



Finance Committee Meeting

May 23, 2011

Budget actions for FY 10/11 and 11/12

Item IV.

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- Recommended Action:**
1. Approve up to \$900,000 for the Child Care Executive Partnership (CCEP) match for child care slots.
 2. Approve the implementation of a Family Services Pool. Allocate up to \$453,600 through September 30, 2011. Allocate up to \$450,000 for PEMHS Master Case Managers (Navigators)
 3. Approve the FY 11/12 program budget as presented at the May Board meeting.
 4. Approve a FY 11/12 millage rate of .9500.
- Issue:** Budget actions for FY 10/11 and 11/12
- Programs:** **Programs impacted as a result of this action include: Carlton Manor, the Emergency Response Team (PEMHS), Post Detention Coordination (PEMHS), Coordinated Child Care (administration only), Truancy Programs (Sixth Judicial, Family Resources, Inc. and City of St. Petersburg), Adolescent Residential Treatment (Operation PAR, Inc.), Adults Mentoring Children (Gulf Coast Community Care), Big Brothers Big Sisters and Healthy Families (Pinellas County Health Department).**
- Budget Impact:** The program budget would be reduced from \$41,830,791 to \$39,477,714 as a result of these actions and recommendations. Nine hundred thousand dollars (\$900,000) would be generated from State Match as a result of the CCEP action. The Family Services Pool would be funded with projected lapse funds in FY 10/11. An annualized figure for the pool will be proposed at the June Board meeting pending the outcome of the Finance Committee discussion.
- Strategic Plan Goal:** Further implementation of the Board's three focus areas: School Success, School Readiness and Child Maltreatment prevention.
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Background:

The Child Care Executive Partnership (CCEP) is a public/private partnership program that was created by the Florida Legislature in 1996 to help employers meet the needs of a growing segment of their workforce - working parents. This program leverages a relationship between businesses and families who want to work and succeed. The primary purpose is to expand the availability of child care options for working families by providing incentives for employers to contribute to meeting the needs of their employees' families by matching public dollars available for child care. There are three tiered priority areas: corporate, non-profit and

government match dollars. JWB has participated in this opportunity for years, doubling the number of child care slots available for 0-12 year olds with match dollars. Staff is recommending the match remain at \$900,000 despite the reduction in ad valorem revenues, because of the clear opportunity to bring additional dollars into Pinellas County. Staff is also approaching other governments in Pinellas to attract interest in this match opportunity. There are currently 3,388 children on the waiting list who have a working parent and a household income 150% of the poverty level or below. A family with a household size of 2, 3 and 4 would have income levels from \$22,065 to \$33,525.

At the May Board meeting, presentations were delivered on a Common Eligibility System (One-e-App), a pilot collaboration between the County and the Early Learning Coalition in Tarpon Springs and a Services Pool modeled on the Hillsborough Administrative Services Organization. The One-e-App is an innovative web-based tool designed to streamline enrollment in public programs. One-e-App's state of the art technology simplifies the enrollment process by allowing county staff and administrators to collect data from a family once, use that information to assess eligibility for multiple programs, and automatically populate application forms for those benefits. Information is then transmitted electronically instead of by mail. Compared to the traditional paper-based system, One-e-App was found to offer several advantages, including:

- A shorter application process;
- Reduced errors;
- Higher approval rates; and
- Increased staff efficiency.

The Tarpon project provides an opportunity for residents to access subsidized child care and county basic needs services simultaneously. This is the beginning of efforts to provide services to comprehensively support families' needs. As this project grows, at-risk families will be targeted and provided access to services throughout Pinellas County in a cost effective and efficient manner. These services should be the right services, delivered in a holistic manner seeking natural support in the community. Families would receive support from a master case manager to assure services are accessed at the right level, through a critical path method.

Services should be the right services, delivered in a holistic manner seeking natural support in the community. Ideally, families will receive support from a master case manager to assure services are accessed at the right level, through a critical path method. The Family Services Pool is a model designed to provide a broad range of at-risk families' access to comprehensive services available in Pinellas County. The system would be opened to service providers throughout the Community, rather than restricted to providers with a JWB funded contract. This model has been discussed with a number of service providers in the Executive Director's meeting and other forums, as a means to break down the silos created by individual contracts and allow the community to respond to critical community needs. The rise in homeless families, children in the child welfare system, prescription drug abuse and poor school performance in low-income populations all indicate the need for a services pool.

The model would be piloted, pending Board approval in June, for four months. Central Florida would provide increased utilization management. JWB would provide fiscal support and utilization review. Outcomes for all clients would be analyzed by the JWB research department. It is anticipated that 189 at-risk families would be served.

A presentation of this model will be provided at the Finance Committee meeting. The attachments to this memo are the materials that will be covered.

At the May Board meeting, staff recommended a number of program reductions and transfers under the rubric of:

- Outcomes – both contractual measurable objectives and individualized analysis based on actual outcomes from school, child welfare, juvenile justice and other systems.
- Return on Investment (ROI)
- Transition to primary prevention
- Shift toward prevention, transitioning to evidence-based programs

The following contracts are recommended for termination, reduction or transfer:

- Emergency Response Team (PEMHS)-FY 10-11 \$1.2k reduced by \$250k to \$982k in FY 11-12
 - Staff is exploring transferring ERT funding into the Family Services Pool with a transition beginning in 2012.
- Carlton Manor-FY 10-11 \$134k reduced to \$0 in FY 11-12
- Post Detention (PEMHS)-FY 10-11 \$350K reduced to \$0 in FY 11-12
- Teen Truancy Court (Sixth Judicial), Truancy Outreach (Family Resources, Inc.) and South County Truancy Interdiction Center (City of St. Petersburg)-FY 10-11 \$776k reduced to \$100k in FY 11-12.
 - Reserve \$100k for an interdiction center in St. Petersburg.
- Adolescent Residential Treatment (Operation PAR, Inc.)- FY 10-11 \$449k, new amount for substance abuse prevention to be determined in FY 11-12)
- Direct staff to negotiate with Gulf Coast Community Care and Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) to transfer an amount to be determined from the Adults Mentoring Children program (Gulf Coast) and the Violence Prevention program (Gulf Coast) to Big Brothers Big Sisters and a program to assist children aging out of the foster care system.
 - Staff is recommending additional funding for BBBS mentoring, which is a nationally recognized, evidence-based program. Gulf Coast Community Care is preparing a recommendation for replicating their program for foster children transitioning out of the system. Gulf Coast currently delivers this program in Broward County.
- Direct staff to negotiate with the Department of Health and the school system for a reduction in the Healthy Families program to transfer up to \$550,000 for a pilot Nurse Family Partnership program.
 - Nurse-Family Partnership is an evidence-based program recommended by Dell Elliott of University of Colorado's Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence and the Washington State Institute of Public Policy (WSIPP). This program has a documented high return on investment.
 - A Rand Corporation analysis found a net benefit to society (via welfare avoidance, reduction in crime/victimization, and savings to government) of \$34,148 per family served, equating to a \$5.70 return per dollar invested in Nurse-Family Partnership.
 - WSIPP's (2004) meta-analysis of the program found a return of \$2.88 of benefit per each dollar invested.
 - Even with the discrepancies in exact amounts, both studies show significant returns to the communities who invested in this model program.
 - Nurse home visitors work with families in their homes during pregnancy and the first two years of the child's life. The program is designed to help women improve their prenatal health and the outcomes of pregnancy; improve the care provided to infants and toddlers in an effort to improve the children's health and development; and improve women's own personal development, giving particular attention to the planning of future pregnancies, women's educational achievement, and parents' participation in the work force. Typically, a nurse visitor is assigned to a family and works with that family through the duration of the program.

In addition, staff is recommending cuts to both the JWB administration budget and CCC administration (no reductions in child care slots will result from this action). Other initiatives that have been reduced include the NFC services pool and other one-time-only funds, the Community Priorities Fund, the Model Pre-school (because the school system and St. Petersburg College are partnering with JWB on this project), the Early Learning Quality Initiative (because staff is recommending raising quality by transitioning into a best practices model for those JWB funded homes and centers).

Millage Discussion

Staff has met with the Early Learning Coalition and the City of St. Petersburg City Council and has requested a meeting with County Administration to discuss the opportunity to amplify child care and after school care with evidence-based curriculum for at-risk children. An increase in the millage rate to .9500 would provide \$2.6m in match funding to entice other funders to match dollar for dollar the Family Services Pool. These funds could potentially be used to match additional Child Care Executive Partnership state funds in December when unused funds from other counties are “swept” and reallocated. These entitled slots could be targeted, for example, for clients being served in county human services and for child care slots in recreation programs.

Legislative Property Tax Reform Efforts

During the 2011 legislative session, numerous bills were filed that would limit or place a cap on property tax assessments. Among them, HJR 381 will place a Constitutional amendment on the November 2012 ballot that asks voters to approve a constitutional amendment to lower property tax assessment caps on commercial property from 10% to 5% and prevent assessments on homestead property from going up when market values fall. In addition, the amendment would also provide buyers who have not owned a home in Florida within the last three years an additional exemption that would be phased out over five years or when the home is sold. The discount would equal 50 percent of the home’s assessed value, not to exceed 50 percent of the median home price in that county. While the non-homestead cap has a sunset provision of 2023, this bill will greatly inhibit the economic recovery efforts of all local governments. The Florida Association of Counties estimates the impact to counties from 2013-2017 to be \$1.4 billion.

Other legislative proposals that did not pass this year, but are poised for consideration next Session, include additional homestead exemptions or exemptions on commercial property that is leased gratuitously for a charitable purposes, and increases in the discount for early payment of property taxes while lowering the percentage of certified taxable value from 95 to 91 percent. Another Constitutional amendment would have prohibited increases in the assessed value of homestead property if the just value of the property decreases. In the House, PCB 11-04, sponsored by the Committee on Finance & Tax), proposed a committee joint resolution to limit the total of all ad valorem taxes and non-ad valorem assessments collected on any one parcel to 2 percent of the taxable value.

These and other legislative proposals are expected to pass in coming years. The aggregate affect will reduce the ad valorem tax collection to all levels of local government. Some of the proposals, such as the first-time home buyer provision in HJR 381 are nearly impossible to determine in terms of their impact.