

Indian River County Florida

*Indian River County Administration Complex
1800 27th Street, Building B
Vero Beach, Florida, 32960-3388
www.indianriver.gov*



Children's Services Advisory Committee



Meeting Minutes - Final

MARCH 11, 2025

Committee Members

Miranda Swanson, IRC Health Department Ex Officio	Bob McPartlan, DCF – Ex Officio
Michelle Morris, District 2 Appointee	Bob Schlitt, Jr., Member-at-Large Appointee
Katie Mieras - District 3 Appointee	Jeffrey Andros- District 4 Appointee
Amber Cerda – Member at Large	Hope Woodhouse, District 5 Appointee
Doug DeMuth – Financial Appointee	Hon. Rebecca White, Judge Circuit 19 Ex Officio
Eric Flowers, Law Enforcement Ex Officio	David Moore, IRCS Superintendent
Frank Isele – Hospital District Appointee	David Bailey, District 1 Appointee

VACANCY – Member At Large

Commissioner Susan Adams, BCC Liaison – Chair

CSAC STAFF:

Cindy Emerson, IRC Community Services
Ms. Maya Miller, IRC Community Services
Megan Kendrick, IRC Human Services
Robert Catapano, Human Services

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Commissioner Susan Adams, Chair called the March 11, 2025, meeting of the Children Services Advisory Committee to order at 3:00 P.M.

2. **ROLL CALL**

15 Voting Members / 8 for Quorum

Members Present

Commissioner Susan Adams, BCC Liaison, Chair
Amber Cerda, Member at Large
Bob Schlitt, Jr., Member at Large
Doug DeMuth, Financial Appointee
Sheriff Eric Flowers, Law Enforcement Ex-officio
Frank Isele, Hospital District Appointee
Miranda Swanson, Administrator Health Department Ex Officio
Robert McPartlan, Vice Chair, DCF Ex Officio
David Bailey, District 1 Appointee
Michelle Morris, District 2 Appointee
Katie Mieras, District 3 Appointee
Jeffrey Andros, District 4 Appointee
Hope Woodhouse, District 5 Appointee

Members Absent:

Dr. David Moore, Superintendent, School District IRC, Ex-Officio
Hon. Rebecca White Circuit 19 Ex-Officio

Also Present:

Cindy Emerson, Community Services Director
Megan Kendrick, Human Services Manager
Robert Catapano, Human Services
Ms. Maya Miller, Community Services
Michael Zito, Deputy County Administrator
Chris Hicks, Assistant County Attorney
Paige Lester, GIS
Bob Auwaeter

3. **QUORUM WAS MET**

4. **ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Commissioner Adams deleted the Conflict of Interest Policy until the April meeting to give the County Attorney Office more time to prepare the information.
Hope Woodhouse has a comment regarding the last meeting.
A motion was made by Mr. Jeffrey Andros and seconded by Ms. Amber Cerda to approve the additions and deletions. The motion carried unanimously.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES - November 12, 2024**

A motion was made by Ms. Michelle Morris and seconded by Mr. Robert McPartlan to approve the Minutes for February 11, 2025. The motion carried unanimously.

6. **COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR REPORT**

- Community Impact: Reported by Mrs. Megan Kendrick and Ms. Paige Lester provided updates on the GIS heat map. Updates & changes to the map are a work in progress.
- Communication and Engagement: Reported by Mrs. Kendrick & Mr. Robert Catapano

- Fiscal Responsibility and Governance: Reported by Mr. Catapano providing the most current drawdown report.

7. **OLD BUSINESS**

- 2025/2026 Agency Funding Request Projection presented by Mrs. Kendrick & Mr. Catapano
- Site Visit Update reported by Mrs. Kendrick; Mr. DeMuth reported his feedback on the site visit to The Learning Alliance; he questioned what should be done to provide a better product. He thinks they are doing a decent job. CSAC Staff will formulate the topic around early learning/kindergarten readiness for the next Community Forum on April 15. Mr. Catapano read a letter from Mrs. Caryn Toole with very positive feedback from the site visit to The Learning Alliance Moonshot Families.
- Comment by Hope Woodhouse – In response to the dialogue about CSAC Staff's input during the last Committee meeting, Ms. Woodhouse shared that CSAC Staff is providing metrics and measures as requested by the Committee.

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

- CSAC Member request to speak regarding Grant Subcommittee Structure – presented his concern about the conduct of Mr. Bob Schlitt. *A motion was made by Mr. Andros to remove Bob Schlitt as chair of the CSAC Grants Subcommittee and the motion failed due to lack of a 2nd to the motion.*
- Return on Investment and Research Informed Decisions – presented by Mrs. Cindy Emerson. Further discussion by the Committee. Commissioner Adams suggested making early learning outcomes topic as an agenda item for a robust discussion. Mrs. Emerson suggested bringing his question up at the next Community Forum. Kindergarten Readiness Collaborative information will be provided by Hope Woodhouse. Mrs. Emerson confirmed that the current ROI with staff report is what will be presented to the BOCC before the funding recommendation.

9. **CSAC COMMUNITY UPDATES**

- Law Enforcement Update – Sheriff Flowers reported below 400 inmates and partially accredited it to CSAC programs.
- School District Data Update –. Dr. Schafte reported connecting families to focus groups for their strategic plan which is anchored in innovation and leadership; Dr. Moore will present a Townhall Meeting to present and discuss the SDIRC Strategic Plan.

10. **CSAC SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES**

Needs Assessment – Hope provided the next meetings and new members, updating data. Mrs. Emerson stated that 2 members resigned from the committee. Mrs. Katie Mieras asked when the application process would open for applications of new committee members.

Grants Subcommittee – Mr. Schlitt reported that the subcommittee had training on E-cImpact. The meeting on March 17 has been cancelled and after March 31 the Grants Subcommittee will begin reviewing the grant applications.

11. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No comment from the public.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

No further comments, the meeting was adjourned at 4:24PM by Commissioner Susan Adams.

A recording of this meeting is on file at the office of Community Services Department and available upon request.

NEXT MEETING: APRIL 8, 2025, AT 3PM

Prepared By Recording Secretary: Ms. Maya Miller