



**State of Florida
Department of Children and Families**

Ron DeSantis
Governor

Taylor N. Hatch
Secretary

Statewide Youth Advisory Board

Monthly Meeting

May 27th, 2026

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Minutes Details:

I. Welcome | Kyle Johnson – Youth Advisor, OCFW – DCF

- a. Attendance – Youth/Young Adults: 8
 - i. *M. Funicello, E. Du Ross, Q. Peeples, A. Herrin, L. Mwangi, J. Davis, J. Williams, T.D.*
- b. Attendance – Support Staff: 6
 - i. *Kyle Johnson, Maria Batista, Calvin Martin, Davonte' Smith, Keona O'Neal-Givens, Wendy Readus*
- c. Attendance – Other: 4
 - i. *Vera D., Carina D., Tina Beaulieu, Sebastian Miles,*
- d. Introductions & Icebreaker
 - i. *CrowdParty – “Over or Under”*

II. Training | Overview of Government and DCF

- a. Overview of Government
 - i. Three Branches of Government
 - ii. Florida Statutes (*or law*), Administrative Code (*or rule*), and Operating Procedure (*or policy*)
- b. The Legislative Process
 - i. How a bill becomes a law
- c. Overview of The Florida Department of Children and Families
 - i. How Does DCF Work?
 1. *Florida Statutes (F.S.)*
 2. *Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.)*
 3. *Children and Family Operating Procedure (CFOP)*
 - ii. Community-Based Care (CBC) Lead Agencies
- d. Questions for Follow-Up
 - i. “What does the process for writing Florida Administrative Code look like? How can the public get involved?” – M. Funicello
 - ii. “Does the Department have any updates about how the FYI implementation is going across the state?” – A. Herrin

III. DCF Summit | September 9th – 11th, 2026 | Orlando, FL

- a. The 2026 Florida Children and Families Summit (DCF Summit) is the Department’s annual conference for Florida’s Child Welfare professionals.
- b. The Statewide Youth Advisory Board has scholarships to support the attendance for voting members.

2415 North Monroe Street, Suite 400, Tallahassee, Florida 32303-4190

- i. *More information will be provided soon regarding the specifics of how the scholarship process works.*
- c. The Statewide Youth Advisory Board may have an opportunity to host a workshop at the DCF Summit. During our next meeting, we will talk more about this opportunity and gather your feedback to build it out.

IV. Closing | Kyle Johnson – Youth Advisor, OCFW – DCF

- a. Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday, June 24th, 2026**, from 5 PM – 7 PM via Zoom.
 - i. During this next meeting, we will begin working on developing the structure and bylaws for the Statewide Youth Advisory Board.