

Louisiana Children's Trust Fund BOARD MEETING MINUTES

December 18, 2026

ATTENDANTS

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Angela Bridgewater, DPS&C, Office of Juvenile Justice
Shallan Jones for Brittany Cochran, Department of Education
Tamara Foster-Montgomery, University Community
Franchesca Hamilton-Acker, Louisiana Bar Association
Christie Hitchens, NASW – LA
Yolanda Motley, Early Childhood Education
Dr. Kim Sherman, LA Psychological Association
Jolie Williamson, Children’s Cabinet

STAFF

Ursula Anderson, Executive Director
Michele M. Rabalais, Executive Secretary

CALL TO ORDER:

Franchesca Hamilton-Acker, CTF Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:11 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Michele M. Rabalais, Executive Assistant, called the roll.

WELCOME:

Franchesca Hamilton-Acker, CTF Board Chair, welcomed Board Members and guests.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND AGENDA:

Angela Bridgewater made a motion to approve the May 15 and October 14, 2025, minutes as presented. Christie Hitchens seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Executive Director presented the Financial Report, and copies were distributed to Board Members. Discussion followed.

Angela Bridgewater made a motion to accept the financial report as presented. Yolanda Motley seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Franchesca Hamilton-Acker, Board Chair, presented the Chairman's Report. The report included the following:

- Discussed LCTF Campaigns: Know Before You Go, Put the Phone Down, Swim Awareness/Swim Safety and Look Before You Lock. Discussion followed.
- Ms. Acker reminded Board Members to make sure they are up to date with the required ethics training
- In addition, discussion revolved around Board Committees. Should committees stay the same? Be reorganized? Should a fiscal committee be formed? Discussion followed.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Ursula Anderson, Executive Director, presented the Executive Director's report. Ms. Anderson reported the following:

- Attended Council on the Status of Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, Children's Cabinet and Children's Cabinet Advisory Board Meeting(s)
- Coffee and Conversations continue.
- Conducting site visits with LCTF grantees
- Continues to attend Children's Cabinet and Children's Cabinet Advisory Board Meetings
- Attended Together We Can Conference
- Completed the five-year state plan

Discussion followed.

NEW BUSINESS:

BOARD MEETING DATES:

The LCTF Executive Director informed the Board that dates for 2026 CTF Board Meetings have been set. The schedule is as follows:

Thursday, March 26th
Thursday, May 21st
Week of August 10-14th
Thursday, November 12th

The grant application portal will open Monday, January 5th and closing January 30th.

The portal for grant application reviewers will open January 5th and close January 30th.

In addition, grant application reviews will begin on February 16th with a due date of March 6th. This will be followed by a Grant Review Committee meeting on March 16th.

The 5th Annual Child Abuse Prevention Conference is now in the planning stages. Dates being considered are April 21st and April 22nd in Lafayette, LA. Location to be determined.

The Put the Phone Down campaign continues.

OLD BUSINESS:

FIVE YEAR STATE PLAN:

The Executive Director informed the Board that the 2025-2030 State Plan is complete.

CAMPAIGN UPDATE:

The latest LCTF campaign “Put the Phone Down” was released in August and is continuing. LCTF continues with past campaigns Know Before You Go, Swim Awareness/Swim Safety and Look Before You Lock

BOARD VACANCY:

It was reported that there are still vacancies on the CTF Board. The Executive Director will continue to work with Boards and Commissions to fill these vacancies.

ADJOURNMENT

Jolie Williamson made a motion to adjourn. Tamara Foster-Montgomery seconded the motion. All approved. Meeting adjourned.

NEXT MEETING: March 26th, 12:00-2:00 p.m.
Location: TBA