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Broward County: ChildNet's new CEO is former board member

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ChildNet named one of its former board members CEO of the nonprofit child welfare agency Wednesday after a seven-month search.

Emilio Benitez, an attorney who has long been active in child welfare activities, will take the position that has been vacant since April when the board fired its former CEO.

Benitez will head up an agency that continues to recover after the theft of a laptop containing highly personal information on 12,000 potential parents. The investigation into the theft revealed the agency did not perform proper background and reference checks on its own employees, had improper data practices and needed to beef up security. The laptop has not been recovered and no arrests have been made.

Benitez served on the ChildNet board for years and once held the position of chairman.

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