

## **Children's Services Council**

Thursday, February 6, 2025 5:30 PM Okeechobee County School Board Conference Room (303)

## AGENDA

- 1. Welcome
- 2. Additions or Deletion Approval of Agenda
- 3. Approval of Minutesa) Meeting December 9, 2025
- 4. Approval of Financial Statements
  - a) October 2024 January 2025
  - b) Budget vs. Expenditures
- 5. Discussion on possible CD
- 6. Conflict of Interest Forms
- 7. Logo Presentation Prosper Noggin Students
- 8. Special Project Requests:
  - a) Florida Rebels Basketball \$14,670
  - b) Elite Athletic Group Baseball \$41,260.00 (Received \$34,244.00 2024)
  - c) 863 Powerhouse Inc. Volleyball \$20,000.00
- 9. Discussion on Committees (Need one Council member per committee)
  - a) Summer Programs March 11, 2025
  - b) Scholarship Committee March 12, 2025
  - c) RFP Committee June 5, 2025
- 10. Other Dates:
  - a) Summer applications released February 5, 2025
  - b) Deadline for summer applications March 4, 2025
  - c) Scholarships received March 6, 2025
  - d) RFP applications due April 24, 2025
- 11. New Priority Focus:

6) Program Service Area: Educational Enrichment and Tutoring

**Problem**: The Council perceives the need for programs that address academic achievement gaps and promote equitable educational opportunities for children and youth in the community. Many children, particularly those from underserved or vulnerable populations, such as Economically disadvantaged students, students from each major racial/ethnic group, and children with disabilities, face barriers to academic success, such as lack of access to quality tutoring, enrichment activities, and foundational skills support. These challenges hinder school readiness, grade-level proficiency, and long-term educational outcomes, creating a cycle of disadvantages. The council seeks to invest in solutions that foster academic growth, confidence, and engagement, ensuring every child has the opportunity to thrive.

**Target:** Programs designed to provide high-quality tutoring, educational enrichment activities, and academic support for children and youth will be prioritized. Proposals that focus on improving literacy, numeracy, critical thinking skills, and school readiness through evidence-based or innovative strategies are highly encouraged. Preference will be given to initiatives that demonstrate measurable outcomes, such as improved test scores, grade progression, and increased student engagement. Collaborations with schools, families, and community organizations to maximize program impact and sustainability are strongly encouraged. Programs that address the holistic academic needs of children while promoting lifelong skills and closing opportunity gaps will align with this priority area.

12. Open Discussion

13. Next Meeting Date: scheduled for March 13, 2025