

PROJECT YOUTHBUILD

July 25, 2021

Children's Trust of Alachua County
P.O. Box 5669
Gainesville, FL 32627

Mr. Murphy-

I hope this finds you doing well. As you are aware, on June 1, 2020 the Children's Trust of Alachua County awarded a 1-year grant award totaling \$96,874.00 to Project YouthBuild (PYB) to establish the PYB Parenting Program. We are truly thankful for the support the Trust provided to help us address the needs of young parents and their children. I am writing today for you to consider awarding funding in the amount of \$180,539 (Budget Attached) for year two of this important and impactful program. We are hopeful this request can be presented at your upcoming meeting on August 9, 2021.

Shortly after launching the PYB Parenting Program, Covid-19 cases peaked in Florida creating an incredibly challenging environment to operate a new initiative. Our staff quickly adjusted our program design and delivery to provide case management, parenting and reading classes, support groups and other program components to parents via Zoom and distance learning platforms. Over the past year we helped young parents and their children navigate the closing of schools, loss of jobs and daycare, food shortages, and more, not to mention the stress and anxiety brought on by these events. In addition to impacting service delivery, we were unable to conduct development and fundraising activities planned to support continued operations of the PYB Parenting Program due to economic uncertainty related to the pandemic.

We are thankful for the support the Trust provided to PYB in 2020-21. We realize that our grant award from the Trust was a one-time award, but request your consideration of providing an additional grant award given the unforeseen circumstances created by the 1 in 100 years pandemic. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Kind Regards,


Jonathan Leslie

Attachment: Year 2 Budget

