MISSION: We invest in partnerships, innovation, and advocacy to strengthen Pinellas County children and families.

VISION: All children in Pinellas County will have equitable opportunity to fulfill their potential and achieve meaningful and purposeful lives as a result of JWB and our partners.

ABOUT: For more than 75 years, the Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County (JWB) has been committed to making children a priority and investing to improve their futures. Established by a Special Act of the Florida Legislature and governed by an 11-member Board, JWB is a data-driven organization that responsibly directs community investments to ensure children are ready to learn, ready to succeed, and ready to thrive at home, schools, and neighborhoods that are healthy and safe. JWB invests in 85 quality programs with 50 nonprofit agencies, and works collectively to address childhood hunger, grade-level reading, and preventable child deaths. JWB’s annual impact budget of $93 million strengthened the lives of more than 64,000 children and families last year, and we invest annually across six strategic result areas: Early Childhood Development, School Readiness, School Success, the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, Strengthening Community, and Organizational Capacity.

STRATEGIC RESULT AREA GOALS

- **Early Childhood Development**: Children zero to three will meet appropriate physical, social, emotional, cognitive, and developmental milestones.
- **School Readiness**: Children served by JWB-funded School Readiness programs will enter kindergarten ready to learn.
- **School Success**: Children served by JWB-funded School Success programs will maintain or show improvement in grades, attendance, and behavior, and will achieve promotion to the next grade.
- **Prevention of Child Abuse & Neglect**: Children served by JWB-funded Prevention of Child Abuse & Neglect Programs programs will thrive in safe and healthy environments.
- **Strengthening Community**: Children served by JWB-funded Strengthening Community programs will benefit from collective neighborhood initiatives driven by empowered community leaders.
- **Organizational Capacity**: JWB will have a skilled and diverse workforce powered by robust technology to enhance the well-being of children and families.

FIRST IN THE NATION TO MAKE CHILDREN A PRIORITY

In 1945, a group of courageous Pinellas County leaders were the first in the nation to collectively make children a priority.

At that time, few alternatives existed for troubled and dependent minors, and children as young as three and four years old were housed in adult jail.

Three early champions were Juvenile Judge Lincoln Bogue, St. Petersburg Junior League Founder Mailande Holland Barton, and Attorney Leonard Cooperman.

They drafted legislation, and on November 5, 1946, Pinellas County voters enacted the Juvenile Welfare Board Special Act into law. It was the nation’s first independent board charged with guarding the rights and needs of children.

FACTS AT-A-GLANCE

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County
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FY22
PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT

26,918 Children nurtured & families strengthened with services aimed at preventing abuse

1,400 Children had at least one visit with a therapist integrated within a pediatric practice

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY

3,937 Families served by 9 Neighborhood Family Centers

5,623,135 Free meals to kids from JWB & Childhood Hunger Initiative

JWB BUDGET

JWB's revenues consist primarily of ad valorem property taxes, plus other revenue streams including interest and contributions. Our ad valorem property tax rate is less than 1% (0.8508), and we invest annually across six strategic result areas: Early Childhood Development, School Readiness, School Success, the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, Strengthening Community, and Organizational Capacity.

FY22 Total Children & Family Program Investments: $80,440,572

WHAT WE DO

Investing For The Life of a Child

INVESTMENTS

$92,939,744 Impact Budget
Invested to impact the lives of children and their families

$1,750,000 One-Time Funding
Awarded for non-operating and capital program upgrades

$.87 of Every Dollar
Devoted to direct services for Pinellas County children

PROGRAM REACH

64,089 Children & Families
Strengthened by JWB investments

50 Nonprofit Agencies
Funded by JWB to deliver quality programs

85 Quality Programs
Aligned with JWB’s Strategic Plan to improve children’s lives

COMMUNITY REACH

43 Community Council Members
Bridging JWB to the communities they serve in North, Mid, and South Pinellas

2,698 Citizens
Served through JWB-led trainings, conferences, and community outreach efforts

174 Agency Partners
Working collectively with JWB on childhood hunger, grade-level reading, and preventable child deaths

FOCUS & IMPACT

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

6,314 Infants and toddlers given great start at life

8,388 Books given by pediatricians to parents through Read Out & Read

SCHOOL READINESS

10,829 Children prepared for Kindergarten success - and beyond

315 Early childhood education degree scholarships awarded since 2018

SCHOOL SUCCESS

35,370 Youth equipped to learn & succeed in school & community settings

15,892 Free books to kids, plus literacy support offered by Grade-Level Reading Campaign

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STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY

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ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY

2 Data systems integrated & streamlined for greater efficiencies

2,698 Participants offered training & professional development