

**Children's Services Council  
of St. Lucie County**

**ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT**

**September 30, 2024**

**Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County  
ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT**

**September 30, 2024**

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## REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

To the Board of Supervisors  
Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County  
Port St. Lucie, Florida

### Report on Audit of the Financial Statements

#### *Opinion*

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County (the "Council"), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2024, and the related notes to financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County as of September 30, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position and the budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### *Basis for Opinion*

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS), and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Council and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### *Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

To the Board of Supervisors  
Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Council's ability to continue as a going concern for one year beyond the financial statement date, including currently known information that may raise substantial doubt thereafter.

### ***Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Statements***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore, is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgement, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Council's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control related matters that we identified during the audit.

To the Board of Supervisors  
Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County

***Required Supplementary Information***

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that Management's Discussion and Analysis, the Schedule of Employer Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability – Florida Retirement System Pension Plan, Schedule of Employer Contributions – Florida Retirement System Pension Plan, Schedule of Employer Proportionate of Net Pension Plan – Health Insurance Subsidy Pension Plan and the Schedule of Employer Contributions – Health Insurance Subsidy Pension Plan, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the *Governmental Accounting Standards Board* who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

**Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards**

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued a report dated February 12, 2025 on our consideration of the Council's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations and contracts.

The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank  
Certified Public Accountants PL  
Fort Pierce, Florida

February 12, 2025

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
For The Year Ended September 30, 2024**

Management's discussion and analysis of the financial statements for the Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County (the "Council") provides a summary of the Council's activities for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024. Management has prepared this Management's Discussion and Analysis, and is responsible for the completeness and fairness of this information. This discussion and analysis should be read in conjunction with the accompanying financial statements.

The accompanying financial statements include all activities and functions for which the Council has direct oversight responsibility and all funds of the Council.

**FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

- The Council levies taxes through the TRIM (Truth In Millage) process established by Section 200.065, Florida Statutes. Pursuant to Section 125.601(3)(b), Florida Statutes, the Council may not adopt a millage rate to exceed .5 mills. For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024, the millage rate was .3790 mills which produced \$12,995,129 in tax revenues compared to the previous fiscal year when tax revenues levied were \$11,771,925. Thus, \$1,223,204 or 10.39% more in tax revenues were received in Fiscal Year 2023/24 compared to Fiscal Year 2022/23. The Council decreased the millage rate for 2023/24 from .4025 mills adopted in the prior year.
- The Council's total net position decreased \$571,008 from September 30, 2023 to September 30, 2024.
- The assets of the Council exceeded its liabilities at the close of the fiscal year by \$5,349,579 (net position). This compares to the previous fiscal year when assets exceeded liabilities by \$5,920,587. Of this amount, \$1,793,043 is restricted in the form of capital assets and the remaining balance is available to be used to meet the Council's ongoing obligation to citizens and creditors.
- The total cost of the Council's grant allocations for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024 was \$11,840,531. This cost represents expenditures on local service programs and compares to \$10,737,906 expended on local service programs for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023.

**OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

This discussion is intended to serve as an introduction to the basic financial statements of the Children's Services Council. The Council's basic financial statements are comprised of three integral components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to financial statements. Each of these components is discussed in further detail in the following paragraphs. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements.

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
For The Year Ended September 30, 2024**

**OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**Government-wide Financial Statements**

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the Council's finances in a manner similar to a private-sector business. The government-wide statements include all assets and liabilities and use the accrual basis of accounting, which provides for recording revenues when earned and recording expenses when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. The government-wide financial statements include the *Statement of Net Position* and the *Statement of Activities*. These government-wide financial statements complement rather than replace traditional fund-based financial statements.

The *Statement of Net Position* is used to report all that the Council owns (assets) and owes (liabilities). The Council's assets include financial resources such as cash and receivables. Also included are capital assets such as buildings, equipment and furniture. The Council's liabilities include vendor payables, grants payable, deferred revenue, and obligations incurred in connection with the Council's operation (such as salaries payable and vacation leave/compensated absences payable). The difference between assets and liabilities is reported as *net position*.

The *Statement of Activities* presents information showing how the Council's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (e.g., uncollected taxes and earned but unused vacation leave).

For financial reporting purposes, the Council is considered a special-purpose government engaged in a single governmental program. Thus, the Statement of Activities is presented utilizing the alternative format presenting a single column that reports expenses first followed by revenues.

In summary, the Statement of Net Position reports the Council's net position and the Statement of Activities reports the Council's changes in net position. The Council's net position (the difference between assets and liabilities) is one way to measure the Council's financial health or financial position. Over time, increases and decreases in the Council's net position are one indicator of whether financial health is improving or deteriorating. Other factors, such as changes in the Council's property tax base and the assessed millage rate will also, over time, help assess the overall financial health of the Council.

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
For The Year Ended September 30, 2024**

**OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**Fund Financial Statements**

A *fund* is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Council, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. *All of the funds of the Council are categorized as governmental funds.*

*Governmental funds* are used to report all of the Council's basic services. Governmental funds focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. Governmental funds are reported using modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the Council's general government operations and the basic services it provides.

The Council's governmental fund statements include the *Balance Sheet*, the *Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance*, and the *Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance-Budget and Actual*.

The governmental fund *Balance Sheet* reports only the financial assets associated with governmental activities. Financial assets include cash as well as other assets that will convert to cash in the short term such as receivables and investments. Governmental funds do not report capital assets, such as equipment and furniture, because such assets will be used in operations rather than converted to cash and are therefore, not spendable.

Liabilities are also recognized in governmental funds only to the extent that they are expected to affect a government's near-term financing needs. For example, the Council's liabilities for vacation leave and special termination benefits are not reported in governmental funds until the period when payment becomes due. The difference between assets and liabilities reported in a governmental fund is known as *Fund Balance*.

Fund balance is the net resources of a government and an approximate measure of liquidity. Governmental fund balances are reported in five categories as nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned, or unassigned. Nonspendable fund balance includes amounts that are not available for spending, such as prepaid items and long-term investments. Restricted fund balance is the portion that reflects resources that are subject to externally enforceable legal restrictions, such as creditors or grantors. Committed fund balances are self-imposed limitations and assigned fund balances are set for an intended use; both of these fund balances may only be modified or rescinded by the governing ten-member Council by resolution. Unassigned fund balance is the portion of fund balance representing the amount that is not nonspendable, restricted, committed, or assigned. Unassigned fund balance is considered to be utilized first when an expenditure is incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of those unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used. The categorization of fund balance is intended to provide information useful to the financial statement reader in assessing the government's resource allocation plans.

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
For The Year Ended September 30, 2024**

**OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**Fund Financial Statements (Continued)**

The governmental fund *Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance* is used to report all transactions, events, and interfund activity that increase or decrease fund balances.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. Both the governmental fund *Balance sheet* and the governmental fund *Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance* provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and government-wide activities.

**Notes to Financial Statements**

The *Notes to Financial Statements* provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

**Budgetary Information**

The budget is prepared and adopted after public hearings, pursuant to Section 200.065, Florida Statutes.

**ANALYSIS OF THE GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. In the case of the Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County, assets exceeded liabilities by \$5,349,579 as of September 30, 2024. The change in net position for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024 was a decrease of \$(571,008). This decrease is due to Ad Valorem revenues, Intergovernmental, Interest and Miscellaneous Income being less than the annual program allocations and operations expense needs. An expense increase occurred in Grant Allocations in the amount of \$1,102,625. An expense decrease occurred in Personnel Services, materials and services in the amounts of \$147,737 and \$2,906, and depreciation increased \$787. Ad Valorem revenues increased \$1,223,204 and Interest and Miscellaneous Income increased by \$46,860.

Of the Council's \$5.35 million net position balance, \$3.55 million (66%) is unrestricted. The remaining \$1.8 million (34%) is invested in capital assets.

Deferred outflows of resources were Deferred Outflows - Pension Related at September 30, 2024, \$265,337 compared to \$278,091 at September 30, 2023.

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
For The Year Ended September 30, 2024**

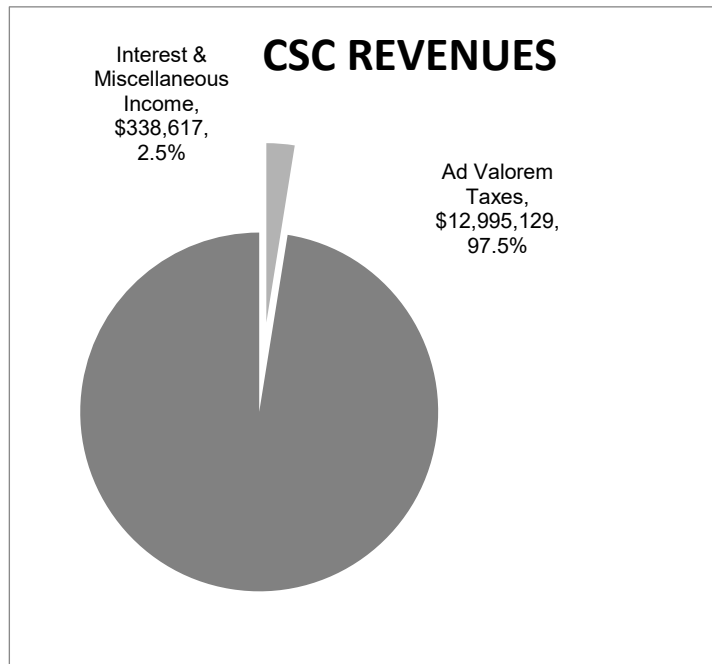
**OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**ANALYSIS OF THE GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

Liabilities of the Council at year end totaled \$4,108,664 and were primarily comprised of grants payable to programs funded by the Council that are paid on a reimbursement basis the month after expenditures occur. Grants payable to programs were \$2,588,547 at September 30, 2024 compared to \$2,531,942 at September 30, 2023. The increase in grants payable was due to the timing of reimbursement request submissions. Net pension liability was \$1,123,192 at September 30, 2024, compared to \$1,214,545 at September 30, 2023. This decrease is the result of actuarial assumptions of future performance of the Florida Retirement System provided to the Council. See Notes to Financial Statements, Note F. Other liabilities at year-end included accounts payable to vendors and accrued salaries and benefits, \$113,401, and accrued compensated absences/vacation and sick leave, \$283,524. Accounts payable and accrued salaries increased by \$53,850 over prior year-end amounts and accrued compensated absences/vacation and sick leave increased by \$33,986 over prior year-end amounts. The increase in accounts payable and accrued salaries is due to the timing of payroll and vendor payments at fiscal year-end. The increase in compensated absences was primarily due to employees who utilized fewer leave hours than the hours earned.

Deferred inflows of resources were Deferred Inflows – Pension Related at September 30, 2024, \$137,187, compared to \$48,545 at September 30, 2023. This balance also results from actuarial assumptions provided to the Council.

Interest and miscellaneous income totaled \$338,617. This amount includes interest income of \$329,442 and miscellaneous income of \$9,175.



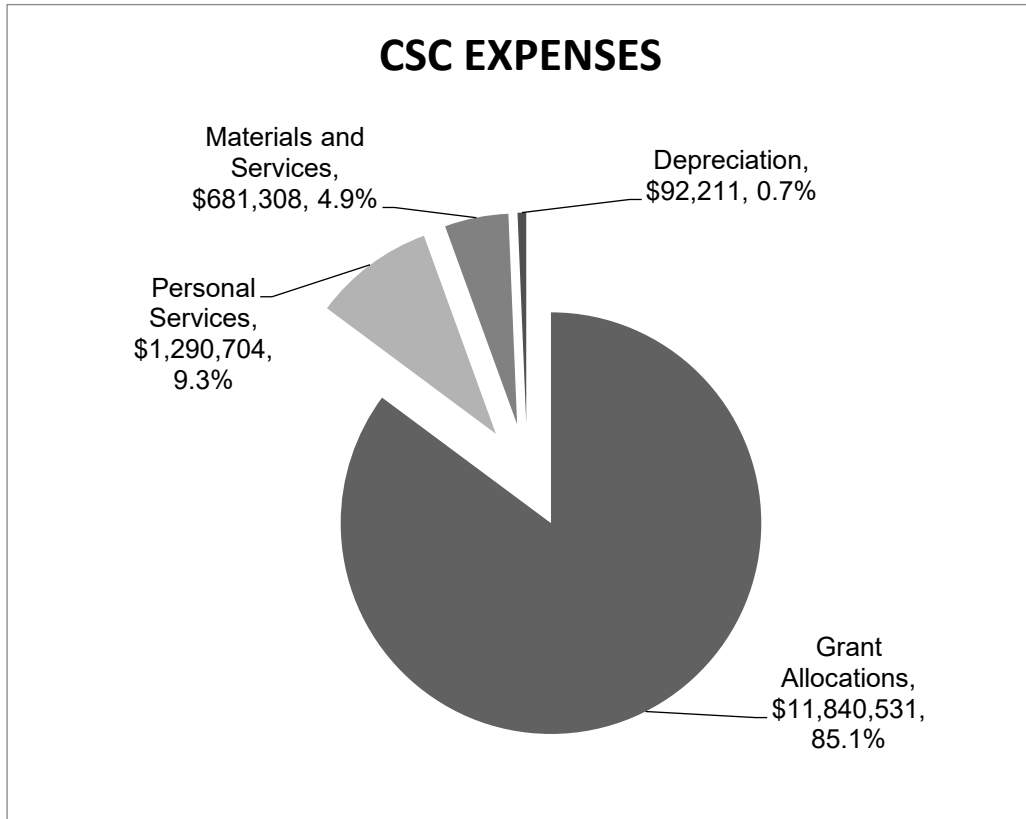
**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
For The Year Ended September 30, 2024**

**OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**ANALYSIS OF THE GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

The cost of grants for local program services for fiscal year-ended September 30, 2024 was \$11,840,531 or 85% of total Council expenses. The cost for local grant allocations for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023 was \$10,737,906. Thus, local program expenditures increased by \$1,102,625 or 8% for the fiscal year reported herein.

Operational costs including both program and administrative personnel services, materials and services, and depreciation totaled \$2,064,223 (15%) of total expenses. In comparison, operational costs for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023 were \$2,211,903 (17%) of total expenses. Operational costs decreased \$147,680.



**CHILDREN’S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY  
MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
For The Year Ended September 30, 2024**

**FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUND**

The focus of the Council’s governmental funds is to provide information on near term inflows, outflows, and balances of spendable resources. Unassigned fund balance may serve as a useful measure of a government’s net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year. At September 30, 2024, the Council reported a general fund balance of \$4,835,102. This fund balance compares to \$5,293,835 at September 30, 2023. As required by GASB 54, the Council reports specific fund balance categories of nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned. The table below presents the fund balance in these categories as utilized by Children’s Services Council for September 30, 2024 and September 30, 2023.

	<u>FYE 09/30/24</u>	<u>FYE 09/30/23</u>
Committed - Cash Reserves	\$ 2,684,111	\$ 2,465,063
Committed - Disaster Recovery	110,000	110,000
Assigned - Fiscal Stabilization	1,185,541	1,120,105
Unassigned	855,450	1,598,667
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>\$ 4,835,102</u>	<u>\$ 5,293,835</u>

Ad valorem tax revenues totaled \$12,995,129 for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024, which is an increase of \$1,223,204 (10.39%) from the \$11,771,925 in ad valorem tax revenues for the prior fiscal year. Total expenditures were \$13,792,479 for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024, which is an increase of \$1,190,786 (9.4%) from the \$12,601,693 for the prior fiscal year. This increase is comprised of a \$1,102,625 (10.3%) increase in grant allocations, an increase in personal services of \$63,942 (5.4%), and a decrease in materials and services of \$(2,906) (.43%).

The Council prepares budget transfers over the course of the year allocating funds from one line item to another to prevent budget overruns. The final variance between actual expenditures and the final budget was \$707,889 below final budget amounts. The most significant variance was an under expenditure of grant allocations in the amount of \$430,066 which was due to contracted programs not expending allotted funds. Total actual revenues were \$46,517 less than the final budgeted revenues. This variance was mostly due to ad valorem taxes that were under budget by \$(82,134).

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
For The Year Ended September 30, 2024**

**ECONOMIC FACTORS, NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET AND TAX RATES**

The Council is responsible for and takes considerable care in setting the budget and the tax rate each fiscal year. This task involves determining community needs and anticipating ad valorem tax revenues.

The Council performs formal needs assessments annually to determine community need. Need, however, is inherently learned in daily communication with funded programs and involvement by Council and staff in community organizations and initiatives. Anticipating ad valorem tax revenues is complex and requires attention to the local economy, the improvement of property in the community, and communication with the property appraiser. Ad Valorem revenues for the fiscal year reported herein indicate increasing property values. A change in the current economic climate is difficult to predict. However, it is hopeful that Ad Valorem revenues at the current millage rate continue to improve in the near future years. The Council has maintained the provision of children's services through its funded programs. The Council is committed to continue funding children's programs. Children's Services Council has approved budgets that maintain or minimize change in program funding by utilizing fund balance.

Maintenance and enhancement of programming in future years will be dependent on the availability of funds from annual revenue streams and reserves.

The Council will continue its vigilance in assessing needs and resources in the community.

The Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County operates in accordance with Chapter 125.901 of the Florida Statutes.

**REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION**

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the finances of the Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to: Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County; 546 NW University Boulevard., Suite 201; Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986. Further information about the Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County can be found on the Council website: [www.cscslc.org](http://www.cscslc.org).

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY**  
**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**  
**September 30, 2024**

<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 7,508,296
Receivables	28,754
Total Current Assets	<u>7,537,050</u>
Non Current Assets	
Capital assets depreciated, net of accumulated depreciation (\$1,485,858)	<u>1,793,043</u>
Total Assets	<u>9,330,093</u>
 <b>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	
Deferred outflows related to pensions	<u>265,337</u>
 <b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	113,401
Grants payable	2,588,547
Current portion of accrued compensated absences	68,321
Total Current Liabilities	<u>2,770,269</u>
Non-current liabilities:	
Accrued compensated absences, due in more than one year	215,203
Net pension liability	1,123,192
Total Non-current Liabilities	<u>1,338,395</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>4,108,664</u>
 <b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	
Deferred inflows related to pensions	<u>137,187</u>
 <b>NET POSITION</b>	
Net investment in capital assets	1,793,043
Unrestricted	<u>3,556,536</u>
Total Net Position	<u><u>\$ 5,349,579</u></u>

See notes to financial statements.

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY**  
**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2024**

Expenses	
Human Services - Children's Services	
Grant allocations	\$ (11,840,531)
Personal services	(1,290,704)
Materials and services	(681,308)
Depreciation	(92,211)
	<hr/>
Total Human Services - Children's Services	(13,904,754)
	<hr/>
General Revenues	
Ad Valorem taxes	12,995,129
Interest income	329,442
Miscellaneous income	9,175
	<hr/>
Total General Revenues	13,333,746
	<hr/>
Change in Net Position	(571,008)
	<hr/>
Net Position - October 1, 2023	5,920,587
	<hr/>
Net Position - September 30, 2024	\$ 5,349,579
	<hr/> <hr/>

See notes to financial statements.

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY**  
**BALANCE SHEET – GENERAL FUND**  
**September 30, 2024**

<b>ASSETS</b>	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 7,508,296
Receivables	28,754
	<u>28,754</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 7,537,050</u>
 <b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</b>	
Liabilities:	
Accounts payable	\$ 113,401
Grants payable	2,588,547
	<u>2,588,547</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>2,701,948</u>
 Fund Balances:	
Committed to:	
Cash reserves	2,684,111
Disaster recovery	110,000
Assigned to:	
Fiscal stabilization	1,185,541
Unassigned	855,450
	<u>855,450</u>
Total Fund Balances	<u>4,835,102</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	<u>\$ 7,537,050</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY  
RECONCILIATION OF TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUND BALANCES  
TO NET POSITION OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES  
September 30, 2024**

Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet of Government Funds to the  
Statement of Net Position.

Total fund balances - governmental funds.	\$ 4,835,102
Net capital assets are not current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in governmental funds.	1,793,043
On the Statement of Net Position, the Council's proportionate share of the net pension liability of the cost-sharing defined benefit pension plans which the Council participates is reported as a noncurrent liability.	(1,123,192)
Deferred outflows of resources related to pension are not current resources and are, therefore, reported on the Statement of Net Position and not the funds level statement.	265,337
Deferred inflows of resources related to pension are reported on the Statement of Net Position and not the funds level statement.	(137,187)
Accrued compensated absences are not due and payable in the current period and are not reported in governmental funds.	<u>(283,524)</u>
Net Position of Governmental Activities	<u><u>\$ 5,349,579</u></u>

See notes to financial statements.

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND  
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE – GENERAL FUND  
For the Year Ended September 30, 2024**

	General
Revenues	
Ad Valorem taxes	\$ 12,995,129
Interest income	329,442
Miscellaneous income	9,175
Total Revenues	13,333,746
Expenditures	
Current:	
Human Services	
Grant allocations	11,840,531
Personal services	1,246,675
Materials and services	678,148
Capital outlay	27,125
Total Expenditures	13,792,479
Net change in fund balance	(458,733)
Fund Balances - October 1, 2023	5,293,835
Fund Balances - September 30, 2024	\$ 4,835,102

See notes to financial statements.

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY**  
**RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND**  
**CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE**  
**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2024**

Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund  
Balance of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities

Net change in fund balance of governmental funds.	\$ (458,733)
Governmental funds report capital outlay as an expenditure. In the Statement of Activities the cost of certain assets are allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation. This is the amount of depreciation, \$(92,211), and loss on disposal of assets, \$(3,160), in excess of capital outlay, \$27,125, in the current period.	(68,246)
Government funds report contributions to defined benefit plans as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities, the amount contributed to defined benefit plans reduces future net pension liability and is reported as part of deferred outflows of resources.	(12,754)
In the Statement of Activities, pension expense is recorded for the Council's proportionate share of collective pension expense of the cost-sharing defined benefit plans in which the Council participate. Also, included in the pension expense are amounts required to be amortized in accordance with GASB Statement No. 68.	2,711
Some expenses reported in the Statement of Activities do not require the use of current financial resources and are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds. These include the net decrease in the compensated absences.	<u>(33,986)</u>
Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities	<u><u>\$ (571,008)</u></u>

See notes to financial statements.

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE –**  
**GENERAL FUND – BUDGET AND ACTUAL**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2024**

	BUDGETED AMOUNTS		ACTUAL AMOUNTS	VARIANCE WITH FINAL BUDGET POSITIVE (NEGATIVE)
	ORIGINAL	FINAL		
<b>REVENUES</b>				
Ad Valorem taxes	\$ 13,077,263	\$ 13,077,263	\$ 12,995,129	\$ (82,134)
Interest income	300,000	300,000	329,442	29,442
Miscellaneous income	3,000	3,000	9,175	6,175
Total Revenues	<u>13,380,263</u>	<u>13,380,263</u>	<u>13,333,746</u>	<u>(46,517)</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
Current:				
Human Services				
Grant allocations	12,270,636	12,270,597	11,840,531	430,066
Salaries	865,979	858,339	844,293	14,046
Payroll taxes	60,479	60,479	60,144	335
Florida retirement contributions	126,353	126,353	140,850	(14,497)
Health benefits	223,186	223,186	195,952	27,234
Life insurance	3,786	3,786	3,592	194
Workers' compensation	3,000	3,000	1,844	1,156
Deferred compensation	1,500	1,500	-	1,500
Collection expenses	412,412	412,412	330,848	81,564
Professional services	51,700	51,200	33,305	17,895
Travel expenses	22,070	23,911	12,392	11,519
Rent/occupancy	53,500	53,500	51,186	2,314
Equipment/building maintenance	33,902	33,902	30,044	3,858
Office expenses	196,130	178,933	166,720	12,213
Communications	7,620	6,920	6,515	405
Utilities	16,000	16,000	10,080	5,920
Continuing education	7,150	7,150	2,670	4,480
Postage	500	500	449	51
Publications	5,500	5,500	224	5,276
Contingency	90,000	90,000	-	90,000
Dues and membership	24,265	24,265	22,520	1,745
Advertising	2,850	2,960	2,952	8
Insurance and bonds	8,850	8,850	8,243	607
Capital outlay	13,000	37,125	27,125	10,000
Total Expenditures	<u>14,500,368</u>	<u>14,500,368</u>	<u>13,792,479</u>	<u>707,889</u>
Net Change in Fund Balances	(1,120,105)	(1,120,105)	(458,733)	661,372
Fund Balances - October 1, 2023	<u>1,120,105</u>	<u>1,120,105</u>	<u>5,293,835</u>	<u>4,173,730</u>
Fund Balances - September 30, 2024	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 4,835,102</u>	<u>\$ 4,835,102</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**September 30, 2024**

**NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Reporting Entity

The Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County (the "Council") is a special independent taxing district established under County Ordinance 90-41 in 1990 to improve the quality of life for all children in St. Lucie County; its boundaries being coterminous with those of the county. The Council is governed by a ten-member council which consists of the Superintendent of Schools, a local School Board member, the Circuit Administrator from Circuit XIX from the Florida Department of Children and Families or his designee; one member of the Board of County Commissioners, and the Judge assigned to juvenile cases. The remaining five members are appointed by the Governor for four year terms. The Council operates in accordance with Section 125.901, Florida Statutes.

The Council follows the standards promulgated by GASB Codification Section 2100, *Defining the Financial Reporting Entity*. The accompanying financial statements include all operations over which the Council is financially accountable.

The Council provides funding to various agencies, however, each agency is financially independent. The Council has no authority to appoint or hire management of the agencies nor does it have responsibility for routine operations of the agencies. Based upon application of these factors, the Council has concluded that it has no financial oversight responsibility for the various agencies and, therefore, their financial statements are excluded from the reporting entity. The Council has not identified any component units and is not a participant in any joint ventures.

Government-wide and Fund Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement of activities) report information on all of the activities of the Council.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program revenues include 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Taxes and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

Separate fund financial statements are provided for governmental funds.

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**September 30, 2024**

**NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus, and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter, to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the government considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, expenditures related to compensated absences and claims and judgments are recorded only when payment is due.

Ad valorem taxes and interest associated with the current fiscal period are all considered to be susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as revenues of the current fiscal period. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the government.

The Council reports the following major governmental fund:

*General Fund:* The government's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the general government.

Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

The budget is prepared and adopted after public hearings, pursuant to Section 200.065 of the Florida Statutes. The budget was adopted by the Council for the General Fund for the period October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024 utilizing generally accepted accounting principles.

Capital Assets

Capital assets (property and equipment) are reported in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the government as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than \$1,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of three years. Such assets are recorded at historical cost. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of donation. The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets lives are not capitalized. Property and equipment of the Council is depreciated using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of three to forty years.

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**September 30, 2024**

**NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

Property Taxes

Property taxes for the current year were collected by the St. Lucie County Tax Collector and subsequently remitted to the Council. Property taxes are assessed as of January 1 each year and are first billed (levied) and due the following November 1. Under Florida law, the assessment of all properties and the collection of all county, municipal, school board and special district property taxes are consolidated in the offices of the St. Lucie County Property Appraiser and St. Lucie County Tax Collector. The laws for the State regulating tax assessments are also designed to assure a consistent property valuation method statewide. State statutes permit Children's Services Council to levy property taxes at a rate of up to .5 mills (\$.50 per \$1,000 of assessed taxable valuation). The millage rate assessed by the Council for the year ended September 30, 2024 was .3790 mills.

The tax levy of the Council is established by the Council prior to October 1 of each year, and the St. Lucie County Property Appraiser incorporates the millage into the tax levy, for the County. All property is reassessed according to its fair market value as of January 1 of each year. Each assessment roll is submitted to the Executive Director of the State Department of Revenue for review to determine if the rolls meet all of the appropriate requirements of state statutes.

All real and tangible personal property taxes are due and payable on November 1, each year or as soon as practicable thereafter, as the assessment roll is certified by the St. Lucie County Property Appraiser. The County mails to each property owner on the assessment roll a notice of the taxes due and the County also collects the taxes for the Council. Taxes may be paid upon receipt of such notice from the County, with discounts at the rate of four percent (4%) if paid in the month of November, three percent (3%) if paid in the month of December, two percent (2%) if paid in the month of January, and one percent (1%) if paid in the month of February. Taxes paid during the month of March are without discount, and all unpaid taxes on real and tangible personal property become delinquent and liens are placed on April 1 of the year following the year in which the taxes were assessed. Procedures for the collection of delinquent taxes by the County are provided for in the laws of Florida. There were no material delinquent property taxes at September 30, 2024.

Pensions

In the government-wide statement of net position, liabilities are recognized for the Council's proportionate share of each pension plan's net pension liability. For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources, and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Florida Retirement System (FRS) defined benefit plan and the Health Insurance Subsidy (HIS) defined benefit plan and additions to/deduction from the FRS and the HIS fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the FRS and the HIS plans. For this purpose, defined benefit payments (including refund of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**September 30, 2024**

**NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

Compensated Absences

All regular employees accrue one sick day per month. Employees with up to five years of service accrue one vacation day per month. Those exceeding five years of service accrue up to 1.25 days per month and employees with over ten years accrue up to 1.67 days per month. In the event of termination, an employee is reimbursed for unused accumulated vacation leave. Accrued sick leave is only reimbursable to voluntary terminations.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents, which are cash and short-term investments with maturities of three months or less, include cash on hand and in banks, and cash placed with the State Board of Administration LGIP fund.

Governmental Fund Balance

The Council has adopted GASB Statement 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*. Governmental fund balances are reported as non-spendable, restricted, committed, assigned and unassigned. Only the governing ten-member council may modify or rescind a fund balance commitment, by resolution. Unassigned fund balance is considered to be utilized first when an expenditure is incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of those unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

The committed to cash reserves fund balance is determined annually and is calculated as 17% of the annual budgeted operating expenses.

The committed to disaster recovery fund balance is based annually on providing \$200,000 for disaster recovery. The committed amount is this \$200,000 amount less the amount included in the current budget as contingency expense.

The assigned fiscal stabilization fund balance is determined annually based on projected deficits of the annual budget projections for one year subsequent to the current fiscal year.

**NOTE B – DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS**

Statement of Policy

The purpose of the Council's investment policy is to set forth the investment objectives and parameters for the management of public funds, the availability of operating funds when needed, and an investment return competitive with market rates.

The Council's policy is written in accordance with Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, which applies to funds under control of local governments and special districts. The policy and any subsequent revisions are approved by the Council Members.

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**September 30, 2024**

**NOTE B – DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)**

Deposits

Banks qualified as public depositories under Florida law hold cash deposits of the Council. In addition to insurance provided by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation, all deposits are held in banking institutions approved by the State Treasurer of the State of Florida to hold public funds. Under Florida Statutes Chapter 280, Florida Security for Public Deposits Act, the State Treasurer requires all Florida qualified public depositories to deposit with the Treasurer or banking institution eligible collateral. As of September 30, 2024, the Council's bank balance and carrying value were \$7,220,344.

The cash and cash equivalents balance of the Council also included \$287,952 at September 30, 2024 in Florida PRIME.

Investments

The Council's investments are limited to investments permitted under Section 218.415, Florida Statutes. The investment in Florida PRIME is measured at amortized cost. Florida PRIME has established policies and guidelines regarding participant transactions and the authority to limit or restrict withdrawals or impose a penalty for an early withdrawal. As of September 30, 2024, there were no redemption fees, maximum transaction amounts, or any other requirement that would limit daily access to 100 percent of the account value.

The Council categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy recently established by generally accepted accounting principles. The fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset, or paid to transfer a liability, in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. The Council uses a market approach in measuring fair value that uses prices and other relevant information generated by market transactions involving identical or similar assets, liabilities, or groups of assets and liabilities.

Assets or liabilities are classified into one of three levels. Level 1 is the most reliable and is based on quoted price for identical assets, or liabilities, in an active market. Level 2 uses significant other observable inputs when obtaining quoted prices for identical or similar assets, or liabilities, in markets that are not active. Level 3 is the least reliable and uses significant unobservable inputs that use the best information available under the circumstances, which includes the Council's own data in measuring unobservable inputs.

As of September 30, 2024, the Council did not hold any investments that meet the criteria described above.

Interest Rate Risk

Section 218.415, Florida Statutes limits investments to high quality investments to control interest rate risk.

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**September 30, 2024**

**NOTE B – DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)**

Credit Risk

Section 218.415, Florida Statutes limits investments to high quality investments to control credit risk. As of September 30, 2024, Florida PRIME was rated AAAM by Standard & Poor's and had a weighted average days to maturity of 39 days at September 30, 2024.

Concentration of Credit Risk

The Council places no limit on the amount it may invest in any one fund. The Council has 100% of its investments placed with Florida PRIME.

Custodial Credit Risk

For an investment, custodial risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the council will not be able to recover the value of its investment or collateral securities that are in possession of an outside party.

**NOTE C – RECEIVABLES**

The majority of receivables are due from other governmental agencies. The Council has determined that an allowance for doubtful accounts is not necessary.

Receivables at September 30, 2024 consisted of the following:

Other receivables	<u>\$ 28,754</u>
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**NOTE D – CHANGES IN CAPITAL ASSETS**

A summary of changes in Capital Assets for the year ended September 30, 2024, follows:

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Increases</u>	<u>Decreases</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Furniture and equipment	\$ 219,361	\$ 27,125	\$ (6,640)	\$ 239,846
Buildings	3,039,055	-	-	3,039,055
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(1,397,127)</u>	<u>(92,211)</u>	<u>3,480</u>	<u>(1,485,858)</u>
Capital Assets, Net	<u>\$ 1,861,289</u>	<u>\$ (65,086)</u>	<u>\$ (3,160)</u>	<u>\$ 1,793,043</u>

Depreciation, \$92,211, was charged to Human Services.

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**September 30, 2024**

**NOTE E – NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES**

A summary of changes in Non-Current Liabilities follows:

	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance
Compensated absences	\$ 249,538	\$109,629	\$ 75,643	\$ 283,524

**NOTE F – FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

General Information about the Florida Retirement System

The Florida Retirement System (FRS) was created by Chapter 121, Florida Statutes, to provide a defined benefit pension plan for participating public employees. The FRS was amended in 1998 to add the Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) under the defined benefit plan and amended in 2000 to provide a defined contribution plan alternative to the defined benefit plan for FRS members effective July 1, 2002. This integrated defined contribution pension plan is the FRS Investment Plan. Chapter 112, Florida Statutes, established the Retiree Health Insurance Subsidy (HIS) Program, a cost-sharing multiple- employer defined benefit pension plan, to assist retired members of any State-administered retirement system in paying the costs of health insurance.

All regular employees of the Council are required to enroll as members of the State-administered FRS. Provisions relating to the FRS are established by Chapters 121 and 122, Florida Statutes; Chapter 112, Part IV, Florida Statutes; Chapter 238, Florida Statutes; and FRS Rules, Chapter 60S, Florida Administrative Code; wherein eligibility, contributions, and benefits are defined and described in detail. Such provisions may be amended at any time by further action from the Florida Legislature. The FRS is a single retirement system administered by the Florida Department of Management Services, Division of Retirement, and consists of the two cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit plans and other nonintegrated programs. A comprehensive annual financial report of the FRS, which includes its financial statements, required supplementary information, actuarial report, and other relevant information, is available from the Florida Department of Management Services' website ([www.dms.mvflorida.com](http://www.dms.mvflorida.com)).

The Council's pension expense totaled \$150,128 for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024.

FRS Pension Plan

Plan Description. The FRS Pension Plan (the "Plan") is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan, with DROP for eligible employees. The general classes of membership are as follows: *Regular Class* – Members of the FRS who do not qualify for membership in the other classes and *Senior Management Service Class (SMSC)* – Members in senior management level positions.

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**September 30, 2024**

**NOTE F – FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM (CONTINUED)**

Employees enrolled in the Plan prior to July 1, 2011 vest at 6 years of creditable service, and employees enrolled in the Plan on or after July 1, 2011 vest at 8 years of creditable service. All vested members, enrolled prior to July 1, 2011, are eligible for normal retirement benefits at age 62 or at any age after 30 years of service. All members enrolled in the Plan on or after July 1, 2011, once vested, are eligible for normal retirement benefits at age 65 or any time after 33 years of creditable service. Members of the Plan may include up to 4 years of credit for military service toward creditable service. The Plan also includes an early retirement provision; however, there is a benefit reduction for each year a member retires before his or her normal retirement date. The Plan provides retirement, disability, death benefits, and annual cost-of-living adjustments to eligible participants.

DROP, subject to provisions of Section 121.091, Florida Statutes, permits employees eligible for normal retirement under the Plan to defer receipt of monthly benefit payments while continuing employment with an FRS participating employer. An employee may participate in DROP for a period not to exceed 60 months after electing to participate, except that certain instructional personnel may participate for up to 96 months. During the period of DROP participation, deferred monthly benefits are held in the FRS Trust Fund and accrue interest. The net pension liability does not include amounts for DROP participants, as these members are considered retired and are not accruing additional pension benefits.

*Benefits Provided.* Benefits under the Plan are computed on the basis of age and/or years of service, average final compensation, and service credit. Credit for each year of service is expressed as a percentage of the average final compensation.

For members initially enrolled before July 1, 2011, the average final compensation is the average of the 5 highest fiscal years' earnings; for members initially enrolled on or after July 1, 2011, the average final compensation is the average of the 8 highest fiscal years' earnings. The total percentage value of the benefit received is determined by calculating the total value of all service, which is based on the retirement class to which the member belonged when the service credit was earned. Members are eligible for in-line-of-duty or regular disability and survivors' benefits. The following chart shows the percentage value for each year of service credit earned:

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**September 30, 2024**

**NOTE F – FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM (CONTINUED)**

<i>Class, Initial Enrollment, and Retirement Age/Years of Service</i>	<i>% Value</i>
<i>Regular Class members initially enrolled before July 1, 2011</i>	
Retirement up to age 62 or up to 30 years of service	1.60
Retirement at age 63 or with 31 years of service	1.63
Retirement at age 64 or with 32 years of service	1.65
Retirement at age 65 or with 33 or more years of service	1.68
<i>Regular Class members initially enrolled after July 1, 2011</i>	
Retirement up to age 65 or up to 33 years of service	1.60
Retirement at age 66 or with 34 years of service	1.63
Retirement at age 67 or with 35 years of service	1.65
Retirement at age 68 or with 36 or more years of service	1.68
<i>Elected County Officers</i>	3.00
<i>Senior Management Service Class</i>	2.00

As provided in Section 121.101, Florida Statutes, if the member is initially enrolled in the FRS before July 1, 2011, and all service credit was accrued before July 1, 2011, the annual cost-of-living adjustment is 3 percent per year. If the member is initially enrolled before July 1, 2011, and has service credit on or after July 1, 2011, there is an individually calculated cost-of-living adjustment. The annual cost-of-living adjustment is a proportion of 3 percent determined by dividing the sum of the pre-July 2011 service credit by the total service credit at retirement multiplied by 3 percent. Plan members initially enrolled on or after July 1, 2011, will not have a cost-of-living adjustment after retirement.

Contributions. The Florida Legislature establishes contribution rates for participating employers and employees. Contribution rates during the 2023-24 fiscal year were as follows:

Class	July 1, 2023		July 1, 2024	
	Percent of Gross Salary		Percent of Gross Salary	
	Employee	Employer (1)	Employee	Employer (1)
FRS, Regular	3.00%	13.57%	3.00%	13.63%
FRS, Senior Management Service	3.00%	34.52%	3.00%	34.52%

Notes: (1) Employer rates include 2.00 percent and 2.00 percent for the postemployment health insurance subsidy for the period October 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 and July 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024, respectively. Also, employer rates, other than for DROP participants, include 0.06 percent for administrative costs of the investment plan.

(2) Contribution rates are dependent upon retirement class in which reemployed.

The Council's contributions to the Plan totaled \$81,226 for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024.

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**September 30, 2024**

**NOTE F – FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM (CONTINUED)**

*Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions.* At September 30, 2024, the Council reported a liability of \$773,417 for its proportionate share of the Plan's net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2024, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2024. The Council's proportionate share of the net pension liability was based on the Council's 2023-24 fiscal year contributions relative to the 2023-24 fiscal year contributions of all participating members. At June 30, 2024, the Council's proportionate share was 0.001999 percent, which was an increase of 4.83 percent from its proportionate share measured as of June 30, 2023.

For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024, the Council recognized pension expense of \$100,242 related to the Plan. In addition, the Council reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u>	<u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u>
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 78,136	\$ -
Change of assumptions	106,004	-
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on Pension Plan investments	-	(51,405)
Changes in proportion and differences between the Council's Pension Plan contributions and proportionate share of contributions	26,131	(35,512)
Council's Pension Plan contributions subsequent to the measurement date	31,346	-
Total	<u>\$ 241,617</u>	<u>\$ (86,917)</u>

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**September 30, 2024**

**NOTE F – FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM (CONTINUED)**

*Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions. (Continued)*

The deferred outflows of resources related to pensions, totaling \$31,346, resulting from Council contributions to the Plan subsequent to the measurement date, will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to change of assumptions for pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

<u>Fiscal Year Ending</u> <u>September 30,</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2025	\$ (2,330)
2026	126,362
2027	525
2028	(6,388)
2029	5,185
Thereafter	-

*Actuarial Assumptions.* The total pension liability in the July 1, 2024 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumption, applied to all period included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.40 percent
Salary increases	3.50 percent, average, including inflation
Investment rate of return	6.70 percent, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation

Mortality rates were based on the PUB2010 base table with Scale MP-2021.

The actuarial assumptions used in the July 1, 2024, valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study dated December, 2024.

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**September 30, 2024**

**NOTE F – FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM (CONTINUED)**

Actuarial Assumptions. (Continued)

The long-term expected rate of return on Pension Plan investments was not based on historical returns, but instead is based on a forward-looking capital market economic model. The allocation policy's description of each asset class was used to map the target allocation to the asset classes shown below. Each asset class assumption is based on a consistent set of underlying assumptions and includes an adjustment for the inflation assumption. The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic and geometric real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation (1)</u>	<u>Annual Arithmetic Return</u>	<u>Compound Annual (Geometric) Return</u>	<u>Standard Deviation</u>
Cash	1.0%	3.3%	3.3%	1.1%
Fixed income	29.0%	5.7%	5.6%	3.9%
Global equity	45.0%	8.6%	7.0%	18.2%
Real estate	12.0%	8.1%	6.8%	16.6%
Private equity	11.0%	12.4%	8.8%	28.4%
Strategic investments	2.0%	6.6%	6.2%	8.7%
Total	<u><u>100.00%</u></u>			
Assumed Inflation - Mean			2.4%	1.5%

(1) As outlined in the Pension Plan's investment policy

Discount Rate. The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 6.70 percent. The Plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current active and inactive employees. Therefore, the discount rate for calculating the total pension liability is equal to the long-term expected rate of return.

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**September 30, 2024**

**NOTE F – FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM (CONTINUED)**

Sensitivity of the Council's Proportionate Share of the Net Position Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate. The following represents the Council's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 6.70%, as well as what the Council's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (5.70%) or one percentage point higher (7.70%) than the current rate:

	<b>1% Decrease</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>1% Increase</b>
	<b>5.70%</b>	<b>Discount Rate</b>	<b>7.70%</b>
	<b>5.70%</b>	<b>6.70%</b>	<b>7.70%</b>
Council's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 1,360,414	\$ 773,417	\$ 281,683

FRS Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position. Detailed information about the Plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued FRS Pension Plan and Other State Administered Systems Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

Payables to the Pension Plan. At September 30, 2024, the Council reported a payable of \$2,927 for the outstanding amount of contributions to the Plan required for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024.

**HIS Pension Plan**

Plan Description. The HIS Pension Plan (HIS Plan) is a non-qualified, cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan established under Section 112.363, Florida Statutes, and may be amended by the Florida Legislature at any time. The benefit is a monthly payment to assist retirees and surviving beneficiaries of State-administered retirement systems in paying their health insurance costs and is administered by the Division of Retirement within the Florida Department of Management Services.

Benefits Provided. For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024, eligible retirees and beneficiaries received a monthly HIS payment of \$5 for each year of creditable service completed at the time of retirement, with a minimum HIS payment of \$30 and a maximum HIS payment of \$150 per month, pursuant to Section 112.363, Florida Statutes. To be eligible to receive a HIS Plan benefit, a retiree under a State-administered retirement system must provide proof of health insurance coverage, which may include Medicare.

Contributions. The HIS Plan is funded by required contributions from FRS participating employers as set by the Florida Legislature. Employer contributions are a percentage of gross compensation for all active FRS members. For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024, the HIS contribution for the period October 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 and from July 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024 was 2.00% and 2.00%, respectively. The Council contributed 100% of its statutorily required contributions for the current and preceding three years. HIS Plan contributions are deposited in a separate trust fund from which payments are authorized. HIS Plan benefits are not guaranteed and are subject to annual legislative appropriation. In the event legislative appropriation or available funds fail to provide full subsidy benefits to all participants, benefits may be reduced or cancelled.

The Council's contributions to the HIS Plan totaled \$13,557 for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024.

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**September 30, 2024**

**NOTE F – FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM (CONTINUED)**

*Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions.* At September 30, 2024, the Council reported a net pension liability of \$349,775 for its proportionate share of the HIS Plan's net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2024, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2024. The Council's proportionate share of the net pension liability was based on the Council's 2023-24 fiscal year contributions relative to the total 2023-24 fiscal year contributions of all participating members. At June 30, 2024, the Council's proportionate share was 0.0023317 percent, which was a decrease of 1.90 percent from its proportionate share measured as of June 30, 2023.

For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024, the Council recognized pension expenses of \$13,557 related to the HIS Plan. In addition, the Council reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u>	<u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u>
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 3,377	\$ (672)
Change of assumptions	6,190	(41,409)
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on HIS Plan investments	-	(127)
Changes in proportion and differences between the Council's HIS Plan contributions and proportionate share of contributions	8,730	(8,062)
Council's HIS Plan contributions subsequent to the measurement date	<u>5,423</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>\$ 23,720</u>	<u>\$ (50,270)</u>

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**September 30, 2024**

**NOTE F – FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM (CONTINUED)**

The deferred outflows of resources related to pensions, totaling \$5,423 resulting from Council contributions to the HIS Plan subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to change of assumptions for pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

<u>Fiscal Year Ending</u> <u>September 30,</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2025	\$ (2,588)
2026	(5,092)
2027	(9,973)
2028	(8,016)
2029	(4,932)
Thereafter	(1,372)

Actuarial Assumptions. The total pension liability in the July 1, 2024, actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.40 percent
Salary increases	3.50 percent, average, including inflation
Municipal bond rate	3.93 percent

Mortality rates were based on the Generational PUB2010 with Projected Scale MP-2021. The actuarial assumptions used in the July 1, 2024 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study dated December, 2024.

Discount Rate. The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 3.93 percent. In general, the discount rate for calculating the total pension liability is equal to the single rate equivalent to discounting at the long-term expected rate of return for benefit payments prior to the projected depletion date. Because the HIS benefit is essentially funded on a pay-as-you-go basis, the depletion date is considered to be immediate, and the single equivalent discount rate is equal to the municipal bond rate selected by the HIS Plan sponsor. The Bond Buyer General Obligation 20-Bond Municipal Bond Index was adopted as the applicable municipal bond index.

Sensitivity of the Council's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate. The following represents the Council's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 3.93%, as well as what the Council's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (2.93%) or one percentage point higher (4.93%) than the current rate:

	<u>1% Decrease</u> <u>2.93%</u>	<u>Current</u> <u>Discount Rate</u> <u>3.93%</u>	<u>1% Increase</u> <u>4.93%</u>
Council's proportionate share of the net pension liability	<u>\$ 398,173</u>	<u>\$ 349,775</u>	<u>\$ 309,596</u>

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**September 30, 2024**

**NOTE F – FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM (CONTINUED)**

*HIS Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position.* Detailed information about the HIS Plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued FRS Pension Plan and Other State Administered Systems Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

*Payables to the Pension Plan.* At September 30, 2024, the Council reported a payable of \$262 for the outstanding amount of contributions to the HIS Plan required for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024.

*FRS – Defined Contribution Pension Plan.* The Council contributes to the FRS Investment Plan (the "Investment Plan"), a defined contribution pension plan, for its eligible employees electing to participate in the Investment Plan. The Investment Plan is administered by the SBA and is reported in the SBA's annual financial statements and in the State of Florida Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. Service retirement benefits are based upon the value of the member's account upon retirement.

As provided in Section 121.4501, Florida Statutes, eligible FRS members may elect to participate in the Investment Plan in lieu of the FRS defined-benefit plan. Council employees participating in DROP are not eligible to participate in the Investment Plan. Employer and employee contributions, including amounts contributed to individual member's accounts, are defined by law, but the ultimate benefit depends in part on the performance of investment funds. Benefit terms, including contribution requirements, for the Investment Plan are established and may be amended by the Florida Legislature. The Investment Plan is funded with the same employer and employee contribution rates that are based on salary and membership class (Regular Class and Senior Management Class), as the FRS-defined benefit plan. Contributions are directed to individual member accounts, and the individual members allocate contributions and account balances among various approved investment choices. Allocations to the investment member's accounts during the 2023-24 fiscal year were as follows: Regular class, 13.63 percent and Senior Management class, 34.52 percent.

For all membership classes, employees are immediately vested in their own contributions and are vested after 1 year of service for employer contributions and investment earnings. If an accumulated benefit obligation for service credit originally earned under the FRS Pension Plan is transferred to the Investment Plan, the member must have the years of service required for FRS Pension Plan vesting (including the service credit represented by the transferred funds) to be vested for these funds and the earnings on the funds. Nonvested employer contributions are placed in a suspense account for up to 5 years. If the employee returns to FRS-covered employment within the 5-year period, the employee will regain control over their account. If the employee does not return within the 5-year period, the employee will forfeit the accumulated account balance. Costs of administering the Investment Plan, including the FRS Financial Guidance Program, are funded through an employer contribution of 0.06 percent of payroll and by forfeited benefits of Investment Plan members. For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024, the information for the amount of forfeitures was unavailable from the SBA; however, management believes that these amounts, if any, would be immaterial to the Council.

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**September 30, 2024**

**NOTE F – FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM (CONTINUED)**

After termination and applying to receive benefits, the member may rollover vested funds to another qualified plan, structure a periodic payment under the Investment Plan, receive a lump-sum distribution, leave the funds invested for future distribution, or any combination of these options. Disability coverage is provided; the member may either transfer the account balance to the FRS Pension Plan when approved for disability retirement to receive guaranteed lifetime monthly benefits under the FRS Pension Plan or remain in the Investment Plan and rely upon that account balance for retirement income.

The Council's Investment Plan contributions totaled \$36,329 for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024.

*Payables to the Defined Contribution Pension Plan.* At September 30, 2024, the Council reported a payable of \$1,245 for the outstanding amount of contributions to the Investment Plan required for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024.

Pension Plan expenditures for employees of The Roundtable of St. Lucie County that are covered under the Council's FRS Pension Plans are reported net of related reimbursements in the financial statements; however, expenditures are reported gross in the notes to the financial statements.

**NOTE G – RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Council is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The Council purchases commercial insurance coverage to cover the various risks. There have been no significant reductions in insurance coverage and there were no settled claims which exceeded insurance coverage in the last three years.

**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY**  
**SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF NET PENSION LIABILITY –**  
**FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM PENSION PLAN**  
**September 30, 2024**

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Council's proportion of the net pension liability *	0.001999%	0.002101%	0.002146%	0.002156%	0.001957%	0.001771%	0.001748%	0.001706%	0.001582%	0.001591%
Council's proportionate share of the net pension liability *	\$ 773,417	\$ 837,072	\$ 798,601	\$ 162,882	\$ 847,985	\$ 609,758	\$ 526,533	\$ 504,768	\$ 399,471	\$ 205,540
Council's covered payroll *	816,070	782,963	720,532	696,223	671,177	615,166	586,745	686,482	602,872	550,885
Council's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	94.77%	106.91%	110.83%	23.40%	126.34%	99.12%	89.74%	73.53%	66.26%	37.31%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	83.70%	82.38%	82.89%	96.40%	78.85%	82.61%	84.26%	83.89%	84.88%	92.00%

\* The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of June 30

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY  
SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS -  
FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM PENSION PLAN  
September 30, 2024**

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Contractually required contribution	\$ 123,483	\$ 107,197	\$ 92,712	\$ 81,463	\$ 65,340	\$ 59,967	\$ 52,541	\$ 52,603	\$ 48,547	\$ 46,013
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	<u>(123,483)</u>	<u>(107,197)</u>	<u>(92,712)</u>	<u>(81,463)</u>	<u>(65,340)</u>	<u>(59,967)</u>	<u>(52,541)</u>	<u>(52,603)</u>	<u>(48,547)</u>	<u>(46,013)</u>
Contributions deficiency/(excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Council's covered-employee payroll	\$ 830,078	\$ 779,928	\$ 748,395	\$ 712,191	\$ 649,781	\$ 615,524	\$ 610,118	\$ 661,929	\$ 622,651	\$ 561,085
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	14.88%	13.74%	12.39%	11.44%	10.06%	9.74%	8.61%	7.95%	7.80%	8.20%

See accompanying notes to required supplementary information.

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY**  
**SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF NET PENSION LIABILITY –**  
**HEALTH INSURANCE SUBSIDY PENSION PLAN**  
**September 30, 2024**

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Council's proportion of the net pension liability *	0.002332%	0.002377%	0.002398%	0.002369%	0.002321%	0.002219%	0.002112%	0.002154%	0.001953%	0.001816%
Council's proportionate share of the net pension liability *	\$ 349,775	\$ 377,473	\$ 253,969	\$ 290,533	\$ 283,429	\$ 249,727	\$ 223,543	\$ 230,282	\$ 227,601	\$ 185,186
Council's covered payroll *	816,070	782,963	720,532	696,223	671,177	615,166	586,745	686,482	602,872	550,885
Council's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	42.86%	48.21%	35.25%	41.73%	42.23%	40.60%	38.10%	33.55%	37.75%	33.62%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	4.80%	4.12%	4.81%	3.56%	3.00%	2.63%	2.15%	1.64%	0.97%	0.50%

\* The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of June 30

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY**  
**SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS –**  
**HEALTH INSURANCE SUBSIDY PENSION PLAN**  
September 30, 2024

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Contractually required contribution	\$ 16,602	\$ 13,662	\$ 12,423	\$ 11,822	\$ 10,786	\$ 10,218	\$ 10,128	\$ 10,988	\$ 10,336	\$ 7,665
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	<u>(16,602)</u>	<u>(13,662)</u>	<u>(12,423)</u>	<u>(11,822)</u>	<u>(10,786)</u>	<u>(10,218)</u>	<u>(10,128)</u>	<u>(10,988)</u>	<u>(10,336)</u>	<u>(7,665)</u>
Contributions deficiency/(excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Council's covered-employee payroll	\$ 830,078	\$ 748,395	\$ 712,191	\$ 649,781	\$ 615,524	\$ 610,118	\$ 661,929	\$ 622,651	\$ 561,085	\$ 555,609
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	2.00%	1.83%	1.74%	1.82%	1.75%	1.67%	1.53%	1.76%	1.84%	1.38%

See accompanying notes to required supplementary information.

**CHILDREN’S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY  
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM AND HEALTH INSURANCE SUBSIDY  
September 30, 2024**

The following are relevant to the Florida Retirement System (FRS) and Health Insurance Subsidy (HIS) Program:

1. Actuarial assumptions for defined benefit plans are reviewed annually by the Florida Retirement System. The FRS Pension Plan has a valuation performed annually, whereas the HIS Program has a valuation performed biennially which was updated for GASB reporting in the year a valuation was not performed. The most recent experience study for the pension plan was completed in 2024 for the period of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2023.
2. Method and assumptions used in calculation of actuarially determined contributions:

FRS Pension Plan

Valuation Date	July 1, 2023	July 1, 2024
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age	Entry Age
Actuarial Assumptions:		
Discount Rate	6.70%	6.70%
Investment Rate of Return	6.70%	6.70%
Projected Salary Increases	3.25%	3.50%
Rate of Inflation Adjustment	2.40%	2.40%
Mortality assumption:	PUB2010 base table with Scale MP-2018	PUB2010 base table with Scale MP-2021

HIS Program

Valuation Date	July 1, 2023	July 1, 2024
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age	Entry Age
Actuarial Assumptions:		
Discount Rate	3.65%	3.93%
Investment Rate of Return	N/A	N/A
Projected Salary Increases	3.25%	3.50%
Rate of Inflation Adjustment	2.40%	2.40%
Mortality assumption:	PUB2010 base table with Scale MP-2018	PUB2010 base table with Scale MP-2021



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## **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

To the Council Members  
Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County  
Port St. Lucie, Florida

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements, as listed in the table of contents, of Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County, as of and for the year ended September 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated February 12, 2025.

### **Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit, we considered Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified.

To the Council Members  
Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County

### **Report on Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

### **Purpose of this Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank  
Certified Public Accountants PL  
Fort Pierce, Florida

February 12, 2025



# Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank

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## MANAGEMENT LETTER

To the Council Members  
Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County  
Port St. Lucie, Florida

### Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of the Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County as of and for the year ended September 30, 2024, and have issued our report thereon dated February 12, 2025.

### Auditor's Responsibility

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Florida Auditor General.

### Other Reporting Requirements

We have issued our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and our Independent Accountant's Report on an examination conducted in accordance with *AICPA Professional Standards*, AT-C Section 315, regarding compliance requirements in accordance with Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General. Disclosures in those reports, which are dated February 12, 2025, should be considered in conjunction with this management letter.

### Prior Audit Findings

Section 10.554(1)(i)1., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we determine whether or not corrective actions have been taken to address findings and recommendations made in the preceding financial audit report. There were no findings or recommendations in the preceding financial audit report.

### Financial Condition and Management

Section 10.554(1)(i)5.a. and 10.556(7), Rules of the Auditor General, require us to apply appropriate procedures and communicate the results of our determination as to whether or not Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County has met one or more of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes, and to identify the specific conditions met. In connection with our audit, we determined that the Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County did not meet any of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes.

To the Council Members  
Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County

Pursuant to Sections 10.554(1)(i)5.b. and 10.556(8), Rules of the Auditor General, we applied financial condition assessment procedures as of September 30, 2024 for Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County. It is management's responsibility to monitor the Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County's financial condition, and our financial condition assessment was based in part on representations made by management and of review of financial information provided by the same as of September 30, 2024.

Section 10.554(1)(i)2., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we address in the management letter any recommendations to improve financial management. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such recommendations.

### **Specific Information**

The information below was provided by management and has not been audited by us; therefore, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information.

As required by Section 218.39(3)(c), Florida Statutes, and Section 10.554(1)(i)6, Rules of the Auditor General, Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County reported:

- 1) The total number of Council employees compensated in the last pay period of the Council's fiscal year: 13
- 2) The total number of independent contractors to whom nonemployee compensation was paid in the last month of the Council's fiscal year: 0
- 3) All compensation earned by or awarded to employees, whether paid or accrued, regardless of contingency: Total Salary = \$1,017,602
- 4) All compensation earned by or awarded to nonemployee independent contractors, whether paid or accrued, regardless of contingency: \$0
- 5) Each construction project with a total cost of at least \$65,000 approved by the Council that is scheduled to begin on or after October 1, 2023, together with the total expenditures for such project: 0
- 6) A budget variance based on the budget adopted under Section 189.016(4), Florida Statutes, before the beginning of the fiscal year being reported if the Council amends a final adopted budget under Section 189.016(6), Florida Statutes: The Council did not amend the budget.

As required by Section 218.39(3)(c), Florida Statutes, and Section 10.554(1)(i)8, Rules of the Auditor General, Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County reported:

- 7) The millage rate of ad valorem special assessments imposed by the Council as: 0.3790 mills.
- 8) The total amount of ad valorem special assessments collected by or on behalf of the Council as: The Council collected total special assessments of \$12,995,129.
- 9) The total amount of outstanding bonds issued by the Council and the terms of such bonds: N/A – no outstanding bonds.

To the Council Members  
Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County

### **Additional Matters**

Section 10.554(1)(i)3., Rules of the Auditor General, requires us to communicate noncompliance with provisions of contracts or grant agreements, or abuse, that have occurred, or are likely to have occurred, that have an effect on the financial statements that is less than material but which warrants the attention of those charged with governance. In connection with our audit, we did not note any such findings.

### **Purpose of this Letter**

Our management letter is intended solely for the information and use of the Legislative Auditing Committee, members of the Florida Senate and the Florida House of Representatives, the Florida Auditor General, Federal and other granting agencies, the Council Members, and applicable management, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

*Berger Toombs Elam  
Gaines & Frank*

Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank  
Certified Public Accountants PL  
Fort Pierce, Florida

February 12, 2025



**Berger, Toombs, Elam,  
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**INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT/COMPLIANCE  
WITH SECTION 218.415, FLORIDA STATUTES**

To the Council Members  
Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County  
Port St. Lucie, Florida

We have examined Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County's compliance with Section 218.415, Florida Statutes during the year ended September 30, 2024. Management is responsible for Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County's compliance with those requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County's compliance based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and, accordingly, included examining, on a test basis, evidence about Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our examination provides a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our examination does not provide a legal determination on Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County's compliance with the specified requirements.

In our opinion, Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County complied, in all material respects, with the aforementioned requirements during the year ended September 30, 2024.

*Berger Toombs Elam  
Gaines & Frank*

Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank  
Certified Public Accountants PL  
Fort Pierce, Florida

February 12, 2025