



## CITY OF GAINESVILLE

*Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs*  
a CAPRA Accredited Agency

April 28, 2021

To the Children's Trust of Alachua County:

In spring 2020, the City of Gainesville's Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department's Recreation Division received funding for summer camp expansion (Contract # 11550) from the Children's Trust. Due to COVID-19 complications, we were unable to expand summer camps and received an extension through the 2021 fiscal year. This year, our summer camps have approved capacities that are close to our pre-covid levels, so we are unable to expand capacity once again. I am requesting approval for a budget amendment to expand capacity of a new Summer Teen Night Pilot program that we will be offering this year as a way to offer more services to our neighbors.

This program will be run for approximately 3-4 hours each night, 2-3 nights each week for 5-6 weeks. Currently, we are planning for offering the pilot program at one location, but we would like to expand services to an additional location if able, one for middle school and one for high school aged youth. Our structure will be a 10-1 staff to youth ratio with a maximum capacity of 30 youth at each location. We will utilize one PRCA community centers as a primary location for each age group, but may have several events and opportunities at the MLK Jr Multipurpose Center and other available park locations as well. As a pilot program, we will offer this opportunity at no cost to our neighbors.

The primary goal of the pilot program is to provide positive and engaging activities for our teen neighbors during evening hours during the summer. Planned activities will vary from night to night, but may include such experiences as basketball tournaments, game or movie nights, pool parties, community service events, bowling nights, and other recreational or enrichment field trips. Participant and community engagement will play a vital role in activity planning through the program to ensure we are meeting the needs of both the youth and community.

Best regards,

William Marcantel  
Recreation Manager, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department

cc: Roxana Gonzalez, Interim Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Director