



THE COMMUNITY AND CHILDREN'S RESOURCE BOARD
OF ST. CHARLES COUNTY
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
February 23, 2026

Meeting Location: F.A.C.T. located at 2240 Bluestone Drive, St. Charles, MO 63303

Meeting Called to Order: The meeting was called to order at 8:33 a.m.

Roll Call and Guests:

Present: Molly Dempsey, Ken Dobbins, Jon Cunningham (via Zoom), Robert Freund, Jr., Vicky Huesemann, Larry Marty, Daniel Ploesser, Nancy Schneider, and Catherine Williams (via Zoom)

Staff: Melinda McAliney, Michelle McElfresh, and Anna Muhm

Staff Absent: Taylor Carson and Jeanne Spencer

Guests: Steven Blair and Rick Daleen (Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Charles County); Colleen Suber (CHADS Coalition for Mental Health); Jim Wallis (Chestnut Health Systems, Inc.); Lauri Choate (Child Care Aware of Missouri); Samara Mitchell (Community Council of St. Charles County); Brittney Moss (Community Living, Inc.); Lori Davila, Jake Krafve, Brian Martin, and Katrina McDonald-Fuller (Compass Health Network); Heather Lytle and Rachel Svejkosky (Family Advocacy and Community Training); Cassie Esswein (Family Forward); Andrew Berhorst (Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition); Katelyn Hentrich (Lutheran Family and Children's Services of Missouri); Andrew Loiterstein (NAMI St. Louis); Melinda Monroe (Nurses for Newborns); Denise Fondren (Our Lady's Inn); Kelly Broeker and Beth Sailors (Preferred Family Healthcare); Kelly Wieser (PreventEd); Katie Corrigan (St. Louis Crisis Nursery); Brittany Morgan (The Care Service); Freda Clemons (The Child Advocacy Center of Northeast MO); Katie Lyczak (The Sparrow's Nest); Heather Derix (UMSL Center for Behavioral Health); and Kelly Hantak (United 4 Children)

Approval of the Minutes: An error in the Draft of the January 26, 2026, Board Meeting minutes was found on page twelve (12). A column listing the 2024 Budget was incorrectly printed. The column was removed from the draft minutes.

A motion was made to approve the corrected January 26, 2026, Board Minutes.
(M.S.: Dempsey/Huesemann) - Motion passed unanimously.

Partner Agency Spotlights:

- **The Boys and Girls Club of St. Charles County:** Steven Blair, Director of Resource Development, and Rick Daleen, Director of Club Operations, provided an overview of agency services, including CCRB-funded programs and related impact data. Their programs help children build confidence and strengthen both academic and social skills. They shared several success stories demonstrating these positive outcomes and highlighted two significant challenges facing the organization: limited transportation options and the shortage of affordable housing.
- **CHADS Coalition for Mental Health:** Colleen Suber, Chief Program Manager, provided an overview of agency services, including CCRB-funded programs and recent impact data. She noted rising reports of self-harm, disordered eating, and anxiety among youth, with many concerns tied to family financial stress. Key challenges for the agency include limited staff capacity - particularly support staff - and the constraints of time, both of which contribute to staff burnout. Colleen also shared a success story demonstrating the positive outcomes of their work.
- **Child Care Aware:** Lauri Choate, Director of Training, presented an overview of agency services, including CCRB-funded programs and related impact data. She highlighted strong outcomes among early childhood caregivers, noting significant reductions in feelings of isolation and increased understanding of child abuse/neglect prevention strategies as a result of program participation.
- **FamilyForward:** Cassie Esswein, Contracts Manager, presented an overview of agency services, including CCRB-funded programs and recent impact data. She reported that caregivers are increasingly overwhelmed by the complex needs of their children, challenges related to food/eating, and communication barriers with non-English-speaking families. A significant challenge for the agency is the shortage of trained respite staff, which limits their ability to provide adequate support and contributes to caregiver strain. Cassie also shared a success story demonstrating the positive impact of the agency's work.

Public Comment: No Public Comment.

Report of the Chair: No Report of the Chair.

Approval of the Revised December 2025/2025 Year End Statements: The CCRB previously allowed Partner Agencies to submit reimbursement requests for services provided in the prior calendar year, a practice known as back billing. After consultation with the CCRB's auditor and outsourced accountant, it was determined that all reimbursement requests for 2025 services must be submitted no later than February 9, 2026. A total of \$95,208.37 in services was back billed. To

accurately reflect these amounts, both the December 2025 and Year-End 2025 financial statements were fully restated. This restatement has delayed the 2025 audit process. The CCRB’s back-billing policy will be reviewed later in 2026.

A motion was made to approve the revised December 2025/2025 Year-End Financial Statements as presented.

It was further moved to approve allowing the following programs to spend more than budgeted in 2025, using funds budgeted to be released in 2026. (M.S.: Schneider/Marty).

Agency	Program	Amount Above 2025 Budget
Megan Meier Foundation	Counseling	\$37,714.33
United Services for Children	Behavior Intervention Program	\$11,526.26

Motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report: Daniel Ploesser, Treasurer, reported on the financial statement ending January 31, 2026. The following balances were reported:

General Fund	
Revenue	Actual
Actual tax revenues	\$ 914,320.22
Investment Income	\$ 11,931.77
Refund of Taxes	\$ -
Total Revenue	\$ 926,251.99
Expenses	Actual
Admin. & Acctg Exp.	\$ 60,441.61
Services Requests	\$ 950,594.46
Total Expenses	\$ 1,011,036.07
Transfer to ARPA Fund	\$ (1,185.00)

Balance Sheet	
Total Current Assets	\$ 5,761,832.83
Fund Balance	\$ 4,698,040.57

ARPA Fund	
Revenue	Actual
ARPA Revenue	\$ 12,658.52
Total ARPA Revenue	\$ 12,658.52
Transfer from Gen. Fund	\$ 1,185.00
-	-
Expenses	Actual
Admin. & Acctg Exp.	\$ 1,185.00
Services Requests	\$ 12,658.52
Total ARPA Expenses	\$ 13,843.52

A motion was made to approve the Financial Statements for the month ending January 31, 2026. (M.S.: Freund, Jr./Marty) – Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made to approve a wire-transfer for \$1,107,429.00 for the month of January 2026. (M.S.: Freund, Jr./Dempsey) – Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made to approve a wire-transfer for ARPA for \$12,658.52 for the month of

January 2026 (M.S.: Freund, Jr./Marty) – Motion passed unanimously.

All CCRB invoices and bills paid were completed with 100% accuracy.

Melinda McAliney reported that due to the additional back billing by Partner Agencies, utilization for December 2025 changed, from the 51% reported at the January Board Meeting to 59%. The 2025 Year End Utilization was up slightly from 74% to 75%, also due to back billing.

The utilization for month of January 2026 was 129%. Many Partner Agencies submitted more than the expected one-sixth of their Contract Agreement. Revenue for January 2026 increased 0.11% over January 2025, due to some funds from St. Charles County being released that were not budgeted. Without those funds, the Revenue for January 2026 was -.1%. Ken Dobbins reminded Partner Agencies with outstanding ARPA funds to utilize those funds.

Report of Standing Committees:

- Executive: Ken Dobbins reported the Executive Committee met to prepare for today's meeting.
- Finance: Daniel Ploesser reported the Finance Committee met to prepare for today's meeting.
- Personnel: No report.
- Policies and Procedures: No report.

Report of Executive Director: Melinda McAliney reported:

- **Funding Process:** Staff have been busy reviewing Group 2 funding applications and meeting with agencies to review their applications.
- **Administration:** Melinda continued working with the auditors on the 2025 audit and updating the employee handbook.
- **Community Engagement:** Staff engaged in a variety of community meetings and events.
- **HB2379:** Missouri House Bill 2379 would allow counties to place a sales tax measure on the ballot to support childcare quality and affordability. If approved by voters, the tax would be administered by the county's Children's Services Fund, where one exists; in St. Charles County, this responsibility would fall to the CCRB. Vicky Huesemann will monitor the bill's progress and provide updates to the Board.

Old Business:

- **Subcommittee Assignments for Group 2:** The committee assignments will be shared with the Board later this week.

- **Conflict of Interest Forms:** The Board and staff have completed the internal CCRB forms.
- **Committee Preferences:** The Committees of the Board have been assigned based on policies or preferences provided as follows:
 - Executive Committee: Ken Dobbins, Jon Cunningham, and Daniel Ploesser
 - Finance Committee: Ken Dobbins, Jon Cunningham, and Daniel Ploesser
 - Personnel Committee: Vicky Huesemann and Nancy Schneider
 - Policy and Procedures Committee: Larry Marty and Catherine Williams
 - Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Committee: Jon Cunningham, Molly Dempsey, and Robert Freund, Jr.
- **Missouri Ethics Commission Filing:** Melinda reminded the Board to complete the MEC filing by May 1, 2026, to avoid any fines. A copy of the completed forms or the email confirmation needs to be sent to the CCRB office so it can be forwarded to the St. Charles County Registrar.

New Business:

- **Revised 2026 Budget:** The approved changes to the December 2025 and 2025 Year-End Financial Statements impacted the amount of funds remaining at the end of 2025 for several programs. This then changed the amount of funds that rolled over and are available to spend in 2026, resulting in the need to adjust the 2026 Budget to document the changes.

A motion was made to approve the Revised 2026 Budget as presented (see Appendix A). (M.S.: Huesemann/Ploesser) – Motion passed unanimously.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion. Motion passed.

Dobbins	Yay	Dempsey	Yay	Marty	Yay
Cunningham	Absent	Freund, Jr.	Yay	Schneider	Yay
Ploesser	Yay	Huesemann	Yay	Williams	Yay

- **Contract Agreement – Chestnut Health Systems:** A motion was made to approve the following revision to the Unit of Service and Unit of Measure in Chestnut Health Systems, Inc.’s Contract Agreement for the period July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027 due to an error in the original Contract Agreement:

Current

Unit of Service	Unit of Measure
Educational Presentation – Hour	Hour

Revision

Unit of Service	Unit of Measure
Educational Presentation – Single Presenter	Presentation

The Unit Rate will remain the same at \$359.15.

(M.S.: Dempsey/Ploesser) – Motion passed unanimously.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion. Motion passed.

Dobbins	Yay	Dempsey	Yay	Marty	Yay
Cunningham	Absent	Freund, Jr.	Yay	Schneider	Yay
Ploesser	Yay	Huesemann	Yay	Williams	Yay

Announcements:

- Katrina McDonald Fuller from Compass Health Network, announced the purchase of a new building that will be available for agencies to use for large meetings later this year. She also announced Brian Martin is leaving the agency and introduced Lori Davila, Senior Director of Innovation and Special Projects, and Jake Krafve, CFO.

Closed Session: A motion was made for this meeting to be closed, and that all records and votes, to the extent permitted by law, pertaining to and/or resulting from this closed meeting be closed for the following purposes:

- Discuss sealed bids and proposals and related documents or any documents related to a negotiated contract pursuant to Missouri Revised Statutes, Section 610.021 (12).

(M.S.: Ploesser/Freund, Jr.) A roll call vote was taken on the motion. Motion passed. The meeting entered Closed Session at 9:41 a.m.

Dobbins	Yay	Dempsey	Yay	Marty	Yay
Cunningham	Absent	Freund, Jr.	Yay	Schneider	Yay
Ploesser	Yay	Huesemann	Yay	Williams	Yay

Return to Open Session: The meeting returned to Open Session at 11:40 a.m.

Adjournment: A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 11:42 a.m.

(M.S.: Ploesser/Dempsey) – Motion passed unanimously.

DRAFT



**APPENDIX A:
2026 CCRB Budgets**

REVISED 2.23.2026



**COMMUNITY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES BOARD
GENERAL FUND BUDGET
1.1.2026 - 12.31.2026**

Revenue	Annual (Jan - Dec 2026) Budget	Notes
Taxes	\$ 10,569,025.27	
Investment Income	\$ 200,000.00	
Refund of Taxes	\$ (45,000.00)	
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 10,724,025.27	
Expense/Program	Annual (Jan - Dec 2026) Budget	Notes
Accounting	\$ 28,900.00	2025 actual = \$25,550.00
Administration	\$ 779,002.99	
Contracts 1.1.26 - 6.30.26	\$ 8,851,025.56	
Contracts 7.1.26 - 6.30.27	\$ 4,950,000.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 14,608,928.55	
 REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES	 \$ (3,884,903.28)	
 Transfer to ARPA Fund*	 \$ (31,633.74)	
 Subtotal Change in Fund Balance	 \$ (3,916,537.02)	
 Less Contracts 1.1.26 - 6.30.26 Anticipated Underutilization	 \$ 2,478,287.16	Expect to <u>not</u> utilize 28% of 2026 budgeted amount
Less Contracts 7.1.26 - 12.31.26 Anticipated Underutilization	\$ -	Expect to fully spend 2026 budgeted amount
 TOTAL ANTICIPATED CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	 \$ (1,438,249.86)	

* Includes: Accounting expenses - \$14,220 + contracts above ARPA award - \$17,413.74

**COMMUNITY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES BOARD
ADMINISTRATION BUDGET
1.1.2026 - 12.31.2026**

Account	Total 2026 Budget	
Salaries	\$	403,346.21
Payroll taxes	\$	33,276.06
Benefits - Health, Life, LTD, & Staff Health Deductible	\$	56,554.32
Benefits - Retirement	\$	24,200.77
Consulting	\$	115,830.00
Equipment/Furniture	\$	500.00
Finance	\$	7,790.00
Audit	\$	20,188.00
Insurance	\$	6,873.02
Investment Fees	\$	10,000.00
IT (reclassified in 2025)	\$	34,847.61
Phone/Internet	\$	4,960.68
Website	\$	3,142.00
Marketing	\$	1,800.00
Agency Engagement (new in 2025)	\$	1,000.00
Memberships/Subscriptions	\$	1,719.10
Rent	\$	31,500.00
Supplies & Postage	\$	4,400.22
Travel/Meals	\$	6,000.00
Training	\$	2,250.00
Board Operations (reclassified in 2025)	\$	825.00
Contingency/Miscellaneous	\$	8,000.00
TOTAL	\$	779,002.99

COMMUNITY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES BOARD
SERVICES CONTRACTS
1.1.2026 - 6.30.2026

Organization Name	Program Name	Total 2026 Budget Revised
Bethany Christian Services	Safe Families for Children	\$ 4,305.60
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Missouri	1:1 Mentoring	\$ 6,840.78
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Missouri	Group Mentoring	\$ 1,383.39
Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Charles County	Healthy Lifestyles	\$ 43,024.95
CHADS Coalition for Mental Health	Family Support	\$ 60,953.63
CHADS Coalition for Mental Health	Signs of Suicide (SOS)	\$ 36,140.45
CHADS Coalition for Mental Health	Social Emotional Wellbeing	\$ 33,149.61
Chestnut Health Systems Inc.	Project Access	\$ 9,314.35
Child Care Aware of Missouri	Protecting Children	\$ 8,321.15
Community Council of St. Charles County	Coordinated Entry	\$ 2,124.37
Community Living, Inc.	Respite Center	\$ 9,486.43
Community Living, Inc.	SOAR	\$ 5,045.60
Compass Health Network	Autism Support Services	\$ 34,053.04
Compass Health Network	Partnership with Families	\$ 22,022.61
Compass Health Network	Pinocchio	\$ 13,508.19
Compass Health Network	School-Based MHS	\$ 57,959.36
Compass Health Network	Violence Prevention	\$ 15,103.30
Cornerstones of Care	Functional Family Therapy	\$ 33,376.47
Cornerstones of Care	On-site Mental Health	\$ 94,047.37
Crisis Aid International, Inc.	Children's Anti-Exploitation Partnership	\$ 55,198.75
Eleventh Circuit Court	Therapeutic Supervised Visitation	\$ 79,365.00
Epworth Children and Family Services	Epworth Psychological Services	\$ 16,013.33
Epworth Children and Family Services	Family Support Network	\$ 17,474.80
Family Advocacy and Community Training	Educational Advocacy	\$ 27,862.13
Family Advocacy and Community Training	Family Support	\$ 47,678.43
FamilyForward	Counseling	\$ 41,813.45
FamilyForward	Occupational Therapy	\$ 87,739.10
FamilyForward	Therapeutic Early Childhood Center	\$ 59,550.80

Organization Name	Program Name	Total 2026 Budget Revised
Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition	30 Days to Family	\$ 44,554.59
Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition	Educational Advocacy	\$ 8,576.50
Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition	Family Works	\$ 7,534.42
Gateway Alliance against Human Trafficking	Breaking the Chains	\$ 64,388.76
Kids Under Twenty One	Suicide Safety	\$ 74,739.70
LINC St. Charles County	Crisis Intervention	\$ 27,131.00
Lutheran Family & Children's Services	Mental Health Counseling	\$ 87,138.52
Megan Meier Foundation	Counseling & Support Center	\$ 71,396.90
Megan Meier Foundation	School Attendance Initiative	\$ 7,678.24
NAMI St. Louis	Crisis Intervention Team	\$ 14,174.55
NAMI St. Louis	Ending the Silence	\$ 17,270.00
NAMI St. Louis	Mental Health Presentations	\$ 4,264.00
Nurses for Newborns	Nurse Home Visitation	\$ 167,471.66
Our Lady's Inn	Family Strengths	\$ 105,755.00
Partners In-Kind	Psychological Evaluations	\$ 188,247.95
Preferred Family Healthcare	Addiction is Real	\$ 14,311.25
Preferred Family Healthcare	O/P Substance Use Treatment	\$ 860,812.05
Preferred Family Healthcare	Team of Concern	\$ 406,760.67
PreventEd	Prevention First	\$ 27,299.80
Saint Louis Counseling	Counseling	\$ 63,730.15
Saint Louis Counseling	Psychiatry	\$ 17,726.05
Saint Louis Counseling	School Partnership Program	\$ 80,846.13
SSM Health Care St. Louis	Youth & Family Services	\$ 99,376.19
St. Louis Crisis Nursery	Family Empowerment Program	\$ 64,032.39
St. Louis Crisis Nursery	Healing Hearts Outreach	\$ 28,227.95
St. Louis Crisis Nursery	Respite Care	\$ 276,858.07
The Care Service	Children and Family Development	\$ 128,587.77
The Child Advocacy Center of NE MO	Child Abuse Prevention	\$ 265,000.00
The Child Advocacy Center of NE MO	Forensic & Advocacy Services	\$ 240,588.75
The Child Advocacy Center of NE MO	Mental Health Therapy	\$ 114,000.00

Organization Name	Program Name	Total 2026 Budget Revised
The Sparrow's Nest	Childcare Cooperative	\$ 55,965.32
TREE House of Greater St. Louis	Equine-Assisted Services	\$ 49,050.00
UMSL Center for Behavioral Health	Psychological Evaluations	\$ 171,844.64
United Services for Children	Behavior Intervention Program	\$ 137,761.30
Youth In Need	Crisis Intervention	\$ 27,781.70
Youth In Need	Emergency Shelter	\$ 249,488.40
Youth In Need	Mental Health Counseling	\$ 951,973.75
Youth In Need	Transitional Living Program	\$ 325,825.00
TOTAL		\$ 8,851,025.56

COMMUNITY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES BOARD
SERVICES CONTRACTS
7.1.2026 - 12.31.2026

Organization Name	Program Name	Total 2026 Budget*
Chestnut Health Systems	Project Access	\$ 10,796.65
Cornerstones of Care	Functional Family Therapy	\$ -
Eleventh Circuit Court	Therapeutic Supervised Visitation	\$ 30,144.72
Epworth Children and Family Services	Family Support Network	\$ 8,555.03
Epworth Children and Family Services	Epworth Psychological Services	\$ 11,320.32
FamilyForward	Therapeutic Services	\$ 128,106.45
Lutheran Family and Children's Services	Mental Health Counseling	\$ 94,809.85
Megan Meier Foundation	Counseling & Support Center	\$ 103,328.33
Megan Meier Foundation	School Attendance Initiative	\$ 5,870.54
Our Lady's Inn	Family Strengths	\$ 100,149.99
Partners In-Kind	Psychological Evaluations	\$ 53,081.88
Saint Louis Counseling	Outpatient Mental Health Services	\$ 77,291.52
SSM Health Care St. Louis	Youth & Family Services	\$ 23,631.41
TREE House of Greater St. Louis	Equine-Assisted Services	\$ 3,002.94
UMSL Center for Behavioral Health	Psychological Evaluations	\$ 93,723.31
Youth In Need	Crisis Intervention	\$ 8,028.91
Youth In Need	Emergency Shelter	\$ 49,084.31
Youth In Need	Mental Health Counseling	\$ 390,020.93
Youth In Need	Transitional Living Program	\$ 158,281.01
Subtotal		\$ 1,349,228.06
To Be Awarded		\$ 3,600,771.94
TOTAL		\$ 4,950,000.00

* Represents 50% of Total Contract. This amount is shown in 2026 General Fund Budget.

NOTE: As funds are awarded to programs in Groups 2 and 3, this budget will be updated to reflect approved contract amounts.

COMMUNITY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES BOARD

ARPA FUND

1.1.2026 - 12.31.2026

Total 2026 Budget

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REVENUES		
ARPA REVENUES	\$	35,668.37
EXPENDITURES		
ACCOUNTING SERVICES	\$	14,220.00
AUDIT	\$	-
CHADs		
DANGERS OF MIND CURRICULUM	\$	87.50
PREFERRED FAMILY	\$	-
O/P CURRICULUM	\$	7,655.36
SHELTER ELECTRICAL/ELEC. RECORDS	\$	-
TOC CURRICULUM/LAPTOPS/GREEN SPACE	\$	8,666.30
O/P TX TRAINING AND TECHNOLOGY	\$	7,402.97
FLOORING AND DOORS	\$	178.05
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CENTER	\$	2,318.32
TOC - PAY INCREASES	\$	888.58
O/P TX TREATMENT - PAY INCREASES	\$	15,273.78
ST. LOUIS COUNSELING		
FURNITURE, LAPTOPS, AND SUPPLIES	\$	589.71
TRAINING	\$	21.54
TREEHOUSE		
SECURITY CAMERAS	\$	10,000.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$	67,302.11
REVENUE (OVER)UNDER EXPENSES	\$	(31,633.74)
TRANSFER IN FROM GENERAL FUND*	\$	31,633.74

* NOTE: The 3% administrative cap was met in early 2025. Since then this expense has been transferred over from the General Fund each month. Further when the Board approved additional ARPA contracts in September 2024, the Board approved more in contracts than there were available ARPA funds. The Board agreed to pay these additional funds from CCRB's General Fund.

Funds transferred in from General Fund includes: Accounting expenses - \$14,220 + contracts above ARPA award - \$17,413.74.