

CHILDREN'S BOARD OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

FEBRUARY 22, 2024 ~ 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
K. Austin
R. DeLaVergne

PUBLIC COMMENT

R. DeLaVergne

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.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DISCLOSURE

R. Bacon

ACTION ITEMS

1. **Approval;** February 12, 2024, Emergency Board Meeting Minutes
2. **Approval;** January 25, 2024, Regular Board Meeting Minutes
3. **Approval;** Release for ONEhillsborough Self-Sufficiency Case Management

R. DeLaVergne
R. DeLaVergne
G. Stewart

PROVIDER PRESENTATION

Lightning Foundation/ Fall Camp

M. Negron
J. McKenzie

REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS

1. Executive Director Reports
 - A. Activities – January 26, 2024 – February 22, 2024
2. ASO Report
 - A. 2022-23 Year-End Report
 - B. 2022-23 Year-End Report Presentation
3. Programs Report
 - A. Final Part II Summary of Provider Contract Evaluations
 - B. 2023 Technical Assistance Grants – Survey Summary
4. Finance Report
5. Strategic Initiatives Report
 - A. Surviving to Thriving Report
6. Human Resources Reports
 - Sam Lavacca, HR/Payroll Specialist

R. Bacon

K. Hickman

M. Negron

T. Williams
G. Stewart

J. Furr

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Contract Signature Logs (ASO, Programs, Vendors)
- 2. January 2024 Financial Statements
- 3. Good News!
- 4. Outreach Calendar

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

March

Executive/Finance Committee Meeting	March 14, 2024	12:00 PM
Regular Board Meeting	March 28, 2024	3:00 PM

April

Executive/Finance Committee Meeting	April 11, 2024	12:00 PM
Regular Board Meeting	April 25, 2024	3:00 PM

May

Executive/Finance Committee Meeting	May 09, 2024	12:00 PM
Regular Board Meeting	May 23, 2024	3:00 PM

June

Executive/Finance Committee Meeting	June 13, 2024	12:00 PM
Regular Board Meeting	June 27, 2024	3:00 PM

CHILDREN'S BOARD OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

EMERGENCY BOARD MEETING

February 12, 2024 ~ 4:15 PM

MEETING MINUTES

Subject	Regular Board Meeting	Date	February 12, 2024
Facilitator	Robin DeLaVergne, Chair	Meeting Time	4:15 PM
Location	1002 East Palm Ave. Tampa, FL 33605	Actual Meeting Time	4:18 PM – 4:30 PM
		Adjourned	4:30 PM
Board Member Attendance	Robin DeLaVergne, Chair Katherine Essrig, Vice-Chair Beth Pasek, Secretary/Treasurer	Megan Proulx Dempsey Gwen Myers Lynn Gray - absent Sarah Naumowich - absent	Van Ayres - absent Ed Narain Andy Mayts
Other Attendees	Rebecca Bacon, Executive Director David Adams, CBHC Board Attorney Kristina Austin, Recorder Kelly Hickman, CBHC Staff - absent	Paula Scott, CBHC Staff Maria Negron, CBHC Staff Tonia Williams, CBHC Staff	John Furr, CBHC Staff Jamie Robe, CBHC Staff Genet Stewart, CBHC Staff Dexter Lewis, CBHC Staff

SUMMARY

No.	Topic	Highlights
I.	CALL TO ORDER	R. DeLaVergne called the meeting to order at 4:18 PM. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> R. DeLaVergne called for Board attendance verification.
	PUBLIC COMMENT	R. DeLaVergne asked for Public Comment; there were none.
II.	ACTION ITEMS	
	1. Approval to proceed to closing over survey exception for commercial property in Brandon Motion (1)	P. Scott requested approval to proceed to closing over survey exception for commercial property in Brandon. <i>Motion by Andy Mayts to approve to proceed to closing over survey exception for commercial property in Brandon; second by Beth Pasek; motion carried (7-0).</i>
	ADJOURNMENT	The meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM

MOTIONS

1.	<i>Motion by Andy Mayts to approve to proceed to closing over survey exception for commercial property in Brandon; second by Beth Pasek; motion carried (7-0).</i>
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READ AND APPROVED BY:

ROBIN DELAVERGNE
BOARD CHAIR

CHILDREN'S BOARD OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

January 25, 2024 ~ 3:00 PM

MEETING MINUTES

Subject	Regular Board Meeting	Date	January 25, 2024
Facilitator	Robin DeLaVergne, Chair	Meeting Time	3:00 PM
Location	1002 East Palm Ave. Tampa, FL 33605	Actual Meeting Time	3:02 PM – 3:57 PM
		Adjourned	3:57 PM
Board Member Attendance	Robin DeLaVergne, Chair Katherine Essrig, Vice-Chair Beth Pasek, Secretary/Treasurer -absent	Megan Proulx Dempsey Gwen Myers Lynn Gray Sarah Naumowich	Van Ayres Ed Narain - absent Andy Mayts
Other Attendees	Rebecca Bacon, Executive Director David Adams, CBHC Board Attorney Kristina Austin, Recorder Paula Scott, CBHC Staff Maria Negron, CBHC Staff Tonia Williams, CBHC Staff	John Furr, CBHC Staff Jamie Robe, CBHC Staff Genet Stewart, CBHC Staff Dexter Lewis, CBHC Staff Glenda Taveras, CBHC Staff Kelly Hickman, CBHC Staff	Hung Pham, CBHC Staff Phylicia Wagner, CBHC Staff Danielle Testaverde, CBHC Staff Christine Caffray-Kreines, CBHC Staff Laura Toro-Porras, CBHC Staff Glenn Brown, CBHC Staff

SUMMARY

No.	Topic	Highlights
I.	CALL TO ORDER	R. DeLaVergne called the meeting to order at 3:02 PM. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> R. DeLaVergne called for Board attendance verification. M. Proulx Dempsey led the Invocation. L. Gray led the Pledge of Allegiance.
	PUBLIC COMMENT	R. DeLaVergne asked for Public Comment; there were none.
II.	ACTION ITEMS	
	1. 11-16-2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes Motion (1)	R. DeLaVergne requested approval of the November 16, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes. <i>Motion by Andy Mayts to approve the November 16, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes; second by Katherine Essrig; motion carried (8-0).</i>
	2. Approval to proceed to closing for commercial property in Brandon Motion (2)	P. Scott requested approval for the Executive Director and the Board Attorney to extend the due diligence period or proceed to closing for 308 W. Roberston St., Brandon, FL 33511. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allowable contract amount may be up to \$1,575,000 plus any closing costs associated with the purchase of the property. <i>Motion by Andy Mayts to approve the Executive Director and Board Attorney to extend the due diligence period or proceed to closing for 308 W. Robertson St., Brandon, FL 33511; second by Lynn Gray; motion carried (8-0).</i>

SUMMARY

No.	Topic	Highlights
	3. Approval of PRO 2024-05 Investment Grants <p style="text-align: right;">Motion (3)</p>	<p>M. Negron requested approval of the PRO 2024-05 Investment Grants.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding to benefit (5) Hillsborough County Organizations; • Total funding not to exceed \$2,728,640, which may be annualized up to \$4,687,123 in Year 2; • Contracts will run March 4, 2024 to September 30, 2024; • Investment Grants will support the focus areas: Children are Ready to Learn and Succeed, and Family Support. <p><i>Motion by Gwen Myers to approve the PRO 2024-05 Investment Grants. second by Megan Proulx Dempsey. motion carried (8-0).</i></p>
	4. Approval of PRO 2024-08 Leading or Uniting Grants <p style="text-align: right;">Motion (4)</p>	<p>M. Negron requested approval of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for funding PRO 2024-08 Leading or Uniting Grants.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total of RFP not to exceed \$1,000,000; • Funding is available due to unallocated funds from completed 2024 releases and awards; • Grants will support the focus areas: Children are Ready to Learn and Succeed and Family Support. <p><i>Motion by Lynn Gray to approve a RFP for the PRO 2024-08 Leading or Uniting Grants. second by Katherine Essrig. motion carried (8-0).</i></p>
II.	REPORTS/ PRESENTATIONS	
	1. Executive Director Report	<p>R. Bacon reported attending (56) significant meetings between November 17, 2023–January 25, 2024.</p> <p>Highlights for the referenced time-period include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Met with other Children Services Councils at the annual Florida Alliance of Children’s Councils & Trusts (FACCT) meeting in December; - Attended the OneHillsborough event, Surviving to Thriving; - Spoke at the RICH House Resource Collaboration event led by Kas Tape, OneHillsborough staff member; - Spoke to an All-Pro Dads group at Rampello Elementary School; - Connected All-Pro Dads group to the Hillsborough Fatherhood Group led by Daryl Clark, OneHillsborough staff member; - Toured Mort Elementary and participated in their Season’s Reading event; - Attended the Early Childhood Council’s Developmental Screenings with the Florida Surgeon General Dr. Joseph A. Ladapo; - Participated in the Martin Luther King Jr. Day Parade. <p>R. Bacon provided a brief update on the 2024 Legislative Session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The CBHC is actively following many of the bills moving through the Florida Senate and House; - SB 544 creates a swimming lesson voucher program within the Department of Health and sets guidelines on contracting and establishing a network of swimming lesson vendors to participate in program; - SB 1058 affects all special districts and FACCT is providing daily updates; - The referenced bills and many not listed above will continue to be monitored until the end of Session.

SUMMARY

No.	Topic	Highlights
	2. Programs Reports	<p>M. Negrón provided the FY 2022-2023 Outcome Highlight End of Year Performance Report.</p> <p>The report focused on four (4) focus areas: Children are Healthy & Safe, Developmentally on Track, Ready to Learn & Succeed, and Family Support.</p> <p>The following data demonstrates the collective impact of our funded programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 45 Funded agencies contributed to the outcomes; • 70 Programs provided participant outcomes results in CATS; • 74% of outcomes at or above benchmark targets. <p>M. Negrón updated the Board on the PRO 2024-04 Technical Assistance Grants Summary Report.</p> <p>The PRO 2024-04 covered the timeline for the grant from the announcement to the recommendation for funding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One-time grants recommended to thirteen organizations; • Contracts to run from February 1, 2024 to July 31, 2024; • Total amount of funding for all grants not to exceed \$118,629.
	3. ASO Report	K. Hickman provided a comprehensive update of the ASO monthly report and the FY 2022-2023 Year-End Reports for BOCC funding..
	4. Finance Report	T. Williams reviewed the December 2023 Financial Statements.
	5. Human Resources Report	<p>J. Furr introduced the Board to the following new employee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hung Pham, Accounts Payable Coordinator • Phylcia Wagner, Program Manager • Laura Toro- Porras, Conference Center Coordinator • Jacqueline Rodriguez, Fiscal Support Specialist
	ADJOURNMENT	The meeting adjourned at 3:57 PM

MOTIONS

1.	<i>Motion by Andy Mayts to approve the November 16, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes; second by Katherine Essrig; motion carried (8-0).</i>
2.	<i>Motion by Andy Mayts to approve the Executive Director and Board Attorney to extend the due diligence period or proceed to closing for 308 W. Robertson St., Brandon, FL 33511; second by Lynn Gray; motion carried (8-0).</i>
3.	<i>Motion by Gwen Myers to approve the PRO 2024-05 Investment Grants. second by Megan Proulx Dempsey. motion carried (8-0).</i>
4.	<i>Motion by Lynn Gray to approve a RFP for the PRO 2024-08 Leading or Uniting Grants. second by Katherine Essrig. motion carried (8-0).</i>

READ AND APPROVED BY:

ROBIN DELAVERGNE
BOARD CHAIR

Approval of Self-Sufficiency Case Management

Initiator: Genet Stewart, Director of Strategic Initiatives

Action: Approval of Release for ONEhillsborough Self-Sufficiency Case Management

Date: Regular Board Meeting, Thursday, February 22, 2024

Recommended Actions

Recommend release in March 2024 of an Intent to Negotiate with total allocation up to \$150,000 for an organization(s) to provide Self-Sufficiency Case Management services to residents who live in the ONEhillsborough targeted zip codes: 33603, 33610 and 33619 with an anticipated contract term of July 1, 2024 to September 30, 2024.

Background

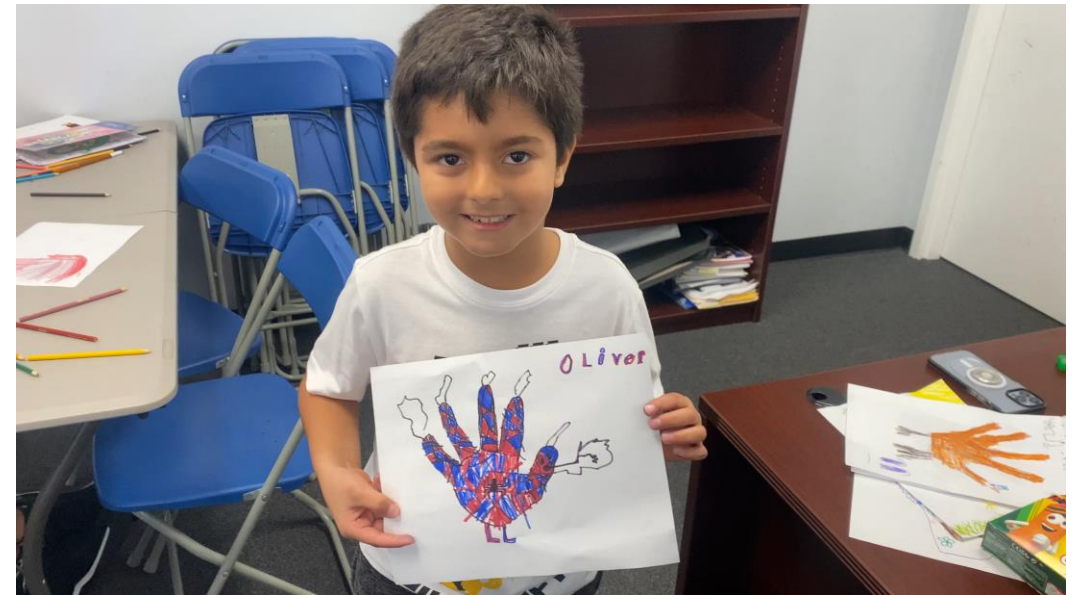
- Nearly half of Hillsborough County households fall below the ALICE living wage threshold (eighty percent Black; seventy-three percent Hispanic; and sixty-one percent single mother households). The intent of this opportunity is to provide relief to families by connecting them to employment or to certification/higher education programs.
- These case management services will be offered in a trauma-informed, holistic, strength-based, and collaborative manner to promote self-sufficiency by providing opportunities for family to meet basic needs.
- This organization will collaborate with community-based providers which specialize in mental/emotional health, systems navigation, and fatherhood engagement, as well as employers, workforce agencies and education institutions.
- This ITN will incorporate recommendations from the 2023 Community Town Hall Report; Cost of Living Workshop Report and Recommendations; and the priorities of the Hillsborough Fatherhood Alliance.



Lightning Fall Camp Report

Thanksgiving Camp

- 3-day camp
- Partnered with Children's Home Network – Reaching and Inspiring Students Everywhere (RAISE)
- For children with varying abilities and neurodiverse
- 1st – 5th grade
- 20 campers attended out of 24 campers who registered
- 95% of the campers who attended stayed



New Year Camp

- 4-day camp
- Partnered with Hispanic Services Council – La Red de Padres Activos/The Network of Active Parents
- 1st – 8th grade
- 27 campers attended out of 36 campers who registered
- 92% of the campers who attended stayed engaged during all 4-days of camp



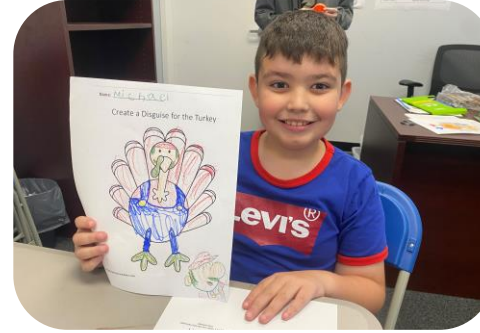
Daily Camp Activities



Ball Hockey



Other Sports
Activities



Arts & Crafts



Board Games &
Puzzles



Lunch & Snacks



Ice Skating

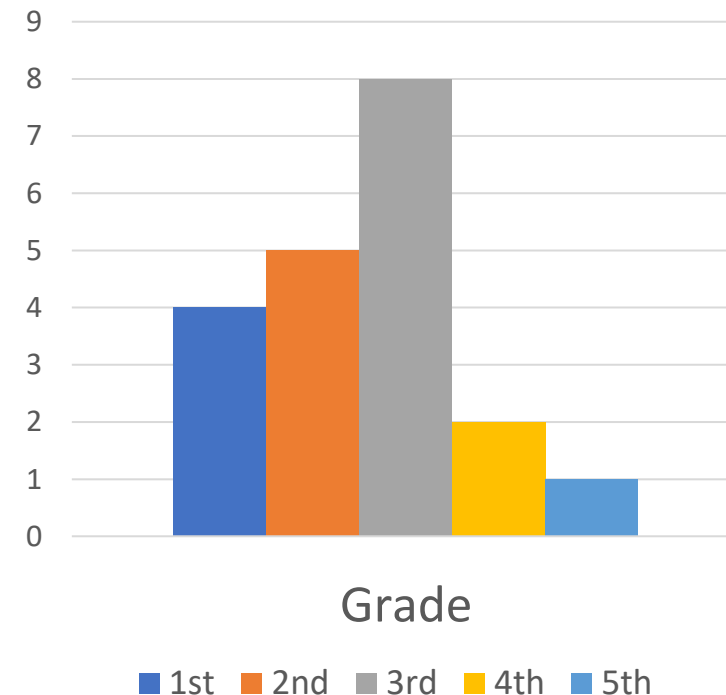
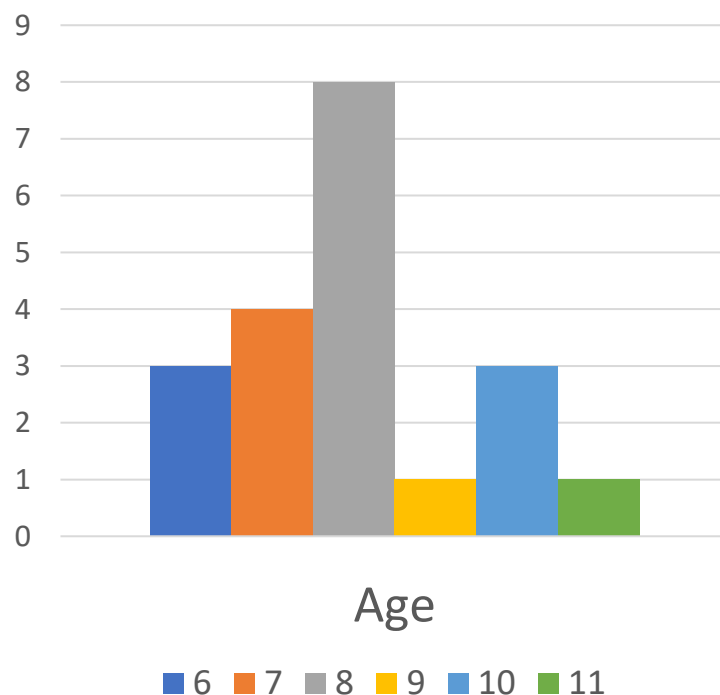
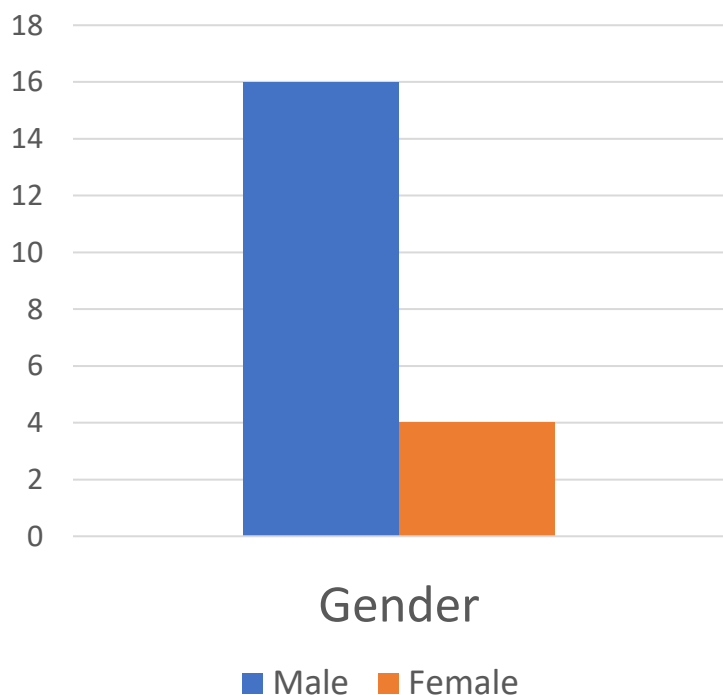


Video Games



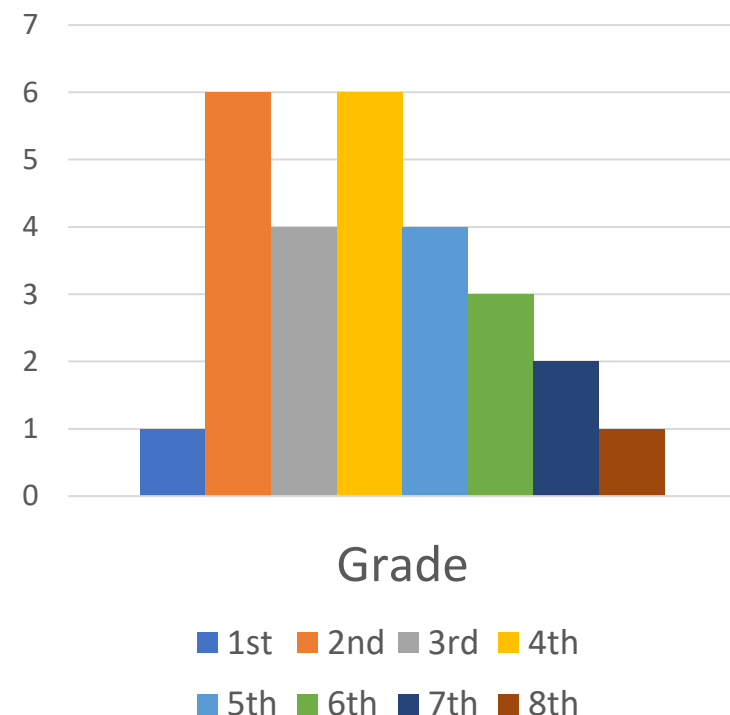
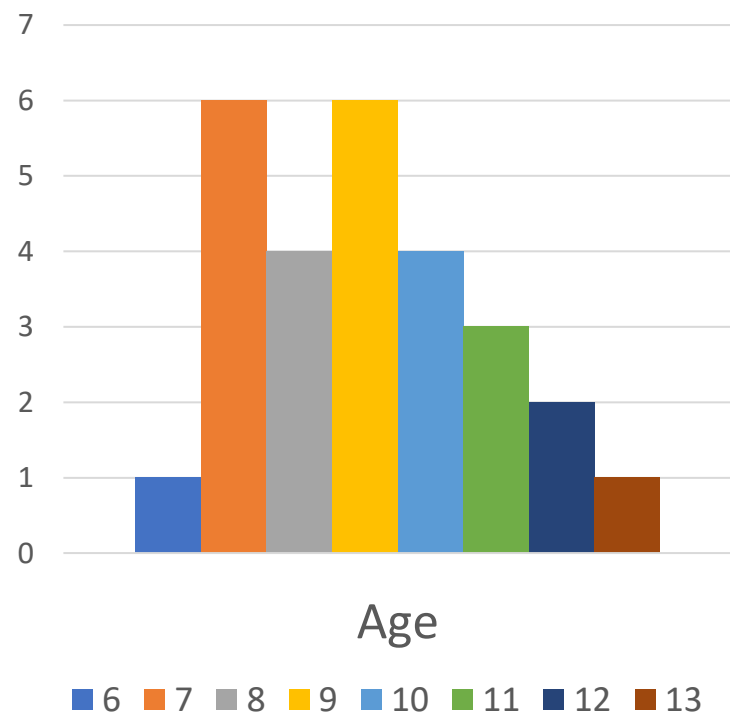
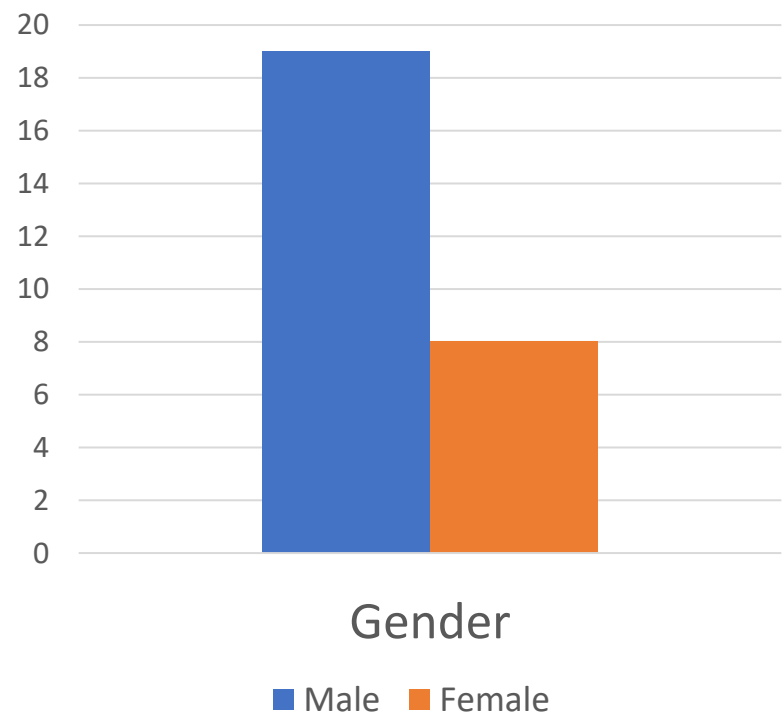
Free Time &
More...

Demographic Composition – Thanksgiving Camp



85% of campers identified as Hispanic or Latino.

Demographic Composition – New Year Camp



92% of campers identified as Hispanic or Latino.

Camp Testimonials



100% of people who took the survey said they would strongly recommend
this camp to a family member or friend!

"Muchas gracias a todos por la buena atencion y por las actividad que brindaron a los niños, yo estoy súper feliz que mi niño haya tenido esa experiencia de compartir y conocer un poco de este deporte, el la paso increíble, ojalá se repita. Gracias todo estuvo perfecto!"

"Thank you very much to everyone for the good attention and for the activities provided to the children. I am super happy that my child had the experience of sharing and getting to know a bit about this sport. He had an amazing time, I hope it happens again. Thanks, everything was perfect!"

"I can only say thank you, my 3 children had a great time. They were very happy, thank you happy thanksgiving"

"My son loved it woke up super early every day and ready to go"

"Excelente campamento y muy amables todo el personal los felicito excelente servicio"

"Excellent camp and very kind staff, I congratulate you on excellent service."

"Fue una experiencia maravillosa para mi hijo le encantó ... mil gracias por esta oportunidad"

"It was a wonderful experience for my son; he loved it. A thousand thanks for this opportunity."

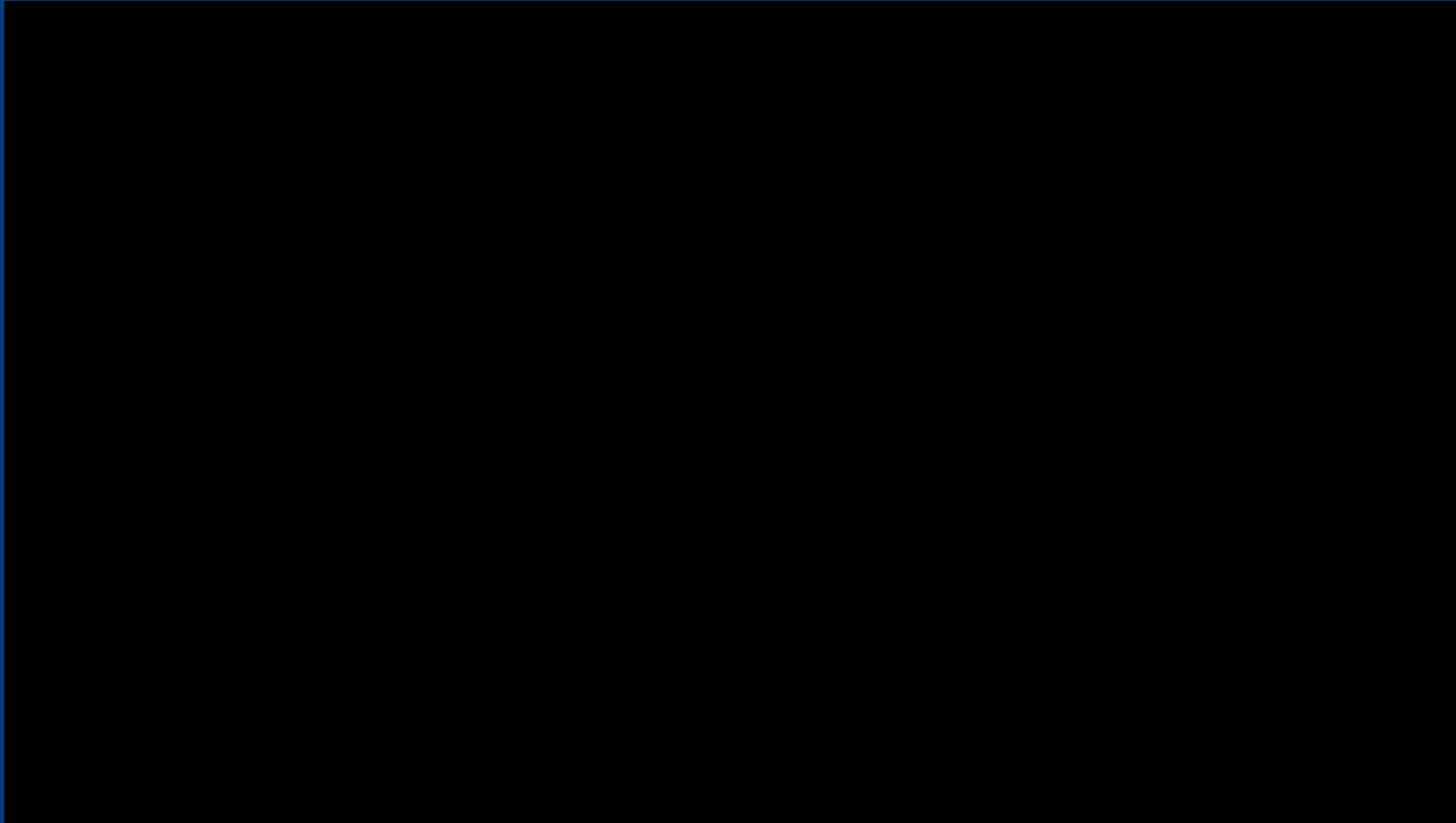
"It was a wonderful experience for my son, he was very excited to go each day... excellent teamwork.. thanks"

"First time my kids have done a camp and they loved it"

"Me encantó este campamento. El personal es muy profesional y muy amables. Mis hijos amaron este campamento y nunca se querían ir."
"I loved this camp. The staff is very professional and friendly. My children loved this camp and never wanted to leave."

"Excelente trabajo, a mi hijo le gustó mucho asistir, me gustaría tener más información sobre programas."
"Excellent job, my son really enjoyed attending. I would like to have more information about programs."

Thanksgiving Recap Video



[Thanksgiving Camp Photos](#)

[New Year Camp Photos](#)



Children's Board
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

www.ChildrensBoard.org

**Funding for these services was
generously provided by the
Children's Board of Hillsborough County.**

Children's Board of Hillsborough County**Executive Director Report****January 26, 2024 – February 22, 2024****34 Meetings**

FACCT Weekly Meeting
Aakash Patel – Early Learning Coalition Chair
Tampa Well Press Conference and Ribbon Cutting
Community Stepping Stones Tour with Jason Marlow
Kings Kids Academy Tour with Jason Marlow
Pam Jeffre – Success 4 Kids and Families
Lee Lowry – Commission on the Status of Women Chair
High Quality Early Education for Youth (HQEEDY)
Café con Tampa
FACCT Weekly Meeting
Lisa Colen and Jessica Reynolds – Healthy Start
Infant Safe Sleep Roundtable
WFLA Interview with Brittney Muller
Speaking Event - 2024 Persons of Vision Award Gala
Mandelyn Cloninger
Dr. Rahul Mehra - National Center for Performance Health
Michael Doyle - Breadcoin, Justin LaRosa – Portico Café, and Chalette Davis -Love, Inc.
Diane Santangelo – Community Foundation Tampa Bay
Joanne Lighter & Jennifer Whittington – Preserve Vision Florida
HCPS Mental Health Advisory Committee
Speaking Event: Youth at Risk Meeting
Safe and Sound Leadership Council
Baycare Community Maternity Clinic Blessing
FACCT Weekly Meeting
Emergency CBHC Board Meeting
Community Alliance
Amy Haile – Champions for Children
Child Abuse Death Review (CADR)
Robin Ingles – Seniors in Service
Junior League Tampa Community Advisory Board
FACCT Weekly Meeting
Michele Watson – FACCT
Marni Fuente – QEES
Five and Thrive Breakfast

“This resource has simplified service coordination, improved access to resources, and allowed for a more outcome-focused approach, which has been a great support in my professional performance and in the lives of the families.”

- ASO Case Manager



ASO Year-End Report



Kelly Hickman, Director of the ASO
Children's Board of Hillsborough County
Fiscal Year 2022-2023

ASO Overview

The Administrative Services Organization (ASO) is a program created and operated by the Children's Board of Hillsborough County to manage a dedicated pool of flexible funds. Implemented in 2003 to support family directed care, the ASO promotes a wraparound approach in which families identify their strengths, needs, goals, and service providers through a family support plan. As a payment of last resort, flexible funds managed by the ASO can be used to provide supports and services with qualified community providers. ASO flexible funds assist a variety of target populations including but not limited to pregnant women, young children, children at risk of social-emotional delays, victims of domestic violence, and families facing homelessness.

Trained case managers from participating agencies work with families to develop individualized family support plans and select from a wide range of services and supports for children and their families. Families can prioritize the most critical services and select a provider of their choosing. Currently, eighty-five (85) different service types are available from a fully credentialed provider network that includes a wide variety of agencies, vendors, individuals, local businesses, and faith-based organizations.

The Children's Board ASO offers funds management, accounts payable services, detailed financial reporting including reports to enrolled families, provider credentialing, network management, and quality assurance. All processes are managed through a custom web-application that offers real-time data to participating programs and funders.

Funds Managed and Funding Highlights

The ASO was initially piloted with federal grant dollars, which sunset in 2004. The ASO is primarily funded by the Children's Board with additional flexible dollars invested by Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC). Funds managed by the ASO in Fiscal Year 2022-2023 included the following sources:

Funder	Available Amount	Funds Budgeted	Expenses Paid
Children's Board	\$2,845,000	\$2,579,402	\$2,535,506
Hillsborough County BOCC Domestic Violence	\$100,000	\$97,966	\$97,966
Hillsborough County BOCC Social Services	\$500,000	\$499,419	\$499,419
	\$3,445,000	\$3,176,787	\$3,132,891

Children's Board ASO funds were allocated in the following ways:

- Allocations were provided to thirty-three (33) Children's Board funded programs that offered case management to support their service delivery and outcome achievement.
- A *Request for Applications* (RFA) was released in the amount of \$400,000 for non-Children's Board funded programs. ASO funding was allocated to eighteen (18) case management programs.
- Two special projects received ASO funds:
 - \$338,500 was allocated to the School Social Work division of Hillsborough County Public Schools. ASO funding was available for children in pre-kindergarten through middle school and teen parents to meet families' needs when no other program was available to serve them.
 - \$50,000 was allocated to Bay Area Early Steps. Early Steps is Florida's early intervention system that offers services to eligible infants and toddlers (birth to thirty-six months) with significant delays or a condition likely to result in a developmental delay.

The Hillsborough County BOCC continued their investment of \$100,000 to the ASO to fund supports and services for victims of domestic violence.

The Hillsborough County BOCC Department of Social Services also renewed their investment of \$300,000 to assist with housing supports for families. In January 2023, the agreement was modified to include an additional \$200,000. Social Services funding was made available to selected case management programs that were also accessing Children's Board funds through the ASO.

Case Management Partners

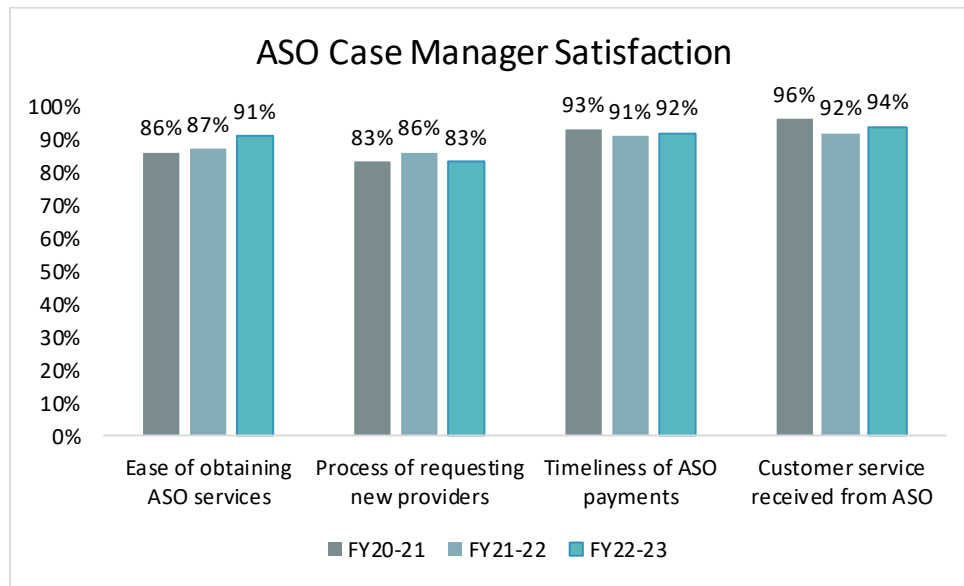
ASO funds were made available to more than 300 case managers from fifty-three (53) case management and family support programs. Note that some programs access more than one funding source. For example, some programs accessing Children's Board funds also received allocations of County Domestic Violence or County Social Services funds.

The number of programs accessing each funding source and their system focus is shown below:

Funder	System Focus	# of Programs
Children's Board	Child Development, Health/Safety, Academic Success, Family Support	53
Hillsborough County BOCC DV	Victims of Domestic Violence	2
Hillsborough County BOCC Social Services	Housing Supports for Vulnerable Families	16

Case managers play a central role in working with families to assess their needs, document their goals, plan their services, and access ASO funds when needed. Quality management surveys were sent to 285 case managers in September 2023 and survey administration yielded a forty percent (40%) response rate (n=114). Satisfaction ratings have remained constant, with slight

increases in satisfaction for three of the four indicators. A three-year comparison of survey highlights is displayed in the chart below:



When asked to report what impact the ASO has on families, case managers said:

- *“ASO provides an opportunity for families to not only receive financial assistance for various stabilizing needs, but they also have the opportunity to participate in planning their goals and working towards self-sufficiency.”*
- *“ASO funds have prevented a lot of families from becoming homeless. It is much easier to keep a family where they are versus having to find another place and there is no guarantee how long that process will take place. Once a family is homeless, it is much harder to rehouse them.”*
- *“ASO impacts families by contributing to their sense of dignity and decreases the level of stress associated with not being able to provide for their families.”*
- *“The impact is invaluable because the aid can be provided to families during emergencies very quickly.”*
- *“ASO has provided the means for parents to become certified in different areas impacting the family’s financial stability.”*
- *“It helps families who are financially struggling to obtain services and resources that they otherwise would not be able to attain.”*
- *“Hope... ASO is hope for them.”*

Case managers were asked what difference the ASO makes in their work as a case manager and responses included:

- *“Using the ASO affords me the opportunity to help families when no other options exist which makes my job easier.”*
- *“The ASO is the most powerful resource we as case managers can provide to a family.”*

- *"It helps us reach our goal in supporting families through safe baby education by giving us the financial means to provide items to families to help reach this goal (for example, pack and plays and car seats)."*
- *"It means that I have access to flexible funds to meet emergency needs for children and families."*
- *"I believe having access to ASO funding for students enrolled in our schools helps us meet our goal which is to ensure students are academically successful."*
- *"ASO has made me more confident in my ability to address families' needs."*
- *"Being able to request this assistance aids in the rewarding feeling of providing clients with supportive services."*
- *"It's a game changer! Don't know what we would do without the ASO!"*

ASO case managers were asked if there were any gaps that they would like ASO to consider funding. Responses are below, grouped by whether the services are currently allowable in ASO:

Currently Available in ASO	Not Currently Allowable by ASO
Behavioral Therapy	Internet fees
Developmental Equipment/Supplies	Uber/Lyft
Emergency Shelter	
Evaluations	
Rental Assistance	
Security Deposits	
Speech Therapy	
Towing	

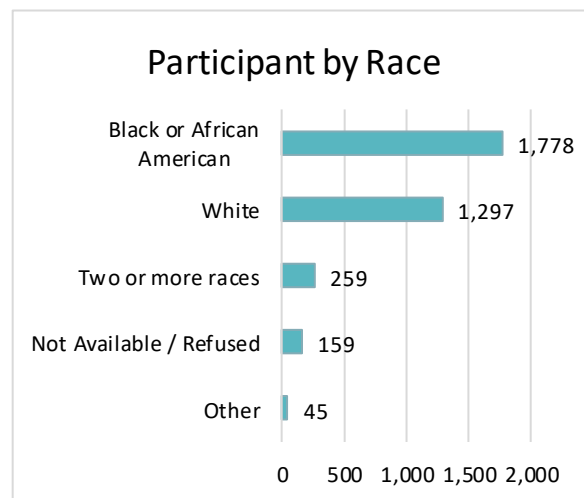
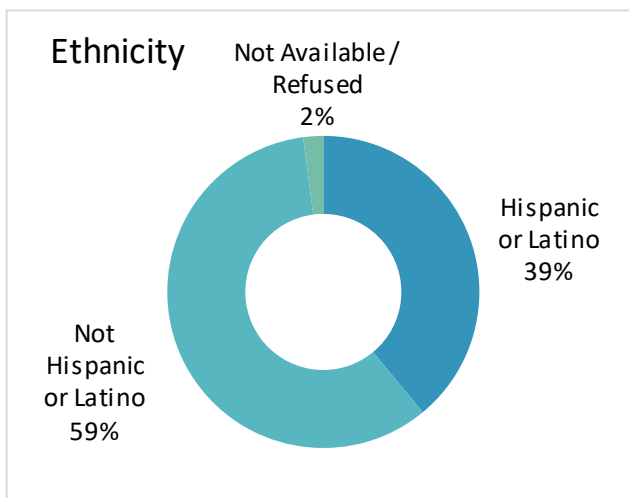
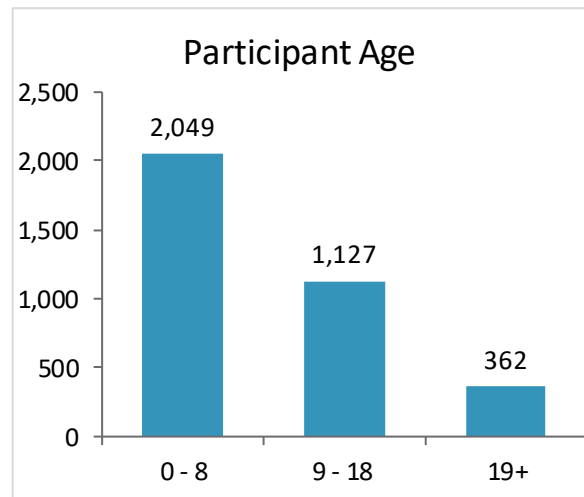
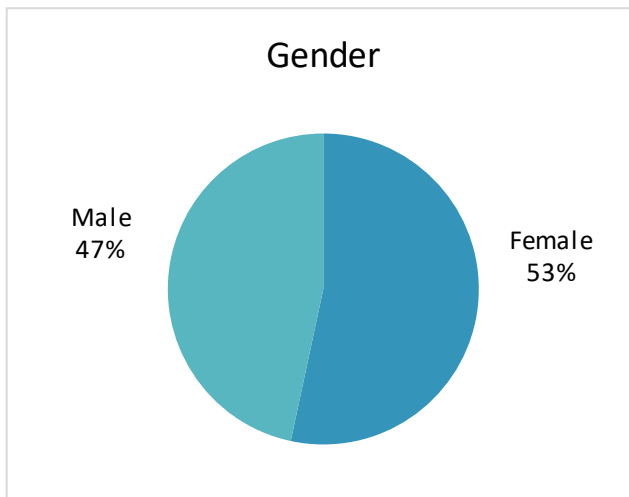
87% OF CASE MANAGERS REPORTED THAT THERE WERE NO GAPS IN SERVICES THEY WOULD LIKE ASO TO CONSIDER FUNDING.

When asked how the ASO can improve services, case managers said:

- *"Continue to expand the list of service providers."*
- *"Have more bilingual providers."*
- *"Approve some tutoring for high school student to help navigate their way to college access."*
- *"The process of obtaining physical items for our families in stores. The current process of picking up a check, going to the store, converting the check to a prepaid card, purchasing the items with/for the family, and then the additional steps needed to finalize appears to be a longsome and tedious process."*
- *"More leniency with payment documentation/receipts."*
- *"Add space for client email on enrolling family screen."*
- *"Ability to upload files in ASO."*
- *"Extend check pick up times."*

Participants Served

In Fiscal Year 2022-2023, 3,538 participants were enrolled in the ASO by qualified case management programs. A total of 14,015 household members were reported for those enrolled participants. Overall participant enrollment decreased slightly from last fiscal year due to the reduction of funding sources, however Children's Board funded participant enrollment increased from 2,711 to 3,538. Demographic highlights for enrolled participants, as reported by case managers, are shown below.



Fifty-seven percent (57%) of participants were reported to be enrolled in Medicaid, nine percent (9%) were not enrolled, and thirty-four percent (34%) were unknown. Thirty-three percent (33%) were reported to be eligible for private insurance, however this number likely includes duplicate participants also counted under Medicaid.

Participants were enrolled from sixty-nine (69) Hillsborough County zip codes, with fifty-four percent (54%) of the enrollment represented in the top ten zip codes shown in the table.

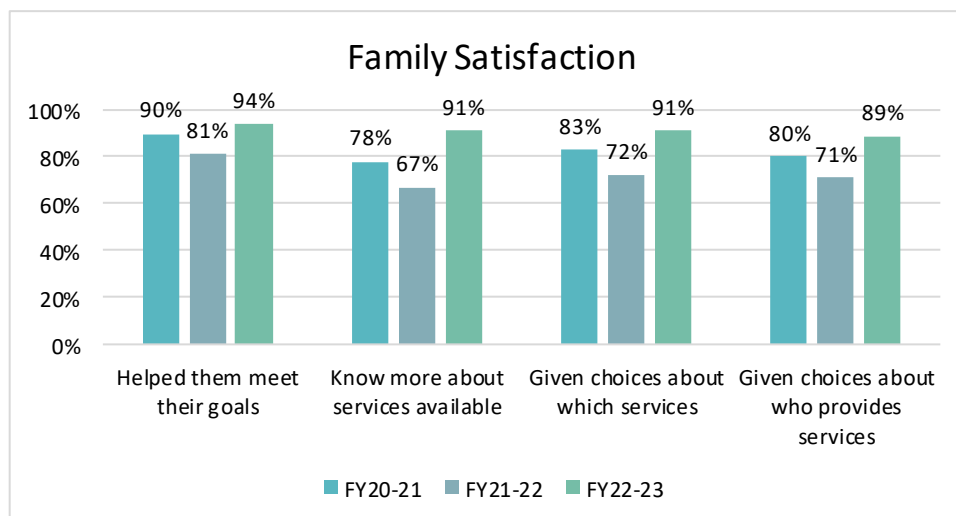
Note that 33675 is the mailing zip code for The Spring of Tampa Bay, which is used for most of their enrolled participants.

Top Zip Codes	Participants
33612	305
33610	294
33675	272
33617	200
33604	183
33619	155
33613	146
33605	126
33614	119
33578	114
Total	1914

In September 2023, quality management surveys were emailed to a sub-set of enrolled families. Surveys were sent in both English and in Spanish to 2,198 families. Surveys were submitted by 401 families, for an eighteen percent (18%) response rate for email administration. Surveys were also handed out by The Spring of Tampa Bay to an additional seventy-one (71) participants, for a total response of 472 families. Nineteen percent (19%) of the responses were submitted in Spanish.

EIGHTY-NINE PERCENT (89%) OF FAMILIES REPORTED THEY RECEIVED THE SERVICES THEY NEEDED THE MOST AND EIGHTY-SIX PERCENT (86%) REPORTED THEY RECEIVED THOSE SERVICES IN A TIMELY MANNER.

A three-year comparison of family survey response highlights is displayed below. Family satisfaction was higher than prior years for all four indicators. Note that seventy-one (71) surveys were handed out by case managers at The Spring and submitted to the ASO, which can introduce bias in the process. Additionally, surveys were emailed to participants in Fiscal Years 2022-2023 and 2021-2022 but sent by US mail in Fiscal Year 2020-2021.



Families were asked what they like best about the ASO and services provided. Note that families do not see the ASO as a separate entity and often respond to ASO survey questions based on experiences with their case managers or their service providers. Most families shared feedback related to the kindness and professionalism of their case manager, the supports offered while in crisis, and the timeliness of services.

Families' comments included:

- *"Helped my family and I get out of a hotel and in our apartment. Thank you so much."*
- *"It was a fast process and we received what we needed."*
- *"This was my first time having to take care of children for family members. The task may have been a lot more difficult without the help of ASO! I appreciate the timely manner in which everything was handled. Thank you for all you have done for my family!"*
- *"How to care for my baby."*
- *"The option of having a choice in my children's academic development."*
- *"The variety of services available to families."*
- *"I like that there were services for my son in the home."*
- *"The ASO program has been instrumental in improving my daughter's performance. My daughter was able to get the help that allowed her to pass the grade and find her confidence and balance again."*
- *"My son's behavior is 10x better."*
- *"Financial stability."*
- *"I could not afford to move, and I was homeless. They helped me and my kids move."*
- *"Helping families to improve their lives and be independent."*

**"IT SEEMS THAT THE CHILDREN'S BOARD WILL
ALWAYS FIND A WAY TO HELP ONE WAY OR
ANOTHER. I AM VERY, VERY GRATEFUL!"**

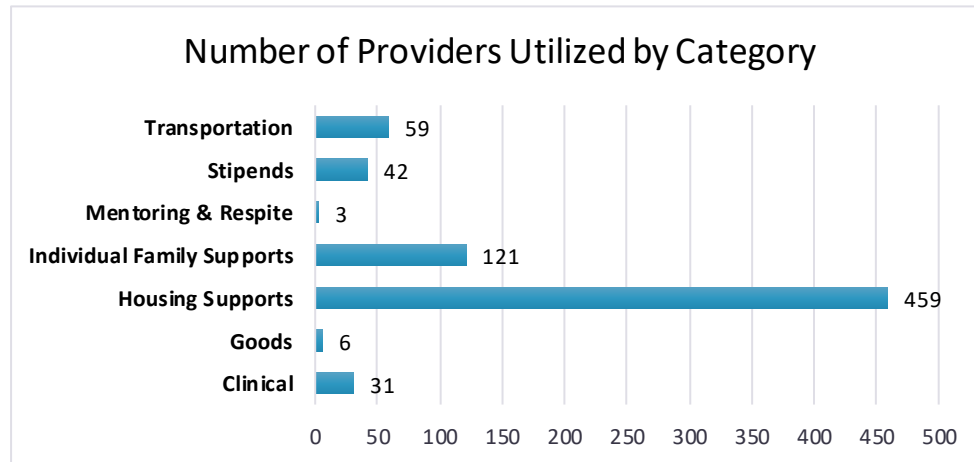
Please see Appendix B for success stories that highlight the impact of ASO funds on children and families.

Providers and Vendors

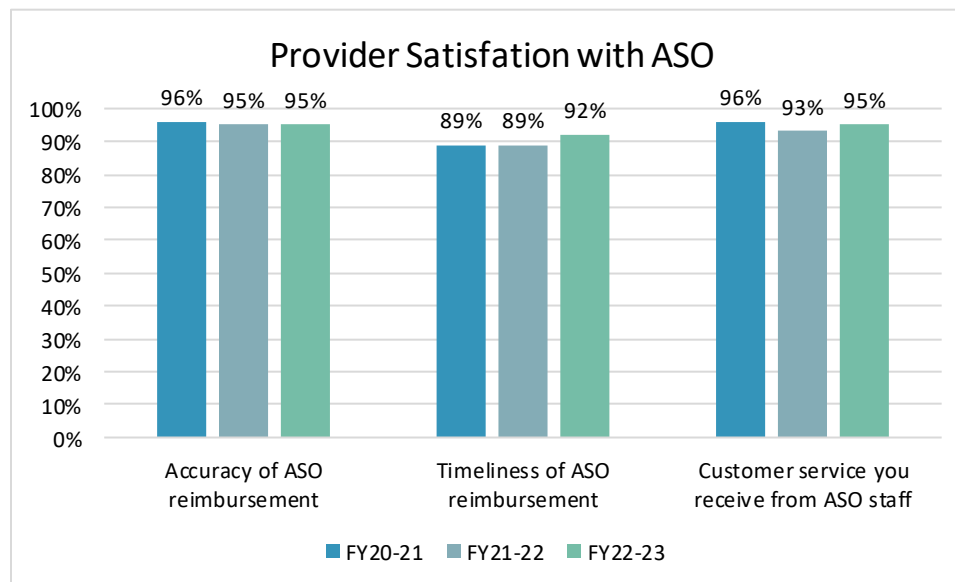
Providers and vendors are selected by families with the assistance of their case managers, as needs are identified and the decision to use ASO funds is determined. The ASO offers an extensive provider network from which families can choose. Case managers request new providers and vendors frequently, based on the needs and preferences of the families. Providers in the community can also request to join the ASO network. The ASO database includes more than 4,900 active providers and vendors, of which over 1,300 are credentialed.

In Fiscal Year 2022-2023:

- 378 new providers and vendors were added to the ASO database, compared to 354 and 286 in Fiscal Year 2021-2022 and Fiscal Year 2020-2021 respectively.
- 1,688 individual service authorizations were sent to 109 contracted service providers.
- The ASO issued 7,194 payments to 694 unduplicated providers and vendors.



In September 2023, surveys were administered to a sample of 117 credentialed providers who delivered contractual services during the fiscal year, yielding thirty-nine (39) responses for a thirty-three percent (33%) response rate. Provider satisfaction increased for two of the three indicators compared to last year. A three-year comparison of survey highlights are displayed in the chart below.



When asked what impact being an ASO provider had on them, responses included:

- *“The possibility to bring mental health services to people that otherwise couldn't afford them.”*
- *“It has allowed my practice to expand services to the underserved population.”*
- *“Being a provider has given me the opportunity to help students and their families academically by giving them strategies to use both at home and at school.”*
- *“It has helped me meet my family's financial needs.”*
- *“Being an ASO provider affords me the opportunity to share and improve my skill set.”*
- *“Ability to cover services not covered by Medicaid or other funders.”*
- *“The ability to watch families flourish.”*

**“I GAIN PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL ENRICHMENT
FROM SEEING WHAT A DIFFERENCE THESE SERVICES
MEAN TO FAMILIES IN NEED.”**

When asked what changes would help improve their experience as an ASO provider, responses included:

- *“Increased referrals.”*
- *“More consistent and accurate communication from the case managers.”*
- *“Quicker payments.”*
- *“Automated system to submit invoices or view new referral authorizations.”*
- *“I'd like to see the provider fair return. That was a great event, and it was an opportunity for providers to meet the case managers which is needed.”*
- *“Additional policies regarding client No Shows for appointments, as it is a major impact on small, private practices.”*

Services Purchased

The services and supports purchased with ASO funds must be directly related to a goal on the family's support plan. Once other resources are exhausted and the decision is made to utilize ASO funds, the intent is to provide what families need in an individualized and timely manner, from a provider of their choosing. There are many service options available, yet spending trends inform of the greatest needs and gaps in services.

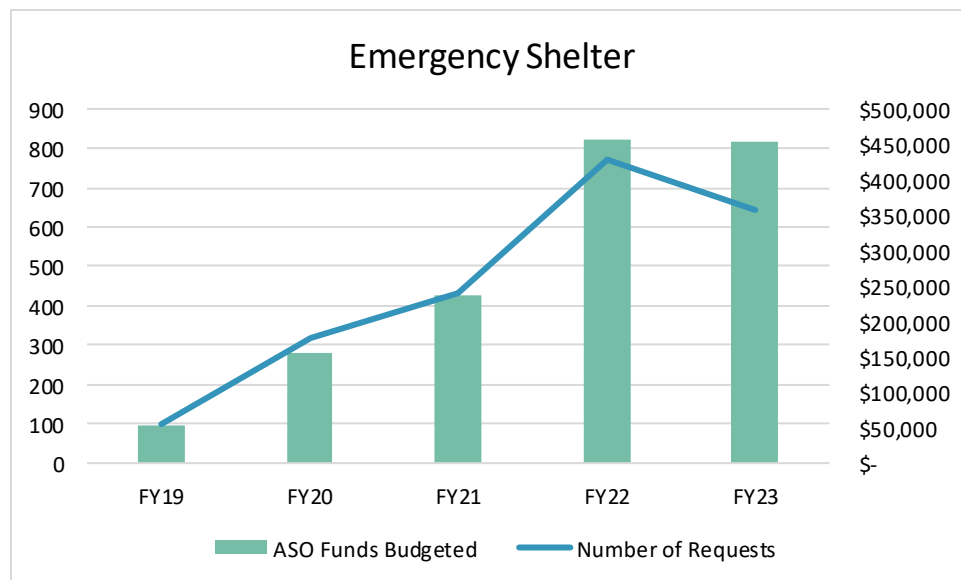
Of the eighty-five (85) different services available in the ASO Service Code Matrix, sixty-five (65) were utilized in Fiscal Year 2022-2023. Case managers submitted a total of 5,940 budget items (requests for services) which is lower than last fiscal year's 6,863. This decrease is likely due to the nine months of Eckerd requests included in Fiscal Year 2021-2022 data. Requests for housing supports, utilities, and baby items (especially pack and plays) increased significantly.

The top ten most frequently authorized services are listed in the table below. Funds budgeted for these services represent eighty-seven percent (87%) of funds budgeted overall. The full list of services purchased during the year can be found in Appendix A.

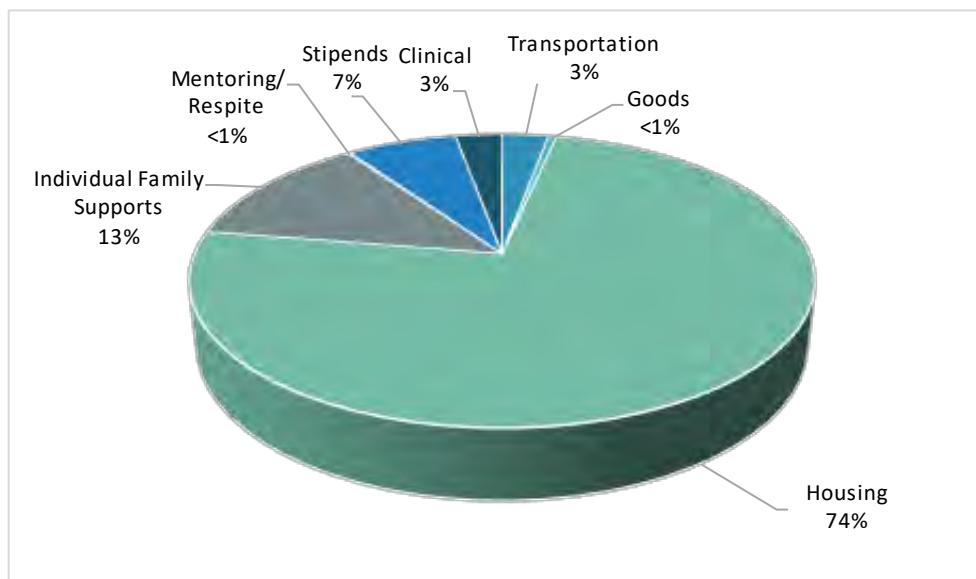
Service	# of ASO Budgets	Funds Budgeted
Tutor	1010	\$340,684
Baby Items	711	\$127,975
Electric	687	\$265,467
Emergency Shelter	641	\$452,581
Rental Assistance	634	\$880,909
Public Transportation	308	\$20,190
Furniture	257	\$181,954
Security Deposit	196	\$372,911
Clothing Stipend	179	\$36,868
Individual Therapy	158	\$74,330
Total	4,781	\$2,753,869

ASO funds assisted one hundred fifty-three (153) unduplicated families to secure emergency shelter during Fiscal Year 2022-2023. There was a seventeen percent (17%) decrease in requests for this service from the previous year. Twenty-one (21) ASO programs utilized this service for one or more families, and sixty-two percent (62%) of the families were identified by School Social Work's *Students in Transition Team* and Dawning Family Services' *A Path to Prevention*. The median length of stay for emergency shelter services was three (3) weeks, the same as the previous fiscal year.

The chart below represents emergency shelter requests submitted over the last five (5) years.



The chart below represents ASO expenditures by category. There was a significant increase from last year in funds budgeted for Housing supports. Conversely, significant decreases were seen in the Clinical and Mentoring/Respite categories due to the Eckerd contract ending during the previous fiscal year.



Quality Improvement Highlights

The ASO monitoring process was completed with all programs that utilized funds during the year. The quality of documentation related to ASO services and accountability of funds remains high. Programs are ensuring that ASO services are well documented in the plan, and forty (40) programs received 100% scores in this area compared to thirty (30) programs in Fiscal Year 2021-2022. The quality of family support plan goals and action steps can always be improved, and this is an area requiring ongoing training and coaching by supervisors.

A summary of monitoring results is shown below:

ASO Monitoring Summary – FY22-23	
Total Programs Utilizing Funds*	51
Total Visits Completed	51
Number of Programs – Score of 80% or Above	50
Number of Programs – Score of 100%	40
Number of Programs – FSP Recommendations	15
Number of Programs – Consents Missing	31
Number of Programs – Inspections Not Filed	4
Number of Programs – Returned Funds	4
Total Funds Returned	\$14.05
Range of Funds Returned	\$1.08 - \$7.31
*2 programs had no spending at year-end	

Another quality assurance process involves a random sample of provider invoices being reviewed prior to payment to ensure providers are following ASO service documentation requirements by sending progress notes or monthly summaries to case managers to substantiate payment. Of the sample reviewed in Fiscal Year 2022-2023, progress notes were verified with the case managers for 151 of 161 invoices, or ninety-four percent (94%), at the time of invoice payment. This is consistent with the prior year's percentage.

ASO Developments for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

- The Children's Board released a *Request for Applications* (RFA) to provide ASO flexible funds for non-Children's Board funded case management programs and increased the available amount from \$400,000 to \$500,000.
- The Children's Board continued the partnerships with the School Social Work division of Hillsborough County Public Schools and USF Bay Area Early Steps.
- Hillsborough County BOCC renewed their investment of \$100,000 to the ASO to fund supports and services for victims of domestic violence and Hillsborough County BOCC Social Services department renewed their investment of \$500,000 in funding for housing supports.
- The ASO and Tampa Electric Company (TECO) Social Service teams continue to strengthen our partnership by working together on creative solutions for families seeking assistance with electric bills. For abnormally high electric bills, the ASO team partners with the TECO social services team to connect the family to additional resources including, but not limited to, home energy audits, payment plans, and access to the TECO Share Program.
- The ASO team continues to offer bi-monthly Lunch & Learn trainings to increase knowledge of ASO services and processes and provide ongoing support for case management programs. An ASO web page was created to house the training series so that case managers and supervisors can review the content as needed and share with new employees.
- The Children's Board continues to work with Hillsborough County, the City of Tampa, Tampa Hillsborough Homeless Initiative (THHI) and provider agencies to better address the needs of homeless families.

Appendix A Services Utilized

Service	# of ASO Budgets	Funds Budgeted
Activity	3	\$302
Adaptive Equipment	9	\$1,307
Adult Education Course	15	\$4,273
Agency Mentor	3	\$1,050
Agency Respite	2	\$1,325
Agency Respite for Young Children	1	\$1,500
Appliance	13	\$5,324
Assessment	3	\$547
Assistive Technology	4	\$710
Baby Items	711	\$127,975
Background Screening	1	\$77
Cab Fare	4	\$325
Camp	6	\$2,228
Childcare Support	106	\$30,334
Clothing Stipend	179	\$36,868
Dental Service	4	\$1,397
Developmental Equipment/Supplies	51	\$10,900
Educational Equipment/Supplies	21	\$3,088
Electric	687	\$265,467
Emergency Shelter	641	\$452,581
Evaluation	2	\$2,000
Family Therapy	12	\$9,515
Financial Coach	2	\$540
Food Stipend	151	\$37,973
Furniture	257	\$181,954
Gas	5	\$989
Home Maintenance	6	\$1,318
Household Supplies	69	\$17,634
Housekeeping Services	1	\$375
Housing Specialist	47	\$9,617
Housing: OTHER	32	\$4,700
Identification Documents	37	\$1,339
Individual Family Supports: OTHER	13	\$8,490
Individual Therapy	158	\$74,330
Intensive Parent Instruction	25	\$12,135
Interpreter and Translation Services	4	\$970
Legal Fees	7	\$2,600
Legal Services	1	\$400
Medical Supplies	1	\$25
Moving / Storage	48	\$11,604

Occupational Therapy	2	\$480
Out of School Time	16	\$4,144
Parent Aide/Life Coach	2	\$700
Phone	3	\$312
Post-Partum Doula	2	\$3,960
Psycho-Educational Groups	1	\$200
Public Transportation	308	\$20,190
Recreation	13	\$2,184
Rental Assistance	634	\$880,909
Rental Assistance - First Month	120	\$121,571
Scheduled Medical Service	7	\$1,170
Security Deposit	196	\$372,911
Special Assessment	1	\$400
Speech Therapy	3	\$831
Stipends: OTHER	1	\$40
Transportation Fees	4	\$1,106
Transportation: OTHER	7	\$825
Travel Expenses	3	\$1,681
Tutor	1010	\$340,684
Vehicle Fuel	79	\$4,004
Vehicle Insurance	25	\$9,386
Vehicle Modification	2	\$1,431
Vehicle Payment Assistance	25	\$16,886
Vehicle Repair	42	\$35,289
Water	92	\$29,408
Totals	5940	\$3,176,787

Appendix B

Success Stories

Submitted by Bay Area Legal Services, Housing Stability Services

The mom was let go from her supervisory service industry job after suffering a heart attack and ordered by doctors to rest for several weeks. She and her daughter were threatened with eviction for nonpayment. She received help with rental assistance, and she began working with ECHO of Brandon's Back to Work program where she received help with her resume and applying for jobs. She began working again at a job in her industry as a crew member but was promoted to shift manager within two weeks due to her work ethic and professionalism. She and her daughter evaded eviction and she returned to work in a field that she feels confident in.

Submitted by Success 4 Kids & Families, Healthy Start

"This is to say thank you for getting us help through the Children's Board. At this critical point of our lives, you removed a major burden repairing our car and now we are able to go for doctors' appointments, job interviews, and attend to other vital issues. Words cannot describe how much we appreciate your efforts."

"Healthy Start helped me when I needed it the most. I was in a high-risk pregnancy and had to go on maternity leave early. Two weeks into my maternity leave, I was informed that it would be unpaid. I was dealing with caring for a newborn baby for the first time and postpartum depression and had no way to afford rent. My case manager told me not to worry and two weeks later, I received a call from her stating that two months of my rent was paid for. I'm forever grateful for Healthy Start for helping me at my lowest and also for giving me resources to connect with other new mothers in my area!"

"I was on the verge of getting evicted and not having a place to go. With your help I was able to get the security deposit and first month's rent paid because I had just started working and I didn't have enough. I was able to sign my lease and get the keys. We officially moved yesterday. Thank you so much."

Submitted by Healthy Start Coalition of Hillsborough County, HealthySteps

"Thank you so much for all of your help and resources. I am so thankful for the stroller that you provided us. I am trying to get out of the house every other day and take the kids out so that we are all getting sunshine, and I am working on improving my mental health."

Submitted by University Area CDC, STEPS for Success

Pregnant mom of one reached out to the STEPS for Success program for help. She explained that her family had fallen into hard times. She had recently lost her job and her significant other's job hours were decreased. This made it difficult for them to keep up with monthly expenses. The program welcomed the mom into STEPS for Success, and STEPS Navigator worked with the family to create an individualized goal plan to help guide the family towards stability. The goals consisted of obtaining employment and maintaining safe and affordable housing. ASO funds were used to assist the family with one month of rent. Motivated and dedicated to her goals, the mom was able to secure employment within a short time of being in the program. Gaining employment increased her household income, making it better for her to support her home.

Mom of five initially reached out to the STEPS for Success program to obtain a certification that will help increase her income and move her family toward self-sufficiency. The program assisted her with exploring her personal goals, even connecting her with a life coach. The mom was finding it difficult to afford the rent while she was working to obtain her certification. STEPS for Success provided rental assistance to make sure the family maintained safe and affordable housing. Affordable childcare served as another barrier for the mom to maintain employment and her STEPS Navigator helped her apply for the Head Start program at UACDC. The mom completed her certification in phlebotomy and her Head Start application was accepted. She was successful at meeting her goals with the STEPS for Success program.

Single mom of two entered the STEPS for Success program as they were struggling financially. Her 19-year-old son works to contribute to the household income. During the past few months, she was in and out of the hospital due to her blood pressure and covid, her son had to have surgery, and she was struggling with her daughter's mental health. Although she has cleaned houses for a few years her goal was to be certified as a nursing assistant to earn more money for her family. It took a few months to get her registered for the CNA course, but the mom was officially able to start her classes at Aguilas. She completed the CNA course and passed the state test. During this transitional time the program was able to assist with paying her tuition, providing school supplies for the child, and recommending food and toiletry resources. The mom's hope is that this certification opens new doors for her and her family and allows her to provide a bright future for her children.

Children's Board of Hillsborough County
FY 2023 Provider Evaluations Final Part II - 2/22/24

Agency/Program	Funding	Final Score	Final Determination
CHILDREN'S BOARD OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY FINAL PART II EVALUATION	2022 - 2023	Score or N/A*	85 -100 Continue Funding 70 - 84 Continue Funding with Modifications or Technical Assistance 0 -69 Continue Funding with Modifications and/or Provider Improvement Plan
ALK OF FLORIDA D/B/A THE RESOURCE EMPOWERMENT CENTRE, INC. (Villages Children and Families Engaging - CAFE)	\$100,000	N/A	Continue Funding Newly Funded April 2023
BAY AREA LEGAL SERVICES, INC. (Lawyers Helping Kids)	\$716,189	N/A	Continue Funding Deliverables Completed Successfully
BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF TAMPA BAY, INC. (1-to-1 Mentoring Elementary)	\$272,500	80.50	Continue Funding with Modifications or Technical Assistance
BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF TAMPA BAY, INC. (1-to-1 Mentoring Middle)	\$272,500	91.50	Continue Funding
BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF TAMPA BAY, INC. (After-Zone Elementary School Initiative)	\$535,191	68.55	Continue Funding with Modifications and/or Provider Improvement Plan
BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF TAMPA BAY, INC. (After-Zone Middle School Initiative)	\$545,000	96.00	Continue Funding
BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF TAMPA BAY, INC. (Brandon Art Masters)	\$87,514	96.00	Continue Funding
BRANDON SPORTS AND AQUATIC CENTER, INC. D/B/A HIGH 5 INC. (Weekend Water Warriors)	\$31,876	N/A	Continue Funding Newly Funded June 2023
BUILDING HEALTHY FUTURES, INC. (Art Therapy Program)	\$89,300	N/A	Contract Ended 9/30/2023
CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN, INC. (Baby Bungalow)	\$275,763	95.50	Continue Funding
CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN, INC. (Family Focus)	\$470,446	83.00	Continue Funding with Modifications or Technical Assistance
CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN, INC. (Layla's House)	\$403,742	92.00	Continue Funding
CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN, INC. (Parents as Teachers)	\$1,322,106	82.40	Continue Funding with Modifications or Technical Assistance
CHILDREN'S HOME, INC., THE D/B/A CHILDREN'S HOME NETWORK (Kinship Hillsborough)	\$545,000	96.20	Continue Funding
CHILDREN'S HOME, INC., THE D/B/A CHILDREN'S HOME NETWORK (Reaching and Inspiring Students Everywhere - RAISE)	\$1,015,509	74.32	Continue Funding with Modifications or Technical Assistance

Children's Board of Hillsborough County
FY 2023 Provider Evaluations Final Part II - 2/22/24

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CHILDREN'S HOME, INC., THE D/B/A CHILDREN'S HOME NETWORK (Supporting and Empowering Educational and Developmental Services - SEEDS)	\$2,142,400	84.49	Continue Funding with Modifications or Technical Assistance
CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF TAMPA, INC., THE, D/B/A GLAZER CHILDREN'S MUSEUM (Children's Board Free Tuesday)	\$73,089	N/A	Continue Funding Deliverables Completed Successfully
CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF TAMPA, INC., THE, D/B/A GLAZER CHILDREN'S MUSEUM (Learn & Play Tampa Bay)	\$342,550	85.00	Continue Funding
CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF TAMPA, INC., THE, D/B/A GLAZER CHILDREN'S MUSEUM (Pop Up Play at the Plant City Children's Board Family Resource Center)	\$119,974	N/A	Continue Funding Deliverables Completed Successfully
DAWNING FAMILY SERVICES, INC. (A Path to Prevention)	\$322,373	68.07	Continue Funding with Modifications and/or Provider Improvement Plan
DAWNING FAMILY SERVICES, INC. (Housing for Success)	\$244,267	73.00	Continue Funding with Modifications or Technical Assistance
EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, INC. (Community Developmental Screening Program)	\$684,207	92.60	Continue Funding
EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, INC. (Inclusion Support Services)	\$473,788	85.60	Continue Funding
EASTER SEALS FLORIDA, INC. (Early Learning and Intervention Program)	\$494,922	69.50	Continue Funding with Modifications and/or Provider Improvement Plan
EASTER SEALS FLORIDA, INC. (The Incredible Years)	\$342,737	N/A	Continue Funding Newly Funded March 2023
FAMILY ENRICHMENT CENTER, INC., THE (Kinship Care)	\$393,066	87.50	Continue Funding
FAMILY HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION, INC. (Connecting Kids to CARE)	\$323,076	100.00	Continue Funding
FLORIDA BAPTIST HOMES, INC. D/B/A/ ONE MORE CHILD (One More Child - Family Support)	\$140,000	56.81	Continue Funding with Modifications and/or Provider Improvement Plan
FLORIDA EDUCATION FUND, INC. (CodeMasters)	\$43,174	N/A	Continue Funding Newly Funded March 2023

Children's Board of Hillsborough County
FY 2023 Provider Evaluations Final Part II - 2/22/24

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FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY (Successful Start)	\$606,720	N/A	Continue Funding Newly Funded March 2023
GIRL SCOUTS OF WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA (Girl Scout Troop Program)	\$322,118	51.00	Continue Funding with Modifications and/or Provider Improvement Plan
GULF COAST JEWISH FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC. (Good Afternoon Friends and Amigos)	\$383,099	90.50	Continue Funding
GULF COAST JEWISH FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC. (Padres de Crianza)	\$178,581	N/A	Continue Funding Newly Funded March 2023
GULF COAST JEWISH FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC. (Teen Parent Engagement Program)	\$240,960	85.44	Continue Funding
HEALTHY START COALITION OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, INC. (Healthy Families Hillsborough)	\$2,069,163	91.90	Continue Funding
HEALTHY START COALITION OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, INC. (HealthySteps Hillsborough)	\$695,809	94.65	Continue Funding
HEALTHY START COALITION OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, INC. (Safe Baby Plus)	\$1,307,664	92.55	Continue Funding
HEART OF ADOPTIONS ALLIANCE, INC. (Thrive Adoption Support)	\$29,800	N/A	Contract Ended 9/8/2023
HILLSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION, INC., THE (Quality Early Education System)	\$2,519,870	90.68	Continue Funding
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY SCHOOL READINESS COALITION, INC. D/B/A EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, INC. (School Readiness Funding)	\$775,770	N/A	Continue Funding Deliverables Completed Successfully
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY SCHOOL READINESS COALITION, INC. D/B/A EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, INC. (School Readiness Funding)	\$17,500	N/A	Continue Funding Deliverables Completed Successfully
HILLSBOROUGH EDUCATION FOUNDATION, INC. (Tech Connect)	\$399,654	98.00	Continue Funding

Children's Board of Hillsborough County
FY 2023 Provider Evaluations Final Part II - 2/22/24

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HISPANIC SERVICES COUNCIL, INC. (La RED de Padres Activos / The Network of Active Parents)	\$1,036,151	89.20	Continue Funding
HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF TAMPA (Building Family Financial Skills)	\$92,310	84.27	Continue Funding with Modifications or Technical Assistance
HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF TAMPA (Building Hope)	\$576,638	N/A	Continue Funding Newly Funded March 2023
HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF TAMPA (Village Link Up)	\$318,942	82.00	Continue Funding with Modifications or Technical Assistance
INSTRUMENTS 4 LIFE, INC. (Music Outreach Program)	\$27,500	N/A	Continue Funding Newly Funded March 2023
JOSHUA WAY OF HOPE, INC. (Building a Stronger Me Character Development Program)	\$79,804	N/A	Continue Funding Newly Funded March 2023
JOSHUA WAY OF HOPE, INC. (Life Skills 360 Training Institute)	\$94,190	N/A	Continue Funding Newly Funded March 2023
JUST INITIATIVE, INC. (Woven Empowerment WE Program)	\$90,906	77.41	Continue Funding with Modifications or Technical Assistance
LEARN TAMPA BAY, INC. D/B/A ACHIEVE PLANT CITY (Learning Is Fun Together - LIFT)	\$297,300	89.80	Continue Funding
LUTHERAN SERVICES FLORIDA, INC. (Children's Board Family Resource Centers)	\$3,066,243	84.08	Continue Funding with Modifications or Technical Assistance
METROPOLITAN MINISTRIES, INC. (Children's Recreation, Education, Arts & Therapeutic Experience - CREATE)	\$543,448	81.40	Continue Funding with Modifications or Technical Assistance
METROPOLITAN MINISTRIES, INC. (Homeless Family Early Intervention Program - First Hug)	\$1,393,214	96.40	Continue Funding
METROPOLITAN MINISTRIES, INC. (Pathways to Hope)	\$807,709	N/A	Continue Funding Newly Funded January 2023
NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP CENTER OF TAMPA BAY, INC. (Capacity Building)	\$140,000	N/A	Continue Funding Deliverables Completed Successfully
PARENTS AND CHILDREN ADVANCE TOGETHER (PCAT) LITERACY MINISTRIES, INC. (South County Literacy Initiative)	\$454,942	92.50	Continue Funding

Children's Board of Hillsborough County
FY 2023 Provider Evaluations Final Part II - 2/22/24

Agency/Program	Funding	Final Score	Final Determination
CHILDREN'S BOARD OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY FINAL PART II EVALUATION	2022 - 2023	Score or N/A*	85 -100 Continue Funding 70 - 84 Continue Funding with Modifications or Technical Assistance 0 -69 Continue Funding with Modifications and/or Provider Improvement Plan
PARENTS AND CHILDREN ADVANCE TOGETHER (PCAT) LITERACY MINISTRIES, INC. (Sulphur Springs Literacy Initiative)	\$141,651	91.65	Continue Funding
POSITIVE SPIN, INC., (Empowering A Community with Hope - EACH One)	\$830,937	96.60	Continue Funding
PRESERVE VISION FLORIDA, INC. (Children's Vision Health and Safety Services)	\$422,894	88.10	Continue Funding
REACHUP, INC. (GROWTH with Doulas and Dads - Giving Resource Opportunities with Trust and Hope)	\$925,128	95.00	Continue Funding
REBUILDING TOGETHER TAMPA BAY, INC. (Safe & Healthy Homes for Families with Children)	\$285,063	N/A	Continue Funding Newly Funded April 2023
REDEFINERS WORLD LANGUAGES, INC. (Americorp Senior Demonstration Program Literacy Tutoring)	\$16,800	N/A	Continue Funding Deliverables Completed Successfully
REDEFINERS WORLD LANGUAGES, INC. (Global Explorers)	\$57,375	N/A	Continue Funding Newly Funded March 2023
REDEFINERS WORLD LANGUAGES, INC. (Multilingual Citizens Program)	\$503,372	96.00	Continue Funding
ROOTED IN PLAY CORP (Popup Adventure Playground Project)	\$37,810	N/A	Continue Funding Newly Funded April 2023
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY (Renaissance myON Reader)	\$100,000	N/A	Continue Funding
SENIORS IN SERVICE OF TAMPA BAY, INC. (Readers in Motion)	\$111,954	74.34	Continue Funding with Modifications or Technical Assistance
SPRING OF TAMPA BAY, INC., THE (Family Safety from Domestic Violence)	\$350,979	91.67	Continue Funding
ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL, INC. D/B/A ST. JOSEPH'S WOMEN'S HOSPITAL (Community Maternity Clinic)	\$556,674	N/A	Continue Funding Newly Funded March 2023
ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL, INC. D/B/A ST. JOSEPH'S CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL (Mobile Health and Safety Education Program)	\$1,041,795	90.38	Continue Funding
ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL, INC. D/B/A ST. JOSEPH'S WOMEN'S HOSPITAL (Supporting Motherhood and More)	\$183,087	92.00	Continue Funding

Children's Board of Hillsborough County
FY 2023 Provider Evaluations Final Part II - 2/22/24

Agency/Program	Funding	Final Score	Final Determination
CHILDREN'S BOARD OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY FINAL PART II EVALUATION	2022 - 2023	Score or N/A*	85 -100 Continue Funding 70 - 84 Continue Funding with Modifications or Technical Assistance 0 -69 Continue Funding with Modifications and/or Provider Improvement Plan
SUCCESS 4 KIDS AND FAMILIES, INC. (Successful Families)	\$518,379	96.60	Continue Funding
TAMPA HILLSBOROUGH HOMELESS INITIATIVE, INC. (UNITY Information Network)	\$50,000	N/A	Continue Funding Deliverables Completed Successfully
TAMPA METROPOLITAN AREA YMCA, INC. (Sulphur Springs YMCA Out of School Time Program)	\$314,882	89.50	Continue Funding
TAMPA MUSEUM OF ART, INC. (Children's Board Free Family Days)	\$52,706	N/A	Continue Funding Deliverables Completed Successfully
UNIVERSITY AREA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, INC. (Get Moving! Mind, Body Soul)	\$291,928	78.00	Continue Funding with Modifications or Technical Assistance
UNIVERSITY AREA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, INC. (Get Moving with Water Safety)	\$24,745	N/A	Continue Funding Newly Funded June 2023
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA BOARD OF TRUSTEES, THE (Developing our Children's Skills Programs - HOT DOCS & DOCS K-5)	\$340,226	96.00	Continue Funding
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA BOARD OF TRUSTEES, THE (Hillsborough HIPPY Parent Involvement Project)	\$1,457,290	93.90	Continue Funding
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA BOARD OF TRUSTEES, THE (Program-Wide Positive Behavior Support)	\$774,973	96.00	Continue Funding
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA BOARD OF TRUSTEES, THE (Trauma-Informed Schools - Tiered Intervention)	\$292,166	N/A	Continue Funding Newly Funded July 2023
82 Contracts		* N/A = Contracts not scored; compliance monitored by contract/program manager.	

Administrative Services Organization (ASO)

Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Year-End Report



Children's Board
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

www.ChildrensBoard.org

ASO Background

The ASO is a fiscal intermediary operated by the Children's Board to manage flexible funds.

Funds are allocated to Children's Board funded agencies and other community partners and accessed by trained case managers.

The ASO model supports a wraparound approach in which families identify their strengths, needs, goals, and service providers.

Case managers work with families to develop individualized family support plans.

Funds are used to pay for services with qualified community providers.

FY 2022-2023 Highlights



\$3,445,000
Flexible Funds
Available

53
Case Management
Programs

300+
Trained Case
Managers

694
Providers Utilized

378
New Providers

3,538
Participants

5,940
Budget Items

1,688
Authorizations

7,194
Payments



Funds Managed by Source

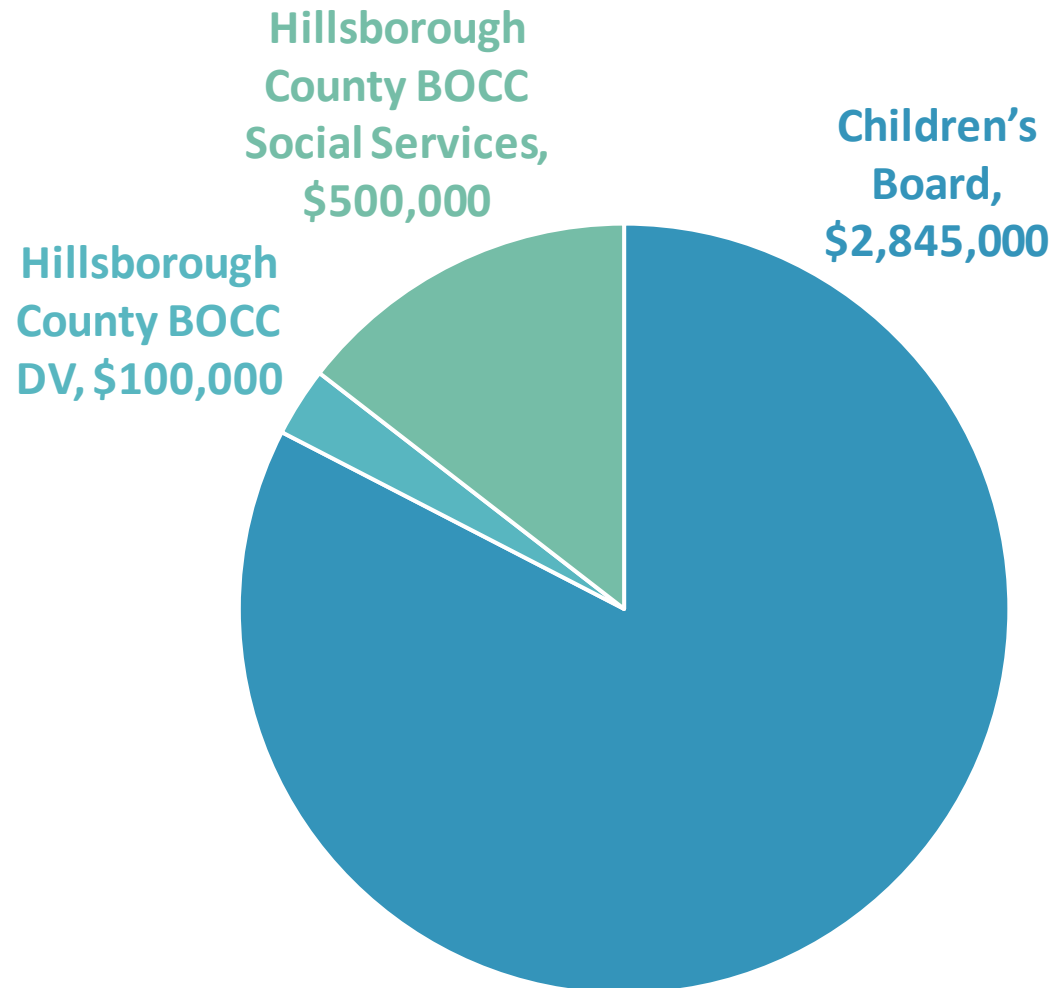
33 Children's Board
contracted programs

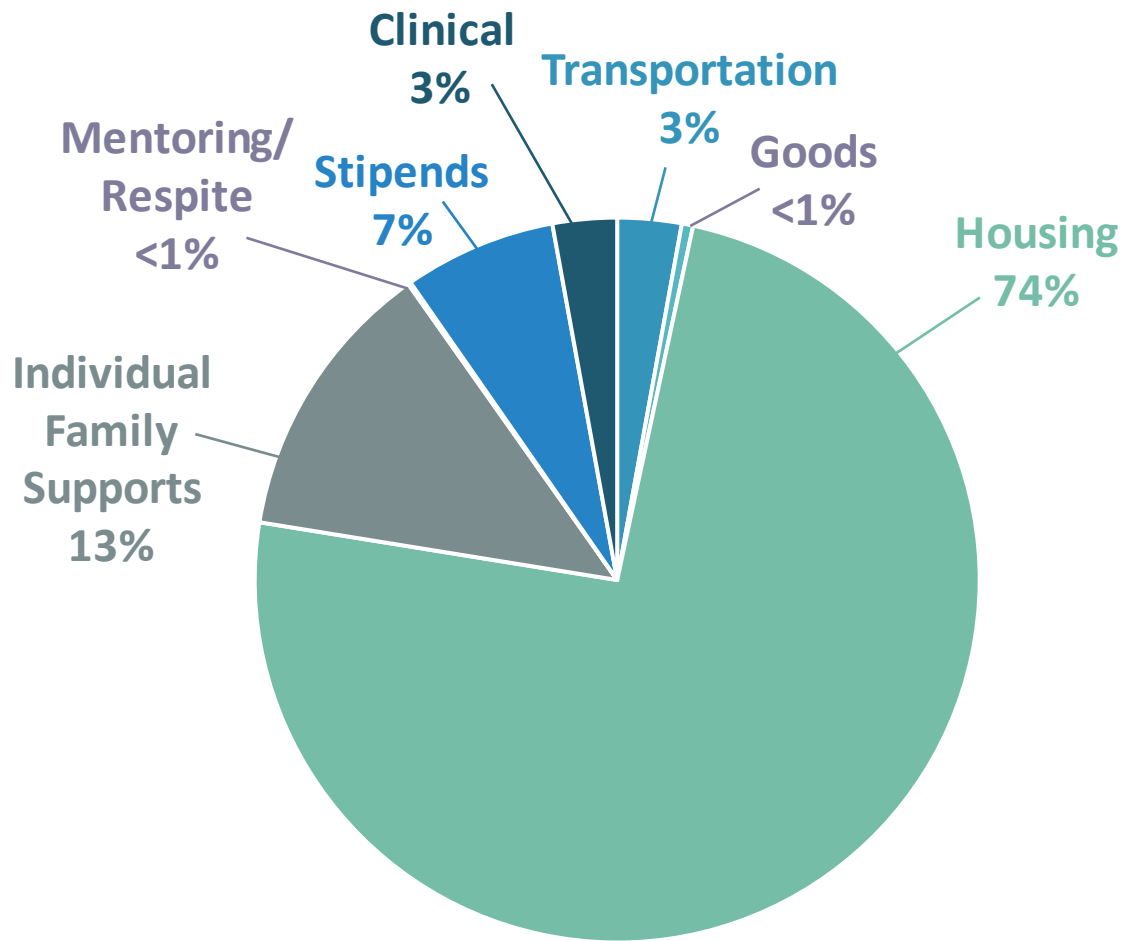
18 Non-Children's
Board funded
programs through
ASO Request for
Applications

2 special projects

- SDHC School Social Work
- USF Bay Area Early Steps

"The ASO is the most powerful resource we as case managers can provide to a family." - ASO Case Manager





Funds Budgeted by Category

“This resource has simplified service coordination, improved access to resources, and allowed for a more outcome-focused approach, which has been a great support in my professional performance and in the lives of the families.” - ASO Case Manager

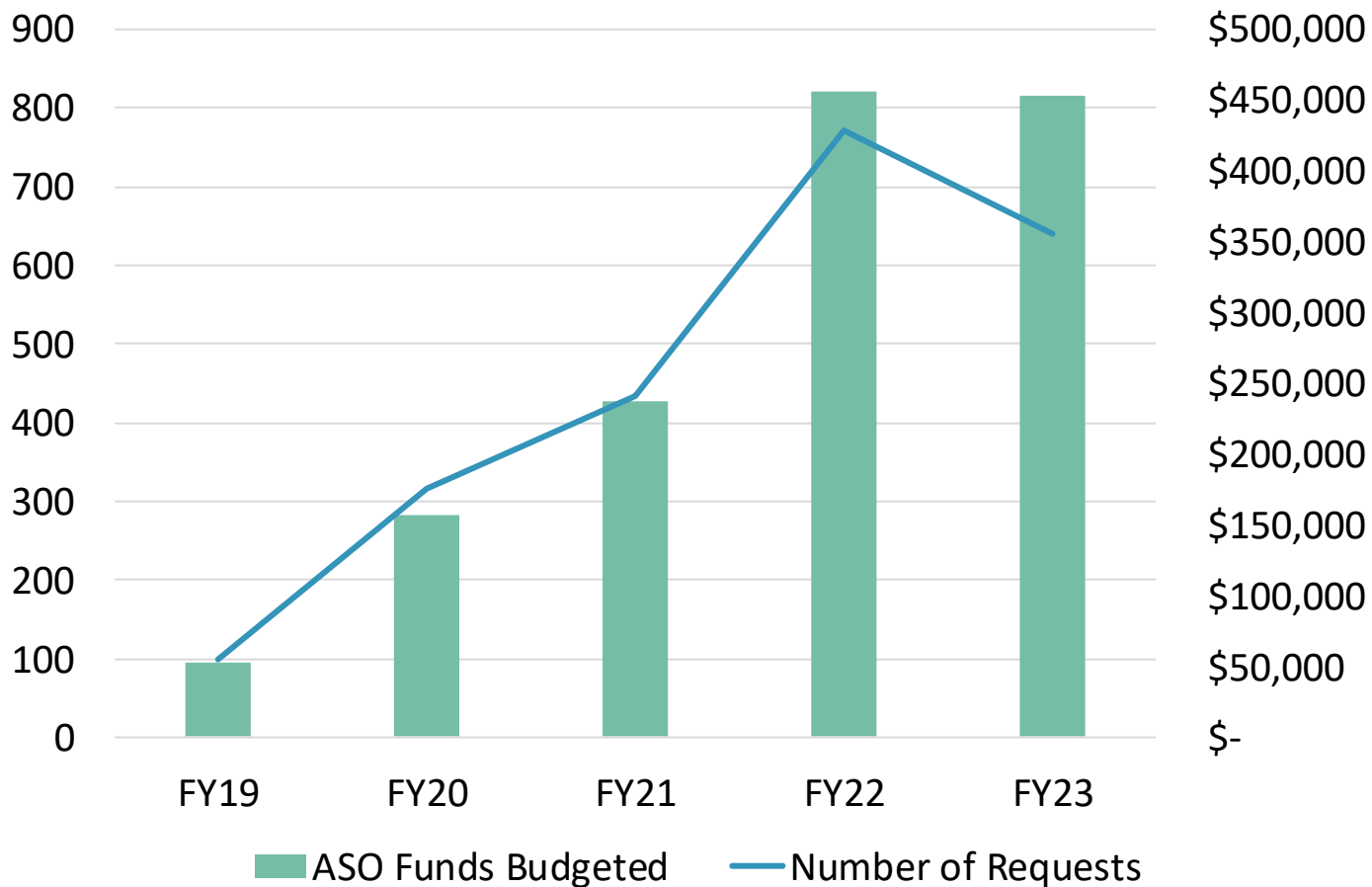
“The ASO program has been instrumental in improving my daughter's performance. My daughter was able to get the help that allowed her to pass the grade and find her confidence and balance again.” - ASO Parent

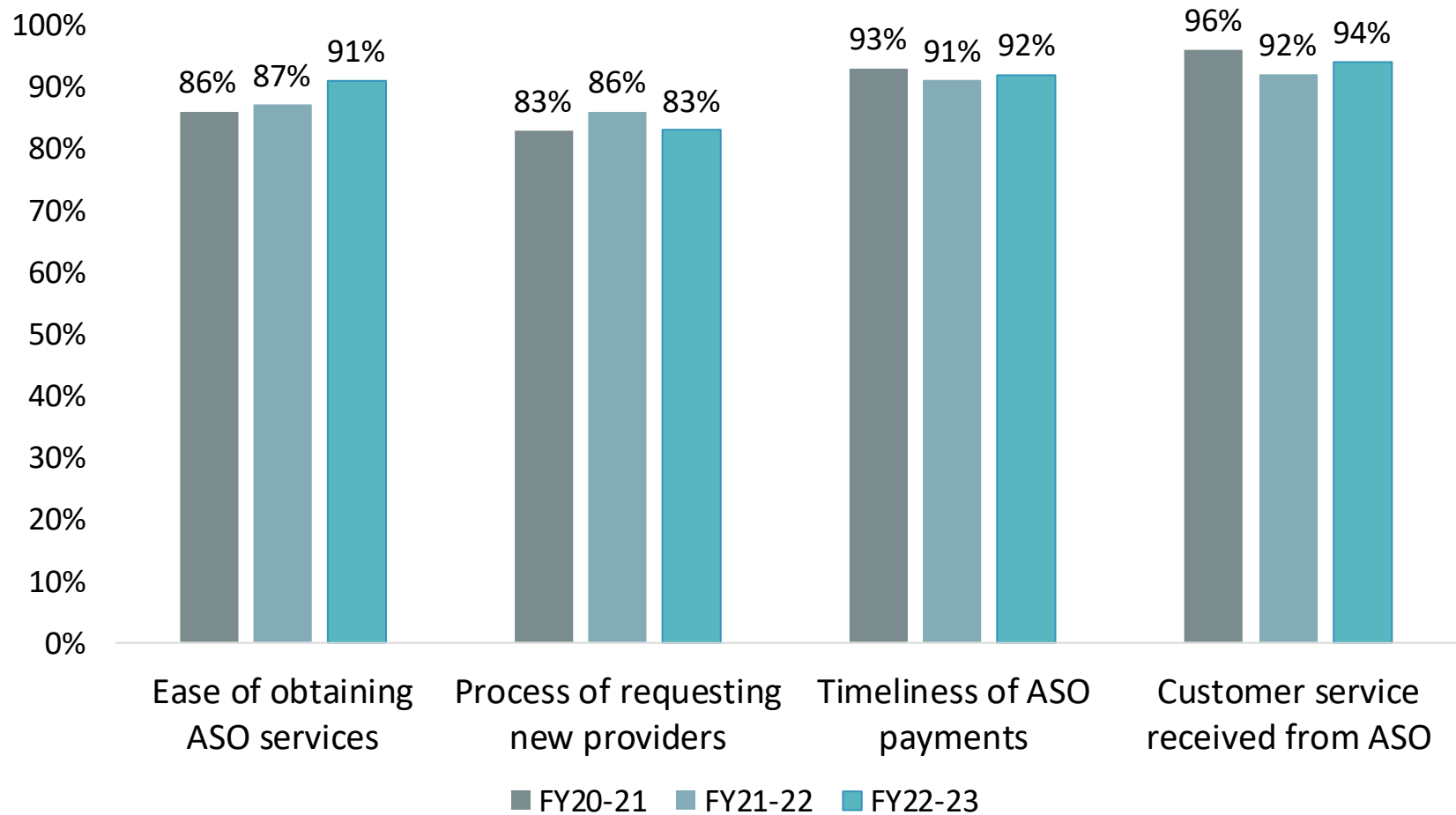
Service	# of ASO Budgets	Funds Budgeted
Tutor	1010	\$340,684
Baby Items	711	\$127,975
Electric	687	\$265,467
Emergency Shelter	641	\$452,581
Rental Assistance	634	\$880,909
Public Transportation	308	\$20,190
Furniture	257	\$181,954
Security Deposit	196	\$372,911
Clothing Stipend	179	\$36,868
Individual Therapy	158	\$74,330
Total	4,781	\$2,753,869

Top 10 ASO Services



Emergency Shelter Requests





Case Manager Satisfaction

40% response rate in FY20-21 (n=153)

42% response rate in FY21-22 (n=101)

40% response rate in FY22-23 (n=114)

The impact is invaluable because the aid can be provided to families during emergencies very quickly.

It's a game changer! Don't know what we would do without the ASO!

ASO funds have prevented a lot of families from becoming homeless. Once a family is homeless, it is much harder to rehouse them.

It helps families who are financially struggling to obtain services and resources that they otherwise would not be able to attain.

ASO has made me more confident in my ability to address families' needs.

It means that I have access to flexible funds to meet emergency needs for children and families.

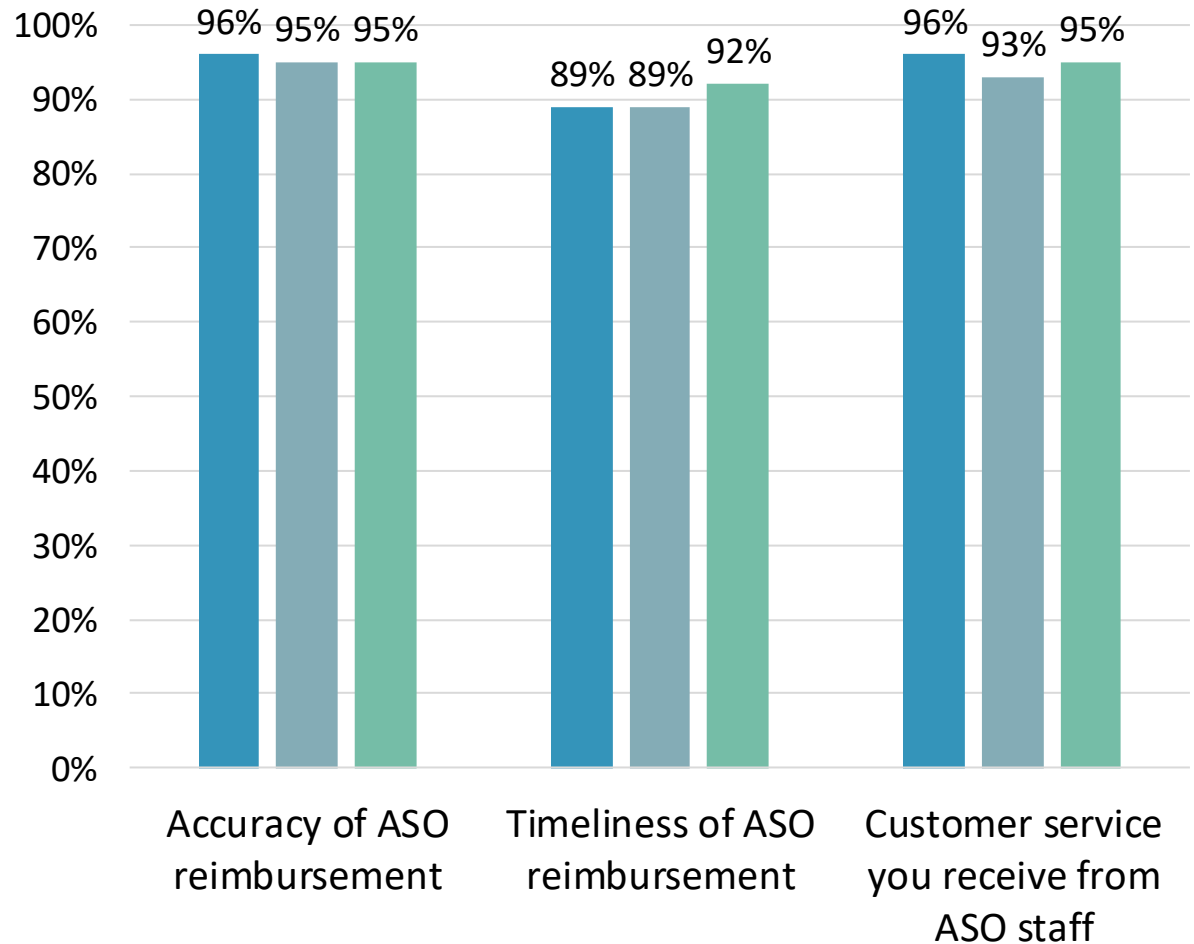


Case Manager Satisfaction

87% of Case Managers reported that there were no gaps in services they would like ASO to consider funding.

Provider Satisfaction

“Being a provider has given me the opportunity to help students and their families academically by giving them strategies to use both at home and at school.”



■ FY20-21 ■ FY21-22 ■ FY22-23

48% response rate in FY20-21 (n=79)

42% response rate in FY21-22 (n=56)

33% response rate in FY22-23 (n=39)

Provider Satisfaction

ASO provider responses when asked what impact being an ASO provider had on them.

“I gain personal and professional enrichment from seeing the difference these services mean to families in need.”



“It has allowed my practice to expand services to the underserved population.”

“Being an ASO provider affords me the opportunity to share and improve my skill set.”

“It has helped me meet my family’s financial needs.”

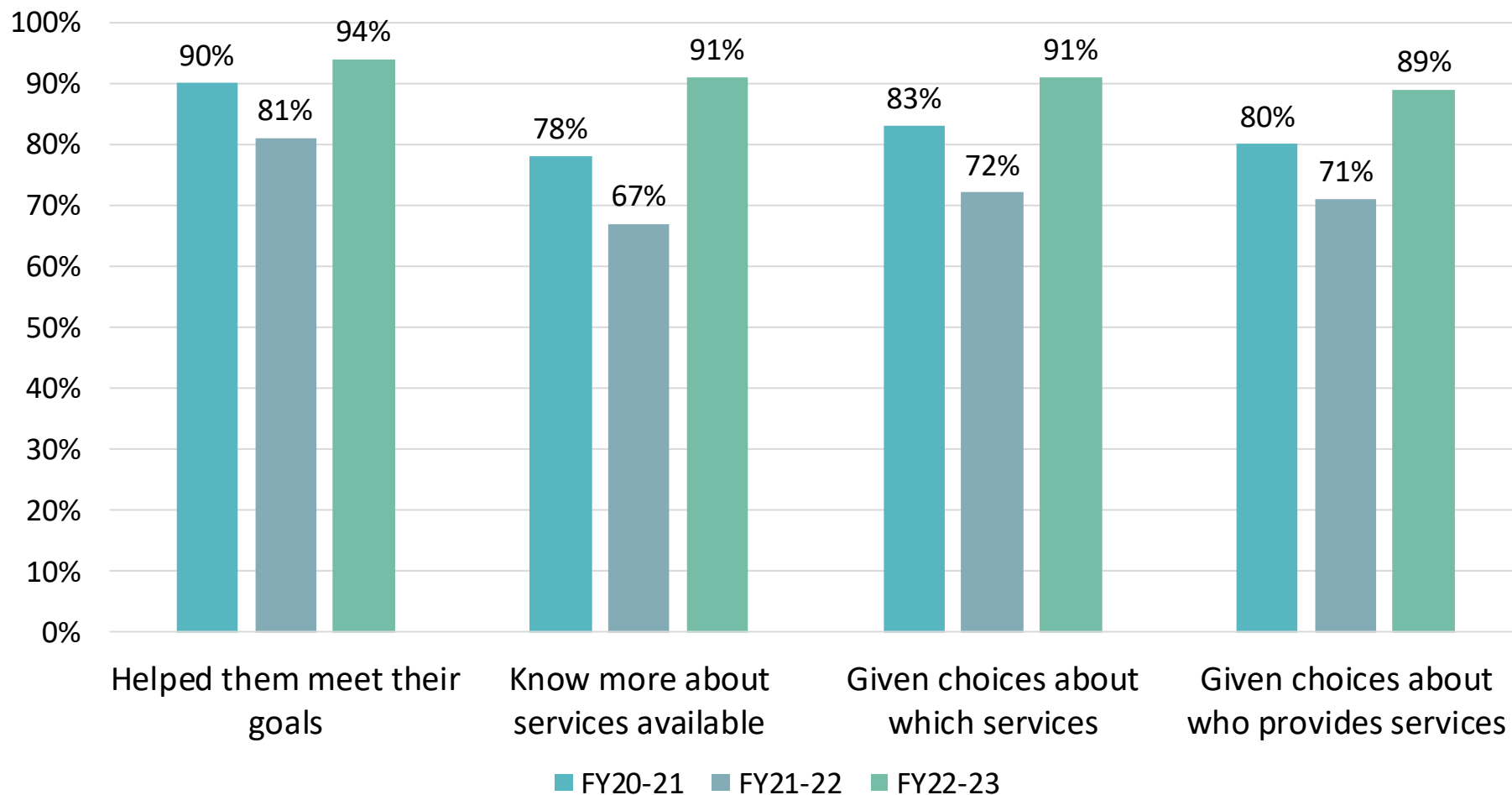


“Ability to cover services not covered by Medicaid or other funders.”

“The possibility to bring mental health services to people that otherwise couldn't afford them.”



“The ability to watch families flourish.”



Family Satisfaction

89% of families reported they received the services they needed the most (n=472).

“Helped my family and I get out of a hotel and in our apartment. Thank you so much.”

“Financial stability.”



“It was a fast process and we received what we needed.”

“Helping families to improve their lives and be independent.”



“This was my first time having to take care of children for family members. The task may have been a lot more difficult without the help of ASO!”

“My son’s behavior is 10x better.”



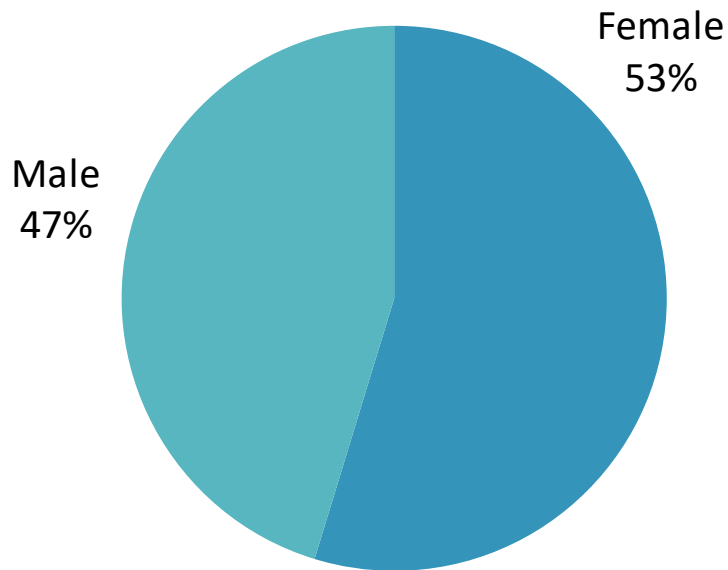
“The variety of services available to families.”

Family Satisfaction

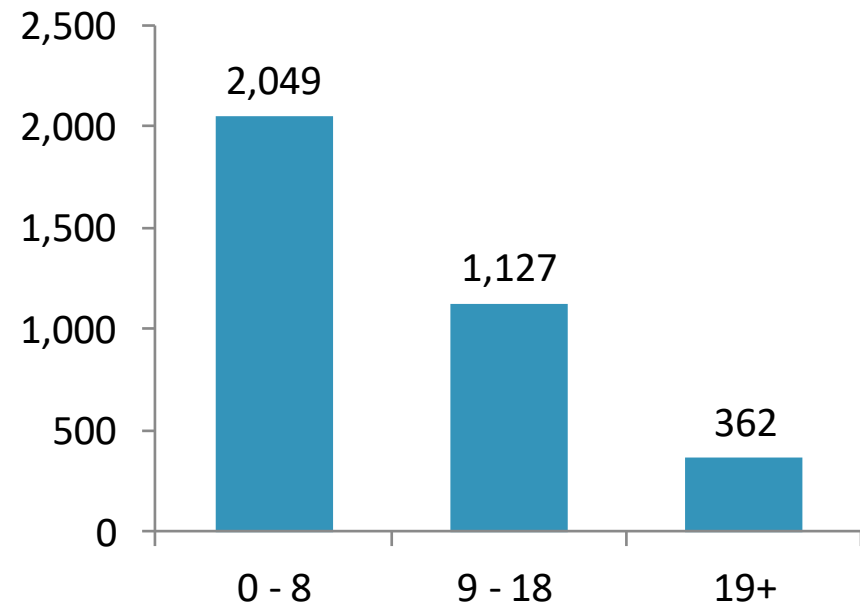
“It seems that the Children’s Board will always find a way to help one way or another. I am very, very grateful.”

Participant Demographics

GENDER

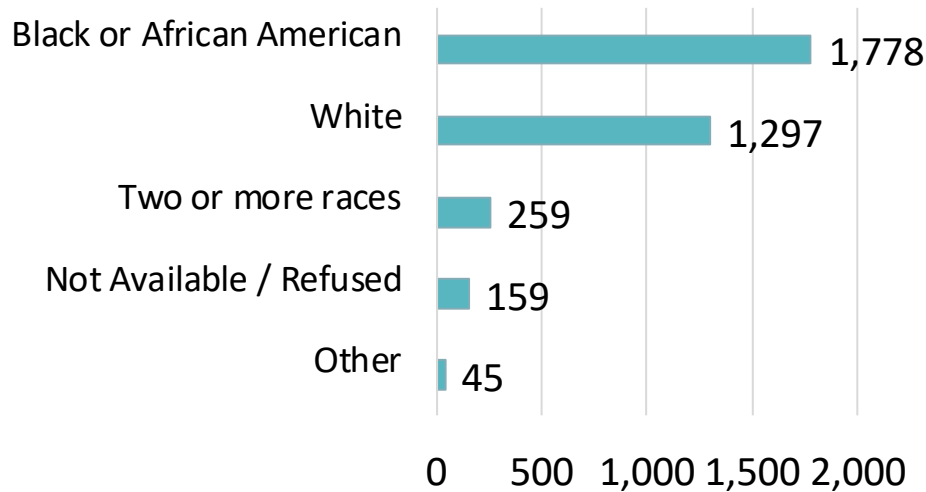


AGE

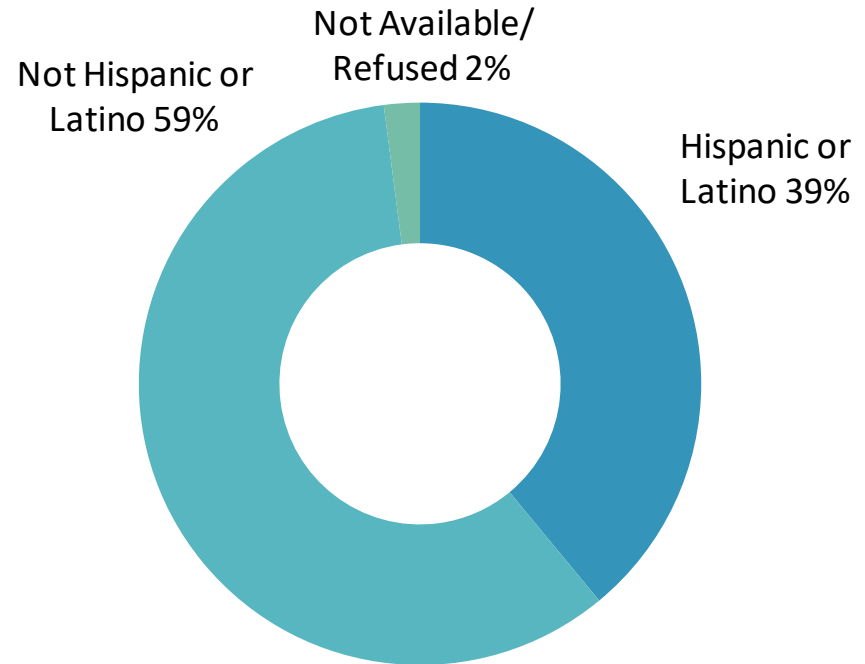


Participant Demographics

RACE



ETHNICITY

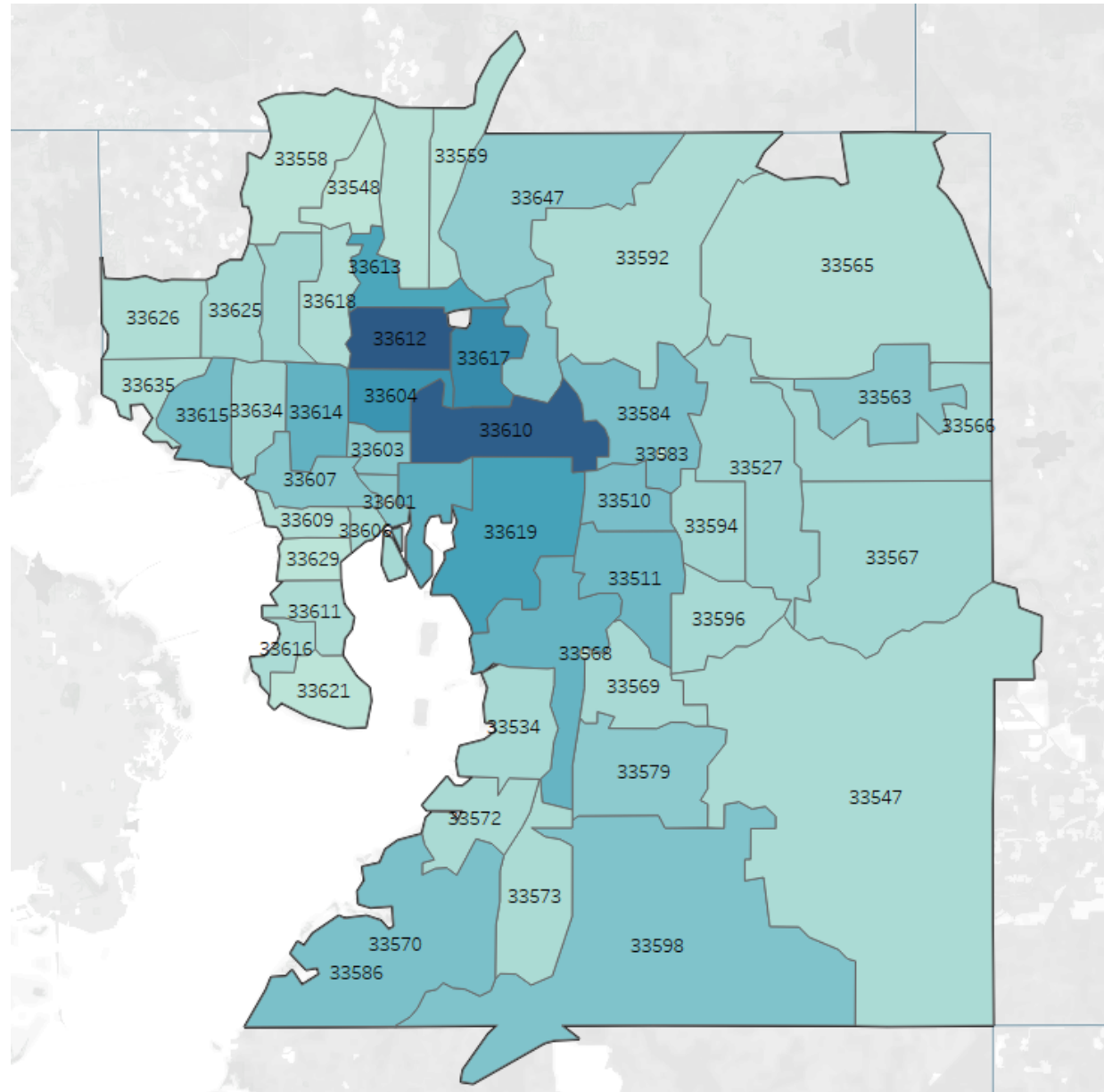


ASO Participant Map

Map based on 3,538 participants served in 66 zip codes within Hillsborough County.

19 records (.5%) were excluded from the map view due to invalid zip codes or zip codes outside of Hillsborough County.

The top 10 zip codes reported were: 33612, 33610, 33675, 33617, 33604, 33619, 33613, 33605, 33614, and 33578



Monitoring Results

Total programs utilizing funds	51
--------------------------------	----

Total visits completed	51
------------------------	----

# of Programs – Score of 80% or Above	50
---------------------------------------	----

# of Programs – Score of 100%	40
-------------------------------	----

# of Programs – FSP Recommendations	15
-------------------------------------	----

# of Programs – Consents Missing	31
----------------------------------	----

# of Programs – Inspections Not Filed	4
---------------------------------------	---

# of Programs – Returned Funds	4
--------------------------------	---

Total Funds Returned	\$14.05
----------------------	---------

Range of Funds Returned	\$1.08 - \$7.31
-------------------------	-----------------

Family Story

Julie Wood,
Executive Director
Just Initiative





Children's Board
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY
www.ChildrensBoard.org

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

2023

The Children's Board of Hillsborough County (CBHC) is committed to improving access to high quality services through providing resources for capacity building in our community. In 2023, we funded 8 Technical Assistance (TA) grant awards of up to \$10,000 to non-profit organizations with budgets of \$2 million or less. These grantees were aligned with CBHC focus areas and wanted to operate more effectively by improving their internal infrastructure. TA grants provide opportunities for non-profit organizations to accomplish these goals.

ANNUAL SURVEY RESULTS



GRANTEE SATISFACTION

100% of the eight survey respondents reported they were **Very Satisfied** or **Satisfied** with the Technical Assistance grant process from application to reporting.



VALUABLE COMMUNITY RESOURCE

100% of survey respondents agreed that TA grants are a **valuable community resource**.



"This funding ultimately benefits our community because our organizations become stronger internally."

-Frameworks of Tampa Bay, Inc.



SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS

Survey respondents reported that TA grants for upgrades in technology produced results such as **increased efficiency** in internal operations, **greater staff productivity**, and **community access** to a computer learning lab.

Other survey results reported from marketing TA grants included **increased visibility** and **greater awareness** of program services. One grantee, The Heart Gallery of Tampa Bay, reported more children being adopted in 2023 than ever before!

"The purchase of the ipad allowed us to streamline our registration and exit survey processes at popup events. This resulted in capturing more key participant information and demographics."

-Rooted in Play Corporation



From Surviving to Thriving

*A Cost of Living Workshop to Determine Solutions
to Support Working Families*

Workshop Report and Recommendations

Children's Board of Hillsborough County
ONEhillsborough Initiative
December 29, 2023

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Executive Summary

Hillsborough County families struggle to pay for basic needs because of the high cost of living. Approximately 45% of the county's families are living on incomes below the ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) threshold to cover basic living expenses. In addition, well intended assistance programs often disincentive increasing income. Families that increase their incomes often find themselves in a worse financial position because of a disproportionate reduction in benefits.



The November 17, 2023 workshop objective was to determine feasible **solutions** for helping these **working families** not just survive, but to thrive under the **high cost of living** in Hillsborough County.

We researched solutions designed to help move families out of poverty. We identified the seven solutions below which have been implemented across the country:

1. *Education Programs*
2. *Living Wage Practices*
3. *Comprehensive Collaboration Systems*
4. *Policies related to TANF, childcare and housing*
5. *Guaranteed or Supplemental Income*
6. *Wealth and Asset Building*
7. *Decriminalization of Poverty*

Descriptions and references related to each solution are in the appendix.

We invited experts from business, community, education, government and social services organizations to discuss and determine the feasibility of these curated solutions for Hillsborough County families. To help prepare for the discussion, participants received summaries of the solutions a week prior to the workshop.

The three-hour event started with representatives from the Children's Board of Hillsborough County (CBHC), the Junior League of Tampa, United Way Suncoast and CareerSource Tampa Bay presenting background information on the needs of Hillsborough County families. Following the presentations, experienced facilitators led five separate small group discussions, each focused on two of the curated solutions. Each group was comprised of participants from diverse sectors and experiences. The event concluded with a large group facilitated discussion of key takeaways and actions that could reasonably be accomplished in the short term.

The Children's Board of Hillsborough County ONEhillsborough Initiative team is the lead group for bringing together strategic partners to develop and implement a plan based on the results of the workshop. The team is already working on related and supporting activities. This report which contains recommendations based on the workshop and the continuing work of the ONEhillsborough Initiative, is the next step in identifying and putting into action solutions to help Hillsborough County working families move from surviving to thriving.

Presenters

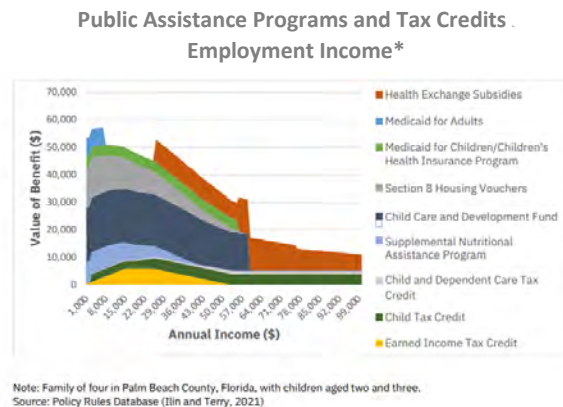
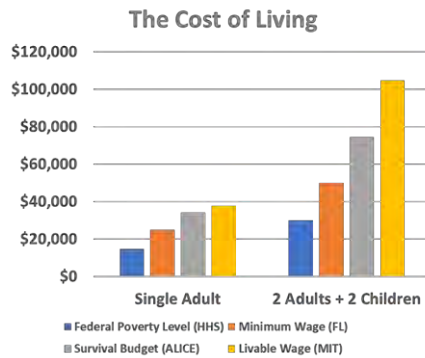
Name	Position	Topic
Robin DeLaVergne	Board Chair, Children's Board of Hillsborough County	Objective for the Day – Cost of Living and the Benefits Gap
Amber Smith and Lauren Watts	The Junior League of Tampa	The Needs of Hillsborough County Working Families
Doug Griesenauer	Vice President, Community Impact United Way Suncoast	United Way ALICE Report for Hillsborough & Pinellas
Dr. Byron Clayton	Senior Vice President and Chief of Sector Partnerships, CareerSource Tampa Bay	Improving Job Quality: A Win-Win for Employers and Working Families
The Honorable Edwin Narain	Board Member, Children's Board of Hillsborough County	Closing Remarks

Hosts, Facilitators and Note Takers

Name	Position	Role
Rebecca Bacon	Executive Director, Children's Board of Hillsborough County	Host and Welcome
Genet Stewart	Director of Strategic Initiatives, ONEhillsborough Initiative, Children's Board of Hillsborough County	Host and Workshop Director
Brian Butler	President and CEO, Vistra Communications	Main Facilitator
Dr. Byron Clayton	Senior Vice President and Chief of Sector Partnerships, CareerSource Tampa Bay	Working Group Facilitator
Doug Griesenauer	Vice President, Community Impact United Way Suncoast	Working Group Facilitator
Kelsy Long	Vice President of Marketing, Vistra Communications	Working Group Facilitator
Dr. Meaza Morrison	Director of Accreditation and Education, Tampa Family Health Centers	Working Group Facilitator
Josh Talkington	Senior Vice President of Marketing and Communications, Vistra Communications	Working Group Facilitator
Daryl Clark, Marile Arce, Kas Tape, Tim Bennett, Tahira Roman, Allison MacGregor	Children's Board of Hillsborough County and Vistra Communications	Note Takers

Refreshment Sponsor: Morrison Advisory Consulting, LLC

The Challenge



Working families are challenged by the high cost of living and by the benefits gap or “cliff” produced by a disproportionate reduction of benefits as families increase their incomes. Families with two adults and two children living in Hillsborough County need an annual income of nearly \$80,000 to meet the ALICE survival budget threshold. Nearly half of Hillsborough County families have incomes below this level.

Real needs of families are increasing. The Children’s Board Administrative Services Organization reports increased requests for baby items, food, rental assistance and emergency shelter. The Junior League of Tampa provides diapers and period supplies to those in need and over the last year has experienced 90% and 128% increases in distribution of these items, respectively.

Families are working to afford the necessities of life. According to the United Way Suncoast ALICE Report, nearly 1 million or 33% of employees in the top 20 occupations in the state live below the ALICE threshold. Employers can help working families raise their standard of living by improving job quality focusing on these areas:

- Wages & Benefits
- Career Training & Advancement
- Work-Life Balance
- Family Support
- Flexible Work Schedules
- Supplemental Wages



With an understanding of the needs of working families in Hillsborough County, the workshop participants focused on addressing solutions to these challenges.

*Data is not from Hillsborough County but is provided as a general example to graphically illustrate the “benefits cliff” or sharp drop in public assistance with increased income that exists across the country.

Key Takeaways and Recommendations

Solutions

Based on the working group conversations, the large group conversation and participants' written comments, the following solutions were identified as having the most potential to be impactful for Hillsborough County families.

- **Living Wage Practices** – Increasing wages to Hillsborough County's living wage level
- **Policies** – Changing policies related to TANF benefits and eligibility for TANF, childcare and housing assistance
- **Education Programs** – Recognizing and supporting early learning and K-12 teachers and capitalizing on the community's education resources
- **Comprehensive Collaboration Systems** – Developing nonprofit and government collaborative groups with aligned services and messaging to help working families more effectively

Additional solutions discussed as having a positive impact on working families were:

- Collaborating with employers to ensure they understand the cost of living challenges of employees, ALICE thresholds and job quality as it relates to the cost of living.
- Communicating with state legislators about returning transportation sales tax dollars to Hillsborough County.



Recommendations related to these solutions are below. Additional solutions raised as potentially helping working families but not discussed in this report were health and wellness, legal assistance, childcare, housing, job quality and employment benefits.

Although not the focus of the cost of living conversation or this report, the related elements and needs of Housing, Health and Wellness, Childcare and Transportation were raised and must be addressed by

appropriate lead organizations. These areas are part of the Social Determinants of Health, the foundation of the ONEhillsborough Initiative. Collaboration between ONEhillsborough with a focus on cost of living and the lead organizations of these areas is a recommendation in this report and should improve the quality of life for all.

Below are takeaways and recommendations for follow up actions from the workshop. To focus on changes with immediate positive impact on working families, the solutions are listed in the order of estimated least time, effort and cost to implement to most time, effort and cost to implement.

1. Legislation

- **Transportation Sales Tax Dollars** – Identify and engage lead organization to coordinate nonprofit efforts to communicate with state legislators requesting return of county transportation sales tax dollars.

- b. **Cost of Living Policies** – Identify and engage lead organization to coordinate nonprofit messaging and champion legislative agenda to educate and inform local and state legislators.
- 2. **Comprehensive Collaboration Systems**
 - a. **Collaboration Partnership** – Identify and meet regularly with groups addressing **housing, health and wellness, childcare and transportation** to share information and coordinate efforts for systemic improvements.
 - b. **Services Databases** – Educate community members and organizations on the purpose and uses of the various databases such as 211, Find Help and Unite Us to facilitate connecting working families with the help they need.
- 3. **Education – Teacher Recognition** – To increase interest in the early learning and K-12 teaching professions, encourage treating and respecting these educators similar to first responders. Potential partners are CBHC, Hillsborough Education Foundation, Hillsborough Community College and Hillsborough County Public Schools. An organic and coordinated social media campaign to thank and recognize teachers while educating the public about their contributions could be the initial activity.
- 4. **Collaboration with Employers** – Help employers understand the challenges of their employees living under the ALICE threshold in a direct way rather than as a community issue.
 - a. **Information Sharing** – Coordinate with businesses and business groups to provide information about employees with incomes below the ALICE threshold, living wages and the benefits gap. Information shared with employers must be in their language and demonstrate the business case for any recommended changes.
 - b. **Simulators** – Encourage and facilitate employers participating in simulators such as re-integration after incarceration and poverty to help them understand the challenges faced by employees and those seeking employment.
- 5. **Education – Capitalize on the Community's Education Resources through Certifications and Higher Education Programs** – Collaborate with Tampa Bay Economic Prosperity Foundation (Tampa Bay EDC) to discuss expanding the CertUp program at Hillsborough Community College or with other education institutions to develop new comprehensive education programs similar to those in New York and Tennessee. These programs provide tuition and wrap around services for students to overcome the barriers to advancing their educations and career opportunities, such as transportation and childcare (see Appendix).
- 6. **Comprehensive Collaboration Systems – Asset Mapping** – Develop a comprehensive map of the resources and services available in communities across the county.
 - a. Research and consolidate existing asset maps and CBHC funded services.
 - b. Identify gaps in the existing asset maps and CBHC funded services.
 - c. Identify and share opportunity areas for community organizations to meet needs and for CBHC to cover identified gaps within the CBHC mission.

7. Collaboration with Employers – Services with Dignity

- a. Coordinate with human resources professionals to encourage employers to provide access to services and resources in a manner that maintains the dignity of the recipients. For example, offer nonprofit services in a manner similar to other employee benefits programs. United Way Suncoast is piloting a program offering financial wellness support through employers and could be a good partner to help develop this solution.
- b. Consult with local governments about offering “pop up” services at locations with large numbers of employees.

8. Living Wage Practices

- a. **Local Government** – Discuss with the city and the county their interest or actions related to paying and requiring contractors to pay a living wage. This may not be feasible as the state legislature has considered laws prohibiting local municipalities from passing living wage ordinances.
- b. **Private Employers** – Perhaps, most effective would be voluntary adoption of this practice by employers who understand the true cost of living in Hillsborough County. If employers recognize the plight of working families and evaluate their own business models, they may determine innovative ways to increase wages while maintaining profitability.

9. Policies – Research and determine feasibility of pursuing policy changes related to TANF benefits and eligibility guidelines for TANF, childcare and housing assistance.

- a. **TANF** – Florida’s unused TANF dollars may be used to fund innovative programs that help working families similar to Tennessee’s TANF grant program. (See Appendix)
- b. **Eligibility Guidelines** – Eligibility guidelines to receive TANF benefits, childcare assistance and housing preclude many families from receiving the help they need. This often results in unused funding and families still in need. To make changes in eligibility requirements, the experts in these areas should determine options for changes, evaluate the impact, garner support and negotiate changes with the appropriate decision makers.



10. Comprehensive Collaboration Systems – Services Database – Facilitate making a comprehensive services database available to families and nonprofits using an existing resource, customizing an existing resource or creating a new resource.

- a. Identify requirements and features of a suitable database.
- b. Evaluate existing products against these requirements and features (e.g., Unite Us, Find Help, 211).
- c. Determine the best solution that meets the requirements and features.
- d. Customize and/or Adopt.

11. Comprehensive Collaboration Systems – Comprehensive Service Delivery System – Explore developing comprehensive holistic collaboration systems of service delivery across the county.

- a. Evaluate existing programs in Tennessee and other areas for inspiration and ideas (TN TANF grant recipients – see Appendix).
- b. Identify a working group of potential participating organizations and agencies.
- c. Collaborate with these groups to develop and implement plan for system.

Execution

Below are recommendations for managing the implementation of the solutions above and accomplishing the desired results for working families.

1. **Prioritize and Organize** – Determine solutions to address and develop a priority for execution. For each solution to be addressed, form a working group of key stakeholders to develop and implement plans. These stakeholders should have knowledge of the area, decision makers, partners, potential funding streams and have the ability to effect change.
2. **Start Now** – Identify and begin working on some short-term solutions with immediate impact to begin helping families with urgent needs while developing long term plans, partnerships, funding streams and programs.
3. **Develop Synergies** – Combine the workshop results with the ONEhillsborough Initiative Social Determinants of Health focused plan which emphasizes using existing resources in the community.
4. **Consider CBHC Funding** – Identify solutions appropriate for CBHC funding. A few examples are below:
 - a. Analyze Children's Board funded programs and identify gaps or areas of opportunity for meeting the needs of constituents within CBHC mission.
 - b. Pilot small scale collaboration systems by funding partnerships comprised of medium to large nonprofits and small community-based nonprofits providing services that address families' cost of living and Social Determinants of Health related issues.
 - c. Develop and implement appropriate campaigns for specific solutions designed to reach key stakeholders and move them to action (e.g., services databases usage, teacher recognition, employer information sharing)

Conclusion

The workshop participants determined feasible **solutions** for helping **working families** not just survive, but to thrive under the **high cost of living** in Hillsborough County. This report summarizes key takeaways and associated recommendations for helping working families. This is just a starting point for making real change. Implementing any of these solutions requires collaboration and coordination of many partners.

"Alone, we can do so little; together, we can do so much." Helen Keller



Appendix

Solutions Descriptions and References

The seven solutions we found during our research are:

1. Education Programs
2. Living Wage Practices
3. Comprehensive Collaboration Systems
4. Policies
5. Guaranteed or Supplemental Income
6. Wealth and Asset Building
7. Decriminalization of Poverty

Education Programs

Education often provides opportunities for higher paying jobs which can help families overcome the challenges of the high cost of living as well as other health and social issues.

University of Memphis – GROWWTH Academy (Growing Relational and Occupational Wealth in West Tennessee Households)

The University of Memphis received a \$25 million grant from the State of Tennessee to implement a pilot program to help 2,500 families achieve economic stability. The program is a collaboration between several university centers and community organizations and is designed to eliminate barriers to self-sufficiency. It includes:

- Workforce training
- Credential training programs
- Microbusiness development
- Wraparound services of
 - Childcare
 - Transportation
 - Family wellness support

Partners include a Care Advocacy Team, community organizations, workforce boards, employers and the University of Memphis. Businesses have committed to hiring Academy graduates.

<https://www.memphis.edu/growwth/about/index.php>

New York - The City University of New York Accelerated Study in Associate Program (ASAP)

This program has more than doubled the community college graduation rate by removing barriers to obtaining education. Key elements of this program include:

- Tuition waivers
- Textbook assistance
- Transportation cost assistance
- Alternative course scheduling in blocks so that working students can accommodate work schedules
- Identifying and advising students to pursue majors where an associate degree leads to higher paying jobs
- Comprehensive direct support services such as tutoring and career services

- Funding provided by City of New York, State of New York and multiple private foundation grants
- Program has expanded to multiple states

<https://www1.cuny.edu/sites/asap/about/#1676568951387-1c757297-1d70>

Housing Authority Work and Education Requirements

Many housing authorities have work or education requirements. Atlanta Housing requires all non-elderly, non-disabled adult household members to work or “participate in a combination of school, job-training and/or part-time employment for a minimum of 20 hours per week” and at least one adult household member must work a minimum of 20 hours per week. Atlanta Housing also offers programs and information on scholarships, digital inclusion, financial literacy and other areas. Tampa Housing Authority also offers scholarship information on its website.

<https://www.atlantahousing.org/housing-programs/participant-eligibility/>

<https://www.atlantahousing.org/programs/>

<https://www.tampaha.org/scholarships>

Living Wage Practices

Earning a living wage enables people to pay for life necessities like food, housing, transportation and healthcare without relying on government assistance.

Some municipalities have passed ordinances requiring pay higher than minimum wage for government contract workers or employees of organizations receiving government funds. Living wage laws are mainly in metropolitan areas such as San Francisco Bay Area, New York City and Washington, DC. Fewer southeastern areas have living wage laws.

An example of a private employer adopting a living wage pay practice is Unilever, a British company and the largest producer of soap in the world. Unilever has established a Raise Living Standards goal with a commitment to ensuring everyone who directly provides goods and services to them will earn at least a living wage or income by 2030.

<https://www.epi.org/publication/bp170/>

<https://www.business.com/articles/small-business-living-wage/>

<https://www.unilever.com/planet-and-society/raise-living-standards/a-living-wage/>

<https://www.unilever.com/planet-and-society/raise-living-standards/strategy-and-goals/>

Comprehensive Collaboration Systems

Multiple government agencies and nonprofit organizations provide services helping families with various needs related to managing the high cost of living. These services are usually offered as independent actions, through small partnerships or as referrals. A Comprehensive Collaboration System includes a consortium of public and private organizations working together to serve families through innovative approaches of communicating, coordinating, information sharing, managing quality and ensuring families receive comprehensive assistance in a respectful and efficient way.

Family and Children's Services in Middle Tennessee

This collaboration network includes 12 primary partners following a process focused on Workforce Development and Clinical Therapy/Case Management to increase stability and reduce dependence on temporary assistance to families in need. An additional 140+ secondary partners address:

- Family Engagement
- Basic Needs
- Physical Health
- Family Planning
- Youth Student Supports

The program uses evidence-based interventions that positively impact the whole family for generational impact (2Gen) with a “no wrong door” approach which facilitates families receiving the help they need through a hub linked to all entry points.

<https://www.fcsnashville.org/family-childrens-service-to-receive-25-million-in-tanf-funds/>

ChanceTN - Tennessee Alliance for Economic Mobility

An alliance of 32 partners in seven middle Tennessee counties have implemented an innovative approach to help families with low incomes improve their economic mobility and wellbeing. The partners include nonprofits, government entities, education institution, faith-based organizations and economic development organizations.

- ChanceTN is designed to overcome the “benefits cliff.” As family incomes increase, benefits valued at more than the income are lost. This innovative program includes:
- Addressing the benefits cliff by providing transitional benefits paid directly to providers of food, childcare, housing and healthcare.
- Providing family-centered coaching with goal setting and progress tracking.
- Offering other services including financial counseling, wrap-around support navigation and education and employment training in high-wage, high-demand careers.

Policies

Poverty

Poverty guidelines issued by the Department of Health and Human Services are used to determine eligibility for certain Federal programs. The 2023 poverty guideline for a 4 person household is \$30,000. Programs providing support for childcare, housing, nutrition, workforce, legal services and others use a percentage (e.g., 125%, 150%, 185%) of the poverty guidelines to determine eligibility.

The US Census Bureau uses the Poverty Threshold to measure the number of people living in poverty. New York City developed the NYCgov Poverty Measure, an alternative measure that considers the cost of housing and government program benefits received. The US Census Bureau has adapted this measure and now also estimates poverty based on the Supplemental Poverty Measure.

<https://aspe.hhs.gov/topics/poverty-economic-mobility/poverty-guidelines>

<https://www.nyc.gov/site/opportunity/poverty-in-nyc/poverty-measure.page>

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

TANF funds provide short-term assistance to help families with children meet basic needs. Each state determines its own program and eligibility rules. Some of the Florida eligibility rules generally limit cash

assistance to 4 years, gross income to 185% of the Federal Poverty level and assets to \$2,000. The maximum monthly payment to families with children is \$303.

To use \$700 billion in TANF reserve funds for the benefit of families, Tennessee developed the Tennessee Opportunity Pilot Program and awarded \$175 million to seven organizations for 3-year pilot programs. Two of the funded programs are described in the Comprehensive Collaboration Systems section of this document. According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, as of 2021, Florida's unspent TANF funds totaled \$101 million. Each year states must use their own funds to cover at least 80% of its historical spending.

https://www.cbpp.org/sites/default/files/atoms/files/tanf_spending_fl.pdf

Funding Flexibility – US Department of Housing and Urban Development Moving to Work (MTW)

Housing Authorities participating in the MTW program have flexibility in using Federal funds for innovative programs designed specifically for their communities to address employment, self-sufficiency and increased housing choices for families with low incomes. Housing – Under certain circumstances, public housing authorities, including Atlanta, are given autonomy to use federal funds on locally designed solutions that use federal dollars more efficiently, help residents find employment and become self-sufficient, and increase housing choices for low-income families.

<https://www.huduser.gov/portal/periodicals/cityscape/vol22num3/ch2.pdf>

[Moving to Work \(MTW\) Demonstration Program | HUD.gov / U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development \(HUD\)](#)

[Moving to Work \(MTW\) - Participating Agencies | HUD.gov / U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development \(HUD\)](#)

Guaranteed Income or Unconditional Cash-Transfers

Guaranteed income programs provide funds to supplement income and public benefits, not replace benefits, with the goal of increasing financial stability. Structuring cash transfers in a way that does not remove eligibility for public assistance enables recipients to receive the full benefit of the program. Some programs have structured cash transfers as gifts under IRS rules or obtained eligibility waivers to avoid negative effects of this assistance.

California legislators approved a taxpayer-funded guaranteed income plan in 2021, with \$35 million allocated for monthly cash payments to some pregnant women and young adults recently out of foster care. Local governments apply for the money from the state Department of Social Services and decide how to disperse it. Los Angeles and Los Angeles County have piloted several guaranteed income programs with cash transfers of \$500 to \$1,000 monthly to residents meeting the eligibility guidelines.

Research shows that people receiving cash transfers experience lower income volatility, lower mental distress and improved physical health and greater ability to explore employment and caregiving opportunities. (West and Castro, 2023, Impact of Guaranteed Income on Health, Finances, and Agency: Findings from the Stockton Randomized Controlled Trial, Journal of Urban Health, 100:227-244) Twelve percent more participants in this program were employed full-time after one-year, whereas the control group experienced an increase of only 5%. (SEED Stockton Economic Empowerment Demonstrations – Preliminary Analysis: SEED's First Year). Other communities such as Cook County and Chicago are participating in guaranteed income programs.

[SEED Preliminary+Analysis-SEEDs+First+Year Final+Report Individual+Pages+.pdf \(squarespace.com\)](#)

[s11524-023-00723-0.pdf \(West and Castro, 2023\)](#)

[California passes first ever guaranteed income plan \(nypost.com\)](#)

[L.A. County Approves Guaranteed Income Program – Forbes Advisor](#)

[California approves first state-funded guaranteed income plan \(cnbc.com\)](#)

[Are guaranteed-income programs working? Chicago, Cook County programs offer \\$500 a month - Chicago Sun-Times \(suntimes.com\)](#)

Wealth and Asset Building

The goal for people experiencing poverty is not a lifetime of dependency on federal aid but to build wealth and to enjoy financial wellbeing. Unfortunately, benefits eligibility rules discourage wealth building. Improving financial stability requires a multi-pronged approach that incorporates building credit and savings alongside the focus on increasing income and setting goals. This enables families with low- and moderate-incomes to improve their ability to save for emergencies and investments, access affordable lending products, establish a favorable credit record and ultimately experience long-term financial stability and wellbeing.

The following programs and policies could help bolster wealth:

- Increasing protections against predatory lending
- Supporting matched-savings accounts such as individual development accounts (e.g., Capital Area Asset Builders), child savings accounts or baby bonds
- Implementing individual financial wellbeing coaching programs such as Economic Mobility Pathways (EMPath)

[Matched Savings — Capital Area Asset Builders \(caab.org\)](#)

[Individual Development Accounts — Capital Area Asset Builders \(caab.org\)](#)

[Success Stories — Capital Area Asset Builders \(caab.org\)](#)

[Economic Mobility Pathways - Women's Foundation of Boston \(wfboston.org\)](#)

[The Bridge to Self-Sufficiency | EMPath \(empathways.org\)](#)

Decriminalization of Poverty

When people with low incomes are saddled with unaffordable high fines and fees for minor traffic tickets, child support payments, civil offenses, and even misdemeanor crimes, they are set back financially in ways from which recovery is difficult.

The inability to pay fines can result in legal costs, incarceration, suspended driver license and disqualification for housing – all of which can also affect the ability to work. The cash bail system causes people unable to pay bail to be jailed and miss work. Initiatives related to minimizing or finding alternatives to fees, fines and cash bail that accomplish the behavioral goals, can alleviate the financial burden on families already unable to afford these costs.

[How The United States Has Criminalized Poverty And How To Change That Now \(forbes.com\)](#)

Summary of Solutions Provided to Participants

This document provides background information on some solutions employed to help working families manage the high cost of living. We will discuss these in small groups during the Cost of Living workshop.

Education Programs

Education often provides opportunities for higher paying jobs which can help families overcome the challenges of the high cost of living as well as other health and social issues. Programs with an education focus have a university partner along with wraparound services to support completing a degree program. Supports may include tuition waivers, workforce training, microbusiness development, childcare services, transportation assistance, alternate class scheduling and career services, among others.

Living Wage Practices

Earning a living wage enables people to pay for life necessities like food, housing, transportation and healthcare without relying on government assistance. Some municipalities have passed ordinances requiring pay higher than minimum wage for government contract workers or employees of organizations receiving government funds. Some private employers adopt living wage pay practices by paying living wages and requiring suppliers to pay a living wage.

Comprehensive Collaboration Systems

Multiple government agencies and nonprofit organizations independently provide services helping families with various needs related to managing the high cost of living. A Comprehensive Collaboration System includes a consortium of public and private organizations (e.g., nonprofits, government entities, education institutions, faith-based organizations and economic development organizations) working together to serve families through innovative approaches of communicating, coordinating, information sharing, managing quality and ensuring families receive comprehensive assistance in a respectful and efficient way. These programs may include trauma informed care, “no wrong door” (seamless access to services from any entry point in the system) and a focus on the whole family with generational impact.

Policies

Poverty guidelines issued by the Department of Health and Human Services are used to determine eligibility for certain federal programs. The 2023 poverty guideline for a 4-person household is \$30,000. Programs providing support for childcare, housing, nutrition, workforce, legal services and others use a percentage (e.g., 125%, 150%, 185%) of the poverty guidelines to determine eligibility. The U.S. Census Bureau uses the poverty threshold to measure the number of people living in poverty.

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) is a federal program that provides funds to states and territories for short-term assistance to help families with children meet basic needs. Each state determines its own program and eligibility rules. Some of the Florida eligibility rules generally limit cash assistance to **4 years**, gross income to 185% of the federal poverty level and **assets to \$2,000**. The maximum monthly payment to families with children is **\$303**. As of 2021, Florida’s unspent TANF funds totaled \$101 million. Each year states must use their own funds to cover at least 80% of its historical spending.

Funding Flexibility – U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Moving to Work (MTW) program gives housing authorities participating in the MTW program flexibility to use federal funds for innovative programs designed specifically for their communities to address employment, self-sufficiency and increased housing choices for families with low incomes.

Guaranteed Income or Unconditional Cash-Transfers

Guaranteed income programs provide funds (e.g., \$500-\$1,000 per month) to supplement income and public benefits, not replace benefits, with the goal of increasing financial stability. Structuring cash transfers in a way that does not remove eligibility for public assistance enables recipients to receive the full benefit of the program. Some programs have structured cash transfers as gifts under IRS rules or obtained eligibility waivers to avoid negative effects of this assistance. Research and anecdotal evidence show that people receiving cash transfers have greater ability to explore employment opportunities.

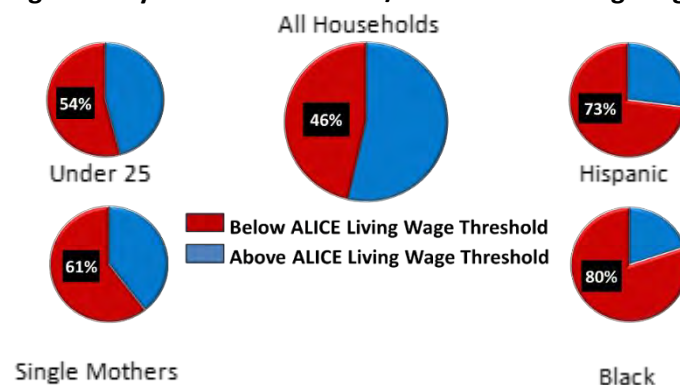
Wealth and Asset Building

Benefits eligibility rules discourage wealth building by limiting income and assets to receive benefits. Improving financial stability requires a multi-pronged approach that incorporates building credit and savings alongside focusing on increasing income and setting goals. This enables families to save for emergencies and investments, access affordable lending products, establish a favorable credit record and experience long-term financial stability and wellbeing. Initiatives that protect against predatory lending, support matched-savings accounts such as individual development accounts, child savings accounts or baby bonds and that implement individual financial wellbeing coaching programs help families build wealth and assets.

Decriminalization of Poverty

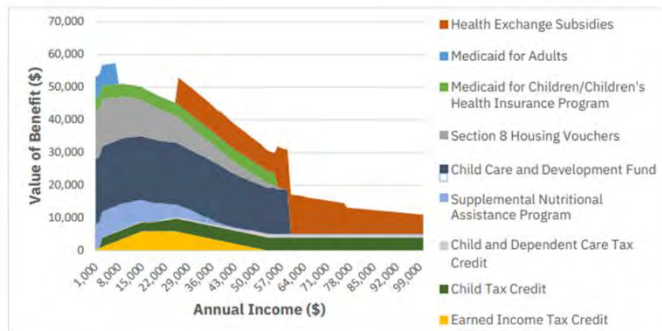
When people with low incomes are saddled with unaffordable high fines and fees for minor traffic tickets, child support payments, civil offenses, and even misdemeanor crimes, they are set back financially in ways from which recovery is difficult. The inability to pay fines can result in legal costs, incarceration, a suspended driver license and disqualification for housing – all of which can also negatively affect the ability to work. The cash bail system causes people unable to pay bail to be jailed and miss work. Initiatives related to minimizing or finding alternatives to fees, fines and cash bail that accomplish the behavioral goals, can alleviate the financial burden on families already unable to afford these costs.

Hillsborough County Households Above/Below ALICE Living Wage Threshold



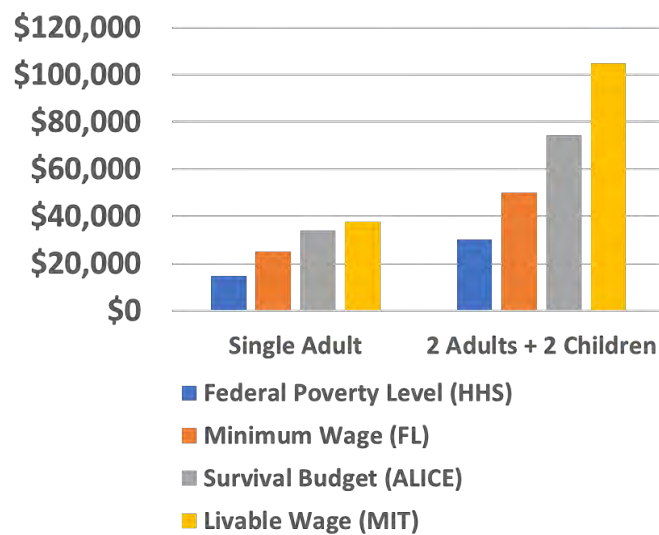
Source: ALICE in the Crosscurrents: COVID and Financial Hardship in Florida (2023)

Public Assistance Programs and Tax Credits by Employment Income



Note: Family of four in Palm Beach County, Florida, with children aged two and three.
Source: Policy Rules Database (Ilin and Terry, 2021)

The Cost of Living



Contract Signature Log
ASO ONLY
FY 2024

Entity/Agency	Contract Type	Brief Description	Contract Period	Contract Amount	Board Approved	Signed By	Date Signed
Hope for Her	MOU	MOU for allocation of ASO funds	1/30/2024-9/30/2024	\$15,000.00	No	Rebecca Bacon	1/31/2024
Hope for Her	Agreement	Business Associate Agreement	1/30/2024-9/30/2024	Varies	No	Rebecca Bacon	1/31/2024

Contract Signature Log
Programs ONLY
FY 2024

Entity/Agency	Contract Type	Brief Description	Contract Period	Contract Amount	Board Approved	Signed By	Date Signed
Healthy Start Coalition of Hillsborough County		Safe Baby Plus Amendment 2/5/24 Budget modification	10/1/23-9/30/24	\$1,423,396.00	Yes	Rebecca Bacon	1/22/2024
MORE Health Inc.	Leading	Healthy and Safe Kids	1/8/24-9/30/24	\$98,983.00	Yes	Rebecca Bacon	1/23/2024
Tampa Heights Junior Civic Association	Leading	Garden and Art Wellness Program contract	1/8/24-9/30/24	\$85,769.00	Yes	Rebecca Bacon	1/25/2024
Just Initiative, Inc.	Leading	The Zone	1/8/24-9/30/24	\$100,000.00	Yes	Rebecca Bacon	1/30/2024
Let's B Safe, LLC	Independent	Stewards of Children Training	2/20/2024	\$1,195.00	N/A	Rebecca Bacon	1/30/2024
Housing Authority of the City of Tampa	Uniting	Youth Success	1/8/23-9/30/24	\$238,330.00	Yes	Rebecca Bacon	1/31/2024
NonProfit Leadership Center of Tampa Bay	Independent	Certificate in Leadership	2/1/24-5/31/24	\$16,500.00	Yes	Rebecca Bacon	2/6/2024

Contract Signature Log
Vendors ONLY
FY 2024

Entity/Agency	Contract Type	Brief Description	Contract Period	Contract Amount	Board Approved	Signed By	Date Signed
MediaWorks Advertising Solutions	Vendor	Grocery Store Ads - Safe Sleep	1/19/24 - 9/30/24	\$26,500.00	No	Rebecca Bacon	1/25/2024



Fiscal Year 2023 - 2024

Monthly Financial Report

January 2024

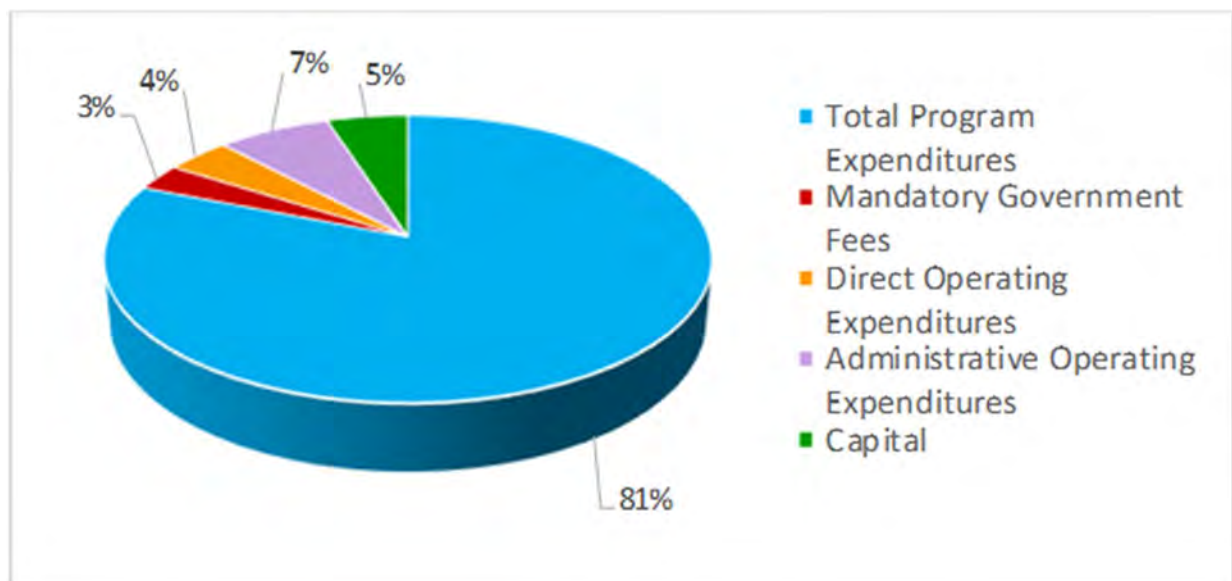
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3. Financial Statement Category Definitions
4. Statement of Revenues and Expenditures
5. Revenue Variance Analysis
6. Expenditure Variance Analysis
7. Investments Statement
8. Five Year Projections
9. New Program Funding Report
10. New Program Funding Detail

Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget

	FY 2023-2024 Original Budget
Revenues	
Ad-Valorem Taxes	69,295,183
Investment Income	2,220,000
Administrative Services Organization Funding	600,000
Other Community Partner Funding	410,000
Miscellaneous Income	11,000
Total Revenues	<u>72,536,183</u>
Expenditures	
Program Expenditures:	
Program Funding (Continuation Grants)	51,321,375
New Program Funding (unallocated)	9,560,000
Total Program Expenditures:	60,881,375
Operating	
Employee Salaries and Benefits	6,009,787
Contracted Professional Services	619,784
CBHC FRC Occupancy Expenditures	501,949
Facility Expenditures	348,431
Other Operating	581,704
Total Operating	8,061,655
Capital Expenditures	4,000,000
Mandatory Government Fees	1,988,523
Total Expenditures	<u>74,931,553</u>
Net Spend Down of Fund Balance	<u>(2,395,370)</u>



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

January-2024

	FY 2023- 2024 YTD Budget	FY 2023- 2024 YTD Actual	FY 2023- 2024 Variance \$	FY 2023- 2024 Variance %
Revenues				
Ad-Valorem Taxes	61,198,113	62,554,442	1,356,329	2%
Investment Income	740,000	2,077,765	1,337,765	181%
Administrative Services Organization Funding	200,000	182,144	(17,856)	-9%
Other Community Partner Funding	0	0	0	0%
Miscellaneous Income	3,667	2,140	(1,527)	-42%
Total Revenues	62,141,780	64,816,491	2,674,711	4%
Expenditures				
Program Expenditures:				
Program Funding (Including Unallocated)	12,047,081	8,895,767	3,151,314	26%
Total Program Expenditures:	12,047,081	8,895,767	3,151,314	26%
Operating Expenditures				
Employee Salaries and Benefits	2,003,263	1,924,643	78,620	4%
Contracted Professional Services	212,914	62,721	150,193	71%
CBHC FRC Occupancy Expenditures	167,316	160,987	6,329	4%
Facility Expenditures	116,144	103,142	13,002	11%
Other Operating	277,404	291,271	(13,867)	-5%
Total Operating	2,777,041	2,542,764	234,277	8%
Capital Expenditures	1,091,200	50,000	1,041,200	95%
Mandatory Government Fees	1,542,192	1,447,460	94,732	6%
Total Expenditures	17,457,514	12,935,991	4,521,523	
Net Cash Flow	44,684,266	51,880,500	7,196,234	

Revenue Variance Analysis

Statement of Revenues and Expenditures

January-2024

	FY 2023- 2024 YTD Budget	FY 2023- 2024 YTD Actual	FY 2023- 2024 Variance \$	FY 2023- 2024 Variance %
Revenues				
Ad-Valorem Taxes	61,198,113	62,554,442	1,356,329	2%
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Miscellaneous Income	3,667	2,140	(1,527)	-42%
Total Revenues	62,141,780	64,816,491	2,674,711	4%

- **Ad-Valorem Taxes**
 - This line is over the YTD budget by \$1,356,329; 90% of the tax revenue budgeted has been received to date.
- **Investment Income**
 - The interest received year to date is over the YTD budget because interest rates have increased. This was budgeted at 2% and the current interest rate is 5.57% for LGIP and 1.08% for Wells Fargo.
- **Administrative Services Organization**
 - ASO Funding revenue was under budget due to the timing of recording revenue related to BOCC-Social Services Homeless Prevention funds (quarterly). This revenue will be recorded in March.
- **Other Community Partner Funding**
 - Funding in this line will be received later in the year.
- **Miscellaneous Income**
 - This line is under budget due to timing of receiving matching funds from the insurance company, as well as 1.5% cash back from the CBHC credit card.

Expenditure Variance Analysis

Statement of Expenditures

January-2024	FY 2023- 2024 YTD Budget	FY 2023- 2024 YTD Actual	FY 2023- 2024 Variance \$	FY 2023- 2024 Variance %
Expenditures				
Program Expenditures:				
Program Funding (Including Unallocated)	12,047,081	8,895,767	3,151,314	26%
Total Program Expenditures:	12,047,081	8,895,767	3,151,314	26%
Operating				
Employee Salaries and Benefits	2,003,263	1,924,643	78,620	4%
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Mandatory Government Fees	1,542,192	1,447,460	94,732	6%
Total Expenditures	17,457,514	12,935,991	4,521,523	

- **Program Expenditures**
 - Continuation Grants are under budget because certain providers are not current on invoicing the Children's Board (Healthy Start Coalition, Lutheran Services Florida, HCC). Also, a significant portion of new program funding has yet to be allocated.
 - Leveraged Investments are over budget.
- **Employee Salaries and Benefits**
 - This line is slightly under budget due to four positions being vacant at various points during the first quarter.
- **Contracted Professional Services**
 - This line item is under budget due to the timing of legal services, audit fees, county IT services and Community Education & Awareness spending. Some of these items are billed in full in later quarters.
- **CBHC FRC Occupancy Expenditures**
 - This line item is slightly under budget due to the timing of spending, primarily in building repairs/maintenance.
- **Facility Expenditures**
 - This line item is under budget due to the timing of spending. Building repairs/maintenance, electric service, and water/sewer utility service are under budget but are expected to return to budgeted levels during the spring and summer months in subsequent quarters.
- **Other Operating**
 - This line item is over budget due to the timing of spending in professional development, making various insurance payments, purchasing office furniture and computer supplies, and renewing various large memberships/dues, all of which occurred in the first quarter.
- **Capital Expenditures**
 - This line item is under budget due to the timing of the planned purchase and build out of property for an additional CBHC Family Resource Center in Brandon. The purchase is expected to be finalized by the end of the second quarter, with the build out occurring in the months following.
- **Mandatory Government Fees**
 - This line item is slightly under budget due to the timing of paying the property appraiser's fees, but this is expected to return to budgeted levels in subsequent quarters.

Children's Board Of Hillsborough County
Investments Statement
January-2024

<u>Investment Instrument</u>	<u>Financial Institution</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Maturity</u>	<u>Yield</u>
Checking	Wells Fargo Government Advantage	2,572,325	1 day	1.08%
LGIP	Florida State Board of Administration	<u>137,892,765</u>	N/A	5.57%
		<u><u>140,465,090</u></u>		

**CHILDREN'S BOARD OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY
PROJECTIONS**

FY 2022 - 2023 to FY 2027 - 2028

Millage Rate .4589



	FY 2022 - 2023 Amended Budget	FY 2022 - 2023 Estimated Actual	FY 2023 - 2024 Budget	FY 2024 - 2025 Budget	FY 2025 - 2026 Budget	FY 2026 - 2027 Budget	FY 2027 - 2028 Budget
MILLAGE RATE	0.4589	0.4589	0.4589	0.4589	0.4589	0.4589	0.4589
<u>Projected Tax Revenue</u> (millage rate @ .4589 w/ 12.25% inc. in tax base in FY 2024, 4.9% inc. in FY 2025, 7.4% inc. in FY 2026, 7% inc. in FY 2027, 6.5% inc. in FY 2028)	61,929,405	62,515,000	69,295,183	72,664,187	78,001,377	83,423,673	88,811,112
Investment Income	892,000	4,419,000	2,220,000	2,090,613	1,802,889	1,537,931	1,326,125
Administrative Services Organization and Other Community Partner	1,010,000	805,000	1,010,000	1,010,000	1,010,000	1,010,000	1,010,000
Miscellaneous Income	11,000	10,000	11,000	11,000	11,000	11,000	11,000
Total Revenue Available	63,842,405	67,749,000	72,536,183	75,775,800	80,825,266	85,982,604	91,158,237
<u>Operating Expenditures</u>	7,502,083	7,091,822	8,061,655	8,406,955	8,768,378	9,160,607	9,580,108
Mandatory Government Fees	1,754,648	1,629,858	1,988,523	2,074,540	2,226,650	2,381,184	2,534,726
Building and Capital Reserve Expenditures	4,000,000	2,047,513	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000	-	-
<u>Program Funding (Continuation Grants)</u>	40,628,582	38,879,279	51,321,375	61,593,202	77,787,902	84,126,390	88,846,418
<u>New Program Funding (Unallocated)</u>	12,825,000	5,143,142	9,560,000	15,050,000	4,850,000	3,150,000	1,850,000
Total Expenditures	66,710,314	54,791,614	74,931,553	91,124,697	97,632,930	98,818,181	102,811,252
Net Income (Spend Down)	(2,867,909)	12,957,386	(2,395,370)	(15,348,897)	(16,807,664)	(12,835,577)	(11,653,015)
Fund Balance							
Total Fund Balance Beginning of Year	64,908,268	67,371,722	80,329,108	77,933,738	62,584,841	45,777,176	32,941,599
Net Income (Spend Down of Fund Balance)	(2,867,909)	12,957,386	(2,395,370)	(15,348,897)	(16,807,664)	(12,835,577)	(11,653,015)
Total Fund Balance End of Year after Spend Down	62,040,359	80,329,108	77,933,738	62,584,841	45,777,176	32,941,599	21,288,584
Less Non-Spendable Fund Balance Reserve	(19,732)	(19,732)	(19,732)	(19,732)	(19,732)	(19,732)	(19,732)
Less Committed Fund Balance Reserve (Operating Reserve)	(3,332,167)	(3,332,167)	(3,754,071)	(4,565,347)	(4,891,410)	(4,950,791)	(5,150,844)
Less Committed Fund Balance Reserve (Building & Capital Reserve)	(981,627)	(981,627)	(1,281,627)	(1,581,627)	(1,881,627)	(2,181,627)	(2,481,627)
Less Assigned Fund Balance Reserve	(44,439,928)	(59,040,525)	(56,645,154)	(41,296,257)	(24,488,593)	(11,653,015)	
Unassigned Fund Balance	13,266,905	16,955,058	16,233,154	15,121,878	14,495,815	14,136,434	13,636,381

Definitions:

Non-Spendable Fund Balance Reserve includes pre-paid expenditures.

Committed Fund Balance Reserve includes the building/capital reserve and operational reserve of 5.01% of the budgeted expenditures for the year.

Assigned Fund Balance Reserve consists of the future commitments included in the future projections that spend down from the fund balance.

Unassigned Fund Balance represents the difference between the total fund balance and all reserves above.

The reserve amounts above are determined and approved by the Board each year during the budgeting process.

FY 2023-2024 NEW PROGRAM FUNDING (UNALLOCATED) REPORT
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	Beginning Budget	Adjustments	Revised Budget	YTD Amount Approved	YTD Uncommitted Funds Available	Current Funding Requests	Uncommitted Funds Available
Technical Assistance Funding (Agencies Not Currently Funded by CBHC)	155,000		155,000	98,629	56,371		56,371
Technical Assistance Funding (Agencies Currently Funded by CBHC)	70,000		70,000	20,000	50,000		50,000
Spring & Summer Passports	225,000		225,000	157,956	67,044		67,044
Leading Grants (Summer Funding)	310,000		310,000	-	310,000		310,000
Emerging Needs Funding	300,000		300,000	105,932	194,068		194,068
Emergency Funding	400,000		400,000	-	400,000		400,000
Match	300,000		300,000	55,521	244,479		244,479
Leading Grants - Support New Programs	600,000		600,000	336,690	263,310		263,310
Leading or Uniting Grants - Children are Ready to Learn & Succeed & Family Support		1,000,000	1,000,000	-	1,000,000		1,000,000
Uniting Grants - Support New Programs	3,000,000	(1,000,000)	2,000,000	848,374	1,151,626		1,151,626
Investment Grants - Support New Programs	3,600,000		3,600,000	2,728,640	871,360		871,360
Investment Grants - Strategic Initiatives	600,000		600,000	-	600,000		600,000
Totals	9,560,000	-	9,560,000	4,351,742	5,208,258	-	5,208,258

Original Continuation Funding Budget	51,321,375
Actual Contract Amount Negotiated	(50,687,788)
Additional Amt Available from Continuation Funding	633,587
 St. Joseph's Pediatric Extension	 (36,053)
ALK of Florida Contract Amendment	(3,000)
Net Additional \$\$ Available	594,534

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Lightning Foundation, Inc.	Lightning Fall Camp	Offer (2) sessions of camp for kids to participate in playing ball hockey and other sports. Engage with different arts/crafts, board games, puzzles, and we spend some time outside each day doing different team building activities. Each child is provided with a t-shirt and swag bag at the end of the week. We also provide kids with one snack and lunch throughout the day. We have been honored to work with the Childrens Board over the last few years to host Summer Camps at the Training Center. However, we see a need to pilot additional camps at other times of the year. We want to help families not stress about where their child will go by providing camps during <u>Thanksgiving Camp for children with Special Needs</u> , Length: 3 days and <u>Winter Camp</u> , Length: 4 days.					16,200							

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Tampa Kiwanis Foundation, Inc.	StoryWalk	The StoryWalk project would increase access to literacy in a fun way for school readiness. Kiwanis will collaborate with Hillsborough County Park and Recreation as well as City of Tampa for park access at Ruskin Community Park, Seffner/Mango Community Park, Carrollwood Village Park (Tampa), and Rowlett Park (Sulphur Springs). Stories will rotated and be available in English and Spanish.					73,232							
More Health Inc.	Healthy and Safe Kids	Provide health and safety education to children and parent/caregivers, through a “Week of Wellness” at 25 preschools to develop healthy lifestyle habits and reduce the risk of unintentional injuries for young children.								98,983				
Tampa Heights Junior Civic Association	THJCA's Garden and Art Wellness Program	Serve kindergarten to fifth grade children to support their academic and self-esteem development, and provide their parents/caregivers with the community resources and practical applications.								85,769				

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Just Initiative	The Zone	Provide in depth holistic support in the areas of academics, social/emotional competence, health/safety knowledge, socialization, connection to basic needs and enriching resources for children experiencing homelessness or poverty. This happens through group activities, one on one, individual education advocacy, and guiding parents to resources.								100,000				
Bay Area Legal Services, Inc.	Family Housing Stability	Provide wrap around social services to establish sustainable housing stability through holistic assistance to stabilize children's homes, contributing to their healthy development.								51,938				

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The Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay, Inc.	Healthy, Safe, and Sound Initiative	The purpose of the Healthy, Safe, and Sound Elementary Initiative is to 1) provide necessary after-school and summer academic and enrichment support for elementary school students to develop nurturing and healthy habits and 2) provide parents/guardians with resources and support to strengthen stability and overall wellness by hosting and/or facilitating parent events and/or workshops.										187,996		
Housing Authority of the City of Tampa	Youth Success	Youth Success will serve 100 elementary school children from low to moderate income families living on or near the THA properties with year-round afterschool and summer programming.										238,330		

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Florida Education Fund, Inc.	FEF CodeMasters	Strategic Initiative Expansion: FEF CodeMasters provides HOST and Tampa Parks after school and summer children hands-on opportunities to learn to code and create with technology, to develop skills need to pursue and succeed in the jobs of the future, and to explore exciting science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics (STEAM) careers.										82,536		
Florida Education Fund, Inc.	FEF CodeMasters County Wide	FEF CodeMasters provides HOST and Tampa Parks after school and summer children hands-on opportunities to learn to code and create with technology, to develop skills need to pursue and succeed in the jobs of the future, and to explore exciting science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics (STEAM) careers.										131,407		

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Seniors in Service of Tampa Bay, Inc.	Readers in Motion 2	Readers in Motion improves literacy, resiliency, character and life skills, and parent/caregiver involvement for economically disadvantaged, minority children ages 5-8 in kindergarten through 3rd grade by providing intensive tutoring from trained, culturally relevant, aged 55+ volunteers and family engagement activities so they can succeed in school and in life.										208,105		
Nonprofit Leadership Center of Tampa Bay, Inc.	Certificate I Leadership	30 Nonprofit professionals working in Hillsborough County (CBHC funded and non CBHC funded organizations) that have a total operating budget of \$3 million or less.					16,500							
G3 Life Applications Inc.	Capacity Building	G3 Life Applications, Inc. is a 501 © 3 non-profit holistic mentoring organization that focuses on training, motivating, and empowering our youth by cultivating the Spiritual, Mental, and Physical attributes and qualities of All of our participants.	9,981											

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Learn Tampa Bay dba Achieve Plant City	Capacity Building	Achieve Plant City provides early childhood classes to children ages 2 to 5, offers reading and homework assistance to children in elementary grades, provides developmental screenings to children birth to 60 months, works with parents of the children served by providing adult literacy classes and parenting education.		10,000										
Oasis Network of New Tampa Inc.	Capacity Building	OASIS provides clothing and hygiene items to students in all 250 schools in Hillsborough County. OASIS request technology to improve our data collection and communication for staff/volunteers in four clothing sites around the county and five programs. OASIS requests two metal clothing bins to collect donated clothing for students.	9,872											

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The Skills Center Inc.	Capacity Building	The Skills Center uses the power of sports to level the playing field for children, youth, and young adults in education, health, and workforce training. The Skills Center provides sports-based youth development to help participants reach their full potential.	10,000											
Community Roots Collective Inc.	Capacity Building	Empowering families through education, resources, and love. Join us for support groups, educational classes, and workshops, fostering a community that sustains and uplifts every family. Together, let's navigate the challenges of parenting and build a foundation for a thriving future.	9,999											
Just Initiative	Capacity Building	Capacity Building for Just is going to impact all of the areas of our agency to strengthen us and improve efficiency with the training and technology improvements and fundraising support. In turn, this will improve our capacity and ability to serve families well in Hillsborough County for years to come.		10,000										

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PACE Center for Girls	Capacity Building	Build capacity in marketing and fund development in order to launch a capitol campaign. This includes engaging the services of consultants to lay the foundation for fundraising and assist with the marketing phase.	10,000											
Dana Shores Civic Association, Inc	Capacity Building	Skyway Park Children's Playground Music Enhancement will allow children of all ages and capabilities to experience the joy of playing music at one of Hillsborough County's most frequented parks.	7,436											
Florida 1.27 Inc.	Capacity Building	Florida 1.27 connects, encourage, and equip churches, organizations, families, and individuals to serve vulnerable children in crisis. This proposed program is an improved marketing strategy and assistance with its execution to help secure new funding opportunities from individual donors and cultivate existing donor relations towards growth.	9,600											

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Salesian Sisters	Capacity Building	The SYC is an after school and summer program for ages 5 – 18 years old that keeps kids off the streets and in programs like tutoring, sports programs, homework assistance, etc. Partnering with Boys & Girls Club, they provide staff and the Salesian Sisters of Tampa provides everything else.	9,950											
The Sylvia Thomas Center for Adoptive and Foster Families	Capacity Building	The purpose of this request is to develop an Educational Toolkit for Adoptive Families that will help guide adoptive parents in seeking the most appropriate services and supports for their children throughout their educational careers.	2,874											
New Life Village Inc.	Capacity Building	This proposal would support the secure storage of resident documentation.	10,000											
Solita's House Inc.	Capacity Building	Solita's House, Inc. (SHI) is nonprofit 501©(3) organization whose mission is to promote personal and community development by providing access to affordable financial products and development services to low-income persons so that they can achieve financial health and wealth in all areas of their lives.	8,917											

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Joshua Way of Hope	Achievers	The Achiever’s program offers parenting classes and personalized training for students in grades (3 to 8), enhancing social behavior and academic skills. Parents and students learn stress management, conflict resolution, and family communication techniques. Includes case management, creating an educational family support plan, providing referrals, services and monitoring academic progress.											900,000	
Children's Home Network	Caregiver Support Services of Hillsborough County	CSS will provide clinical and wraparound family support to caregivers and their families to help prevent child abuse and neglect through “respite” (short-term) in-home services and will serve children between the ages of 0-13 who have physical disabilities, socials-emotional challenges, or developmental delays/disabilities and their caregivers experiencing serious situational stressors.											670,320	

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The Skills Center Inc.	Middle School Youth Opportunity	Middle School Youth Opportunity (YO) will provide middle school youth with sports-based youth development to support academic success, build durable skills, and improve physical and mental well-being. Parents/caregivers will participate in activities to support their youth's development.											529,399	
The Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay, Inc.	After Zone Initiative at Giunta Middle School	The After Zone Initiative at Giunta Middle School will provide necessary before, during, and after-school and summer academic and enrichment support for middle school student who are struggling with learning loss, area at-risk of failing a class, and/or will not be promoted to the next grade.											244,593	
ReDefiners World Languages, Inc.	Multilingual Citizens Program (MCP)	Multilingual Citizens Program (MCP) provides free language classes for Hillsborough County parents/caregivers, children ages 5-11, youth 12-14 and professionals serving families learn Arabic, English, Mandarin or Spanish for 8-12 weeks at several community centers and schools across the county.											384,328	

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ReDefiners World Languages, Inc.	Academic Achievers	<p>This program is designed to support literacy development among K-5 students who are below grade level, currently enrolled at Mort elementary, within the community of the ReDefiners' Center and those served by the Family Enrichment Center.</p> <p>This program has expanded in partnership with Hillsborough County Department of Aging Services and with additional funding from AmeriCorps STATE, administered by Volunteer Florida to serve additional students and recruit a broader range of AmeriCorps Member Tutors that are age 18+.</p>							55,521					
Children's Museum of Tampa, Inc., d/b/a Glazer Children's Museum	FY 2024 Spring & Summer Passports	<p>Offering Camp Imagination full day for one week during Spring Break and eight weeks during Summer for children 5-10 years of age for a total of 47 slots.</p> <p>Camps include a t-shirt, bag, supplies and two snacks per day.</p>			14,042									

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Lightning Foundation, Inc.	FY 2024 Spring & Summer Passports	Offering a full day multi-sport camp at the Training Center for one week during Spring Break and three weeks during Summer for children enrolled in first through eighth grade for a total of 132 slots. Camps include shirt, swag bag, training, lunch, snacks.			47,280									
Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI)	FY 2024 Spring & Summer Passports	Offering full day, hands on STEAM camp for one week during Spring Break and eleven weeks during Summer for children 5-14 years of age for a total of 120 slots. Camp includes early drop off, late pick up, all materials needed and a shirt.			28,780									
Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center, Inc.	FY 2024 Spring & Summer Passports	Offering full day, performing arts camp for six weeks during Summer for children 6-14 years of age for a total of 59 slots. Camp includes early drop off and late pick up.			28,320									
Tampa Theatre	FY 2024 Spring & Summer Passports	Offering full day, filmmaking camp for six weeks during Summer for youth ages 11-14 for a total of 8 slots. Camp includes snacks, lunch, digital copies of finished films, t-shirt, early drop off and late pick up.			2,400									

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Lowry park Zoological Society of Tampa, Inc. d/b/a ZooTampa at Lowry Park	FY 2024 Spring & Summer Passports	Offering full day, camp dedicated to rescue, rehabilitation, and care for animals for nine weeks during Summer for children in Kindergarten through eighth grade for a total of 106 slots. Camp includes lunch, snacks, shirt, group photo, water bottle, early drop off and late pick up.			37,134									
TOTAL			98,629	20,000	157,956	-	105,932	-	55,521	336,690	-	848,374	2,728,640	-
Total Approved			4,351,742											
Total Current Requests			-											

Good News

from our funded partners

**Regular Board Meeting
February 1 2024**



Children's Board
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

www.ChildrensBoard.org

University of South Florida Board of Trustees

Hillsborough HIPPY Parent Involvement Project



Ashley Riley, Assistant Coordinator with Hillsborough HIPPY Parent Involvement Project (HHPIP), wanted to recognize one of her amazing HIPPY parents. Vanessa has been in the program for two and a half years, enrolled through HIPPYCare. HIPPYCare is a pilot that works with licensed family childcare homes where both the provider and parent engage in activities to prepare the child for early success in school. Vanessa's son attends the wonderful family childcare home of Mrs. Ramona Ervin-Robinson, who is a great provider to work with. He has been in the FCH since he was two years old when Vanessa began her journey of pursuing a career in law enforcement as a 911 dispatcher.

While working full-time, she enrolled herself in courses to pursue her passion to become a police officer. She worked tirelessly day and night, working super early and late in the evenings for many months. Through all of that, she remained a committed parent, always working closely with Mrs. Ramona and me by reading to her son daily, checking on his progress often, and always willing to work with him on his activities each week. He is very bright and has learned many things so far in HIPPY. He is almost finished with the Year Two (age four) curriculum, and his favorite subject is Math.

I am proud to share that Vanessa officially became a Deputy Sheriff for the Hillsborough County Sheriff in December 2023!

Congratulations!

University of South Florida Board of Trustees

Hillsborough HIPPY Parent Involvement Project

The first HIPPY group meeting of 2024 was a huge success. The theme was "A Winter Wonderland," and the Florida weather was the perfect chilly temperature! One hundred and forty participants (140) braved the cold to meet a real-life author and illustrator of the featured book "Too-Small Tyson." They were able to have their books personalized by the author and illustrator. In addition, they participated in interactive activities focused on mathematics, fine motor control, gross motor development, sensory discrimination, and following directions. They even played and danced in the snow! This event was the kickoff for our "100 Books in 100 Days Reading Challenge." Each year, families recruit other family members and friends to read with the HIPPY kids during the challenge. It has become a big competition among families. Each year, participants have increased the number of books read and logged during the challenge. Over the past three years, HIPPY families have read 75,082 books in 300 days! In 2021, they logged 16,627 books. In 2022, there were 26,118 books logged, and in 2023, 32,347 books were logged. Let's see if HIPPY families can read and log 40,000 books in 2024!... CHALLENGE ON!



Girl Scouts of West Central Florida

Girl Scout Troop Program

January was an exciting time for our Girl Scouts funded by the Children's Board of Hillsborough County as this marked the official start of our cookie season. The Girl Scout Cookie Program is where girls learn the following five skills in preparation for hosting a cookie booth:

- Goal setting
- Decision-making
- Money management
- People skills
- Business ethics

The girls accomplished these skills by participating in multiple activities where they learned about the details of the cookies along with tips to run their cookie business. They learned how to set goals, promote their product, talk to customers, and sell their product successfully. They brainstormed ideas for what to use the money they earn toward and reviewed math skills on how to use cash to purchase different combinations of cookie amounts while role-playing as both the customer and the seller. All our sites will host their cookie booths between the end of February and the beginning of March. Please check our website for information about all public booths:

<https://www.gswcf.org/en/cookies/about-cookies/find-cookies.html>

The girls—your Cookie CEOs—would greatly appreciate all support!

Pictured are girls from Jackson Heights Troop #96060.



Seniors in Service of Tampa Bay

Readers in Motion



December brought an exhilarating wave of joy and excitement to Readers in Motion! In an unprecedented move, a cheerful Elf embarked on a mission to deliver our annual Winter Activity Book to all Readers in Motion classrooms at Oak Grove Elementary. The atmosphere was electric as teachers and students welcomed this spirited character. Elf Natalie personally handed out delightful goodies to each student and motivated all children to keep reading and learning over Winter Break!

As part of our purposeful tradition, Readers in Motion creates engaging Winter Break Activity Books—these are individualized activity books for each grade level served, Kindergarten through Second. We distribute Activity Books to all students in participating classrooms to keep

them engaged and prevent learning loss over Winter Break. Activity Books are packed with over 30 dynamic activities each, including Math, Reading, and Science activities specific to each grade level. They offer a variety of entertaining tasks, from tracing letters and identifying shapes to exploring number lines, food groups, sight words, short stories, and more!

This initiative not only challenges students but also INVOLVES PARENTS! Parents consistently share appreciation and enthusiasm for our Readers in Motion Winter Break Activity Books as they offer an easy go-to educational activity to work on over Winter Break. This aids in a smooth transition back to school in January. The positive feedback from parents highlighted how the Activity Books kept their children entertained, prevented boredom and misbehavior, fostered continued engagement with learning, and instilled excitement to complete the activities—especially with the promise of an incredible STEM prize at the end!

Thanks to the support of the Children's Board of Hillsborough County, Readers in Motion continues to weave memorable moments into each student's life, making learning an exciting journey for all.



ReDefiners World Languages, Inc.

Multilingual Citizens Program (MCP)



As January unfolded, the Let's Learn Spanish class at ReDefiners World Languages embarked on an exhilarating linguistic journey, bringing the magic of language learning to life. Led by the dynamic instructor, Mariluz, and fueled by the enthusiasm of our amazing kids, the class dove into a world of words, conjugations, and joyous exploration.

Mastering Vocabulary and Conquering Verbs: A Linguistic Adventure Unfolds.

In the heart of our Let's Learn Spanish class, students found themselves on a linguistic adventure, mastering vocabulary and conquering the art of conjugating verbs related to placement and location. From the kitchen to the bedroom, each room transformed into a treasure trove of new words waiting to be discovered.

As the month progressed, the class delved into the intricacies of the Spanish language. Through interactive lessons and engaging activities, our little linguists explored the house, uncovering the richness of language hidden in everyday spaces. The kitchen, the bedroom—each room became a canvas for linguistic creativity.

The classroom echoed with the joy of learning as our young linguists not only absorbed new words but also experimented with them in real-life scenarios. The excitement of discovering language was palpable, turning each lesson into a journey of exploration and cognitive growth.

Let's catch a glimpse of the excitement in class. The images capture more than just words on a page; they encapsulate a vibrant learning atmosphere where curiosity and laughter intertwine. It's not merely a lesson; it's a shared adventure of discovery.

As we reflect on the highlights of January, the Let's Learn Spanish class emerges as a beacon of language exploration and joyous learning. The vibrant atmosphere, the dedication of our instructor Mariluz, and the boundless curiosity of our young linguists create a perfect recipe for educational success. As we step into February, the adventure continues, promising even more linguistic discoveries and moments of pure joy in the world of language and fun.



Outreach Calendar of Events

The Children's Board will have a presence at the following community events. Contact Dexter Lewis, Director of Public Relations, at lewisbd@childrensboard.org for more information about a particular event.

February

- 02.23.24 **Securing Their Future**
Barkdale Community Center
1801 North Lincoln Avenue, Tampa
05:00 pm - 10:00 pm
- 02.24.24 **77TH Annual Fiesta Day**
Ybor City Chamber of Commerce
7th Avenue, Tampa
11:00 am - 6:00 pm

March

- 03.04.24 **2024 Strawberry Festival Parade**
17 Plant City High School Auditorium
One Raider Place, Plant City
1:00pm Parade Begins
- 03.05.24 **Children's Board Free Tuesday**
Glazer Children's Museum
110 West Gasparilla Plaza, Tampa
10:00 am-5:00 pm
- 03.16.24 **Junior League of Tampa Family Health Day**
University Area Community Development Corporation (UACDC)
14013 North 22nd Street, Tampa
10:00 am-1:00 pm
- 03.23.24 **WEDU - Family Fun Day**
Local Public Radio Station – WEDU
1300 North Boulevard, Tampa
9:30 am-2:30 pm