



CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF MARTIN COUNTY
Regular Council Meeting/Budget Discussion
Monday, May 18, 2026, 5:30 PM
AGENDA

- I. Call to Order**
 - A. Roll Call
 - B. Invocation
 - C. Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Adoption of Agenda**
 - A. Additions/Deletions/Substitutions
 - B. Adoption
- III. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings**
 - A. March 11, 2026 - Workshop Committee Meeting
 - B. March 23, 2026 - Regular Council Meeting
 - C. April 27, 2026 - Finance Committee Meeting
- IV. Public Comments and Introduction of Council Meeting Attendees**
- V. New Business**
 - A. ARC of the Treasure Coast - Urgent Need Funding Request
 - B. Finance Committee's 2026-2027 CSCMC Preliminary Budget Discussion
 - 1. Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Period Beginning October 1, 2026
 - C. 2026-2027 Continued and Targeted Funding Recommendations
 - D. CSCMC Provider Presentation by Martin County Healthy Start Coalition -- Prenatal Care Services and MOM Mobile Tour
- VI. Staff Reports**
 - A. Executive Director / Staff Report
- VII. For Your Information (No Action Required)**
 - A. 03-22-2026 Friends & Neighbors Newsletter - Martin County Taxpayers Association
 - B. 05-11-2026 MCTA Newsletter

Next Scheduled CSCMC Meeting:

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING, Wednesday, MAY 27, 2026, 2:00 p.m. (CANCELED)
WORKSHOP COMMITTEE MEETING, Wednesday, JUNE 10, 2026, 2:00 p.m.
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, Monday, JUNE 22, 2026, 5:30 p.m.

CSCMC Community Room
101 S.E. Central Parkway, Stuart, FL 34994-5905
772-228-5758 (Phone); 772-288-5799 (Fax); www.cscmc.org (Website)

VIII. Council Member Comments

Next Scheduled CSCMC Meeting:

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING, Wednesday, MAY 27, 2026, 2:00 p.m. (CANCELED)
WORKSHOP COMMITTEE MEETING, Wednesday, JUNE 10, 2026, 2:00 p.m.
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, Monday, JUNE, 22, 2026, 5:30 p.m.

CSCMC Community Room
101 S.E. Central Parkway, Stuart, FL 34994-5905
772-228-5758 (Phone); 772-288-5799 (Fax); www.cscmc.org (Website)

CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF MARTIN COUNTY (CSCMC)

Workshop Committee Meeting
Wednesday, March 11, 2026 2:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Laura Haase (Executive Director) called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

Council Members Present: Dr. Jodie Certosimo (Chair)
Sarah Heard
Sue Kinane (by phone)
Darlene VanRiper
Doug Mustapick
Tom Whittington

Public Present: N/A

Staff Present: Laura Haase (Executive Director), Zackery Hackley (Director of Finance), Christine Georges (Administrative Services Manager), Cara Good (Director of Program Operations), Chanda Narkiewicz (Manager of Planning, Evaluation, and Community Development), Edy Migoya (Program Support Specialist), Jennifer Carter (Finance Manager), and Nicole King (Program Manager)

I. Program (verbal)

- A. Request for Proposal (RFP) – Strong, Nurturing Families and Safe, Stable Communities

NO ACTION TAKEN: Laura Haase, Executive Director, and Cara Good, Director of Program Operations, presented to the Council Members. Chanda Narkiewicz, Manager of Planning, Evaluation, and Community Development, discussed the three Companion surveys in the RFP. No other recommendations at this time.

- B. Other

No discussion

II. Finance (verbal)

A. Financial Reports

NO ACTION TAKEN: The Council Members heard from Zack Hackley, Director of Finance as he presented the financial reports ending January 31, 2026. Zack continued to present the balance sheet and the AP statement. No other recommendations at this time.

B. Other

No discussion.

III. General (verbal)

A. No discussion

B. Other

No discussion

As no further discussion continued, the meeting was adjourned by Laura Haase (Executive Director) at 3:16 p.m.

Dr. Jodie Certosimo, Chair

Laura Haase, Executive Director

CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF MARTIN COUNTY (CSCMC)

Regular Council Meeting
Monday, March 23, 2026 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Having a quorum, Dr. Jodie Certosimo (Chair) called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and took roll.

Council Members Present: Dr. Jodie Certosimo (Chair)
Doug Mustapick (Vice-Chair)
Robert "Bob" McPartlan (Treasurer)
Sarah Heard
Sue Kinane
Hon. Judge Sherwood Bauer
Darlene VanRiper
Michael Maine
Tom Whittington
Dr. Brian Moriarty
Glen Torcivia, Legal Counsel

Council Member Absent: N/A

Public Present: Savannah Richmond, Martin County Board of County Commissioners
Michelle Swartz, Florida Department of Health, Martin County
Denise Natalizio, Communities Connected for Kids
Jessica Ballash, Martin County Board of County Commissioners
Kara Stimpson, Helping People Succeed
John Biscanin, Tykes & Teens, Inc.
Rob Ranieri, House of Hope

Staff Present: Laura Haase (Executive Director), Cara Good (Director of Program Operations), Zackery Hackley (Director of Finance), Christine Georges (Administrative Services Manager), Chanda Narkiewicz (Manager of Planning, Evaluation and Community Development), Nicole King (Program Manager), Jennifer Carter (Finance Manager), Edy Migoya (Program Support Specialist), and Stephanie Macera (Executive Assistant, Program Support)

A motion was made by Sue Kinane and seconded by Dr. Brian Moriarty to adopt the agenda, as presented, no additions, deletions, or substitutions. The motion passed unanimously (10-0 vote).

A motion was made by Michael Maine and seconded by Dr. Brian Moriarty to adopt the agenda, as presented, no additions, deletions, or substitutions. The motion passed unanimously (10-0 vote).

A motion was made by Sarah Heard and seconded by Robert “Bob” McPartlan to approve the minutes February 11, 2026, as presented. The motion passed unanimously (10-0 vote).

A motion was made by Dr. Brian Moriarty and seconded by Sarah Heard to approve the minutes February 23, 2026, as presented. The motion passed unanimously (10-0 vote).

Public Comments and Introduction of Council Meeting Attendees:

No Public Comments were given.

All meeting participants introduced themselves.

No motion required.

New Business:

- A. CSCMC Funded Provider Presentation by Project L.I.F.T., Inc. – Pathway Academy of Innovation and Teen Afterschool Program by Bob Zaccheo

No motion required.

- B. 2026-2027 Request for Proposals (RFP) – Strong, Nurturing Families and Safe, Stable Communities Funding Priority Areas

A motion was made by Sarah Heard and seconded by Sue Kinane to approve staff’s recommendation for the CSCMC 2026-2027 Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Strong, Nurturing Families and Safe, Stable Communities Funding Priority Areas. The motion passed unanimously (10-0 vote).

Staff Reports:

A. The Executive Director/Staff Report was presented by Laura Haase.

Laura Haase discussed the Property Tax Reform to Council Members, no update yet.

B. The CSCMC Financial Reports were presented by Zack Hackley.

For Your Information:

Council reviewed the information provided.

Council Member Comments:

Dr. Brian Moriarty requested Rob Ranieri, Chief Executive Officer to speak about House of Hope's Three New Gardens.

As no further discussion existed, the meeting was adjourned by Dr. Jodie Certosimo (Chair) at 6:17 p.m.

Dr. Jodie Certosimo, Chair

Laura Haase, Executive Director

CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF MARTIN COUNTY (CSCMC)

**Finance Committee Meeting
Monday, April 27, 2026 – 2:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

Laura Haase (Executive Director) called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Council Members Present: Dr. Jodie Certosimo
Douglas Mustapick
Sarah Heard
Sue Kinane
Tom Whittington
Darlene VanRiper

Public Present: N/A

Staff Present: Laura Haase (Executive Director), Cara Good (Director of Program Operations), Zackery Hackley (Director of Finance), Christine Georges (Administrative Services Manager), Jennifer Carter (Finance Manager), and Brandon Febres (Accounts Payable Specialist)

I. Preliminary Budget Proposal for FY: 2026-2027

The Finance/Program Committee received a presentation from Zackery Hackley, Director of Finance, regarding the preliminary FY 2026–2027 budget proposal.

Staff and committee members reviewed the proposed budget, including projected revenues, expenditure assumptions, and the proposed millage rate of 0.3618. The preliminary budget includes a proposed 5% increase to continuing program contracts to support existing service providers and maintain service capacity for children and families in Martin County. In addition, the budget reflects the Council’s previously approved recommendation to increase funding categories in the FY 2026–2027 Request for Proposals by up to 20% to address growing community needs and service demand.

The preliminary budget was prepared using taxable value estimates provided through the January 2026 Ad Valorem Assessments Estimating Conference conducted by the Florida Office of Economic and Demographic Research.

Committee members discussed the proposal and expressed support for advancing the preliminary FY 2026–2027 budget to the full Council for approval. Committee members noted that timely approval of the preliminary budget is important so staff can begin preparing and negotiating provider contracts for the upcoming fiscal year, including incorporating the

proposed 5% increase to continuing contracts and the potential funding increases reflected in the FY 2026–2027 RFP.

Committee members acknowledged that the budget is preliminary and that final figures are expected to change upon receipt of certified taxable values from the Martin County Property Appraiser on or before July 1, 2026.

II. Other

No Discussion.

As no further discussion existed, the meeting was adjourned by Laura Haase (Executive Director) at 3:48 p.m.

Dr. Jodie Certosimo, Chair


Laura Haase, Executive Director

CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF MARTIN COUNTY

Memorandum

Date: May 12, 2026

To: Children's Services Council

From: Laura Haase, Executive Director 
Cara Good, Director of Program Operations *CG*

Re: ARC of the Treasure Coast / Alternative Behavioral Learning Environment (ABLE) Program – Urgent Need Funding Request (CSCMC Policy 4.1)

The Advocates for the Rights of the Challenged of the Treasure Coast, Inc. (dba ARC of the Treasure Coast) submitted an Urgent Need Funding request for the Alternative Behavioral Learning Environment (ABLE) Program on May 7, 2026 (see attachment), pursuant to CSCMC Policy 4.1.

The ABLE Program is a year-round out-of-school time program serving youth ages 3-22 with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The program provides behavioral, educational, and social enrichment services in a safe environment with low youth-to-counselor ratios, based on each participant's needs. The ABLE program operates at the Stuart Learning Center on the campus of JD Parker Elementary School.

The requested funding is to provide additional staffing to help mitigate the summer camp waitlist. The funding supports five additional 1:1 staff positions for children with increased behavioral and developmental needs including frequent elopement, physical aggression, toileting and hygiene support, high impulsivity, and difficulty maintaining appropriate personal boundaries.

The requested funding amount is \$36,600.00 to cover five additional summer camp staff positions for 10 weeks at \$17.00 per hour, including payroll taxes. This funding helps reduce the weekly financial obligation for families and allows ARC of the Treasure Coast to offer a sliding pay scale as well. Parent fees for summer camp participants are approximately \$75.00 per week.

The Community Foundation Martin-St. Lucie has committed to contribute \$12,500.00 toward this Urgent Need Funding request with the remaining portion from CSCMC in the amount of \$24,100.00.

Staff Recommendation: To approve Urgent Need Funding in the amount of \$24,100.00 for the Advocates for the Rights of the Challenged of the Treasure Coast, Inc.'s (dba ARC of the Treasure Coast) ABLE program for the 2025-2026 contract year.

LH/CG:sjm



Advocates for the Rights of the Challenged

Board Members:

Officers

Terry J. Eve
Chair

Edward Kemm
Past Chair

Jon Ryan, CPA
Treasurer

Randee Gabriel
Secretary

Directors

Frank Flora

Alexander Haigh

Michael Frain

Chris Peddicord

Patricia A. Burgess

J. Curtis Boyd, P.A.

Tim Stapelton

Judy Chackal

Michael Mann

Keith W. Muniz
President & CEO

Funded in part by:



Your Philanthropy
Our Community
Better Together

May 7, 2026

Children's Services Council of Martin County
101 SE Central Parkway
Stuart, FL 34994

To Whom It May Concern:

ARC of the Treasure Coast humbly requests the support of Children's Services Council of Martin County to offer **five (5) additional 1:1 support staff** to adequately meet the needs of youth requiring higher levels of supervision and care.

We are requesting five positions at this time which would significantly impact not only the children they would serve directly, but also a broader group of children who would benefit from increased attention made possible through the individualized support of their peers. The youth in need of increased supervision and one-on-one attention present with increased behavioral and developmental needs, including but not limited to:

- Frequent elopement
- Physical aggression
- Need for toileting and hygiene assistance
- High impulsivity
- Difficulty maintaining appropriate personal boundaries

Due to the intensity of these needs, additional 1:1 staffing is essential to ensure the **safety of all participants and staff**, as well as to support successful engagement in programming.

We are requesting emergency funding in the amount of \$36,600. This would cover the cost of 5 additional camp staff for 10 weeks at \$17 per hour, including payroll tax.

ARC of the Treasure Coast thanks you in advance for your consideration and your partnership in supporting the children and youth with intellectual/developmental disabilities in Martin County. Please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,


Keith W. Muniz, President/CEO
ARC of the Treasure Coast.

2001 S. Kanner Highway • Stuart, Florida 34994 • (772) 283-2525 • Fax (772) 286-6808 • www.arctreasurecoast.org

Please consider naming the ARC of the Treasure Coast as a beneficiary in your will or trust.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF MARTIN COUNTY

Memorandum

Date: May 18, 2026
To: Children's Services Council
From: Zack Hackley, Finance Director 
Re: Preliminary Proposed Budget Approval – Fiscal Year 2026-2027

Staff requests Council approval of the preliminary budget for Fiscal Year 2026–2027. The budget was prepared using information provided by the Florida Office of Economic and Demographic Research during the January 2026 Ad Valorem Assessments Estimating Conference.

The preliminary budget was presented to the Council at the Finance Committee meeting on April 27, 2026. Council discussion included projected revenues, expenditures, and program funding priorities for Fiscal Year 2026–2027. The budget assumes a millage rate of 0.3618 mills, which is recommended to remain unchanged for the upcoming fiscal year.

Final certified taxable values from the Martin County Property Appraiser are expected by July 1, 2026. Upon receipt, projected revenues will be updated and any necessary adjustments incorporated. The budget will remain tentative until formally adopted through the public hearing process in September 2026.

Council approval will authorize staff to prepare Fiscal Year 2026–2027 contracts for continued funding programs reflecting the proposed 5% increase. The budget also incorporates the Council's recommendation to increase FY 2026–2027 Request for Proposals funding categories by up to 20% to address growing community needs and service demand. Approval will further allow staff to begin negotiating funding recommendations with applicants selected through the Request for Proposals process so that contracts may be finalized and services can begin on October 1, 2026.

Supporting documents for Council review include:

- Proposed budget based on a 0.3618 millage rate
- Rolled-back millage rate calculation
- Comparative Budget Focus Summary highlighting increases in program services and reductions in administrative and support costs

Pursuant to section 125.901(3)(b), Florida Statutes, the Council is required to prepare a tentative annual written budget and compute a proposed millage rate on or before July 1 of each year. Approval of the preliminary budget will satisfy this requirement and authorize staff to update the budget, if necessary, upon receipt of the certified taxable values before the final budget and millage rate are adopted through the public hearing process required by section 200.065, Florida Statutes.

Staff Recommendation: Approve the preliminary proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2026–2027 and authorize staff to make any necessary revisions upon receipt of the certified taxable values from the Martin County Property Appraiser.

ZH/jc

CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF MARTIN COUNTY
PRELIMINARY BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR THE FISCAL PERIOD
OCTOBER 2026 - SEPTEMBER 2027
PROPOSED BUDGET - CURRENT MILLAGE RATE .3618
ESTIMATED Taxable Values \$41,307,072,414
Property Value Increase = 4.85%

REVENUES:

AD VALOREM TAXES (96%)	14,347,104	82.3%
FUND BALANCE TRANSFER	2,308,956	13.2%
Unassigned Fund Balance Transfer	2,006,941	
Assigned Program Reserve Transfer	302,015	
MISCELLANEOUS	3,000	0.0%
RENTAL INCOME – Tenant Leases	40,000	0.3%
INTEREST INCOME	732,100	4.2%
Bank	112,000	
Investment	620,000	
Tax Collector	100	
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	17,431,160	100%
FUND BALANCE TRANSFER FOR CAPITAL	20,000	
TOTAL OPERATING AND CAPITAL REVENUE	17,451,160	

EXPENDITURES:

PROGRAM SERVICES	15,691,300	90.0%
Healthy Children	4,560,006	
Safe, Stable Communities / Strong, Nurturing Families	1,832,092	
Early Learning & Development	3,583,439	
Youth Development & Academic Success	3,125,705	
Capacity Building	75,000	
Community Engagement/Sponsorships	15,000	
Organizational Development	25,000	
Special Funding (<i>Urgent Need, Developmental, Partnership, Match, Targeted</i>)	100,000	
Strategic Initiative Support	10,000	
CSCMC Program Staff - Salary, Taxes and Benefits	666,619	
ASSIGNED PROGRAM RESERVES		
Future Program Allocations	1,698,439	
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	1,479,088	8.5%
Administration Salary, Taxes & Benefits	952,938	
Operating Expenses	479,150	
Media & Communications Expenses	47,000	
COLLECTION FEES / OTHER EXPENSES	236,175	1.4%
Property Appraiser Fees	106,000	
Special District Fee	175	
Tax Collector Fees	130,000	
ASSIGNED RESERVES		
Building Maintenance & Replacement	24,597	0.1%
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES	17,431,160	100%
Capital Outlay	20,000	
TOTAL OPERATING AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	17,451,160	

CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF MARTIN COUNTY
PRELIMINARY BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR THE FISCAL PERIOD
OCTOBER 2026 - SEPTEMBER 2027

PROPOSED BUDGET - ROLLED-BACK MILLAGE RATE .3451

ESTIMATED Taxable Values \$41,307,072,414
Property Value Increase = 4.85%

REVENUES:

AD VALOREM TAXES (96%)	13,683,456	78.5%
FUND BALANCE TRANSFER	2,972,604	17.1%
Unassigned Fund Balance Transfer	2,670,553	
Assigned Program Reserve Transfer	302,051	
MISCELLANEOUS	3,000	0.0%
RENTAL INCOME – Tenant Leases	40,000	0.2%
INTEREST INCOME	732,100	4.2%
Bank	112,000	
Investment	620,000	
Tax Collector	100	
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	17,431,160	100%
FUND BALANCE TRANSFER FOR CAPITAL	20,000	
TOTAL OPERATING AND CAPITAL REVENUE	17,451,160	

EXPENDITURES:

PROGRAM SERVICES	15,691,300	90.0%
Healthy Children	4,560,006	
Safe, Stable Communities / Strong, Nurturing Families	1,832,092	
Early Learning & Development	3,583,439	
Youth Development & Academic Success	3,125,705	
Capacity Building	75,000	
Community Engagement/Sponsorships	15,000	
Organizational Development	25,000	
Special Funding (<i>Urgent Need, Developmental, Partnership, Match, Targeted</i>)	100,000	
Strategic Initiative Support	10,000	
CSCMC Program Staff - Salary, Taxes and Benefits	666,619	
ASSIGNED PROGRAM RESERVES		
Future Program Allocations	1,698,439	
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	1,479,088	8.5%
Administration Salary, Taxes & Benefits	952,938	
Operating Expenses	479,150	
Media & Communications Expenses	47,000	
COLLECTION FEES / OTHER EXPENSES	236,175	1.4%
Property Appraiser Fees	106,000	
Special District Fee	175	
Tax Collector Fees	130,000	
ASSIGNED RESERVES		
Building Maintenance & Replacement	24,597	0.1%
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES	17,431,160	100%
Capital Outlay	20,000	
TOTAL OPERATING AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	17,451,160	

COMPARATIVE BUDGET FOCUS FY 2026 - 2027

Proposed Millage Rate: 0.0003618






INCREASED INVESTMENT IN PROGRAM SERVICES

Prior Year Budget	Proposed Budget	Increase	Increase
\$12,398,783	\$13,326,242	+\$927,459	+7.48%



REDUCTION IN ADMINISTRATIVE & SUPPORT COSTS

LINE ITEM	PRIOR YEAR BUDGET	PROPOSED BUDGET	DECREASE \$ AMOUNT	DECREASE %
 Administration Salary, Taxes & Benefits	\$1,090,210	\$952,938	-\$137,272	-12.59%
 Operating Expenses	\$496,550	\$479,150	-\$17,400	-3.50%
 Media & Communications Expenses	\$52,000	\$47,000	-\$5,000	-9.62%



This budget builds on CSCMC's longstanding commitment to children and families by aligning resources with evolving community needs, identifying operational efficiencies, and directing more funding toward programs and services that create meaningful outcomes for Martin County children.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF MARTIN COUNTY

Memorandum

Date: May 7, 2026
To: Children's Services Council
From: Cara Good, Director of Program Operations *CG*
Stephanie Macera, Executive Assistant – Program Support *SJM*
Re: 2026-2027 Continued and Targeted Funding Recommendations

There are 41 programs currently funded by CSCMC that did not participate in the 2026-2027 Request for Proposals under the Strong, Nurturing Families and Safe, Stable Communities Funding Priority Areas since they are categorized under other Funding Priority Areas of the current Strategic Plan.

These programs are listed in the attached chart titled "2026-2027 Continued and Targeted Funding Recommendations" and are eligible to receive continued funding for the contract term of October 1, 2026 through September 30, 2027.

Abridged Applications are required for each funding term that requests updates to any organizational changes with regard to capacity, infrastructure, leadership, and geographic service areas, and updated supporting documentation such as financial statements, organization budgets, and job descriptions are also required.

Staff is proposing a 5% funding increase totaling \$508,700.00 as indicated by the individual amounts in brackets under the "2026-2027 Funding Recommendations" column. Included on the chart are two SPLASH programs (Swimming Provides Learners with Aquatics Safety and Health) with Martin County and the YMCA of the Treasure Coast that receive Targeted Funding and are recommended for level funding.

Additional Strategic Initiative Support Funding resources are included in the footnotes with level funding proposed for Martin County Parent Training Series and an increase of \$300,000 for Martin Reads Programmatic Investment, utilizing the proposed reduced funding of \$200,000 for the Substitute Pool in the Continuity of Care contract and the \$100,000 proposed reduced Special Funding budget.

Staff Recommendation: Approval of the 2026-2027 recommended funding allocations totaling \$10,700,407.00, as outlined in the chart titled "2026-2027 Continued and Targeted Funding Recommendations."

CG/SJM:sjm

Children's Services Council of Martin County
2026–2027 Continued and Targeted Funding Recommendations
(with Strategic Initiative Support funding)

Currently-Funded Partnership Funding recommendations will be presented at the June 2026 Meeting. Funding Recommendations for Request for Proposals (RFP) Funding, Developmental Funding, newly proposed Partnership Funding, and currently-funded Partnership grants submitting an RFP application will be presented at the August 2026 Meeting.

ORGANIZATION	PROGRAM	2025–2026 FUNDING ALLOCATIONS (October 1 - September 30)	2026–2027 FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS (October 1 – September 30) <i>[Amounts in brackets = 5% Increase]</i>
ARC of the Treasure Coast (dba) Advocates for the Rights of the Challenged of the Treasure Coast, Inc.	Alternative Behavioral Learning Environment (ABLE) Program	\$ 420,611.00	\$ 441,642.00 <i>[\$21,031]</i>
Banner Lake Club, Inc. (The)	Banner Lake After School Time (B.L.A.S.T.)	\$ 262,476.00	\$ 275,600.00 <i>[\$13,124]</i>
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Palm Beach and Martin Counties, Inc.	Youth Mentoring: Igniting Potential	\$ 235,765.00	\$ 247,554.00 <i>[\$11,789]</i>
Boys and Girls Club of Martin County, Inc.	Boys and Girls Clubs Behavioral Health Program	\$ 260,000.00	\$ 273,000.00 <i>[\$13,000]</i>
Boys and Girls Club of Martin County, Inc.	High Yield Learning Program	\$ 905,097.00	\$ 950,352.00 <i>[\$45,255]</i>
Business and Leadership Institute for Early Learning, Inc.	Accreditation Academy / Master Class Workshop	\$ 164,376.00	\$ 172,595.00 <i>[\$8,219.00]</i>
Early Learning Coalition of Indian River, Martin and Okeechobee Counties, Inc. (ELCIRMO)	Continuity of Care <i>(includes ELC Match and Substitute Pool)</i>	\$ 553,846.00	\$ 581,539.00 <i>[\$27,693]</i>
Early Learning Coalition of Indian River, Martin and Okeechobee Counties, Inc. (ELCIRMO)	Early Childhood Specialist Coaching Program <i>(Match Funding)</i>	\$ 502,483.00	\$ 527,608.00 <i>[\$25,125]</i>
Easter Seals Florida, Inc.	Treasure Coast Early Steps Program (TCES)	\$ 169,956.00	\$ 178,454.00 <i>[\$8,498]</i>

Children's Services Council of Martin County
2026–2027 Continued and Targeted Funding Recommendations
(with Strategic Initiative Support funding)

Currently-Funded Partnership Funding recommendations will be presented at the June 2026 Meeting. Funding Recommendations for Request for Proposals (RFP) Funding, Developmental Funding, newly proposed Partnership Funding, and currently-funded Partnership grants submitting an RFP application will be presented at the August 2026 Meeting.

ORGANIZATION	PROGRAM	2025–2026 FUNDING ALLOCATIONS (October 1 - September 30)	2026–2027 FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS (October 1 – September 30) <i>[Amounts in brackets = 5% Increase]</i>
Education Foundation of Martin County, Inc.	Port Salerno Elementary (PSE) Lab School Literacy Coaches	\$ 194,250.00	\$ 203,963.00 <i>[\$9,713]</i>
Florida Community Health Centers, Inc.	Maternal and Child Health	\$ 218,289.00	\$ 229,204.00 <i>[\$10,915]</i>
Florida Department of Health - Martin County	School Based Dental Sealant Program	\$ 296,137.00	\$ 310,944.00 <i>[\$14,807]</i>
Florida Department of Health - Martin County	School Health Program	\$ 412,341.00	\$ 432,959.00 <i>[\$20,618]</i>
Hope Center for Autism, Inc. (The)	Hope Beginnings: Where Connections Begin	\$ 102,250.00	\$ 107,363.00 <i>[\$5,113]</i>
Hope Center for Autism, Inc. (The)	Pathways to Promise Afterschool Program	\$ 93,259.00	\$ 97,922.00 <i>[\$4,663]</i>
House of Hope, Inc. (dba) (Jesus House of Hope, Inc.)	Gardening to Grow Healthy Communities	\$ 144,757.00	\$ 151,995.00 <i>[\$7,238]</i>
House of Hope, Inc. (dba) (Jesus House of Hope, Inc.)	Let's Start Learning	\$ 82,005.00	\$ 86,106.00 <i>[\$4,101]</i>
HPS, Helping People Succeed, Inc.	ASQ Universal Screening Program	\$ 115,456.00	\$ 121,229.00 <i>[\$5,773]</i>

Children's Services Council of Martin County
2026–2027 Continued and Targeted Funding Recommendations
(with Strategic Initiative Support funding)

Currently-Funded Partnership Funding recommendations will be presented at the June 2026 Meeting. Funding Recommendations for Request for Proposals (RFP) Funding, Developmental Funding, newly proposed Partnership Funding, and currently-funded Partnership grants submitting an RFP application will be presented at the August 2026 Meeting.

ORGANIZATION	PROGRAM	2025–2026 FUNDING ALLOCATIONS (October 1 - September 30)	2026–2027 FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS (October 1 – September 30) <i>[Amounts in brackets = 5% Increase]</i>
HPS, Helping People Succeed, Inc.	Baby Connections	\$ 282,579.00	\$ 296,708.00 <i>[\$14,129]</i>
HPS, Helping People Succeed, Inc.	Children's Behavioral Support Program	\$ 231,151.00	\$ 242,709.00 <i>[\$11,558]</i>
HPS, Helping People Succeed, Inc.	Developmental Intervention Program	\$ 185,889.00	\$ 195,184.00 <i>[\$9,295]</i>
Inner Truth Project, Inc. (The)	Teen and Family Program	\$ 94,160.00	\$ 98,868.00 <i>[\$4,708]</i>
Little Lights Dentistry (dba) Light of the World Charities, Inc.	Little Lights Dentistry	\$288,000.00	\$ 302,400.00 <i>[\$14,400]</i>
Martin County	After School / Out of School	\$ 407,347.00	\$ 427,715.00 <i>[\$20,368]</i>
Martin County	Swimming Provides Learners with Aquatics Safety and Health (S.P.L.A.S.H.) <i>(Targeted Funding)</i>	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 6,500.00
Martin County Healthy Start Coalition, Inc.	Community-Based Doula Program	\$ 94,600.00	\$ 99,330.00 <i>[\$4,730]</i>
Martin County Healthy Start Coalition, Inc.	Healthy Start Services	\$ 292,506.00	\$ 307,132.00 <i>[\$14,626]</i>

Children’s Services Council of Martin County
2026–2027 Continued and Targeted Funding Recommendations
(with Strategic Initiative Support funding)

Currently-Funded Partnership Funding recommendations will be presented at the June 2026 Meeting. Funding Recommendations for Request for Proposals (RFP) Funding, Developmental Funding, newly proposed Partnership Funding, and currently-funded Partnership grants submitting an RFP application will be presented at the August 2026 Meeting.

ORGANIZATION	PROGRAM	2025–2026 FUNDING ALLOCATIONS (October 1 - September 30)	2026–2027 FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS (October 1 – September 30) <i>[Amounts in brackets = 5% Increase]</i>
Martin County Healthy Start Coalition, Inc.	Nurse Family Partnership	\$ 194,000.00	\$ 203,700.00 <i>[\$9,700]</i>
Martin County Healthy Start Coalition, Inc.	Prenatal Care Services – MOM Mobile	\$ 201,273.00	\$ 211,337.00 <i>[\$10,064]</i>
Miami-Dade Family Learning Partnership, Inc.	Reach Out and Read	\$ 73,500.00	\$ 77,175.00 <i>[\$3,675]</i>
Prime Time Palm Beach Counties, Inc.	Martin County Out-of-School Time Quality Improvement Initiative	\$ 143,173.00	\$ 150,332.00 <i>[\$7,159]</i>
Project L.I.F.T., Inc.	Pathway Academy of Innovation	\$ 157,500.00	\$ 165,375.00 <i>[\$7,875]</i>
Project L.I.F.T., Inc.	Teen Afterschool Program	\$ 362,304.00	\$ 380,420.00 <i>[\$18,116]</i>
Tykes and Teens, Inc.	Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Services	\$ 316,545.00	\$ 332,373.00 <i>[\$15,828]</i>
Tykes and Teens, Inc.	General Mental Health Program	\$ 795,202.00	\$ 834,963.00 <i>[\$39,761]</i>
Tykes and Teens, Inc.	Infant Mental Health	\$ 241,900.00	\$ 253,995.00 <i>[\$12,095]</i>

Children's Services Council of Martin County
2026–2027 Continued and Targeted Funding Recommendations
(with Strategic Initiative Support funding)

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ORGANIZATION	PROGRAM	2025–2026 FUNDING ALLOCATIONS (October 1 - September 30)	2026–2027 FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS (October 1 – September 30) <i>[Amounts in brackets = 5% Increase]</i>
Tykes and Teens, Inc.	Prevention Services	\$ 202,281.00	\$ 212,396.00 <i>[\$10,115]</i>
University of South Florida Board of Trustees (The)	Florida HIPPY Training & Technical Assistance Center	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 52,500.00 <i>[\$2,500]</i>
Host Agency: Family Empowerment Foundation, Inc.	HIPPY Martin County (HIMCO) (Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters)	\$ 321,443.00	\$ 337,516.00 <i>[\$16,073]</i>
YMCA of the Treasure Coast Young Men's Christian Association of the Treasure Coast, Inc.	Out-of-School Time Program	\$ 105,000.00	\$ 110,250.00 <i>[\$5,250]</i>
YMCA of the Treasure Coast Young Men's Christian Association of the Treasure Coast, Inc.	Swimming Provides Learners with Aquatics Safety and Health (S.P.L.A.S.H.) <i>(Targeted Funding)</i>	\$ 11,500.00	\$ 11,500.00
FUNDING ALLOCATIONS TOTAL		\$10,191,707.00 *	\$10,700,407.00 *

* FY 2026-2027 Proposed Continued & Targeted Funding Allocations total of \$10,700,407.00 is \$508,700.00 greater than FY 2025-2026 Funding Allocations.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE SUPPORT FUNDING:

\$ 10,000 = Martin County Parent Training Series (same amount as 2025-26)

\$ 371,743 = Martin Reads Programmatic Investment (\$71,743 Martin Reads + \$200,000 ELCIRMO Substitute Pool reduction + \$100,000 Special Funding reduction)

CSCMC Executive Director/Staff Report

May 18, 2026

I. Executive Director's Report

Legislative Updates

Property Tax Reform – Update

There have been no significant changes regarding Property Tax Reform since the close of the regular legislative session. Legislative leaders have indicated that property tax reform is expected to be revisited, likely during a special session later this summer.

CSCMC's Executive Director remains engaged with statewide partners, including the Florida Alliance of Children's Councils & Trusts (FACCT), and has had ongoing communication with members of the local legislative delegation to stay informed and to provide general information regarding CSCMC's structure and role in the community.

At this time, there is no confirmed proposal or timeline for voter consideration, and there is no immediate impact to the CSCMC's current budget planning. Staff will continue to monitor developments and keep the Council informed of any substantive updates.

Communications

Communications Manager Recruitment Update

The recruitment process for the Communications Manager position is ongoing. To date, first round interviews have been conducted for three candidates.

The position will remain open until filled. Recruitment will continue with a focus on identifying the individual whose experience and skill set best align with the scope of work and CSCMC's communication needs.

The person selected will be the one that is best positioned to effectively communicate CSCMC's impact and contribute to long-term organizational goals.

Community Engagement Activities

March 17 – Participated in United Way Governance Committee discussions regarding prospective board member review, while strengthening relationships and sharing CSCMC's role in supporting children and families. *(Laura Haase)*

March 18 – Met with Meg McElroy (Children's Services Taxing Authority, Portland, Oregon) to share CSCMC's funding model, governance structure, and approach to advancing outcomes across priority areas. *(Laura Haase)*

Community Engagement Activities (continued)

March 23 – Attended Early Learning Coalition of Indian River, Martin, and Okeechobee Counties' Board Orientation as a newly appointed Board Member, strengthening regional alignment and reinforcing CSCMC's commitment to early learning and school readiness. *(Laura Haase)*

March 25 – Attended LEADERship Lunch & Learn featuring Martin County's Assistant County Administrator George Stokus, gaining insight into local government priorities while reinforcing CSCMC's role as a community partner. *(Laura Haase, Zack Hackley, Jennifer Carter)*

March 25 – Attended Martin County Taxpayers Association presentation by the Martin County School District's Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Carter Morrison, increasing awareness of school district finances *(Laura Haase, Cara Good, Zack Hackley, Christine Georges)*

March 26 – Participated in Early Learning Coalition's Board Meeting as a newly appointed Board Member. *(Laura Haase)*

March 30 – Met with Katie Diamond (Martin Leadership) to provide an overview of CSCMC's mission, funding priorities, and community impact. *(Laura Haase)*

March 30 – Met with Marsha Powers, Martin County School Board Member and ELCIRMO's CEO to strengthen collaboration. *(Laura Haase)*

April 1 – Attended Hope Center for Autism's Evening of Expansion event, supporting expanded services and reinforcing CSCMC's commitment to developmental and behavioral health. *(Laura Haase, Cara Good, Nicole King)*

April 2 – Participated in Martin County Funders Consortium, strengthening coordination with philanthropic partners and aligning investments to community needs. *(Laura Haase, Zack Hackley)*

April 2 – Participated in Youth Mental Health Collaborative meeting, advancing regional conversations around mental health supports. *(Laura Haase, Cara Good)*

April 6 – Met with Heather Platt and Mark Cowles to coordinate planning for the Martin County School District Back-to-School event, supporting access to resources for families. *(Laura Haase, Cara Good)*

April 8 – Participated in Martin County Interagency meeting, contributing to cross-sector coordination and sharing CSCMC priorities. The meeting included a presentation regarding resources available for sensory-inclusive services in Martin County. *(Laura Haase)*

April 8 – Attended Hobe Sound Community Chest Luncheon. *(Laura Haase, Cara Good)*

Community Engagement Activities (continued)

April 9 – Attended the Center for Child Counseling “Lead the Fight” event supporting children’s mental health awareness and services. *(Laura Haase)*

April 13 – Participated in Martin Reads Changemaker Leadership Meeting, supporting literacy initiatives and collaboration. *(Laura Haase, Cara Good, Nicole King, Edy Migoya)*

April 15 – Met with Lainey Muenich, Chief Executive Officer of the Hobe Sound Chamber of Commerce, to strengthen business and community partnerships. *(Laura Haase)*

April 15 – Attended League of Women Voters event on the “State of the Girl in Florida,” gaining insight into statewide youth data and trends. *(Laura Haase)*

April 15 – Attended Autism Awareness event hosted by the Martin County School District, supporting services for children with special needs. *(Laura Haase)*

April 16 – Attended Impact100 Grant Recipient Award Night, strengthening relationships with philanthropic partners. *(Laura Haase)*

April 17 – Toured Indiantown with Taryn Kryzda, Village Manager, to better understand growth, housing, and impacts on families and children. *(Laura Haase)*

April 20 – Met with Commissioner Stacey Hetherington to provide updates on CSCMC initiatives and funding priorities. *(Laura Haase)*

April 21 – Met with Florida State Senator Gayle Harrell to discuss property tax reform and potential impacts to CSCMC. *(Laura Haase)*

April 27 – Met with Commissioner Eileen Vargas to provide updates on CSCMC initiative and funding priorities. *(Laura Haase)*

April 28 – Met with Commissioner Ed Ciampi to provide organizational updates and strengthen collaboration. *(Laura Haase)*

April 29 – Participated in United Way’s Community Conversation featuring Supervisor of Elections Vicki Davis. *(Laura Haase)*

May 1 – Hosted “Coffee with the Executive Director” with funded providers to strengthen communication, reinforce partnerships, and provide updates on CSCMC priorities and property tax reform. *(Laura Haase, Cara Good, Zack Hackley)*

May 5–7 – Attended Florida Grade Level Reading (FGLR) Conference to engage in statewide collaboration and align with emerging trends. *(Laura Haase, Cara Good, Robert Griggs)*

May 8 – Attended Prime Time Afterschool Symposium focused on advancing quality in out-of-school time programming and youth development strategies. *(Laura Haase, Cara Good)*

II. Program Information

Mid-Year Program Performance Reviews (Administrative Visits)

Mid-Year Program Performance Review visits were conducted for 45 programs approximately halfway through the contract year. The reviews began on February 24, 2026 and were completed on April 23, 2026. A Council member attended 20 of the review visits, gaining insight into the monitoring process and the opportunity to acquaint themselves with the programs by meeting administrative staff and touring the locations where the programs are conducted.

Program Manager Position Filled

We are pleased to announce that one of the two Program Manager positions at CSCMC has been filled by Robert Griggs, who joined the CSCMC team on May 4, 2026.

Robert brings more than 10 years of experience administering CSCMC-funded initiatives, along with a strong background in program leadership and a clear understanding of CSCMC's mission. His experience provides valuable insight into CSCMC priorities, our community, and the impact CSCMC strives to achieve through the programs that it funds.

We are confident Robert's experience and perspective will allow him to make an immediate contribution to this role. Please join us in welcoming Robert to the CSCMC team.

Staff Vacancy

In-person interviews are being scheduled for late May for the vacant Program Manager position. As part of the selection process, candidates for the Program Manager position were asked to make a video submission.

Martin Reads Initiative

The Martin Reads Changemaker Leadership met on April 13, 2026, to continue workshopping an actionable path toward collectively supporting literacy. A draft of an Invitation to Negotiate has been collaboratively created by the Changemaker Leadership group. CSCMC's Executive Director, Director of Program Operations, and the new Program Manager attended the Florida Grade Level Reading Symposium in Tampa from May 5-8. During the symposium, the CSCMC team consulted with Kelly Kulsrud who has 15 years of experience leading literacy improvement in strategic and tactical terms. The Martin Reads Changemaker Leadership will meet with the Martin Reads Executive Roundtable on June 1 to present the Invitation to Negotiate and determine next steps.

2026-2027 Request for Proposals – Strong, Nurturing Families and Safe, Stable Communities

On March 26, 2026, the *Strong, Nurturing Families and Safe, Stable Communities* 2026-2027 Request for Proposals (RFP) was released via the CSCMC website, emailed to funded providers, distributed to community partners via Constant Contact, and published via a legal ad in TC Palm’s online edition, Stuart News, and affiliated Treasure Coast newspapers.

The deadline for applicants to submit a proposal to CSCMC was May 1, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. Nineteen (19) proposals were submitted for consideration. CSCMC Staff, Council Liaison Darlene VanRiper, and CAP (Community Advisory Panel) members will review the applications. Funding recommendations will be presented to Council at the August 24, 2026 meeting.

Abridged Application for Continued Funding

An Abridged Application for Continued Funding was released to eligible agencies on May 6, 2026, and are due to CSCMC by June 5, 2026. Currently funded programs in CSCMC’s regular funding cycle that are not under the *Strong, Nurturing Families and Safe, Stable Communities* funding priority areas are required to complete this application to be considered for continued CSCMC funding for the October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2027, funding cycle. Funding allocation recommendations for programs eligible for continued funding are included in the May 2026 Council packet.

Abridged Application for Continued Partnership Funding

An Abridged Application for Continued Partnership Funding was released to eligible agencies on May 8, 2026, and are due to CSCMC by June 8, 2026. Currently funded partnership funding recipients that are not competing under the *Strong, Nurturing Families and Safe, Stable Communities* funding priority areas are required to complete this application to be considered for continued CSCMC funding for the October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2027, funding cycle. Part of the application process includes the provision of proof of other funding as a 1:1 match is required for Partnership funding. Funding allocation recommendations for programs eligible for continued Partnership Funding will be presented to Council in June 2026.

Developmental Funding Application

An Application for Developmental Funding is scheduled to be released on May 15, 2026, and will be due to CSCMC by June 19, 2026. Developmental Funding recipients must reapply each year to give providers the opportunity to propose programmatic changes and/or performance measure modifications. Developmental Funding recipients are expected to adapt and evolve their programs by incorporating lessons learned during the program’s implementation. Developmental Funding recommendations will be presented to Council on August 24, 2026, for the October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2027, funding cycle. Agencies that apply for Developmental Funding can request up to \$35,000 with a 1:1 match funding requirement, as well as other specific requirements pursuant to CSCMC policy.



March 22, 2026

MCTA

Part III Let's Get A Little Wonky...

Now that we've discussed wants and needs and the difficulty with those in the last 2 parts, let's move on to the WHY NOW of the Elimination of Property Taxes in Florida.

Well, the state is swimming in funds. Florida's 2026 budget maintains \$15.7 billion in reserves. Regardless of your politics, the Governor wants to be known as the fiscally conservative Governor. He claims to have cut fat and spent less to achieve more. He wants to bring that philosophy to the 67 counties.

Florida's property taxes have risen rapidly, increasing by nearly 40% in the last 3 years and more than doubling in the last 10, according to Florida TaxWatch. These taxes totaled \$59.2 billion in the most recent fiscal year, the non-profit reported. Yet, many counties, even though they are bringing in more revenue because values have increased, have only kept their ad valorem rate flat or even increased it! Insatiable!

Martin County ranks around 30th in population size among Florida's counties with approximately 164,000 residents. Divide that into the County's budget of \$763,193,437 and it spends \$4,653.62 on every man, woman and child ANNUALLY! This is nearly what Maimi/Dade spends. They are the largest county with over 2.7 million residents.

The general fund of Martin County's budget has increased by 46% over the last 5 years from \$146,895,226 to \$273,586,989 while our population has increased by less than 2% (except in 2024 when it increased by 2.1%) every year since 1996. It's true. A lot of the traffic, beach crowd etc. that you experience is due to the behemoths to our north and south. So, even if you allow for a 10% increase, the general fund should have only increased to \$161,584,748. But, wait what about inflation? We must account for that. Statistically, inflation accounts for an overall price increase of about 25% since 2020. Ok, let's add another 25% to our budget figure. The general fund should still be only \$201,980,935. It is therefore reasonable to say that our budget is \$71,606,054 over what it should be.

Are you getting angry yet? Maybe confused? Go back and read the first 2 parts.

It is evident that WE, the people who reside in Martin County like our luxuries. We have a multimillion-dollar clubhouse on a public golf course, Sailfish Splash Waterpark which has an operating loss of \$272,362 and Indian Riverside Park was in the hole \$368,918 last year. MARTY rides are free and the County has a list of non-profits that they give your tax dollars to every year. Many of these employ professional fundraisers and the latest addition, Special Olympics is a global organization to which the Commission gave \$85,000 of OUR tax dollars. Keep in mind that we also have an independent taxing authority to help fund children's services called the **Children's Services Council** oddly enough. Do other entities like Sand Dune Café make money. Yes, but do they make up for year after year losses on other entities? And, the bigger point is why didn't we know? So, we can decide if we need to cut our losses?

Much of our tax revenue goes to Public Safety which will not be included in the elimination of property taxation for obvious

reasons. But, that doesn't mean that fire/rescue and sheriff's services shouldn't be looked at for cost saving efficiencies from time to time. Perhaps they can't see the forest for the trees. An evaluation by outside entities qualified in assessing these particular institutions could either reveal some cost savings or validate such large increases in expenditures and responsibilities. There will be future articles on this issue.

MCTA has instituted an INSIGHTS series of events which will feature a prominent issue or speaker of importance to you the taxpayer. And, of course, there is our monthly newsletter which will report on Commission meetings etc. To get invitations to the INSIGHTS events or to sign up for the newsletter go to www.mctaxpayers.org. Email us at mctaxpayers1950@gmail.com

Martin County Tax Payers Associates' opinions are his own and may not reflect Friends & Neighbors viewpoint.



MCTA

Martin County Taxpayers Association

Children's Service Council (CSC)

Investing in Project LIFT's Pathway Academy of Innovation program: Pathways to Graduation in Martin County By Laura Haase, Executive Director

What does it take to help every young person in Martin County reach graduation? For many students, traditional school settings provide exactly what they need to succeed. For others, challenges with mental health, family instability, or other barriers can make it difficult to stay on track.

As a community, it is important that we recognize that not every path looks the same for our community's youth, but we have options in place to support students wherever they are on their path. By doing so, we give more young people the opportunity to reach graduation and have a successful future.

That is why the **Children's Services Council of Martin County** invests in programs like Project LIFT's Pathway Academy of Innovation. Project LIFT offers an alternative path to students struggling in a traditional school setting. Students work toward earning an accredited high school diploma while also receiving mental health support, mentoring, and hands-on vocational training.

The first year of CSCMC funding for Project LIFT's Pathway Academy of Innovation program was 2024-2025, and the outcomes are promising. Last year the program served 36 Martin County teens who might otherwise have dropped out of traditional high school. Of those teens, 25 earned their high school diploma, and others remained actively engaged in the program and on track to complete. In addition, 22 students earned an industry-recognized trade certification, giving them a clear pathway into the workforce. This year, the program

is on track to serve at least 50 youth. In 2025-2026, CSCMC is investing \$157,500 in this program, helping to leverage a total program investment of more than \$1.3 million through additional grants and philanthropy.

Research shows that a single youth who drops out of high school can cost society hundreds of thousands of dollars over a lifetime in lost earnings, lower tax contributions, and increased reliance on public systems. When we help a young person graduate and gain meaningful skills, we are not only changing their future, but we are also making a smart investment for Martin County. CSCMC focuses on investing taxpayer dollars responsibly in prevention and early intervention programs like Project LIFT's Pathway Academy of Innovation to assist youth toward graduating high school and becoming productive members of our community.