

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 5TH FLOOR MANATEE ROOM  
1112 Manatee Avenue West  
Bradenton, Florida  
November 19, 2025**

Present were:

Xtavia Bailey, Chairperson  
Carolann Garafola, (entered during meeting)  
Hon. Scott Brownell, (entered during meeting)  
Heather Felton  
Graham Ledger  
Laurie McCracken, (entered during meeting)  
Cassandra Mitchell  
Connie Shingledecker  
Debbie Tapp  
Kristin Gallagher

Absent were:

Jannon Pierce, Vice-Chairperson  
Rita Smith

One seat is vacant.

Also present were:

Kristi Hagen, Children's Services Coordinator  
Melissa Bomar, Senior Human Services Analyst  
Brenda Marquez Facio, Human Services Analyst  
Denis Gunic, Human Services Analyst  
Mark Dillon, Senior Human Services Analyst  
Hannah Bishop, Deputy Clerk, Clerk of the Circuit Court

1. Chairperson Bailey called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**AGENDA/SIGN-IN SHEET**

CS20251119DOC001

2. **ROLL CALL**

A quorum was declared.

3. **MINUTES**

A motion was made by Member Ledger, seconded by Member Shingledecker, and carried 7-0, with Vice-Chairman Pierce, and Members Brownell, Garafola, McCracken, and Smith absent, to approve the minutes of October 15, 2025.

4. **FLORIDA AFTER SCHOOL**

Liliana Murphy, Florida After School, utilized a slide presentation reviewing Florida After School, vision, mission, what we do, the team, partners, National Affiliation, why after school matters, standard for quality programs, resources, agency membership, Florida After School Learning Academy, course catalog, adult and child (CPR), training records and departments, and stay connected.

(Enter Members Brownell and McCracken)

Discussion ensued regarding the program's limited availability across counties in the State, funding, list of providers, current participating Counties, mental health components, licensing and program requirements, accreditation, and tracking metrics and outcomes.

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(Enter Member Garafola)

5. **MANATEE SCHOOL DISTRICT CASSIE D'ADDEO, CERTIFIED SCHOOL COUNSELOR/504 CASE MANAGER**

Cassie D'Addeo, Manatee School District, Certified School Counselor and 504 Case Manager, utilized a slide presentation reviewing an overview, Florida Resiliency Education, tier one, implementation of resiliency standards, infusing resiliency education in the classroom, daily community circles, restorative practices within a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) framework, why restorative practices matter, within schools, restorative practice can be informal or formal, student leadership, alignment of tier one supports to discipline matrix, year to year comparison, grade level year to date, targeted behaviors, resiliency education and restorative practices take time, whole team approach, and references.

Discussion ensued regarding parent notice, handle with care for each student, parent component and response rates, the counselor's role and related processes, how schools are selected to receive a counselor, resiliency education and school funding for these services.

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6. **EMERGENCY FUNDING CONSIDERATION**

**The Boys & Girls Clubs of Manatee**

Dawn Stanhope, Boys and Girls Club, reported a new location at the Rubonia Community Center has been established and requested that services be extended to the Center.

Luis Goff, Rubonia Community Association, shared a story illustrating the program's impact on students.

Discussion ensued regarding the history of programs at Rubonia Community Center, Boys and Girls Club audit report, compliance documentation, the purpose and use of emergency funding, program purposes, hurricane-related impacts to the center, Genesis Youth program, and concerns with emergency funding approvals.

(Depart Member Felton)

A motion was made by Member Brownell and seconded by Member Garafola, to recommend \$182,322 to Boys and Girls Club, Great Futures Start Here, to provide services at the Rubonia Community Center.

The motion carried 8-1, with Member Ledger voting nay, and Vice-Chairman Pierce, and Member Smith absent.

There being no public comments, Chairperson Bailey closed public comments.

7. **EMERGENCY FUNDING PROCESS**

Kristi Hagen, Children's Services Coordinator, reviewed the Children Services Advisory Board (CSAB) emergency funding requests and requirements, requested the process be evaluated by a subcommittee, clarified funding is limited to existing programs, and addressed the definition of emergency.

8. **REVIEW DRAFT OF ANNUAL REPORT**

Kristi Hagen, Children's Services Coordinator, reviewed the annual report for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024, 2025, and 2026 recommendations, and reported the annual report will be presented on December 2, 2025, to the Board of County Commissioners.

Discussion ensued regarding approval of the annual report, surplus funding, BOCC meeting date and time, and subcommittee purposes.

9. **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS/UPDATES**

There were no Commissioner comments.

10 **STAFF UPDATES**

Brenda Marquez Facio, Human Services Analyst, had no updates.

Denis Gunic, Human Services Analyst, had no updates.

Melissa Bomar, Senior Human Services Analyst, stated wrapping up the end of Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 and executing FY 2026 contracts, assisting new staff, completed creating the Annual Plan, and working on annual reviews and materials for the annual legal seminar.

Mark Dillon, Senior Human Services Analyst, stated ending FY 2025 and starting FY 2026 contracts.

Kristi Hagen, Children's Services Coordinator, noted the BOCC meeting scheduled for December 2, 2025, December 5, 2025, is the non-profit agencies meeting, and requested CSAB representation at both meetings.

11. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chris Hehn, President, Manasota Soccer League, shared the purpose of the program, and the funding.

There being no further public comments, Chairperson Bailey closed public comments.

12. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will occur January 21, 2026, at 3:00 p.m., in the Manatee County Administrative Building, 1112 Manatee Avenue W, Bradenton, in the 5th Floor Manatee Room.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Chairperson Bailey adjourned the meeting at 5:20 p.m.  
Minutes Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

