



## Finance & Operations Committee Meeting

Thursday, May 7, 2026  
3150 S.W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue – 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
The Children's Trust – Training Room  
9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

### Board of Directors

Kenneth C. Hoffman  
Chair  
Pamela Hollingsworth  
Vice-Chair  
Hon. Norman S. Gerstein (Ret.)  
Treasurer  
Luis E. Suarez, J.D.  
Secretary

Laura Adams  
Islamiyat Nancy Adebisi  
Daniel Armstrong, Ph.D.  
Matthew Arsenaault  
Alex Auguste  
Daniel Bagner, Ph.D.  
Hon. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall, Ph.D.  
Cathy Burgos  
Silvia Castellanos  
Norie del Valle  
Lourdes Diaz  
Gilda Ferradaz  
Gioia Ploy Gentile  
Hon. Norman S. Gerstein (Ret.)  
Lourdes P. Gimenez  
Valrose Graham  
Mindy Grimes-Festge  
Osmani Gonzalez  
Hon. Keon Hardemon  
Malou C. Harrison, Ph.D.  
Iliia Molina  
Laurie Weiss Nuell  
Benjamin Nussbaum  
Clara Lora Ospina, Psy.D.  
Hon. Orlando Prescott  
Hon. Alex Rizo  
Hon. Isaac Salver  
Alfred Sanchez  
Miriam Soler Ramos, J.D.

David Lawrence Jr.  
Founding Chair

James R. Haj  
President & CEO

County Attorney's Office  
Legal Counsel

## AGENDA

- 9:30 a.m. **Welcome and opening remarks**  
Hon. Norman S. Gerstein (Ret.)  
*Committee Chair*
- 9:35 a.m. **Public Comments**  
Hon. Norman S. Gerstein (Ret.)  
*Committee Chair*
- 9:40 a.m. **Approval of March 5, 2026, Finance & Operations Committee minutes summary**  
*(Addl. Items packet, Pg. 2-3)*  
Hon. Norman S. Gerstein (Ret.)  
*Committee Chair*
- 9:45 a.m. **Review of 5-year Budget Cycle**  
Hon. Norman S. Gerstein (Ret.)  
*Committee Chair*
- 10:00 a.m. **Review of Infrastructure and System Controls**  
Hon. Norman S. Gerstein (Ret.)  
*Committee Chair*  
James R. Haj  
*President & CEO*
- 10:55 a.m. **CEO Report**  
James R. Haj  
*President & CEO*
- *Young Talent Big Dreams Finals – Saturday, May 9, 2026 @7:00 p.m. Miracle Theatre 280 Miracle Mile Coral Gables, FL 33134*
  - *The Children's Trust Family Expo event: Miami-Dade County Fair & Exposition Arnold Pavillion – August 1, 2026 (10901 SW 24 Street Miami, FL 33165)*
  - *Monthly Financial Statements*
  - *Quarterly CEO Report*
- 11:00 a.m. **Adjourn**

### Reminder:

**Next Committee Meeting: Thursday, June 4, 2026**

The public is allowed to comment on a specific agenda item but must register with the Clerk of the Board prior to being allowed to comment.



**Finance & Operations Committee Meeting  
Summary of Actions Taken  
March 05, 2026  
9:30 a.m.**

**These actions were taken by the Finance & Operations Committee meeting held on March 05, 2026:**

**\*Please note that the number of board members fluctuate based on arrival and departure of some of them throughout the meeting.**

**Public comments – none.**

**Motion to approve January 08, 2026, Finance & Operations committee meeting minutes was made by Alex Auguste and seconded by Benjamin Nussbaum. Motion passed unanimously, 10-0.**

**Presentations/Discussions:**

**Presentation of ACFR 2024-2025 by Eddy Castañeda of Forvis Mazars, LLP  
Florida Legislative Update provided by Michelle Watson of FACCT pertaining to property taxes**

**Resolutions:**

**Resolution 2026-A: Motion to recommend the resolution to the Board of Directors on March 16, 2026, was made by Hon. Norman Gerstein and seconded by Alfred Sanchez.** Authorization to negotiate and execute contract renewals with five vendors, identified herein, for advertising creative, public relations, media buying, and community outreach, in an amount not to exceed \$2,216,000.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2026, and ending on September 30, 2027, with two annual renewal options at the sole discretion of The Children's Trust. **Motion passed unanimously, 11-0.**

**Resolution 2026-B: Motion to recommend the resolution to the Board of Directors on March 16, 2026, was made by Alfred Sanchez and seconded by Dr. Daniel Armstrong.** Authorization to pay SIJ Holdings, LLC d/b/a The McClatchy Company, LLC, parent company of the Miami Herald, for services rendered by the Miami Herald to advertise The Children's Trust's Truth in Millage rate, board vacancies, and other advertisements related to funding announcements, activities, initiatives, events, and programs, and to waive the formal competitive procurement process [2/3 vote]. In addition, authorization to enter into agreements with SIJ Holdings, LLC d/b/a The McClatchy Company, LLC, parent company of the Miami Herald, for Silver Knight and Spelling Bee sponsorships. In a total amount not to exceed \$70,000.00, for a term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2026, and ending September 30, 2027. **Motion passed unanimously, 11-0.**

**Resolution 2026-C: Motion to recommend the resolution to the Board of Directors on March 16, 2026, was made by Dr. Daniel Armstrong and seconded by Hon. Norman Gerstein.** Authorization to release competitive solicitations for program evaluation and community research services, in an amount not to exceed \$1,600,000.00, to externally evaluate Trust-funded initiatives and community impact, for a term of 16 months, commencing June 1, 2026, and ending September 30, 2027, with up to four annual 12-month contract renewals, subject to annual funding appropriations. Authorization to secure additional funding for these services from other sources through partnership agreements, grant applications, and other mechanisms of fund development. **Motion passed unanimously, 11-0.**

**Meeting adjourned at 10:16 a.m.**

**THE CHILDREN'S TRUST**  
**President/CEO**  
**Agreements - < / = \$50,000**  
**January 1, 2026 through March 31, 2026**

<b>Qty</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b># Served</b>	<b>Final Agreement Amount</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Promote Citizen Engagement and Leadership</b>				
1	Amplify Community Resources		\$10,000.00	Family resource initiative
2	Black Girls Who Math Inc		\$9,000.00	School year program
3	Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese		\$10,000.00	Family awareness event
4	Miami-Dade County		\$5,000.00	Countywide partnership initiative
5	Wilner Maxy Community Center		\$15,000.00	Summer program
		<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$49,000.00</b>	
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$49,000.00</b>	
	<b>Program</b>	<b>Total Funded</b>	<b># Agreements</b>	
	Promote Citizen Engagement and Leadership	\$49,000.00	5	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$49,000.00</b>	<b>5</b>	