



July Board Meeting Agenda
July 15, 2026, 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

1. **Introductions and Instructions**
Marsha Oliver, Board Chair
2. **Public Comments**
Public comments will be taken now for all items that will be voted on at the meeting. These comments should only be in reference to those action items below. A separate public comment time will be open at the end of the meeting for any general comments to be made by the public.
3. **Staff Spotlight**
Employee of the Month
4. **Approval of June Minutes**
Marsha Oliver, Board Chair
5. **Administrative and Strategic Updates Report**
Kenneth Darity, Chief Administrative Officer
Rodger Belcher, Chief Strategic Officer
6. **CEO Report**
Dr. Dana Kriznar, Interim Chief Executive Officer
7. **New Business**
 - a. Action Item: Lutheran Services Florida – Lease Agreement Renewal
8. **KHA Board Committee Updates**
9. **CEO Finalists Board Discussion**
10. **General Public Comments**
11. **Adjourn**



June Board Meeting Minutes
June 24, 2026, 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

1. **Introductions and Instructions**

Marsha Oliver, Board Chair

Ms. Oliver opened the meeting by reflecting on the upcoming 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, highlighting how a small group of individuals shaped the nation's future through a commitment to freedom, equality, and opportunity. Drawing a parallel to the KHA Board, she emphasized that board members, staff, and community partners are similarly working together to create better opportunities and outcomes for Jacksonville's children and youth.

Ms. Oliver encouraged attendees to pay close attention throughout the meeting, noting the importance of data-driven decision-making, learning about emerging issues affecting children and families, maintaining transparency and accountability, conducting a thoughtful CEO selection process, and fostering respect, collaboration, and continuous learning. She concluded by reaffirming the board's commitment to serving the community and ensuring that all children have the opportunity to thrive.

Board Members Present – Marsha Oliver, Lawrence Dennis, Carson Tranquille, Cynthia Nixon, Meredith Chartrand-Frisch, Josh Martino

Board Liaisons Present – Kristen Liesch, State Attorney's Office, Charles Ford – JSO, Terrance Freeman – City Council

Board Liaisons Absent – Mary Hickson – Public Defender's Office, Ana DeWese – DCPS, Reece Wilson - OGC

2. **Public Comments**

Ms. Oliver explained that public comments will be taken for all items that will be voted on at the meeting. These comments should only be in reference to those action items below. A separate public comment time will be open at the end of the meeting for any general comments to be made by the public. There were no public comments.

3. **Staff Spotlight**

Employee of the Month

Mya Lazo was recognized for consistently demonstrating exceptional dedication, a strong work ethic, and determination.

4. **Literacy Presentation**

Marcus Haile, Literacy Alliance of NE Florida

Marcus Haile, CEO of the Literacy Alliance of Northeast Florida, introduced the organization and its growing focus on family literacy. Formerly known as Learn to Read Jacksonville, the

organization was founded in 1969 to provide adult literacy tutoring and has evolved over the years to include English language learning, workforce development, and GED completion. Since Hale became CEO in 2019, the organization has shifted toward a comprehensive adult foundational education model, supporting learners from basic literacy through high school equivalency, job certifications, and career advancement.

5. **Provider Presentations**

Betty Burney, I'm A Star Foundation, Inc.
Tavianna Sanders, Pearls of Perfection, Inc.

Youth from the I'm a Star Foundation promoted the annual Celebrity Basketball Classic, taking place on July 11th at 6:00 p.m. at Jean Ribault High School. The event is a fundraiser to support students experiencing homelessness and features a basketball game between high school all-stars and local adult celebrities. Attendees were encouraged to come out, enjoy the event, and support an important cause benefiting local students.

Tavianna Sanders provided an overview of Pearls of Perfection Inc., which she co-founded in 2011. A nonprofit mentoring organization serving youth ages 9–19, the organization provides evidence-based programming that includes mentoring, extracurricular activities, field trips, college and career readiness, and workforce development opportunities. Each year, it serves more than 500 youth across 23 Title I schools, including nine elementary schools, ten middle schools, and four high schools.

6. **Approval of May Minutes**

Marsha Oliver, Board Chair

Board Chair Oliver asked if there were any revisions to the May minutes. Hearing none, she asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

Motion: Cynthia Nixon

Second: Josh Martino

Vote: 6-0

7. **KHA Board Committee Updates**

Carson Tranquille, Finance Chair, indicated that the committee met on June 18th at 11:00 a.m. with Cynthia Nixon, and Kevin Gay, joining him in attendance. Members voted to move forward the new business items on the agenda, including Youth Empowerment Services, Vision for Excellence and a lease agreement for Managed Access. The Vision for Excellence item, a direct grant from City Council, was presented for informational purposes only and did not require committee approval. Dr. Pitts also provided a report, which generated no issues or concerns.

Meredith Chartrand-Frisch, CEO Search Committee Co-Chair, stated that the committee met on June 18th with Josh Martino, Cynthia Nixon, Lawrence Dennis, Carson Tranquille, Kevin Gay, joining her in attendance. Employee Services presented the results of the candidate application and interview evaluations. Candidates selected for interviews were those who scored 20 points or higher on their applications, along with veteran applicants; one candidate withdrew before interviews began. The three candidates with the highest application scores also received the highest interview scores, and the committee voted to advance them to the next stage.

The next phase includes board presentations on July 9th, during which each candidate will deliver a 15-minute presentation based on a board-developed prompt, answer additional interview questions, and have 10 minutes to ask questions of the board. The committee also emphasized the importance of staff input by scheduling town hall sessions with each candidate at the KHA offices. Following those sessions, staff feedback will be gathered and presented by Lawrence Dennis during the board's discussion and potential vote on July 15. If no preferred candidate is identified after the presentations, the committee may revisit other highly ranked applicants from the application and interview process.

8. **New Business**

a. **Youth Empowerment Services (YES) RFP**

Dana Kriznar explained that the YES RFP supports the \$5.2 million allocated by the City Council to Kids Hope Alliance for youth workforce development programs.

Following discussion in the Finance Committee, two amendments will be made to the RFP. First, applicants will be required to have a minimum of one year of operating experience, addressing a recommendation that organizations demonstrate prior experience. Second, funds designated for participant performance bonuses—awarded upon obtaining employment or earning a credential—will be maintained in separate accounts from the base participant funding. These bonus funds will be allocated based on projected participant numbers, tracked independently, and reported separately to ensure transparency and accountability.

Ms. Oliver asked for a motion to approve this item before a discussion regarding the impact to staff.

Motion: Lawrence Dennis

Second: Cynthia Nixon

Vote: 6-0

Board Chair Oliver asked whether Kids Hope Alliance has the capacity to effectively manage the additional contracts associated with the new \$5.2 million Youth Empowerment Services initiative without overburdening staff.

Dr. Kriznar explained that the funding does not include resources for additional KHA personnel, so no new positions will be added at this time. While recognizing the increased workload, leadership has evaluated contract management responsibilities within the Workforce Development division and is working with Human Resources to ensure workloads remain balanced and staff are appropriately supported and compensated. She also noted that major staffing decisions will not be made until a new CEO is selected, allowing the incoming leader to help shape the organization's staffing structure. In the meantime, Dr. Kriznar expressed confidence in the team's ability to administer the RFP effectively.

Councilman Freeman added that significant budget cuts are anticipated next year but emphasized that the \$5.2 million Youth Empowerment Services funding is spread over three years, reducing the annual administrative impact on staff.

b. **Managed Access for Child Health, Inc. – Lease Agreement Extension**

Dr. Kriznar and Mr. Darity explained that this item involves a 6-month extension of the existing lease agreement between the City of Jacksonville and Managed Access for Child Health. The extension provides time for the required legislative approval process to be completed for a proposed additional four-year lease agreement. The intent is to maintain continuity of operations while securing approval for the longer-term lease arrangement.

Cynthia Nixon raised a concern about committing to a long-term lease with the possibility of future budget reductions. However, staff noted that the agreement includes a provision allowing the City to terminate the agreement if necessary. Staff also highlighted that Managed Access is a key partner on many grants and uses the lease arrangement as in-kind support, which is often required for federal grant funding. These considerations supported the recommendation to move forward with the lease agreement.

Motion: Carson Tranquille

Second: Josh Martino

Vote: 6-0

c. **Vision for Excellence, Inc. - City Council Direct Funded**

Dr. Kriznar explained that Vision for Excellence is a City Council direct-funded initiative that is being presented to the board for informational purposes only, as it does not require board approval. The program received a \$125,000 allocation from City Councilmember Rahman Johnson and operates out of McGirts Creek, providing after-school programming and a summer camp through December 31st.

Board Chair Oliver inquired and received confirmation that this grant requires KHA staff to manage, prompting her to ask about the impact to staff. She emphasized the importance of proactively monitoring workload and mitigating risks of errors while reinforcing that the organization's work reflects thoughtful planning, accountability, and a commitment to excellence in administering services.

Mr. Darity acknowledged that staff capacity is nearing its limit and said the organization is exploring creative solutions to address increasing workloads. These efforts include evaluating the addition of full-time positions to strengthen support and help manage growing caseloads, particularly within the Grants Department.

9. **Administrative and Strategic Reports**

Kenneth Darity, Chief Administrative Officer

Rodger Belcher, Chief Strategic Officer

Mr. Darity noted that the organization finished FY 2025–26 with 82% of reimbursements approved within the 14-day goal and is aiming to reach 85% this year. For the first month of FY 2026–27, reimbursement approvals are at 100%, with an average approval time of 4.59 days, well below the 14-day target.

Participant enrollment declined slightly from 10,726 in April to 10,593 in May, a decrease attributed to the end of the school year. Staff also provided updates on FY 2026–27 contract renewals indicating that nearly all after-school and summer programming contracts have been executed, with only one awaiting final signatures.

Mr. Belcher announced that a finalized Community Needs and Gap Analysis Report will be presented by NLP at the August board meeting. Board members will receive a draft report in advance, along with a survey link to provide written feedback and the opportunity to meet with NLP's principal investigator, Katie Bakewell, before the report is finalized.

He also shared that, following guidance from the GUIDE Committee, KHA is developing community feedback surveys on its SAMIS platform and website. These no-cost, 24/7 surveys will allow families to provide ongoing input, support long-term data tracking and reporting, and ensure the voices of community stakeholders play a key role in decision-making.

10. **CEO Report**

Dr. Dana Kriznar, Interim Chief Executive Officer

Dr. Kriznar provided an overview of the month's activities, including provider site visits and field trips, providers who were non-compliant in May, and May purchases by the CEO under Delegated Authority. She also provided an updated draft report on youth engagement which contained the following key points:

- KHA is leading a coordinated response to rising large-scale teen gatherings.
- Approach includes surveys, youth leadership input, interagency coordination, and community partnerships.
- Goal: Provide safe, youth-led, accessible alternatives that reduce unstructured gatherings.
- Work informed by 379-youth Snapshot Survey and insights from MYLAC, JSO, State Attorney's Office, and community leaders.

KHA and partners are responding by:

- Collaborating with Parks & Rec, including support for Hoops2Nite evening basketball
- Developing a citywide youth program inventory (rec, arts, music, esports, leadership, jobs)
- Meeting with Journey Forward on a youth-centered Teen Programming RFP
- Gathering input from MYLAC on youth-created events and late-night options
- JSO and State Attorney's Office emphasizing the need for early intervention, monitoring & safe alternatives, not just enforcement
- Reviewing national models (Tampa Stay & Play, Detroit Midnight Hoops, Chicago Youth Works, Boston employment strategies)

She concluded by reviewing the next steps and outlining an 18-month strategy focused on youth engagement.

11. **Board Discussion**

Board Chair Oliver shared that she and Dr. Kriznar recently met with the new CEO of the YMCA, who has been involved with the organization since childhood. The YMCA is hosting a Back-to-

School Bash for military families on July 25 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at multiple YMCA locations. Ms. Oliver noted the importance of supporting Jacksonville's military community and said the event information would be shared with Dr. Kriznar for broader distribution through KHA's communications channels.

Carson Tranquille inquired if KHA has conducted a staffing study to identify appropriate staffing levels to maintain efficiency, effectiveness, and, most importantly, the quality of services. He suggested establishing clear benchmarks for workload capacity and periodically reevaluating staffing needs—perhaps every two years—to ensure the organization can continue meeting its responsibilities. Dr. Kriznar offered to speak with the City of Jacksonville Human Resources Department to request a study and will follow up with the board regarding her findings. Mr. Tranquille proposed placing the topic on a future agenda and exploring funding options for the study if necessary.

Councilmember Freeman thanked the Kids Hope Alliance Board for its dedicated service, praising members for demonstrating integrity, fairness, and respect throughout difficult decisions, including the CEO selection process. Board Chair Oliver expressed appreciation for Councilmember Freeman's support and advocacy while emphasizing that the board's focus remains on serving children and improving outcomes for children and families through thoughtful, nonpartisan leadership.

12. General Public Comments

Rushil Parikh and Daksh Talati, both college students, introduced an AI-powered math learning platform they developed to expand access to personalized tutoring. The platform is designed to provide students with the benefits of individualized math tutoring at little to no cost, making high-quality academic support more accessible to children who may not otherwise be able to afford it. They expressed interest in partnering with Kids Hope Alliance to incorporate the app into KHA-funded summer camps and after-school programs, helping ensure more children have access to high-quality math instruction.

Marcia Brown, Executive Director of Teen Leaders of America, thanked Kids Hope Alliance for its support over the past decade and highlighted the organization's successful summer program, which is currently serving more than 140 teenagers with all six weeks at capacity. She noted that Teen Leaders of America is among the providers still awaiting execution of its Services contract and expressed concern about the financial strain of continuing operations while waiting for funding. Brown explained that the organization is relying on other funding sources to sustain Services and asked the board to consider any actions that could help expedite the contract process so the organization can continue serving youth, including those on its waiting list. Ms. Oliver expressed appreciation to Ms. Brown for her work and requested that staff follow up with her regarding the matter.

13. Adjourn

With no further business to discuss, Board Chair Oliver adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.



KHA Board Meeting

Interim CEO Report

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July 15, 2026



This Month's Provider Visits

- Tree Hill (Malivai Washington)
- Taste of Real Life Event at Florida Blue (CIS/High School)
- Tamika's School of Epicure (B&GC/Bridge)
- Historic Eastside Tour (Team Nitro)
- Jax Humane Society (Dayspring Baptist)
- Brentwood Golf Course (Tiffani Darshay Hollis)
- Jax Equestrian Center (CIS/duPont)
- Hands-On Children's Museum (BGC Biscayne)
- Ritz Theater (CIS Normandy Village)

Other Events



- Mayor's Early Learning Task Force Press Release
- Jacksonville Women's Center
- Jacksonville City Council Leadership Installation Ceremony
- Duval County July School Board Meeting
- Little Free Library Ribbon Cutting at Sallye B Mathis
- I'm A Star Celebrity Basketball Tournament



I'm A Star Celebrity Basketball Tournament **"Revenge Tour"**

Final Score:
71 - Students
44 - Celebrities

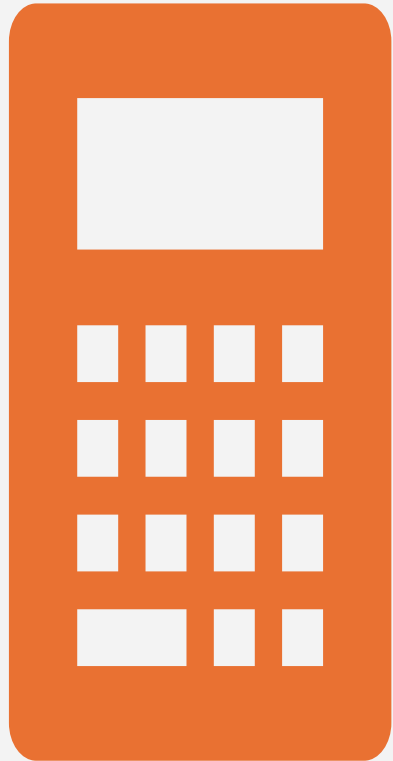
June Noncompliance List

Organization	Site Name	Compliance Issue	Resolution
America's Little Leaders (No Change)	America's Little Leaders	Certificate of Insurance (COI) issues and outstanding advance of \$7,439.10. Provider no longer responding to emails or phone calls.	Provider is no longer operating. Advance payback has been escalated to the City of Jacksonville Legal Department and the Council Auditor's Office for further guidance.
Boys & Girls Club (Recurring)	Citi Teen Center-Print Program	Third month in a row for this site with reimbursement documentation discrepancies. Staff identified an overlapping of program services being provided to participants in Print and the afterschool program.	Site will remain on a Corrective Action Plan. Reimbursement request will be modified, removing the units in question, plus a 25% penalty.
Boys & Girls Club (New)	Citi Teen Center-Culinary Program	Third month in a row for this site with reimbursement documentation discrepancies. Staff identified an overlapping of program services being provided to participants in Culinary and the afterschool program.	Site will remain on a Corrective Action Plan. Reimbursement request will be modified, removing the units in question, plus a 25% penalty.
Made A Way Foundation (No Change)	Made A Way Foundation	COJ Chapter 118 Non-Compliance List for Grants Compliance	Working with COJ and Provider to clear from COJ list. Holding on contract renewal for 2026-27.
West Jax Restoration Center (No Change)	West Jax Restoration Center	The required insurance was terminated prior to the policy expiration date – the COI as submitted requires revisions.	Updated COI has been submitted but requires revisions per COJ Risk.
YMCA (Recurring)	Teen Center – Inner Prize Program	Reimbursement documentation discrepancies. Duplication of sign-in sheets.	The Corrective Action Plan dated 2/19/26 will be extended and amended to include measures addressing the duplication of sign-in sheets. The reimbursement request will be revised accordingly, removing the affected units and reducing the total amount.

OIG Report: Made A Way Foundation (MWF)

- Previously investigated by OIG with the allegations:
 - Possible lapse of insurance
 - Lack of documentation for Level 2 background screenings
- OIG met with MWF and was provided all documentation
- On June 12, 2026, MWF placed on City's Noncompliance List
 - Lack of proper receipts – satisfied later by MWF
 - Failure to maintain separate bank account for City funding
- **Recommended Corrective Action:**
 - MWF should maintain workers' compensation policy
 - MWF must address the non-compliance issues before receiving any additional city funding

June Purchases by CEO under Delegated Authority



Vendor	Amount	Purchase	Purpose
Boys & Girls Club Print Shop	\$100.00	KHA Stickers	To place in books for the Little Free Libraries
Office Images	\$768.00	Cubicle Repairs	Repairs for cubicles in area leased by Managed Access
Florida Alliance of Children's Councils & Trust	\$1,650.00	Registration Fees	Fees for 3 staff to attend the 2026 Annual FACCT Meeting

All contracts listed above were executed under the authority delegated to the CEO by the Board. Each expenditure aligns with organizational priorities and complies with established procurement and financial policies.



Upcoming Meetings & Events

- July 17 – noon
 - *Krumpin' For Success Press Plug Beauty Bar Soft Opening*
- July 17 – 1:00 pm
 - *BGCNEFL Camp Deep Pond*
- July 22 – 1:00 pm
 - *Museum of Contemporary Art with IDEA BGCL*
- July 30 – 8:45 am
 - *FACES Camp Visit & River City Readers Bookmobile*

Save the Date...

- **July 18 from 10 am – 2 pm**
 - Unearth the Story – JPL Free Event
 - *Jacksonville Zoo & Gardens*
- **July 20 at 9 am**
 - Mayor's Budget Address
 - *City Council Chambers*
- **July 27 at 5 pm**
 - City Council Meeting
- **July 29 at 11 am**
 - Back to School Reading Party with Mayor Deegan
 - *San Pablo Public Library*
- **August 5 at 9:30 am**
 - KHA GUIDE Committee Meeting
- **August 8**
 - Historic Eastside Back-to-School Bash
 - *Matthew Gilbert MS*
- **August 11**
 - City Council Meeting
- **August 19**
 - KHA Governance Committee Meeting 9 am
 - KHA Finance Committee Meeting 2 pm

Mayor's Budget Town Hall Meetings

Date	Time	Location
August 5	6 pm	Ribault Sr. High School
August 13	6 pm	Julia Landon College Prep Middle School
August 19	6 pm	Fletcher High School
August 27	6 pm	Mandarin High School
September 1	6 pm	Ortega Elementary School
September 8	6 pm	Terry Parker High School
September 15	6 pm	First Coast High School
September 21	6 pm	Ed White High School

KHA Board Milestones



Governance

- Policy Review
- Youth Travel Trust
- New Data Security Policy
- Renewed Agreements
- Provider Visits
- Grants Policy



Fiscal Controls

- Audit waivers & extensions
- Delegated limits
- Monthly reports of delegated CEO expenditures
- 10% Budget Reduction Exercise



Transparency

- CEO Communication
- Gap & Needs Assessment
- CEO Search Process
- Stakeholder Input
- Noncompliance List
- Incorporation of Youth Voice

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8 Board Meetings

1 Special Board

1 Ethics

4 Governance

5 CEO Search

3 GUIDE

7 Finance



<https://youtube.com/shorts/eWXX91u628Q>

[https://youtu.be/4g9lX1bhZEE?
is=9R0TzyCF-ChvFKC9](https://youtu.be/4g9lX1bhZEE?is=9R0TzyCF-ChvFKC9)

Mission Moment

BOARD ACTION ITEM: LUTHERAN SERVICES FLORIDA, INC. – LEASE AGREEMENT RENEWAL

BOARD ACTION NUMBER: 26-025

CATEGORY: N/A

☐ **BOARD MEETING:** JULY 15, 2026

TO: KIDS HOPE ALLIANCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: DR. DANA KRIZNAR, INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

REQUESTED ACTION:

The Board is asked to approve the following:

1. Authorize Kids Hope Alliance (KHA) staff to execute a one-year renewal of the existing lease agreement, with two remaining renewal options. The proposed contract period is July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027.

NARRATIVE:

Lutheran Services Florida (LSF), Inc. currently occupies city-owned space under a lease administered by the Kids Hope Alliance. The most recent lease agreement expired on May 2, 2026. LSF continues operations in the space and has formally expressed its desire to remain a tenant. This renewal request is submitted in accordance with Ordinance 2025-437-E.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no anticipated change to the current fiscal terms.

OPTIONS:

- ☐ Vote to approve action item.
 - ☐ Decline to approve action item.
 - ☐ Vote to approve action item with amendments. If checked, the following amendment to the item is approved.
-

Board Secretary's Signature: _____
(In the event the Board Secretary is not present, the Board Chair may sign, and authority shall pass down accordingly.)

Print Name and Title: _____

Date: _____



Your feedback takes just **2–3 minutes** and helps improve programs serving Jacksonville's children and families.



Your feedback helps build stronger programs and brighter futures.



COMMUNITY MEMBERS

SCAN HERE



Share your perspective and help us build a stronger community for all children.



PROVIDERS & PARTNERS

SCAN HERE



Your insights help us improve services and strengthen collaboration.



PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS & FAMILIES

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Your experiences guide better programs and brighter futures.

WHY YOUR FEEDBACK MATTERS



Improves programs and services for children and families.



Ensures resources meet community needs.



Amplifies voices across Jacksonville's communities.



Supports data-driven decisions and accountability.



Builds a stronger, healthier future for every child.



Together, we're building a brighter future for Jacksonville's children.



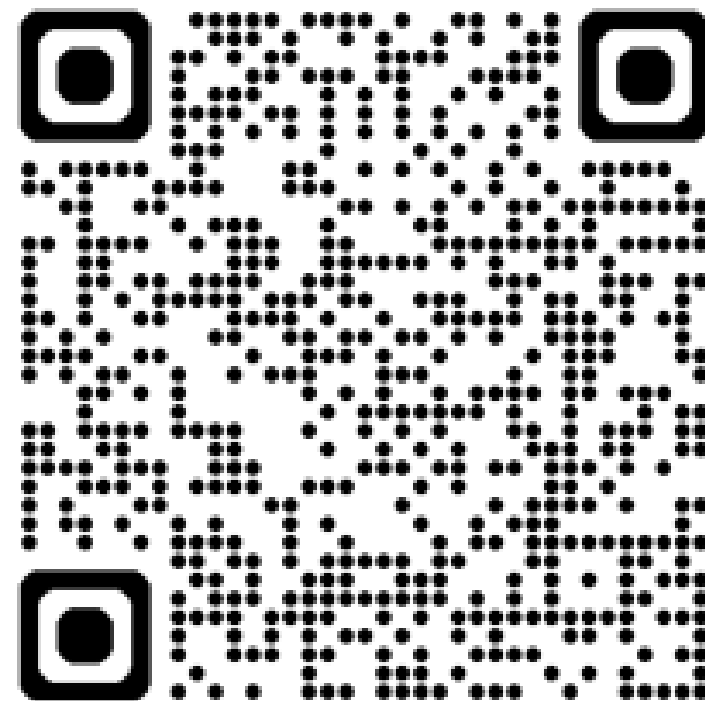
Learn more about our work and how you can get involved.

www.kidshopealliance.org



KIDS HOPE ALLIANCE™

The Jacksonville Partnership
for Children, Youth & Families



Community Feedback Survey