



ON THE WAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

February 26, 2021 at 10:00 AM

DRAFT

Call to Order

Dr. Patricia Snyder called this meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Roll Call

PRESENT

Member Nancy Hardt

Member Patricia Snyder

Agenda Review

Discussion Items

1. Committee Purpose & Goals - Colin Murphy

The Pritzker Children's Initiative is a three-year grant that aims to impact a quarter of the county's children aged 0-3 by connecting them to better services or ensuring they have high-quality child care. They have invested funding in our community to continue support of the three original programs funded by the Children's Services Advisory Board, as well as providing capacity to strengthen partnerships, collaborations, and programs. Those partners were written into the proposal as part of a working group, along with a higher-level oversight supported by the Trust. Using the proposed strategies and goals to evaluate community programs, develop policies, and ensure performance reporting, this committee's objective is to support and guide recommendations about initiatives or programs that should be funded by the Trust, play a key role in creating the questions we want to make sure are answered in program evaluations, and discuss the completed evaluations and decide on next steps.

Colin requests the committee provide direction on:

Initial evaluation criteria to begin funding:

- What should an Early Learning System look like?
- Who are we going to fund?
- Does this committee want to vet proposals before Board approval?
- How would we evaluate them?

Criteria to assess the programs during the funding term:

- What are we learning?
- What should we do differently?
- Do they require more funding?
- Did our funding make a difference?

Staff can then put together funding packages, proposals, and solicitations that incorporate all of the knowledge and expertise of this committee, and establish evaluation tools and report back that it works.

2. Pritzker Presentation & On The Way Initiative - Mia Jones

Mia Jones, Early Childhood Coordinator & Pritzker Fellow for the Children's Trust of Alachua County gave a presentation on the past, present, and future of the relationship between the Children's Trust, the Pritzker's Children Initiative, and the On The Way program.

3. Goals & Strategies - Mia Jones

Following the presentation, the panel discussed objectives, strategies, and anticipated impacts from the CTAC's January Report to the Pritzker Children's Initiative, as well as the CTAC's "Early Connections" Strategic Plan. The first objective asked how to increase outreach and engagement to improve participation rates in our existing maternal and infant health programs.

Dr. Hardt raised the following questions about the NewboRN home visiting program, "What are they doing to assess the women who reject the nurse home visit, why are they rejecting it, and is there something that we could do to improve their acceptance rate? Also, to what extent are families receptive to the recommendations made by the nurse home visitors and do they actually make contact with service providers that are recommended by the nurses? Is there a report they could provide with this information to lead us in the correct direction?"

Rachel Eubanks informed the group about what it means to have Gold Seal accreditation status as a child care provider. Kristy Goldwire reported that the CTAC is coordinating with the Early Learning Coalition to encourage providers to start this process.

Dr. Snyder suggests more emphasis on the number of gold seal status infant and toddler classrooms within the programs, because infant care is expensive due to the requirements of staffing, what a quality environment looks like, and the ratio of infants to adults. Dr. Snyder also requested the CTAC focus not only on center-based care, but also family care providers, licensed or unlicensed, as many are not part of the formal system, but incredibly important informal supports for many families.

Questions raised were: Can we do more to inform family, friend, and neighborhood (FFN) providers about quality infant care through some universal campaigns, who are these providers, what are they seeing in their homes when caring for children, and what help do they need in order to receive professional development?

The ED reported that child care centers are mostly for-profit small businesses, they have to balance the probability of financially breaking even, losing money, or paying for the process of accreditation. Even with the potential increased reimbursements, the process of accreditation could raise their costs to a point where they can't turn a profit which exacerbates the issue, compounding this is the currently increasing minimum wage.

The ED stated his experience in matching child care centers with professionals that advise on how to run the business first, adequately or competitively pay their employees, and have their basic financial needs met before requesting items above and beyond that. Many coaching resources have been directed at centers to help them keep their contracts. He asked, "What should our system look like here as far as what the trust supports, should we focus on the bottom, the middle, or pick some high standards? How should we invest resources and understand that the main problem that child care centers have is that they need to stay in business first and foremost. We could provide resources to help do the analysis for centers to see if it makes sense, focus on those first, and then the others - why does it not make sense, and what can we do to support that? There's a step before helping centers go to accreditation which is making sure that we have some support for those basic needs.".

Dr. Snyder agreed that a readiness assessment for Gold Seal accreditation would be a useful tool in this matter.

4. Next Steps - Committee Members

Dr. Snyder requested that the ED and Dr. Herman Knopf (UF) give a joint presentation about the status of the Preschool Development Grant.

During the meeting it was realized that some of CTAC's funded programs have had collaborative meetings. Dr. Hardt requested they share what they have discovered during their meetings, such as new gaps in funding, training, or personnel, and provide recommendations.

Dr. Snyder asked, "What are the ingredients that go into these programs? Are they being implemented as intended? What are the professional development needs that people might have?".

ED Murphy echoed that the Trust should be part of data sharing agreements with these three programs, the district and the ELC - if funding from the Trust is to be continued.

Dr. Hardt suggests that the ED move forward to find an experienced external evaluator to evaluate these three programs and advise on what questions should be asked.

General Public Comments

Adjournment

Dr. Patricia Snyder adjourned this meeting 11:49 AM.

Attendee Report 9:58 - 11:48
On the Way Advisory Committee 827 7324 3930

Panelists	Email
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CHILDREN'S TRUST
OF ALACHUA COUNTY

On the Way Initiative



Key Findings and Recommendations from the WellFlorida Needs Assessment

- Insufficient community awareness and understanding of the importance of and factors **affecting early childhood brain development**.
- Many early childhood services have capacity, but those **needing the services are not sufficiently familiar with the services**.
- Quality early learning and care services are **underutilized due to cost, access (location/transportation), and hours of operation**.
- Parents **may not be well informed** about factors affecting the quality of early learning and care services.



CHILDREN'S TRUST
OF ALACHUA COUNTY



Children's Trust of Alachua County Priorities

- Ensuring that **every baby is a healthy baby**.
- Ensuring that all **parents have the resources they need to prevent child abuse and neglect** before it starts.
- Ensuring that all families have **access to affordable, high quality and developmentally appropriate early learning and care**.
- Ensuring that all children **enter kindergarten ready to learn and to succeed**.

Who Are We Funding?



CHILDREN'S TRUST
OF ALACHUA COUNTY



Target Populations	# of Programs	Total Award	Expected # of Children to be Served
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All Ages	1	\$25,500	-
Early Childhood	3	\$1,193,864	5,128
School-Age: 6-18 yrs	18	\$840,242	2,322
School-Age: Elementary	8	\$289,286	3,530
School-Age: Elementary & Middle School	7	\$161,084	186
School-Age: Middle School	1	\$104,960	3,500
School-Age: Middle School & High School	8	\$306,652	890
School-Age: High School	1	\$96,874	50
Grand Total	47	\$3,018,462	15,516

PRITZKER

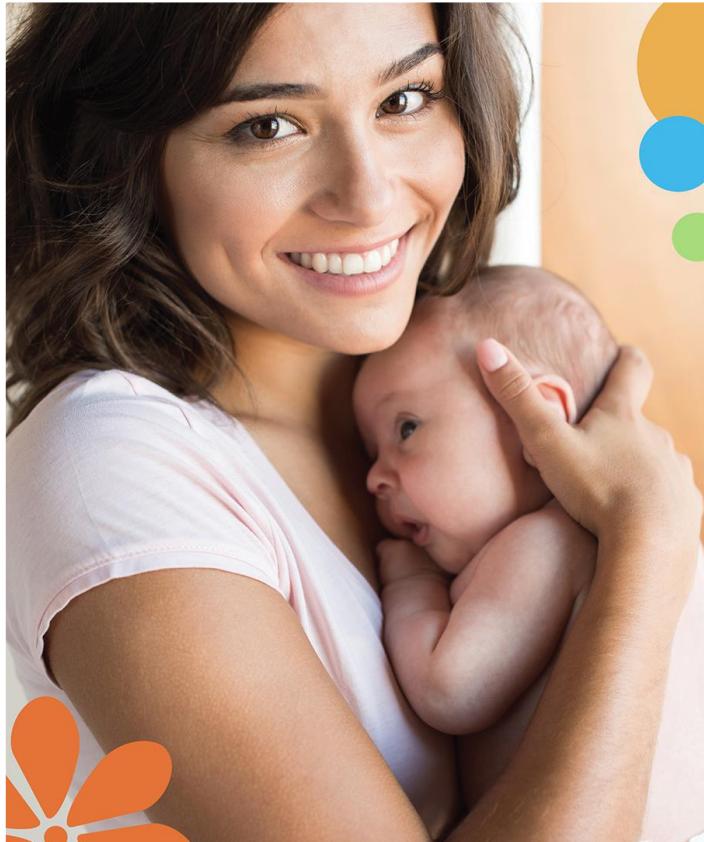
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CHILDREN'S TRUST
OF ALACHUA COUNTY

ON THE WAY

Universal Nurse Home Visiting Program



The image shows a woman with long dark hair smiling warmly at the camera while holding a newborn baby in her arms. The background is a soft, warm orange. To the right of the image, there is text and logos for the NewboRN Home Visiting program and its partners.

NewboRN Home Visiting

Collaborative Partners:

- Alachua County, Florida
- Florida Healthy Start
- UF Health
- UF Health Shands Homecare
- Florida School of Traditional Midwifery
- North Florida Regional Medical Center
- New Beginnings
- NURSECORE

Funded by the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners as recommended by the Children's Services Advisory Board.

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Transformational Professional Development

CHILD
Center for Early Learning

UF Anita Zucker Center for Excellence
in Early Childhood Studies
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA



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OF ALACHUA COUNTY

ON
THE
WAY

Healthy Social and Emotional Development



PARTNERSHIP FOR
**STRONG
FAMILIES**

Child
Advocacy
Center
Together, breaking the cycle of child abuse



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OF ALACHUA COUNTY



“On The Way” builds on
the success of these
initiatives and the
momentum of the
Children’s Trust of
Alachua County

Objective 1: Increase participation rates of those living <200% FPL by 17% annually in existing federally, state, and locally funded maternal and infant health programs.



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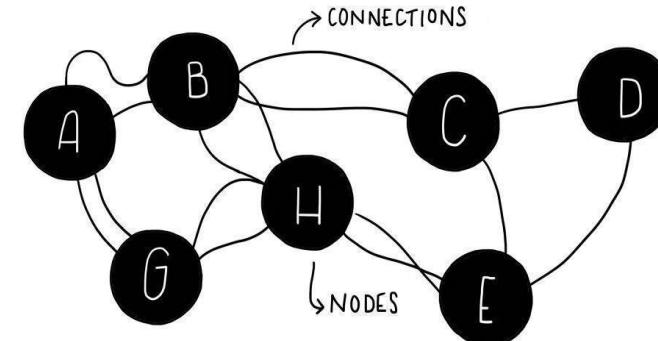
App Store



Google pla

1.1 “The App”
Increased Engagement

SYSTEM MAPPING



1.2 The Map

Objective 1: Increase participation rates of those living <200% FPL by 17% annually in existing federally, state, and locally funded maternal and infant health programs.



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1.3 interagency coordination,
inclusiveness, and
effectiveness



florida
children's
council

1.4 Replication through State-wide agencies, collaboratives, and similarly related initiatives

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Objective 2: Improve the quality and availability of early care and education services by increasing the percentage of accredited providers



Financial Incentives for
Gold Seal Accreditation
and
Professional
Development



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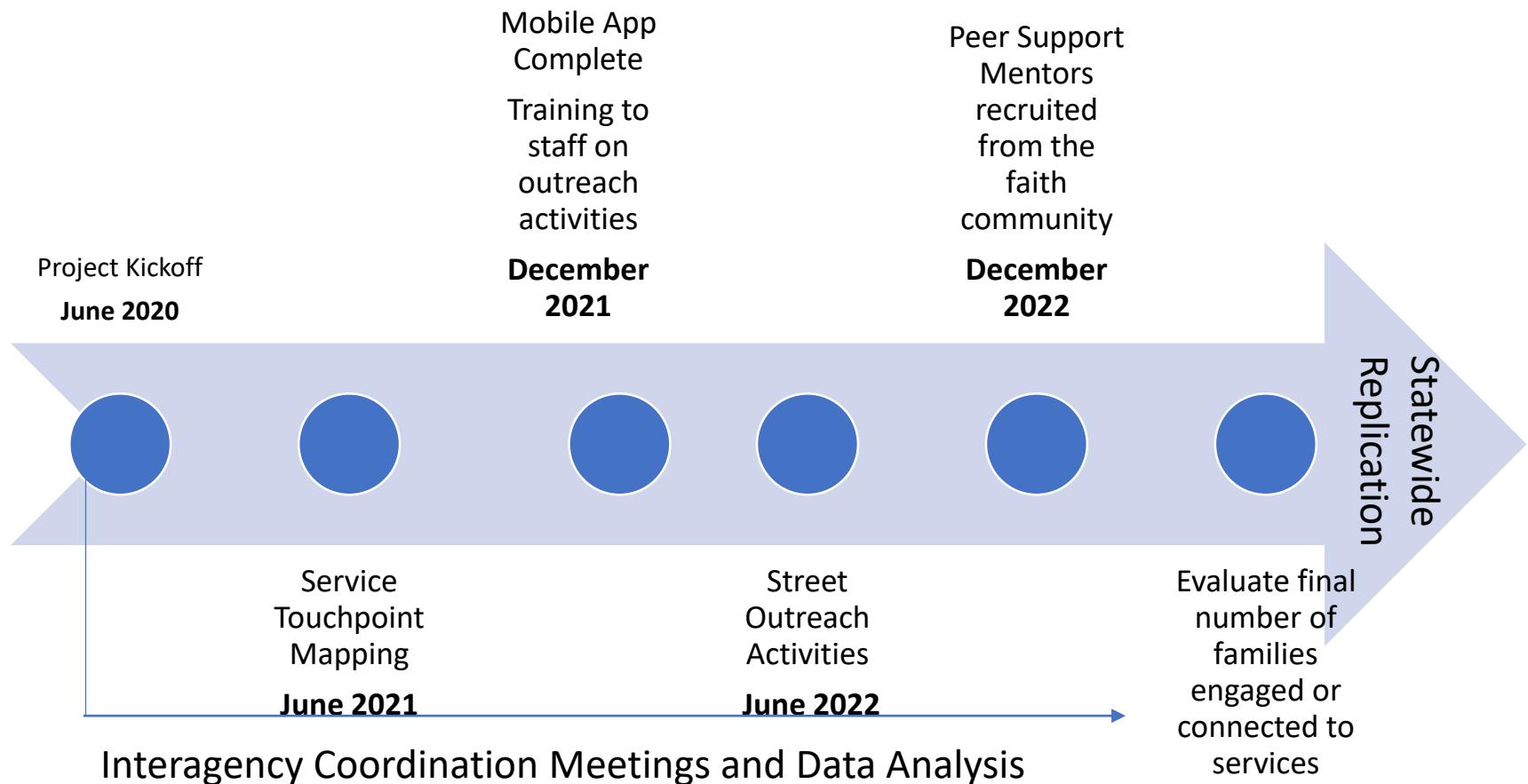
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PROJECT TIMELINE





Pritzker Children's Initiative
Alachua County Interim Report January 29, 2021

Anticipated Impact	Program	12/31/21	By 12/31/22	By 12/31/23	Total Baseline Services # as of	Non-Hispanic White	Non-Hispanic Black	Hispanic or Latinx	Asian	American Indian or Alaskan Native	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	Two or more races/ ethnicities	Other	Data Source Notes
Annually increase the # of families with infants/toddlers participating in WIC	WIC	50	75	125	2283	UKN	UKN	UKN	UKN	UKN	UKN	UKN	UKN	The baseline data is birth to three for children actively participating in WIC as of January 2020. The CHD cannot disaggregate this date for that time because the data was not pulled on that day. Their system does not give the option of searching by specific dates. Instead, it provides the current number of actively participating clients on the date the report is pulled. for example, on January 22, 2021 there are a total of 2,747 actively participating children ages 0-36 months of age in WIC in Alachua County. This disaggregate date can be found below American Indian or Alaskan Native - 2 Asian - 66 Hispanic - 453 Black or African America - 1,463 Multi-Racial - 296 Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander - 7 White - 913 Total - 2,747
Annually increase the # of families participating in NewboRN	New born Home Visiting	15	30	60	275	88	99	23	35	0	0	14	9	Baseline data dates are January 2020- December 2020. The 2020 baseline numbers are significantly lower than any other year due to covid. 664 families participated in 2019 and 275 in 2020. The NewboRN program provider has implemented several new strategies, such as virtual visit, utilizing infant screens and other MCH programs, to recruit families. To date, program nurses have returned to one hospital. Staff are hopeful the other hospital will allow the nurses back into the facility by February or March.
Annually increase number of families with infants/toddlers receiving services though Connect	Service Coordination	30	70	130	1666	234	455	40	49	1	0	15	872	Baseline data dates are January 2020 - December 2020.

Pritzker Children's Initiative
Alachua County Interim Report January 29, 2021

Annually increase the number of infants/toddlers in high quality classrooms as a result of their participation in ELC Coaching Services	Child Care	60	60	60	46	0	41	0	0	0	5	0	Baseline Data: As of July 2020, four centers had received Practice-based coaching in the infant/toddler classrooms. There were 2 infant classrooms and 4 toddler classrooms impacted by coaching. Using estimation, this gives a baseline of approximately 60 infant/toddler slots available. As of July 2020, there were 46 SR children enrolled in classrooms that received coaching.	
Annually increase the # of families with infants/toddlers participating in home visiting programs	Home Visiting	15	35	65	1227	342	506	95	88	4	0	35	157	Baseline data dates are January 2020 - December 2020. The data was collected from the following home visiting programs: Newborn Home Visiting, Healthy Start, MIECHV, & Healthy Families
Annually increase # of infants/toddlers in quality early learning classrooms as measured by a minimum score of 4.0 in the CLASS assessment	Child Care	0	96	97	114	10	94	0	0	0	0	9	1	Baseline Data: The original strategy stated that we would annually increase the number of infants/toddlers in quality early learning classrooms as measured by a minimum score of 4.0 on the CLASS assessment, however Rule 6M-4.740 was amended on 5/5/20, stating the new CLASS Assessment quality threshold to be a 4.0 without being on a Quality Improvement Plan. Since 4.0 became the new threshold for quality, we would like to aim for a score of at least a 4.5 to define quality in Alachua County, therefore increasing the threshold by a half of a point. Using the new threshold of a 4.5 or higher, there were 19 SR Providers with a score of 4.5 or higher, 3 SR Providers with no score (exempt) and 16 SR Providers with a score below 4.5. Using an estimate based on classrooms, there are approximately 9 Family Childcare Homes, 7 infant classrooms and 12 toddler classrooms with CLASS Assessment scores of 4.5 or higher. This is an estimated number of 222 infant/toddler slots available. As of July 2020, there were 114 SR infant/toddler children enrolled in classrooms/homes that had a CLASS score of 4.5 or higher.
Annually increase the # of infants/toddlers in high quality child care rated as "Gold Seal"	Child Care	8	15	25	17	0	15	0	0	0	0	1	1	Baseline Data: Using the following zip codes, 32607, 32609 and 32641, there are currently 5 SR Providers of the 38 SR Providers that are "Gold Seal" providers. Using an estimate, there are approximately 32 infant/toddler slots available, however only 17 children ages 0-3 were enrolled as of July 2020. Of

Pritzker Children's Initiative
Alachua County Interim Report January 29, 2021

														those 17 children, the demographic breakdown is as followed
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Children's Trust of Alachua County "Early Connections" Strategic Plan

Objective 1: Increase participation rates of those living <200% FPL by 17% annually in existing federally, state, and locally funded maternal and infant health programs (WIC, Healthy Start, MIECHV, NewboRN, Healthy Families)

Strategy 1 (How your initiative will achieve Objective 1)	Key Activities (what will you actually do or accomplish as part of this strategy)	Anticipated Results (Major Milestone)	Anticipated Completion Date	Year 1 Progress Markers (new progress markers will be submitted to and agreed upon by PCI before approval of second year payment)	Key Reporting Questions (January 2021 and July 2021)	Progress as of January 2021 (Please make sure to respond to any specific reporting questions from Column F)
Increased outreach and engagement of families and children living <200 %FPL	Development of a mobile application that with or without assistance prospective clients can determine which services they are likely eligible for	App available for all major platforms and in use by all key Providers like WIC, Healthy Start, NewboRN, etc.	12/1/2021	7/1/2021 Scope of work completed and contract issued for the development of a Web Application	July 2021: What progress are you making that will ensure the app is available by end of 2021?	
	Direct street outreach activities to substance using, mentally ill, and otherwise vulnerable pregnant women	Additional pregnant and post-partum mothers will be engaged in services	6/1/2022		<u>January</u> and July 2021: What strategies are you using to reach vulnerable populations? What are you learning about disparities in access for specific racial/ethnic groups and how are you addressing?	Strategies used to reach vulnerable populations 1) Family partners in hospitals. 2) Pre-registration pilots at OB offices that see high risk pregnant women. 3) Advertising on bus routes. 4) Radio PSAs on popular radio stations. 5) Advertising in doctors' offices. The data shows lower participation among some zip codes where our more vulnerable participants live. We find that they consent, but then we are unable to locate them for the visit. We use the strategies mentioned above to address this issue.
			12/1/2021			

	Staff training and Provider technical assistance to improve outreach and engagement activities	Documented increase in the number of staff hours dedicated to outreach, measurement of the number of contacts and enrollees.	12/1/2021	Working with Healthy Start, by 5/31/2021, 10 agencies will be identified and will receive additional support for outreach activities	July 2021: Did you meet this goal? How will these activities assure that outreach will be to more racially diverse families of greatest need?	
	Increase connections with the faith communities to develop a "Peer Support" component to overcome stigma and other concerns about connecting with programs	Peers recruited, training provided, 10 Peers trained and connecting with prospective families	12/1/2022		July 2021: Are you making any progress connecting with faith groups of diverse race/ethnicity? What are lessons learned? Are families completing referrals? Percentage completing?	
System mapping of service touchpoints and formalization of intake, referral and information sharing protocols	Ongoing service touchpoint identification to add new services, introduce new key contacts, to maintain a complete and update catalog of services for families <200% FPL.	Ongoing updated data base of staff and agencies providing services to families >200% FPL	6/1/2021	Completed by 5/31/2021	July 2021: What are you finding out about service gaps that may disproportionately impact families based on race, ethnicity, language, geography? Is your workforce reflective of the diversity of the families you hope to serve?	
			12/1/2022			
	Evaluation of changes in the number and percentage of all eligible families being served or connected	Achieve a documented increase in the number of eligible families served	12/1/2023			
Greater interagency coordination, inclusiveness, and effectiveness among 10 County Regional providers	Information sharing, review of data metrics on number and percentages of all families <200% FPL	Steadily increasing percentages of families served	12/1/20, 12/1/21, 12/1/22, 12/1/23	Key members of a "coordinating council" identified and two quarterly meetings held by 5/31/2021	<u>January 2021:</u> Do you have data on participation that is disaggregated by race and ethnicity? If so, what are you learning about who is accessing services? What strategies might you put in place to address disparities in access?	Yes, 2020 participation data is disaggregated by race and ethnicity for all home visiting programs. Participants are representative of the population that resides in Alachua County. To address disparities in access, we plan to partner with the faith-based community to create peer support for our African American and Hispanic communities.

	Organized, routine meetings with expanded participation to include information sharing, review of data metrics, networking and collaborating on key projects like centralized intake	One or more systemic issues are eliminated and group project completed	12/1/20, 12/1/21, 12/1/22, 12/1/23		<u>January 2021:</u> What strategies are you incorporating to engage families in some of the planning and decision-making?	Satisfaction surveys and impact interviews are completed with all of our participants to learn how we can improve the program. We also have partner meetings where we discuss how to overcome challenges and barriers.
Replication through State-wide agencies, collaboratives, and similarly related initiatives	Building on existing relationships, Identify and engage state-wide policy makers and influencers, share project results, and suggest policies to better align key issues related to licensing, funding, and related legislative items	Following two and three years of activities the initiatives will show positive movement which is quantified and shared through various networks	12/1/22 and 12/1/23	By 5/31/2021, work with the Florida Children's Council to adopt at least one PN-3 policy agenda item	July 2021: What PN-3 policy issue has been adopted by the FL Children's Council?	

Objective 2: Improve the quality and availability of infant early care and education services by increasing the number of Gold Seal providers

Strategy 2 (How your initiative will achieve Objective 2)	Key Activities (what will you actually do or accomplish as part of this strategy)	Anticipated Results (Major Milestone)	Anticipated Completion Date	Year 1 Progress Markers (new progress markers will be submitted to and agreed upon by PCI before approval of second year payment)	Key Reporting Questions (January 2021 and July 2021)	Progress as of January 2021 (Please make sure to respond to any specific reporting questions from Column F)
Provide financial and technical assistance for Providers to attain Gold Seal quality improvement status and increase availability of infant care	Assist providers in understanding requirements, help in selecting an accreditation body, share sample business plans, policies, and other related materials to attain Gold Seal status	Hold one or more annual informational events to introduce, dispel myths, and work through business plan dynamics of the Gold Seal program	12/1/2021		<u>Jan. 2021:</u> Have any informational meetings happened or been scheduled?	Informational meetings have not been scheduled. Our Pritzker Fellow starts on February 1, 2021. She will be working closely with Early Learning Coalition staff to plan meetings and create opportunities for providers, working toward Gold Seal status, receive assistance.
	Pritzker Fellow will coordinate efforts to find financial incentives that will be provided to organizations demonstrating a commitment to provide high quality infant care	Increase the number of accredited entities providing infant care by 50% annually.	Measured annually		July 2021: What are you learning about who is able to access infant child care in accredited programs? Are you collecting data on race, ethnicity, or other factor?	

	<p>Arrange for the provision of individualized technical assistance to providers demonstrating a commitment to attaining Gold Seal status.</p>	<p>Technical Assistance Consultants with expertise in accreditation requirements, financing, and professional development are engaged as needed</p>	<p>on-going</p>	<p>by 5/31/2021, develop and fund one TA cohort</p>	<p>July 2021: Was the TA cohort implemented? Did you hit the numbers you projected?</p>	
	<p>Coordinate with the Early Learning Coalition of Alachua County to identify centers in need of and willing to accept Practice-Based Coaching</p>	<p>8-10 classrooms (60 children) complete the coaching program</p>	<p>yearly</p>	<p>By 6/30/21, teachers in 8-10 infant/toddler classrooms complete the coaching program</p>	<p><u>January 2021:</u> What's the status of this activity? How are strategies being adapted in light of pandemic realities? July 2021: Are you hitting targets for PBC? What are the demographics of the teachers and infants/toddlers in impacted centers? What strategies are you employing to ensure racial/ethnic equity in this intervention?</p>	<p>Practice-based coaching has begun in Alachua County. In response to the covid pandemic, coaching is taking place onsite for some providers and virtually for others.</p>
<p>Provide financial incentives for Early Care and Education Personnel to attend training</p>	<p>Develop a scholarship and recognition program for early care para-professionals, professionals, and administrators attaining various levels of expertise through continual learning</p>	<p>At least 50% of those participating in the scholarship program will advance beyond minimum proficiencies</p>	<p>Measured annually</p>	<p>by 5/31/2021, develop an application process and plan for implementation</p>	<p>July 2021: Is the application process ready to go? What outreach efforts will you put in place to assure participation by those of diverse race/ethnicity?</p>	

Ashley Morgan-Daniel

Subject: FW: PowerPoint from ELCAC Website

Parents can download a PowerPoint presentation through our website.

For parents to access, they would go to the homepage and click on the bullet that says: "Accessing the Parent Portal- Step by Step Guide".

Here is a screenshot below.

Please feel free to download directly from the website. ☺



Welcome to Early Learning Coalition of Alachua County

School Readiness programs offer qualified parents the opportunity to access affordable, quality child care, allowing them to work and contribute to the community while being assured their children are safe and well cared for. Direct

Thanks,
Rachel

Rachel Eubanks, M.Ed.

Director of Programs

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