets	\$30.4M
<i>Cash</i>	\$7.9M
<i>Investments</i>	\$22.5M
Liabilities	
Core Funding (2024)	\$10.7M
Capacity Building	\$5.3M
Collaboration	\$6.6M
Net Assets	\$7.8M

ii. 2025 Budget

Ms. Shogbamimu advised the 2025 budget proposal was being presented for board approval, following its presentation to the Internal Affairs Committee. Projected sales tax revenue is \$33 million, and the budget assumes utilizing \$8 million of reserve for operational needs.

Revenue

Category	2024	2025
Tax Revenue Received	\$32M	\$33M
Investment Income	\$337k	\$300k
Transfer from Reserve	\$337k	\$8.099M
Total Revenue	\$32.2M	\$41.4M

Program Support

Category	2024	2025
Core Funding	\$22.3M	\$31M
Capacity Building	\$3.5M	\$3M
Collaboration	\$3M	\$3M
Community Engagement	\$500k	\$500k
Cultivation		\$856k
Total Program Support	\$29.8M	\$38.3M

Operating & Overhead

Category	2024	2025
Personnel	\$2.2M	\$2.1M
Professional Contracts	\$441k	\$517k
Administration	\$105k	\$106k
Occupancy	\$202k	\$195k
Professional Insurance	\$49k	\$63k
Technology	\$22k	\$64k
Transportation	\$7.5k	\$7.5k
Depreciation	\$48k	\$48k
Operating & Overhead (Total)	3.06M	\$3.07M

A motion was made to approve the proposed 2025 budget as presented.

First: Dir. Morgan

Second: Dir. Kaberline

Motion: Approved

Aye: 4

Nay: 0

- B. CSF Funding Opportunities Judy Morgan, External Affairs Chair/Jovanna Rohs, Chief Program Officer

i. Capacity Building Funding: Calendar Year 2025/2026

CSF staff have reviewed the current cycle applications and presented summaries and recommendations to the External Affairs Committee. Eight projects are recommended for funding. The total funding request is \$696,000 over two years.

Organization	Project Title	Length	Year 1	Year 2	Total Award
Green Works	On-Line Offering of ECOS SEL	2 Years	\$17,000	\$30,000	\$47,000
Hillcrest Transitional Housing	Improving Organizational Support for Youth Transitional Housing	2 Years	\$45,000	\$45,000	\$90,000
Hope Center	Growth at the Center	1 Year	\$99,500		\$99,500
River of Refuge	Building DEI Awareness	2 Years	\$12,000	\$10,000	\$22,000
The Plaza Academy	Strategy Initiative	1 Year	\$30,000		\$30,000
University Health	UHBH Building Staff Capacity through Child, Youth & Young Person Focused Evidence Based Training	2 Years	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$200,000
Wildwood	Leveling Up Wildwood's Team: Trauma Informed and Expressive Therapy Skills Training	2 Years	\$36,200	\$27,300	\$63,500
Youth Guidance	Growing Visibility & Resources to Expand BAM & WOW	2 Years	\$72,000	\$72,000	\$144,000

Dir. Morgan brought forth a motion by the External Affairs Committee for approval of the Capacity Building projects with a January 1, 2025, start date for the amount not to exceed \$411,700 in Year 1 and \$199,300 in Year 2, for a total of \$611,000:

First: Dir. Morgan
Aye: 4

Second: Dir. Kaberline Motion: Approved
Nay: 0

ii. Community Funding

The External Affairs Committee also reviewed three projects being recommended by staff for funding under the "Community" category. The total funding request is \$713,220 over two years.

Organization	Project Title	Length	Year 1	Year 2	Total Award
Children's Mercy Hospital	Adelante	2 Years	\$190,545	\$194,675	\$385,220
Child Protection Center	Skin Deep	2 Years	\$224,000	\$39,000	\$263,000
The Children's Place	Collective Action for Children	1 Year	\$65,000		\$65,000

A motion was made to approve the recommended Community Funding awards, not to exceed \$479,545 in Year 1 and \$233,675 in Year 2 for a total of \$713,220 and a start date of January 1, 2025.

First: Dir. Morgan
Aye: 4

Second: Dir. Meeks
Nay:0

Motion: Approved

VI. Optimize Organization- Rob Whitten, CEO

A. CSF Board Treasurer Election

With the resignation of Director Morris, who was Treasurer, there is a vacancy for the position. Director Amy Harris, who is currently Vice Chair, has agreed to take over interim Treasurer duties since it is so late in the board year.

A motion was made to appoint Dir. Amy Harris as Interim Treasurer for the remainder of the board year.

First: Dir. Kaberline
Aye: 4

Second: Dir. Morgan
Nay:0

Motion: Approved

B. Organizational Updates

1. Grant management software- Jovanna Rohs, Chief Program Officer

The platform build is nearing completion, with the team focused on testing and ensuring functionality across internal workflows and external partner interfaces. The finance team is working to streamline budget processes and automate invoice submission using Fluxx for partners. Final testing and data migration are planned for December, with a tentative go-live date of January 1, 2025.

2. HR Engagement

The team has met the new OMNI consultant assigned for CSF as of today. The prior consultant had recommended several actions that may exceed the needs of the CSF. The team is pleased with the new consultants' more tailored approach. Mr. Whitten is also working with CBIZ regarding a performance management system as part of the expanded scope of work on compensation. Beta testing with staff is planned for Q1 2025.

3. Policy & Procedure Update

Sue Richter continues to provide support to Mr. Whitten on a special project for developing a comprehensive policy and procedure manual for the organization. They have been working on the governance and finance sections of the manual and will take the draft to the Internal Affairs committee for review during Q1 of 2025.

4. Nominating Update

A board candidate application has been pending since September 17. Follow-up efforts are ongoing with the County Executive's office. Dir. Ramirez and a committee member are scheduled to meet with another board candidate in

December. Additional potential candidates are also being identified. Currently, the board is short four members, and efforts are focused on filling these vacancies. Board nominations are submitted to the County Executive, who makes appointments subject to approval by the county legislature. Legislator Manny Abarca has requested a meeting with Dir. Ramirez and Mr. Whitten to learn more about the Fund and to discuss our processes, which may involve board appointments. Mr. Whitten is monitoring legislative agendas for progress on appointments but has noted delays.

5. Platte County Children's Services Fund

The Platte County Commission is refusing to authorize the voter-approved sales tax for the Children's Services Fund despite clear statutory requirements. Legal action is expected, with a member of the children's services coalition in Platte County retaining Husch Blackwell. Opposition claims the funds might support controversial purposes, like gender-affirming care or migrant services. Lobbyist activity in Jefferson City is also being monitored for potential threats to the CSF statute, with Kids Win Missouri offering support. Similar issues in Florida required children's services funds to be reauthorized via ballot, creating costly delays. Missouri's new House Speaker, representing a district in Jackson County, may be approached to help mitigate legislative risks.

VII. Old/New Business Jessica Ramirez-Chair

None noted.

VIII. Director and Guest Comments Jessica Ramirez-Chair

The next meeting will be a board work session on January 30, 2025, from 2:00 PM to 6:30 PM, focusing on the results of the children's services assessment, with the regular board meeting resuming on February 20, 2025.

IX. Closed Session- Partner Contracting Issue

The following motion was made:

"I move that this meeting be closed, and all the records and votes, to the extent permitted by law, pertaining to and/or resulting from this closed meeting be closed under RSMO Section 610.021, subsection 13, for the purpose of discussing a partner contracting issue."

First: Dir. Morgan

Aye: 4

Second: Dir. Kaberline

Nay:0

Motion: Approved

The meeting was closed at 3:39pm on November 21, 2024.

A motion was made to come back into open session.

First: Dir. Morgan

Second: Dir. Kaberline

Motion: Approved

Aye: 4

Nay: 0

The meeting came out of closed session at 3:43pm on November 21, 2024.

X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:44pm

Respectfully submitted: Kia Cannon

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Judy Morgan", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Judy Morgan, Secretary