

**May Board Meeting**

**May 28, 2025, 9:30 a.m. – 11:00a.m.**

1. **Introductions and Instructions**

Marsha Oliver, Board Chair

Ms. Oliver commenced the meeting by introducing herself and extending a warm welcome to all attendees of the May Board meeting. She took a moment to acknowledge Chardae Chaney, the Assistant Director of Contract Management, for her ten years of committed service to the City of Jacksonville and Kids Hope Alliance.

Ms. Oliver acknowledged May as Mental Health Awareness Month and expressed her appreciation for KHA providers who offer these essential services including Full Service Schools, Step by Step for Health and the Center for Children’s Rights.

Members Present – Marsha Oliver, Lawrence Dennis, Cynthia Nixon, Meredith Chartrand-Frisch

Members Absent – Kevin Gay, Carson Tranquille

1. **Governance Committee Recap**

Meredith Chartrand-Frisch, Governance CommitteeChair

Ms. Chartrand-Frisch summarized the Governance meeting that took place on May 21, 2025, attended by Board members Lawrence Dennis, Marsha Oliver, and herself. She reported that all action items were approved and outlined the formation of two committees stemming from the December 2024 Board Retreat: Strategic Services and the GUIDE Task Force.

1. **Finance Committee Recap**

Cynthia Nixon, Finance CommitteeChair

Ms. Nixon stated that the Finance Committee convened on Wednesday, May 21, 2025, with members Kevin Gay, Carson Tranquille, Marsha Oliver and herself in attendance. During the meeting, the committee thoroughly examined the financial statements and action items which are currently under consideration by the Board.

1. **Public Comments**

Ms. Oliver explained that 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.

Mr. John Nooney’s public comments included a request for KHA’s Board to acknowledge his contributions to the Florida Inland Navigation District, particularly regarding potential land acquisition projects that would serve the citizens of Duval County. Additionally, Mr. Nooney expressed his support for the Juvenile Justice Diversion RFP, Advancing Mobility Rapid Grant, and Jacksonville Journey Forward program.

1. **Approval of March Minutes**

Marsha Oliver, Board Chair

Ms. Oliver inquired if there were any amendments to the minutes, to which there were none. She subsequently requested a motion to approve the minutes.

Motion: Cynthia Nixon

Second: Lawrence Dennis

Approved: 4-0

1. **Consent Agenda**

Dr. Saralyn Grass, Chief Executive Officer

1. Juvenile Justice Diversion RFP

Dr. Grass summarized each action item on the Consent Agenda beginning with the Juvenile Justice Diversion RFP. This contract has been active for five and a half years, in collaboration with the Partnership for Child Health. During our recent workshop, JSO, the Public Defender’s Office, and representatives from the State Attorney's Office expressed their appreciation for the partnership, noting its effectiveness. In response, KHA convened a task force to refine the Request for Proposal (RFP) to better align with community needs. The RFP, which is included in the Board's packet, outlines the scope of work and criteria for evaluating potential providers.

1. Grant Application: Advancing Mobility Rapid Grant

This grant application is submitted to the National League of Cities for the Advancing Mobility Rapid Grant, aimed at enhancing KHA’s collaboration with United Way to offer free tax services. The funding will significantly boost marketing efforts, particularly in the zone where KHA is located, to ensure that families with children are aware of and can access the income tax credit and child tax credit. If awarded, the grant amount of $20,000 will be allocated to United Way for these marketing initiatives, with the project expected to span approximately six months.

1. SIPPRA Wing Office Space Lease
2. Supplemental SIPPRA Partner Outcomes and Space Utilization Summary

The SIPPRA Wing Office Space will be utilized by three partners: Children's Home Society, Family Learning Partnership, and Angel Kids Foundation. These local organizations will collaborate on initiatives funded by the grant, which aims to decrease emergency room visits among children under five who could have received appropriate care from a Pediatrician. Each partner will contribute their expertise to address this critical issue within the community.

Dr. Grass consulted with the Office of General Counsel, led by Reese Wilson, to confirm the feasibility of proceeding with this initiative. Given that KHA is funding the provider and that they operate under a $0 lease as nonprofits, there is a precedent established by the city that supports this approach. This method is both ethical and sanctioned, but it will also require approval from the City Council.

1. Lutheran Services Florida New Lease

This provider is currently located within KHA’s facility, utilizing a portion of the general building as well as the Don Brewer Center for their Head Start and Early Head Start programs. Recently, KHA extended their lease for six months, during which they were uncertain about the renewal of their grant. However, they have since been awarded a new five-year Head Start grant. Consequently, KHA is planning to establish a new $0 lease agreement with them, allowing them to continue occupying the space necessary to deliver essential services to children in the community, in alignment with the requirements of their grant.

1. Jacksonville Journey Forward Ratification of Contract Additions

Jacksonville Journey Forward is set to proceed with the ratification of their proposed changes. Approximately $530,000 has been allocated to KHA to support four distinct programs, which will serve as enhancements to existing contracts. As these contracts come up for renewal in June or July, additional funding from Jacksonville Journey Forward will be integrated, allowing for an expansion of services aimed at reaching more children and addressing existing gaps in support.

After some discussion, Ms. Oliver asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda

Motion: Meredith Chartrand-Frisch

Second: Lawrence Dennis

Approved: 4-0

1. **Review of KHA Actions**

Mr. Kenneth Darity, Chief Administrative Officer

Mr. Darity provided an overview of KHA actions for the March 26- May 23, 2025 timeframe. These actions include items submitted to the Mayor’s Budget Review Committee, City Council Legislation and the Jacksonville Procurement Awards Committee. Each of the items presented to these committees were approved.

1. **Partner Presentation – DCPS Attendance & Truancy Update**

Wendy Dunlap, Executive Director of School Counseling and Acceleration Programs

Paula Renfro, Chief Academic Services

Ms. Dunlap provided a presentation on the significance of truancy and how it impacts student attendance. She explained that a “Truant” student is a student, who has had

5 unexcused absences (or absences for which reasons are unknown) within a calendar month; or 10 unexcused absences (or absences for which reasons are unknown) within any 90 calendar days. DCPS has a School Behavioral Health Student Support team which is comprised of Social Workers and Truancy Officers who conduct home visits and investigates truancy cases.

During COVID, DCPS and the nation experienced a significant decrease in student attendance. However, students are beginning to return to school on a consistent basis, which has had a major impact on schools like Northwestern Legends where Principal Kimberly Brown is taking her students to visit colleges like FAMU, hosting members of the Jacksonville Jaguars and encouraging them to plant gardens. Engaging experiences, such as these, play a crucial role in motivating students to attend school and actively participate in their learning journey.

1. **Strategic Next Steps – Needs Assessment & Gap Analysis**

Rodger Belcher, Chief Strategy Officer

Katie Bakewell, Vice President, AI Strategy, NLP Logix

Mr. Belcher indicated that KHA is in the process of initiating a new study aimed at assessing community needs and conducting a gap analysis. This initiative marks the next step in our four-year strategic program cycle, aimed at updating and expanding upon the initial findings from 2022. This year's study will build on the original framework, which was categorized into essential areas such as service delivery, resource allocation, community engagement, and feedback recommendations for strategic enhancements. This effort will be conducted in collaboration with NLP Logix and the Nonprofit Center.

The study is set to commence this summer, likely in July, with an anticipated completion date in early 2026, or potentially by December of this year. This timeline should facilitate a formal review during a board retreat in the spring of 2026. By June 2026, we expect to present an updated essential services plan reflecting the decisions made from the analysis. The RFP scoring and awards are projected for January 2027, with new contracts scheduled to begin on June 1, 2027, for the upcoming funding cycle, which will extend through 2030 and 2031. Throughout these years, we will provide annual performance reports to the Board to support data-driven renewal decisions, budget considerations, and alignment of needs.

Katie Bakewell summarized the process used to conduct the Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis in 2022 which included listening sessions with the community, providers and KHA staff. One significant outcome of this initiative was the revision of the Essential Services Categories. Traditionally, categories were limited to groups such as teens and those out of school, with a broad classification for special needs. Their analysis identified 27 specific goals that can be consolidated into five key areas, focusing on the well-being of children in Duval, ensuring they are both physically and mentally healthy and safe.

The final recommendations from the 2022 report indicated a shift in the essential services framework towards a more goal-oriented approach using Results Based Accountability. NLP Logix is in the process of developing a new set of dashboards, which will include the transparency dashboard, and be launched later this year.

1. **Board Discussion – Board Officers**

Marsha Oliver, Board Chair

Ms. Oliver urged Board members to consider the positions they may wish to pursue in the upcoming year. She has also initiated plans to meet with Mayor Deegan, who holds the authority to appoint Board members. A more detailed discussion regarding Board Officers is scheduled for the June Board Workshop.

1. **General Public Comments**

Dr. Shanna Carter, CEO Krumpin for Success, requested that the Board consider the comprehensive performance landscape when making funding determinations, including the tangible impacts, challenges encountered, and formal responses from the providers involved. Mr. Darity agreed to follow up with Dr. Carter on her Corrective Action Plan and determine how KHA can improve communication regarding required deliverables based on the RFP.

Mr. Keto Porter, United Way Director of Full Service Schools, thanked KHA for the long term partnership enabling them to deliver wrap around services and partner with agencies like Child Guidance Center, Children's Home Society, Daniel, Jewish Families & Community Services and Communities in Schools.

Mr. Leon Baxton, CEO Communities in Schools, thanked KHA for their support over the last 27 years including after-school programming, wraparound services and workforce development. He also noted that Jacksonville stands out as the only city which has successfully maintained all of its 21st Century Community Learning Centers.

1. **Adjourn**

Ms. Oliver concluded the meeting at 10:50 a.m.