

# CHILDREN'S BOARD OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

## REGULAR BOARD MEETING

### NOVEMBER 19, 2020 ~ 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.

### CONFERENCE CALL

Conference Line: 1-866-899-4679  
Access Code: 579-512-941

### CALL TO ORDER

Attendance Verification  
Quorum Verification  
Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance  
Swearing-In of Commissioner Gwendolyn Myers

E. Narain  
K. Austin  
E. Narain  
E. Narain  
E. Narain

### 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 addressing 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.

E. Narain

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DISCLOSURE

K. Parris

### PROVIDER PRESENTATIONS

Abe Brown Ministries, Inc.  
Family Reunification and Visitation

M. Negron  
R. Blount

### ACTION ITEMS

1. **Approval;** October 22, 2020 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
2. **Approval;** Approval to Proceed with Execution of Guaranteed Maximum Price Contract with Charles Perry Partners, Inc.
3. **Approval;** Release of 2021 Summer Services Grants

E. Narain  
P. Scott  
M. Negron

### REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS

1. Executive Director Reports  
A. Activities October 23, 2020 – November 19, 2020  
B. Bay Area Legal/Case Management Training/ Case Management for the Housing Insecure  
C. MacDill – Military Release
2. Programs Reports

K. Parris

M. Negron

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Contract Signature Logs (ASO, Programs, Vendors)
2. Good News!

**IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

**NO DECEMBER MEETINGS**

**JANUARY**

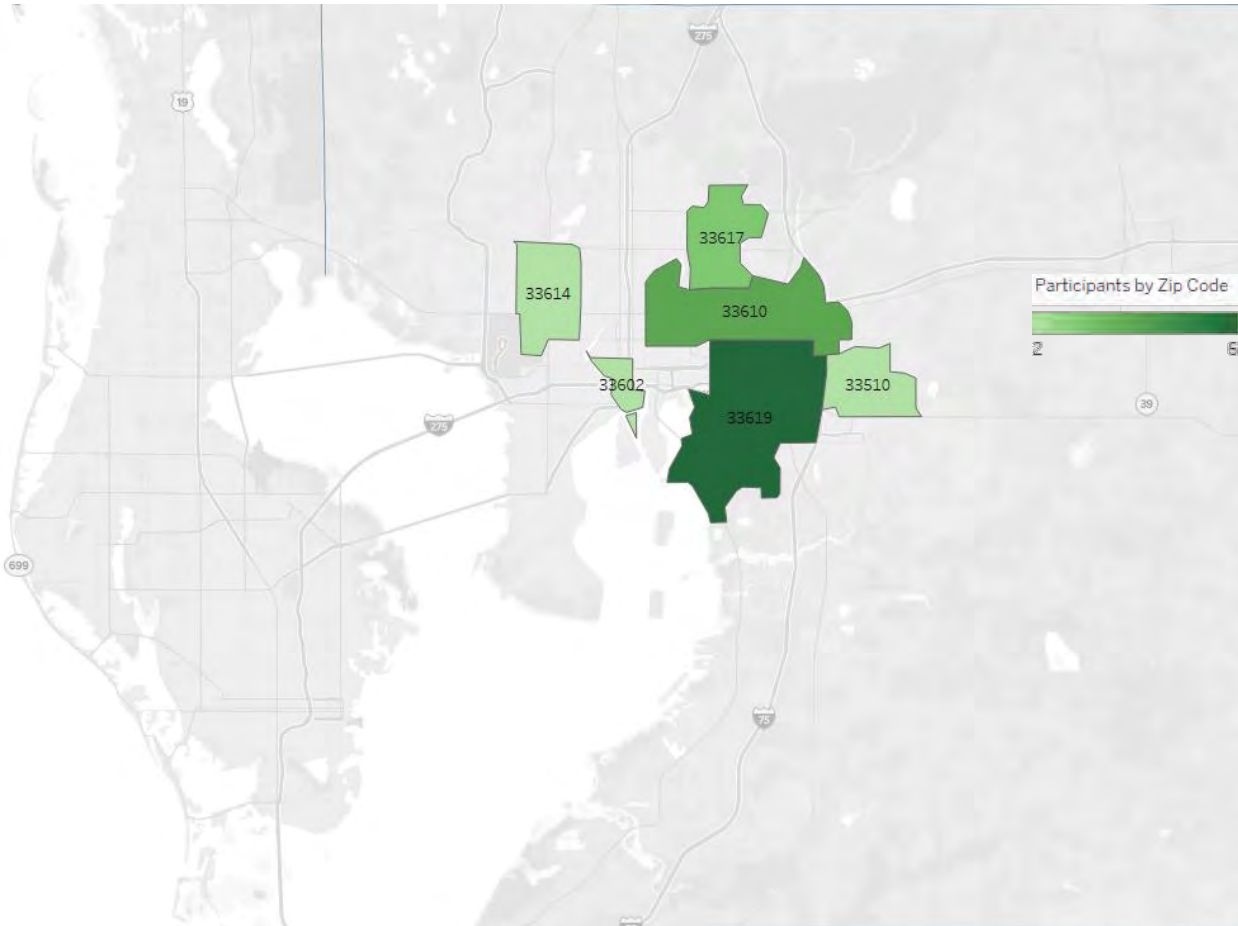
Executive Finance Committee Meeting	January 14, 2021	12:00 PM
Regular Board Meeting	January 28, 2021	3:00 PM

## Children’s Board of Hillsborough County

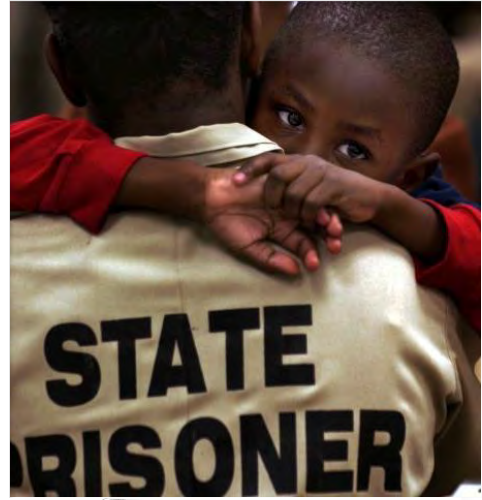
Agency: Abe Brown Ministries, Inc.

Program: Family Reunification and Video Visitation

### Number of Participants Served by Zip Code in FY 2020 (October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 – September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020)



Map prepared by Children’s Board of Hillsborough County. The map color shows the number of participants served by zip code. Map based on 19 minor children and caregivers served from 10/01/2019 to 09/30/2020.



# Family Reunification

CBHC Board Presentation

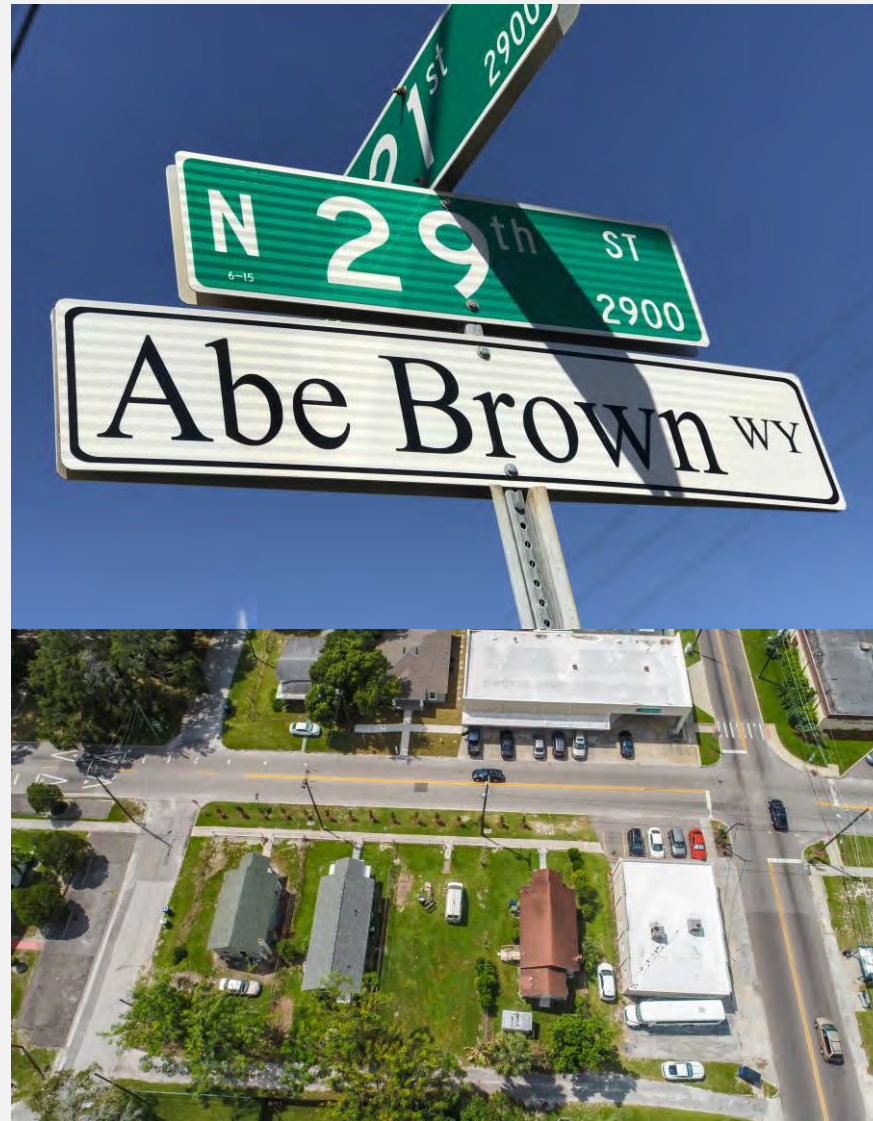


Abe Brown Ministries, Inc.



# Who are we?

- The mission of Abe Brown Ministries is to *break cycles of incarceration by helping to renew the minds of incarcerated and formerly incarcerated citizens motivating them to change their behaviors and achieve purposeful lives.*



**ROBERT BLOUNT**  
President



**AMELIA GRIGGS**  
Family Reunification Coordinator

# Family Reunification

- Evolved from the Collaborative Children in Hillsborough of Incarcerated Parents (CHIPS).
- First Funded by CBHC in 2013



# Service Delivery

## Family Reunification

- Video Visitation
- Family Bonding Trips

## Ready4WorkHillsborough

- Re-entry Services
- Family Support



**Weekly at Abe Brown Ministries, children are able to visit with their parent live via video conferencing technology.**

## Expected Outcomes for 2021

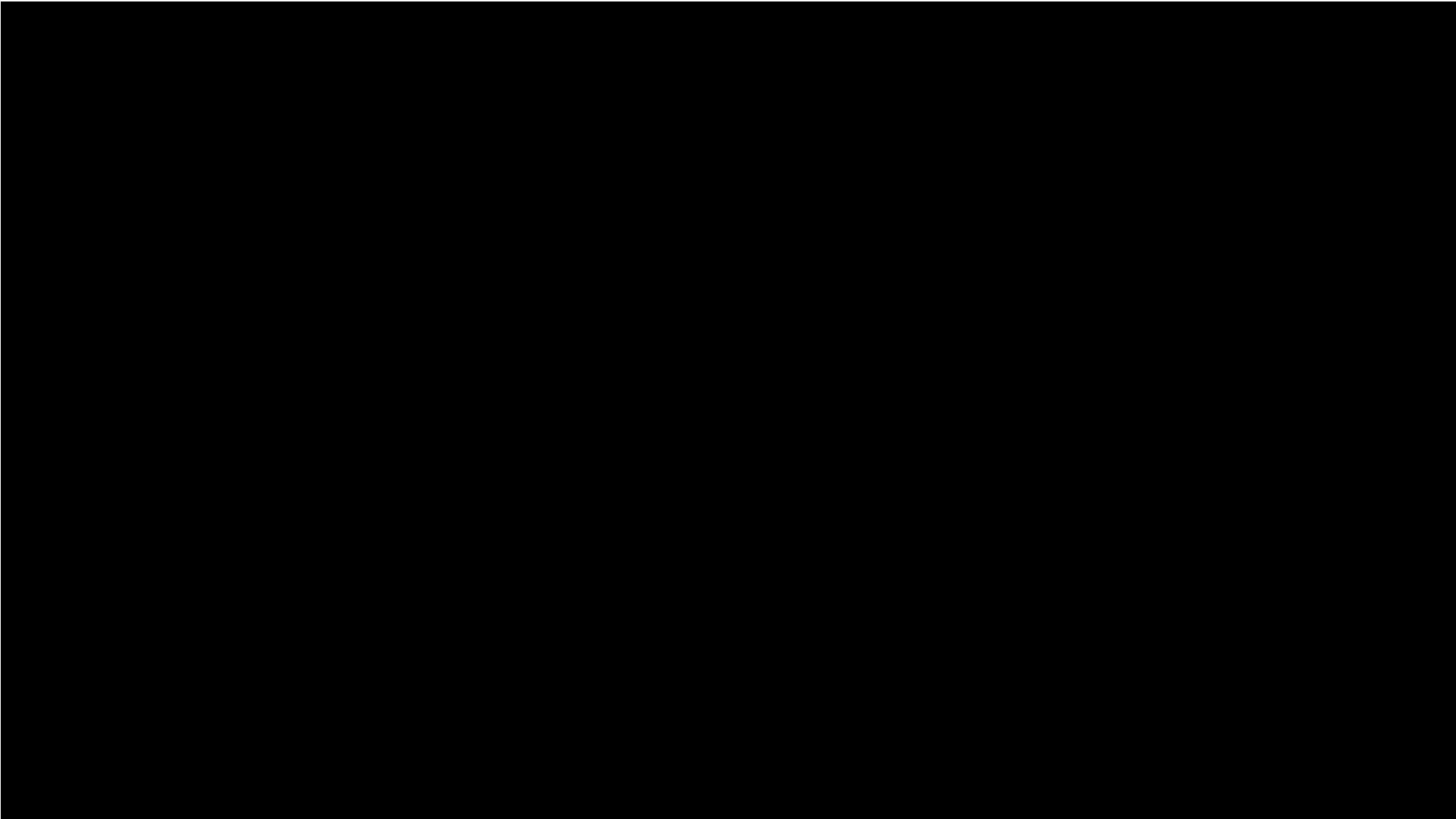
- At least 80% of a minimum of 30 families have improved family well-being.
- At least 85% of a minimum of 60 individuals have increased concrete supports.
- At least 70% of a minimum of 40 children demonstrate a secure attachment to a nurturing caregiver.



## Work done in 2020

- 20 Families served last year
- COVID-19 – FRP Reimagined
- Expanded to formerly incarcerated parents





Abe Brown Ministries, Inc.

Parents Doing Time, Children Left Behind



Thank You  
*for helping us keep  
families connected.*



Abe Brown Ministries, Inc.

# CHILDREN'S BOARD OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

## REGULAR BOARD MEETING

### October 22, 2020 ~ 3:00 PM

### MEETING MINUTES

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Regular Board Meeting</b>		<b>Date</b>	<b>October 22, 2020</b>
<b>Facilitator</b>	Edwin Narain, Chair		<b>Meeting Time</b>	3:00 PM
<b>Location</b>	Conference Call: 1-866-899-4679 Access Code: 579-512-941 1002 East Palm Ave. Tampa, FL 33605		<b>Actual Meeting Time</b>	3:00 PM – 4:14 PM
			<b>Adjourned</b>	4:14 PM
<b>Board Member Attendance</b>	Edwin Narain, Chair Andy Mayts, Vice Chair Robin DeLaVergne, Secretary/Treasurer	Katherine Essrig Frank Prado Sandra Murman	Megan Proulx Dempsey	
<b>Other Attendees</b>	Kelley Parris, Executive Director David Adams, CBHC Board Attorney Nina Eichorn, Recorder Kristina Austin	Paula Scott, CBHC Staff Jamie Robe, CBHC Staff Maria Negron, CBHC Staff	Jan Houser, CBHC Staff Trish James, CBHC Staff Tonia Williams, CBHC Staff	

## SUMMARY

No.	Topic	Highlights
I	<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	E. Narain called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM.
		E. Narain led the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.
		N. Eichorn called for Board attendance verification.
	<b>PUBLIC COMMENT</b>	E. Narain called for Public Comment; there was none.
II.	<b>PROVIDER PRESENTATION</b>	<p>M. Negron introduced Reverend Sims from Mt. Zion AME Riverview Church. Reverend Sims outlined the activities of the (35) thirty-five campers, who attended the 2020 Unstoppable Summer Jam (USJ).</p> <p>The following HCSO deputies were recognized for their participation in the camp:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deputy Christopher Former</li> <li>• Major Anthony Collins</li> </ul> <p>Before the camp began for the summer, campers were pre-tested to determine literacy levels. By the end of the summer, all 35 campers had increased or were on grade level for literacy skills.</p> <p>M. Negron introduced Mr. Nestor Ortiz; 16 Point Compass Consulting. N. Ortiz provided a brief overview of the results obtained from in-person/virtual town hall meetings and a community survey conducted earlier this year.</p>

## SUMMARY

No.	Topic	Highlights
		<p>The following community regions were surveyed for the needs analysis. All 53 zip codes in Hillsborough County were represented.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brandon</li> <li>• Central Tampa</li> <li>• East County</li> <li>• North Tampa</li> <li>• South County</li> <li>• Temple Terrace</li> <li>• Town and Country</li> </ul> <p>The complete packet of survey and town hall results were provided to the Board for their review and information.</p>
<b>III.</b>	<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	
	<p><b>1. 9-24-2020 Regular Board Meeting Minutes</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Motion (1)</b></p>	<p>E. Narain requested approval of the September 24, 2020 Regular Board Meeting minutes.</p> <p><b><i>Motion by Megan Dempsey to approve the September 24, 2020 Regular Board Meeting minutes; second by Sandra Murman. Motion carried (7-0).</i></b></p>
	<p><b>2. 9-24-2020 Final TRIM Hearing Minutes</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Motion (2)</b></p>	<p>E. Narain requested approval of the September 24, 2020 Final TRIM Hearing Minutes.</p> <p><b><i>Motion by Sandra Murman to approve the September 24, 2020 Final TRIM Hearing minutes; second by Andy Mayts. Motion carried (7-0).</i></b></p>
	<p><b>3. Authorization to Release a Procurement Solicitation for carpet replacement for the Children’s Board headquarters</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Motion (3)</b></p>	<p>P. Scott requested Board approval to release a procurement solicitation for carpet replacement for the Children’s Board Administrative Building 1002 East Palm Avenue.</p> <p><b><i>Motion by Andy Mayts to move forward with the procurement solicitation for carpet replacement; second by Katherine Essrig. Motion carried (7-0).</i></b></p>
<b>IV.</b>	<b>REPORTS</b>	
	<p><b>1. Executive Director Reports</b></p>	<p>K. Parris reported attending (26) significant meetings between September 25, 2020-October 22, 2020.</p> <p>Two important meetings were held with the following organizations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Community Foundation – to request their assistance in the development of an investment structure schedule to bring on additional investment partners for the Racial Equity Project;</li> <li>2. Tampa Bay Partnership – to facilitate a discussion around creating equity in the early learning community and foster participation within the business community.</li> </ol> <p>In addition, K. Parris reviewed the emergency spending for ASO Covid-19 funding and advised that support has been discontinued for Covid supports with the early learning community. This includes the supports for essential workers and their early learning care for their families.</p>
	<p><b>2. Programs Reports</b></p>	<p>M. Negron provided a report on the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Status of contracts sent to Providers.</li> <li>• Hillsborough Education Foundation’s <i>Learn at Home</i> grant has been executed;</li> <li>• Staff is collecting final provider data and monitoring Covid-19 impact to services.</li> </ul>

## SUMMARY

No.	Topic	Highlights
V.	ADJOURNMENT	

## MOTIONS

1.	<i>Motion by Megan Dempsey to approve the September 24, 2020 Regular Board Meeting minutes; second by Sandra Murman. Motion carried (7-0).</i>
2.	<i>Motion by Sandra Murman to approve the September 24, 2020 Final TRIM Hearing minutes; second by Andy Mayts. Motion carried (7-0).</i>
3.	<i>Motion by Andy Mayts to move forward with the procurement solicitation for carpet replacement; second by Katherine Essrig. Motion carried (7-0).</i>

READ AND APPROVED BY:

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EDWIN NARAIN  
BOARD CHAIR

**Initiator:** Paula Scott, Director of Operations

**Action:** Approval to proceed with executing a Guaranteed Maximum Price contract with Charles Perry Partners, Inc.

**Date:** Regular Board Meeting Thursday, November 19, 2020

**Recommended Action**

Board approval authorizing staff to proceed with executing a Guaranteed Maximum Price contract with Charles Perry Partners, Inc., for up-to \$1, 397,873 for the renovations of the Children's Board owned property, located at 301 N. Palmer St., Plant City, FL 33563.

**Background - Update**

- June 25, 2020 – Board approved the release of an RFQ for the procurement of General Contractor Services for the build out of the Plant City Family Resource Center.
- August 28, 2020 – Review Team Meeting was conducted and a “short listed” of firms was selected to proceed for in-person interviews.
- September 4, 2020 – All four (4) firms were interviewed by the Rating Team. Following the interviews, the Review Team selected Charles Perry Partners, Inc. (CPPI) as their #1 ranked firm.
- October 22, 2020 – Board approved staff to proceed with requesting a Guaranteed Maximum Price from Charles Perry Partners, Inc.
- Following the October Board approval, CPPI actively recruited and requested bids from all necessary sub-contractors for the project, including a special event held on November 9<sup>th</sup> specifically targeted at recruitment of small, minority and women owned businesses to bid on the project.
- On Friday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, CPPI submitted their Guaranteed Maximum Price for the project for \$1, 397,873.

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**Approval of Release for 2021 Summer Services Grants**

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

**Action:** Approval of release for 2021 Summer Services Grants

**Date:** Regular Board Meeting, Thursday, November 19, 2020

**Recommended Actions**

Recommend release in January 2021 of a Request for Proposals for time-limited 2021 Summer Services Grant funding with a total allocation up to \$500,000 in collaboration with Board of County Commissioners to increase youth access to high quality summer programming.

**Background**

- The Children's Board has released summer services grants since 2015.
- As a result, 4,531 youth have received services provided by these grants and most reflect the intent to provide programming to unserved populations.
- The 2020 Summer Services Report was included in the October 2020 Board Book.
- The Board of County Commissioners have renewed their collaboration with the Children's Board and will contribute \$250,000. The Children's Board will serve as the managing entity for all funding and grants awarded.
- The intent is to offer multiple leading grants to existing Hillsborough County summer programs and grants that are awarded will receive funding in FY 2021 and FY 2022 without having to re-apply upon successful contract compliance.

**Children's Board of Hillsborough County  
Executive Director Report  
October 23, 2020 – November 19, 2020**

**25 Meetings**

Cheri Wright Jones
Children's Services Council
QEES
Dawning Family Services
Dave Rogoff
Commission on the Status of Women
Louise Ellrod
Team MacDill Community Group – Lisa Williams
Lutheran Family Services
HCC – QEES Quick Connect
Hillsborough County Neighborhood Relations Office
Criterion
HCC – Quality Early Education System (QEES)
Children's Services Council
Boys and Girls Club of Tampa Bay
Computer Mentors
Doretha Edgecomb Ceremony
Education and Prevention Workgroup – Opioid Action Plan
Junior League of Tampa
Community Alliance
CSC Meeting
Sandy Murman
COSW Town Hall
CIRRT
Women's Conference



**Contract Signature  
Programs ONLY  
FY 2021**

Entity/Agency	Contract Type	Brief Description	Contract Period	Contract Amount	Board Approved	Signed By	Date Signed
TAMPA BAY COMMUNITY AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION D/B/A BETHESDA MINISTRIES	Standard	Children are Safe and Supported	10/01/2020-09/30/2021	\$178,925	Yes	Kelley Parris	10/20/2020
THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA BOARD OF TRUSTEES	Standard	Program Wide- Postive Behavior Support	10/01/2020-09/30/2021	\$745,166	Yes	Kelley Parris	10/20/2020
LUTHERAN SERVICES FLORIDA, INC.	Standard	Community Collaborations for Strong Families	10/01/2020-09/30/2021	\$275,000	Yes	Kelley Parris	10/20/2020
ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL, INC. D/B/A ST. JOSEPH'S WOMEN'S HOSPITAL	Standard	Supporting Motherhood and More	10/01/2020-09/30/2021	\$118,305	Yes	Kelley Parris	10/24/2020
HILLSBOROUGH EDUCATION FOUNDATION, INC.	Standard	CB Tech- Learning at Home	10/05/2020-09/30/2021	\$399,654	Yes	Kelley Parris	11/02/2020
PRESERVE VISION FLORIDA, INC.	Standard	Children's Vision Health and Safety	10/01/2020-09/30/2021	\$205,400	Yes	Kelley Parris	11/02/2020
ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL, INC. D/B/A ST. JOSEPH'S CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL	Standard	Mobile Health and Safety	10/01/2020-09/30/2020	\$1,011,820	Yes	Kelley Parris	11/02/2020
MENTAL HEALTH CARE, INC. D/B/A GRACEPOINT	Standard	Family Infant/Child Wellness	10/01/2020-09/30/2021	\$449,912	Yes	Kelley Parris	11/02/2020
THE SPRING OF TAMPA BAY, INC.	Standard	Family Safety from Domestic Violence	10/01/2020-09/30/2021	\$222,083	Yes	Kelley Parris	11/02/2020

**Contract Signature Log**  
**ASO ONLY**  
**FY 2021**

Entity/Agency	Contract Type	Brief Description	Contract Period	Contract Amount	Board Approved	Signed By	Date Signed
Jewish Family & Community Services, Inc. [DuPont Counseling]	ASO Provider	Psycho-Educational Groups	10/21/2020 - ongoing	Varies	No	Kelley Parris	10/21/2020
Jewish Family & Community Services, Inc. [DuPont Counseling]	Agreement	Business Associate Agreement	10/21/2020 - ongoing	Varies	No	Kelley Parris	10/21/2020
Champions for Children	MOU	MOU for allocation of ASO funds	10/21/2020-9/30/2021	\$6,000.00	No	Kelley Parris	10/22/2020
Essential Foundations Learning, LLC	ASO Provider	Contract	10/24/2020 ongoing	Varies	No	Kelley Parris	10/24/2020
Central Florida Recovery	ASO Provider	Contract	10/26/2020 ongoing	Varies	No	Kelley Parris	10/26/2020
Central Florida Recovery	ASO Provider	B/A Agreement	10/26/2020 ongoing	Varies	No	Kelley Parris	10/26/2020
Just Initiative Inc.	MOU	MOU for allocation of ASO funds	10/26/2020-9/30/2021	\$5,000.00	No	Kelley Parris	10/26/2020
Alvin Butler, LMHC and Harry Spears, LMHC dba The ITM Group, LLC	ASO Provider	Evaluation	10/27/2020 - ongoing	Varies	No	Kelley Parris	10/27/2020
Alvin Butler, LMHC and Harry Spears, LMHC dba The ITM Group, LLC	Agreement	Business Associate Agreement	10/27/2020 - ongoing	Varies	No	Kelley Parris	10/27/2020
Darlene Brower dba Positive Parenting Classes for Florida	ASO Provider	Psycho-Educational Groups	10/28/2020 - ongoing	Varies	No	Kelley Parris	10/29/2020

**Contract Signature Log**  
**ASO ONLY**  
**FY 2021**

Entity/Agency	Contract Type	Brief Description	Contract Period	Contract Amount	Board Approved	Signed By	Date Signed
Darlene Brower dba Positive Parenting Classes for Florida	Agreement	Business Associate Agreement	10/28/2020 - ongoing	Varies	No	Kelley Parris	10/29/2020
Project LINK, Inc.	MOU	MOU for allocation of ASO funds	11/2/2020-9/30/2021	\$3,000.00	No	Kelley Parris	11/02/2020
Metropolitan Ministries, Inc.	MOU	MOU for allocation of ASO funds	11/2/2020-9/30/2021	\$20,000.00	No	Kelley Parris	11/02/2020
The Salvation Army [Duval County]	ASO Provider	Psycho-Educational Groups	11/4/2020 - ongoing	Varies	No	Kelley Parris	11/04/2020
The Salvation Army [Duval County]	Agreement	Business Associate Agreement	11/4/2020 - ongoing	Varies	No	Kelley Parris	11/04/2020
Brian Vera dba BNV Interpreting & Translating Services	ASO Provider	Interpreter and Translation Services	11/4/2020 - ongoing	Varies	No	Kelley Parris	11/04/2020
Housing Authority of the City of Tampa Florida	MOU	MOU for allocation of ASO funds	11/2/2020-9/30/2021	\$10,000.00	No	Paula Scott	11/05/2020
Catholic Charities, Diocese of St. Petersburg, Inc.	MOU	MOU for allocation of ASO funds	11/2/2020-9/30/2021	\$25,000.00	No	Paula Scott	11/05/2020
JaLem Robinson dba Brothers United Building Brothers Alliance, BUBBA Inc.	ASO Provider	Individual Family Supports; Respite	11/9/2020 - ongoing	Varies	No	Kelley Parris	11/10/2020

# Good News

*from our funded partners*

**Regular Board Meeting  
November | 2020**



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**Children's Board**  
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

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

# University of South Florida Board of Trustees

## Hillsborough HIPPY Parent Involvement Project

### Letter of Gratitude

Hi Ms. Wrenita,

I wanted to reach out to thank you for connecting me with Kiara. She was an amazing asset during the pandemic. She provided me with several resources and also took practical measures to assist me.

Well before the pandemic, I decided to homeschool my now five-year-old daughter. After doing my own research, it was not clear how to proceed. Kiara provided schools and the exact form with the email I needed.

She also found resources that assisted me with my utility bill. I am truly grateful for all the text messages she sent to check in with me. I really felt her care for me and my family. Please let her management know how grateful I am for her professional and caring assistance.

Sincerely,

Tania



Children's Board  
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

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

# University of South Florida Board of Trustees

## Program-Wide Positive Behavior Support (PWPBS)

Rosa Valdez Learning Center continues to partner with Program-Wide Positive Behavior Supports at USF to support children and families with social-emotional development. During October, Rosa Valdez's staff organized a family Halloween event –connecting with emotions. With their child, families selected a feeling-face of happy, angry, sad, or excited to draw onto pumpkins. This process helped families leave with more ideas and ways to help children identify their feelings and regulate emotions. The event was a huge success and safety measures were in place.



# University of South Florida Board of Trustees

Helping Our Toddler, Developing Our Children's Skills (HOT DOCS)

&

Developing our Children's Skills K-5 (DOCS K-5)

BOOK OF THE MONTH: CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FIELD



Promoting Positive Behavioral Outcomes for Infants and Toddlers

Authors: Heather Agazzi, Emily Shaffer-Hudkins,  
Kathleen Hague Armstrong, Holland Hayford

### *About the USF Author*

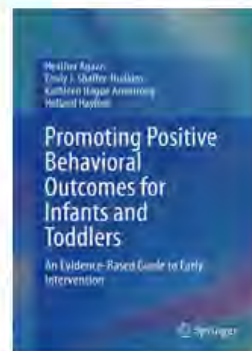
Heather Agazzi, PhD, MS is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Psychiatry, Morsani College of Medicine, and Section Chief of Child Development. Dr. Agazzi received her PhD in the school of psychology from the University of South Florida. While in graduate school, she completed an externship in child development and early intervention under Dr. Kathleen Armstrong's mentorship and has worked in early childhood behavior health ever since. Dr. Agazzi has designed, managed, and evaluated early interventions and parent training programs in the US and Australia. Dr. Agazzi is the director of the USF Health Doctoral Internship in Professional Psychology where she supervises the training of future health service psychologists. Dr. Agazzi joined USF in 2007 upon graduation. She is a board-certified psychologist, a certified Parent-Child Interaction therapist, a Child-Parent Psychotherapy therapist, and was recently endorsed as an Infant Mental Health Mentor-Research/Faculty by the Florida Association of Infant Mental Health, an endorsement recognized at the national and international level.



Heather Agazzi, PhD, MS, ABPP

### *About the Book*

This book provides a guide for planning, providing, and documenting effective early interventions for infants and toddlers and their families using the HOT DOCS parent training model. It discusses best practices for engaging the family, team problem-solving, developing individual treatment plans, incorporating evidence-based interventions, tracking progress, and identifying and solving challenges and obstacles presenting during treatment. The book focuses on the approximately 13% of U.S. children under age 3 who have developmental delays/disabilities, many of which may impair their ability to talk, move, learn, socialize, and become independent. When delivered effectively, early intervention can improve daily function and outcomes for these children, many of whom present with multiple and unique challenges. Each chapter in this book is written to guide practitioners, clinicians, therapists, and related professionals in their daily work with young children and their families. It addresses everyday challenges, including creating routines for parents of infants and toddlers, teaching parents how to play with their children and respond to problem behaviors, and managing caregiver stress.



### GET THE BOOK!

Available at the Shimberg Health Sciences Library for a 45 Day checkout.

Also available at <https://www.springer.com/us/book/9783030516130>

# Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tampa Bay

## 1-to-1 Comprehensive Mentoring



Big Sister Treena and Little Sister La'riyah have been matched in the program since October of 2019 and have just hit their one-year anniversary! Since the beginning of their match, the connection between these two has been very strong and positive on both ends. Due to COVID, the match has been staying connected virtually for much of 2020, but recently they have started getting together in person again (while also sporting their BBBS-branded masks.) La'riyah loves to sing and dance and Treena loves to be her audience. They also enjoy BBBS-sponsored match activities, or pretty much anything that allows them to be together. Other than going to Chick-Fil-A for lunch and creating memory books for each other, they also spend time on schoolwork together. Most recently, Treena has been helping La'riyah with her math and reading. For La'riyah, multiplication is tricky, but she and Treena are doing a great job

tackling it together. La'riyah LOVES school, so it is very important to her that she does well. La'riyah's mother recently expressed her happiness with La'riyah' adjustment to the third grade, doing well in her classes academically and socially, and maintaining her love of school. She attributes part of that success to La'riyah having Treena in her life and is excited to see how the match continues to grow.



Children's Board  
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

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



# Rebuilding Together Tampa Bay

## Safe and Healthy Homes for Families

Rebuilding Together Tampa Bay, Inc. (RTTB) has had a long history of serving families in need with the necessary home repairs to create safer and healthier home environments. We are now facing a health pandemic that makes the need for safer and healthier homes more vital for our families—especially those with underlying health conditions. To increase our vigilance to create safer and healthier housing during this pandemic, RTTB has expanded services to families in need. Beginning this September RTTB is providing families with a Respiratory Kit that will equip families with asthmatic children with some additional tools to stay safe and healthy.

Our Respiratory Kits (packaged in waterproof backpacks) are filled with:

- Hypoallergenic pillow and mattress covers
- Thermo digital thermometers
- Reusable facemasks
- Antibacterial soap and hand sanitizers
- Asthma informative coloring books and crayons
- Moisture absorbers
- Respiratory meters

This kit is accompanied with an online educational component to provide additional information on practices that the families can incorporate into their daily living. In response to COVID-19, RTTB has adapted their educational curriculums to online learning to better assist with social distancing practices.

With the help of dedicated volunteers, we will begin delivering the Kits, to 35 families (with asthmatic children) whose homes we were able to improve this year. In total, these homes currently house 81 children including 53 children living with asthma. These kits will provide additional support for families. RTTB, with the assistance of the Children's Board, are working to ensure that vulnerable families have safe and healthy homes for living, learning, and working while sheltering in place.

Regards,

Andres Izaguirre  
Director of Program Development

# Preserve Vision Florida

## Safe and Healthy Homes for Families

This is two year old Raxielie who had her vision screened at her preschool by Preserve Vision Florida (PVF) staff. She was a referral for astigmatism (a condition that causes blurred vision at a distance) and anisometropia (a condition that occurs when your eyes focus unevenly). Mom had some concerns and followed up with PVF's referral to Dr. Lopez. He prescribed glasses for Raxielie, and she picked out these perfect pink frames that won't break when bent! She will keep them safe in her pink owl Lenz Frenz glasses case. Mom is grateful that this vision issue was identified at an early age for Raxielie, so she can get accustomed to wearing the glasses and see clearly!



# Early Learning Coalition of Hillsborough County

## School Readiness Funding

Board members and Senior Leadership from the Early Learning Coalition of Hillsborough County (ELCHC) distributed INCENTIVE\$ checks in late October to several early education teachers throughout the County.

INCENTIVE\$ rewards early childhood educators with financial incentives based on their education and continuity of employment. By retaining the early childhood workforce, INCENTIVE\$ provides children with more stable relationships and better-educated teachers. INCENTIVE\$ addresses individual professional development efforts and low wages but does not affect budgets, regular wages, or parent fees within the child care program.

The ELCHC is thrilled to announce hitting the \$1,000,000 mark in distributed checks since launching the program in 2018.



# Tampa Metropolitan Area YMCA

## Community Learning Center at Sulphur Springs

One of our top goals at the Community Learning Center is to combat summer learning loss and increase our students' fluency and comprehension skills by instilling an excitement for reading. With that in mind and to prepare our students for the beginning of a new school year, we introduced two new events in August to get our students excited about reading.

Our first event was a book fair and ice cream social, where students were allowed to choose several books from a selection of diverse authors—specifically chosen to help students identify with the content of the book(s). Students brought these books home to begin creating a personal library.



Our second event was named "Operation Linking Literacy." The goal of this event was to challenge our students to have fun reading books with a parent, friend, or YMCA staff member and then complete a corresponding worksheet specific to the books they chose. It was a great success and we even had a number of Sulphur Springs K-8 teachers join in the fun reading with our kids. In addition, students received two additional books to take home to read with their families.

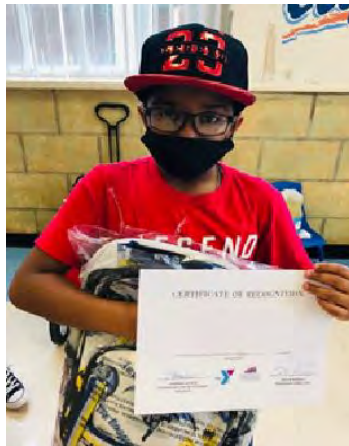


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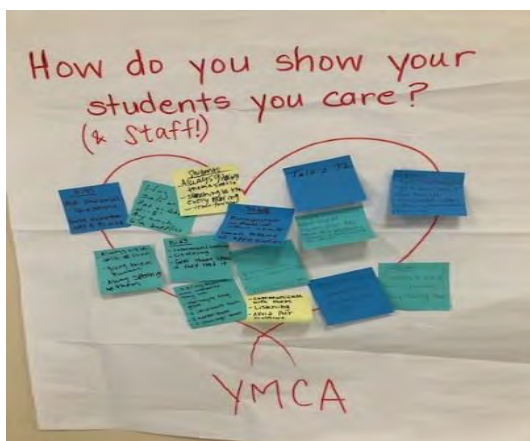
# Tampa Metropolitan Area YMCA

## Community Learning Center at Sulphur Springs

During the last week of camp, we threw a PBS Party where we celebrated our students who consistently received top marks for good behavior and high attendance over the summer. These students were rewarded with backpacks full of school supplies funded by the Children's Board of Hillsborough County.



Lastly, to ensure our program staff was prepared for the new school year, we launched a partnership with Frameworks of Tampa Bay, a nonprofit organization that empowers educators, youth services professionals, and parents and guardians with training, coaching, and research-based resources to equip students with social and emotional skills. We held our first training right before school started and will continue to provide the trainings every quarter throughout the school year.



# Seniors in Service of Tampa Bay

## Readers in Motion

Readers in Motion has expanded our program to a community-based model! Children are now receiving tutoring services at the Children's Board Family Resource Centers of North Tampa and Temple Terrace. Our Education Advocates provide after-school tutoring sessions to 40 students for an hour each week. These tutoring sessions are focused on the specific needs of students. On their first day, students complete an online assessment through myON that helps us identify their individual level and needs. Then, each child is paired with an Education Advocate to start their personalized tutoring. Participant slots have filled up quickly, and we are at the current capacity for each location! We are so thankful for the ongoing support and partnership with the Children's Board of Hillsborough County and center staff in expanding Readers in Motion to help children succeed, especially now.



Along with launching the community-based model, we hosted our first backpack drive in October as well. We coordinated a socially-distant backpack distribution for the e-learning students of Oak Grove Elementary using the school's car loop after pick-up time. Students rode along with their parents, greeting teachers and staff while selecting their favorite backpack color. Program staff took this time to check Readers in Motion registration forms for all necessary information

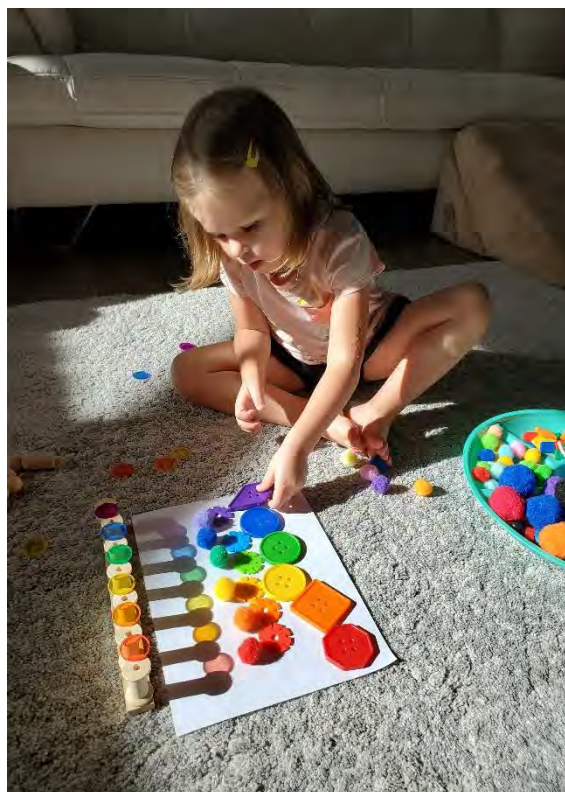
and then passed out the student's backpack LOADED with educational materials. It was a great opportunity to meet our e-learning students and welcome them to Readers in Motion!

# Champions for Children

## The First Years

Virtual playgroups continued in November for parents, caregivers, and their children from newborn to five years-of-age. We provided a range of playgroups at different times and dates.

We offered Baby & Me and Little Amigos in the afternoon, Music & More on Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings, so working caregivers have the opportunity to join and play with their child(ren). Growing Together and Creative Learning are provided during the morning offerings. Our virtual developmental playgroups are an engaging avenue to education, play, and support children and families.



# Metropolitan Ministries

## C.R.E.A.T.E. School Age Program



This month the latest floor to ceiling mural was unveiled to an audience of energetic students at Metropolitan Ministries.

“Our newest mural represents everything we are as a program—a diversity of staff, children, parents, and even younger siblings dedicated to fixing what is broken and nurturing growth in each other and our surroundings,” said Nicole Boone, Director of School-Aged Programs.

These murals cover classroom walls inside Metropolitan Ministries’ Youth Enrichment Center in Tampa, Fla. The complex buzzes with activity as students finish homework, brainstorm, and work together with therapeutic specialists each afternoon.

The Children’s Recreational, Education, Arts, and Therapeutic Experience (C.R.E.A.T.E.), funded by the Children’s Board of Hillsborough County, gives school-age children living at Metropolitan Ministries a nurturing therapeutic environment to grow, process challenges, and learn techniques to deal with their emotions.





# Healthy Start Coalition of Hillsborough County

## Safe Baby Plus

### Testimonial

To Whom It May Concern,

My husband and I were VERY pleased with the information that was provided by the Safe Baby program!

It was instrumental in assisting us with things that we should be on the lookout for and some really helpful tips on what we can do with our little guy.

Thank you for such great communication and services! And while this will be our last child, I really hope that this program will continue in its existence for new moms in the future.  
Sincerely,

M. Vega

