CHILDREN'S TRUST
OF ALACHUA COUNTY

Summer Camp Program Results
Year 2: 2026

November 9, 2026

Children and Youth Served



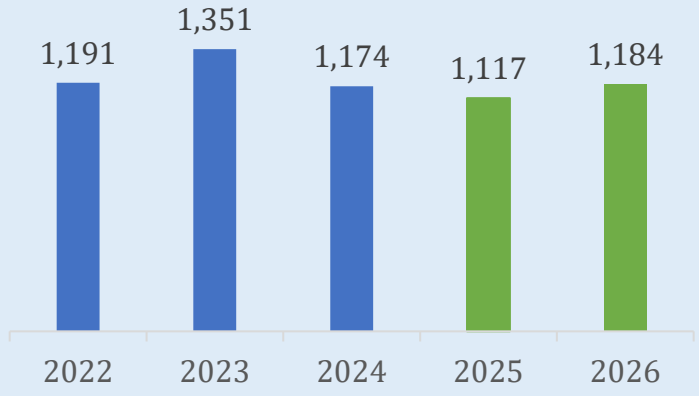
CTAC funded 22 camps in 2025, 20 camps in 2026 (increased # of campers)

New rural sites (Waldo and Alachua)

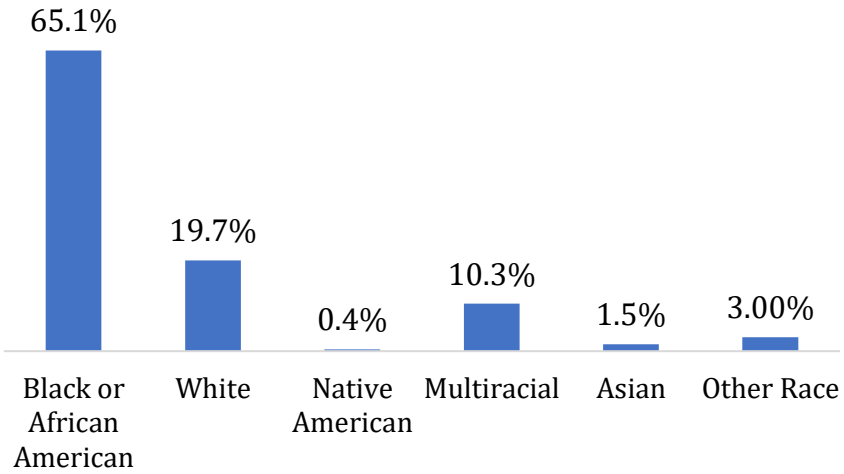
Literacy Focus: Convening, Alachua County Reads

Camp shirts!

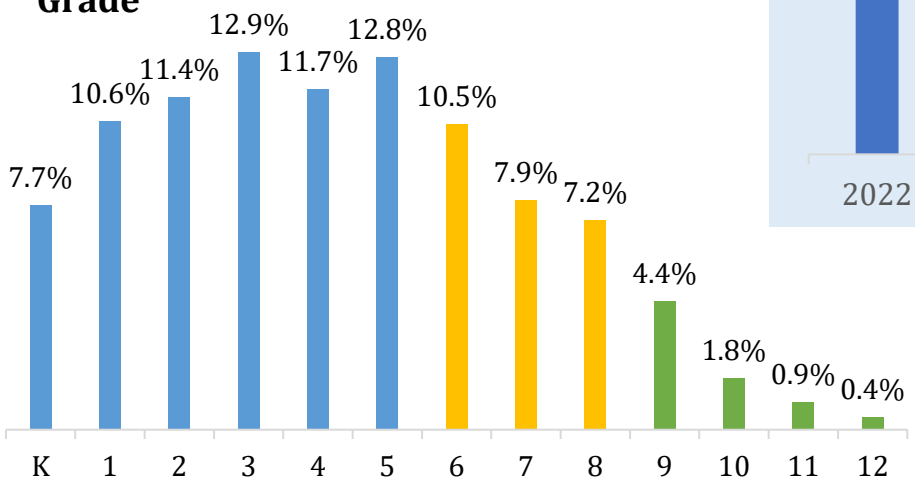
Children Served



Race



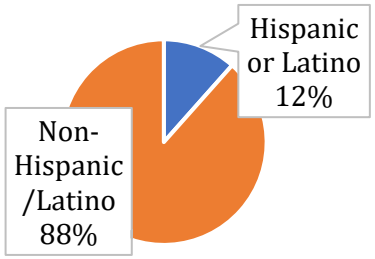
Grade



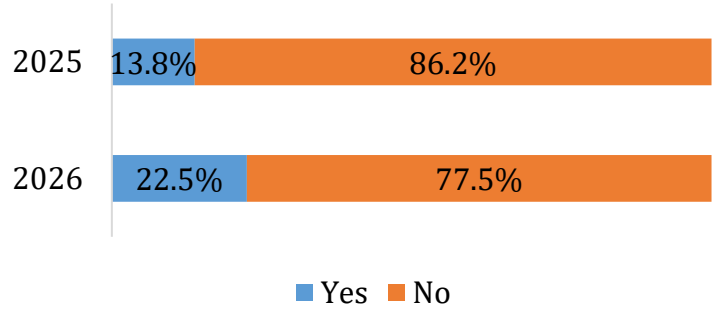
Elementary: 67% Middle: 25.5% High: 7.5%

Average Age: 9

Ethnicity



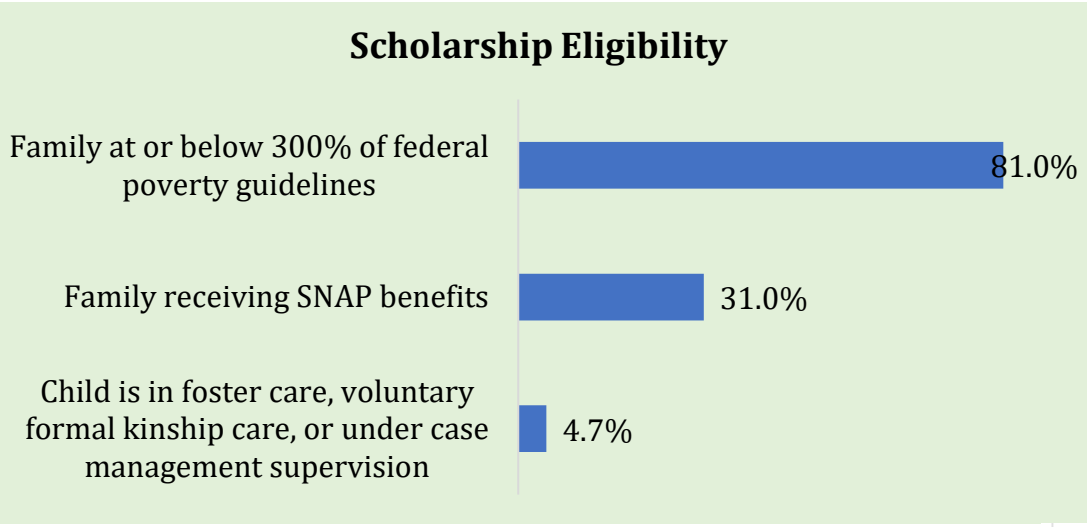
Special Education Status



Scholarship Eligibility



To receive a summer camp scholarship, families are required to meet at least one criteria listed below; some families report meeting more than one criteria.



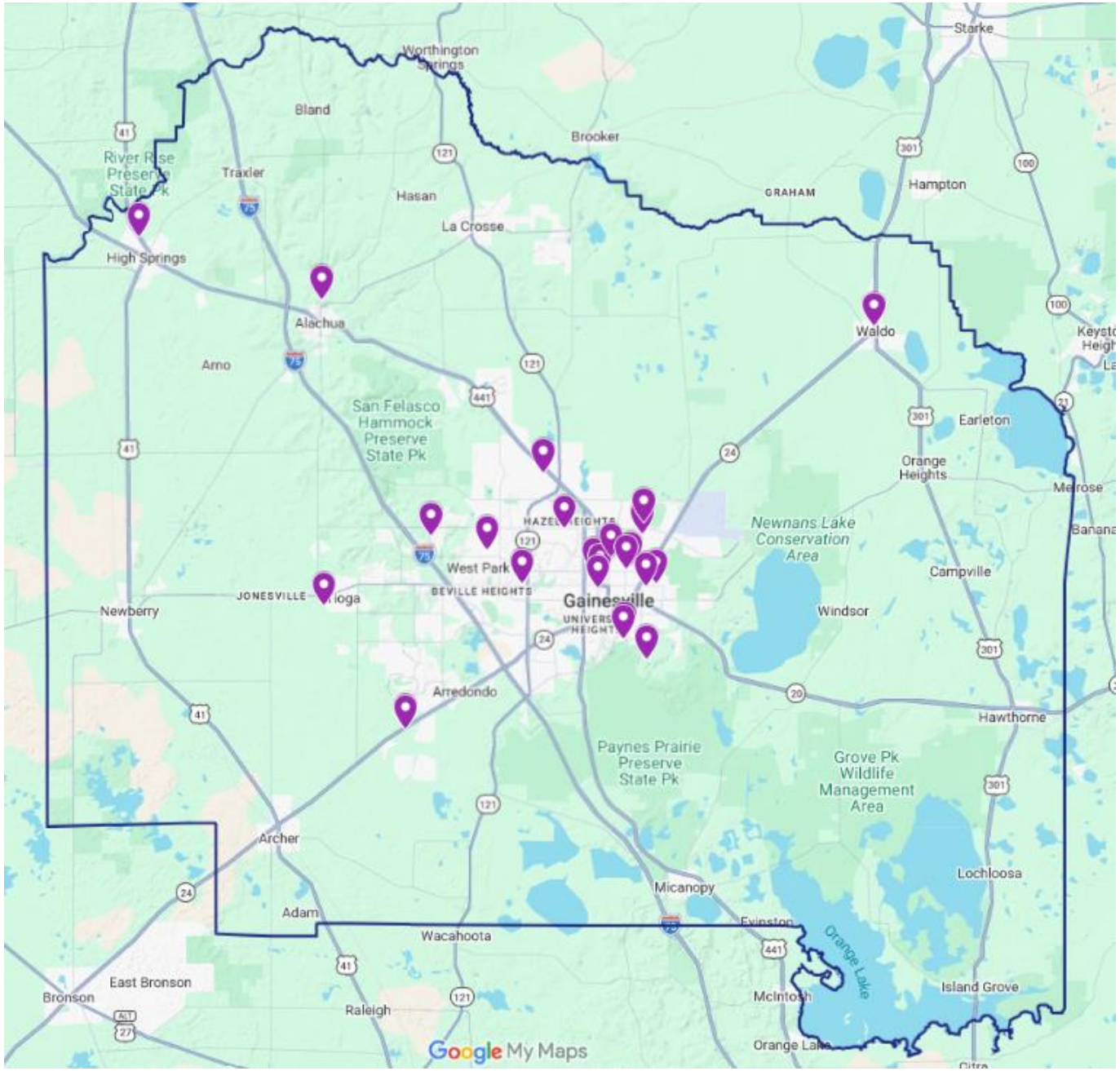
Average household size: 4.12

Average number of children in household: 2.7

Average household income: $41,398

2026 Federal Poverty Guidelines

Household/ Family Size	125%	130%	185%	200%	300%	400%
1	19,950.00	20,748.00	29,526.00	31,920.00	47,880.00	63,840.00
2	27,050.00	28,132.00	40,034.00	43,280.00	64,920.00	86,560.00
3	34,150.00	35,516.00	50,542.00	54,640.00	81,960.00	109,280.00
4	41,250.00	42,900.00	61,050.00	66,000.00	99,000.00	132,000.00
5	48,350.00	50,284.00	71,558.00	77,360.00	116,040.00	154,720.00
6	55,450.00	57,668.00	82,066.00	88,720.00	133,080.00	177,440.00
7	62,550.00	65,052.00	92,574.00	100,080.00	150,120.00	200,160.00
8	69,650.00	72,436.00	103,082.00	111,440.00	167,160.00	222,880.00

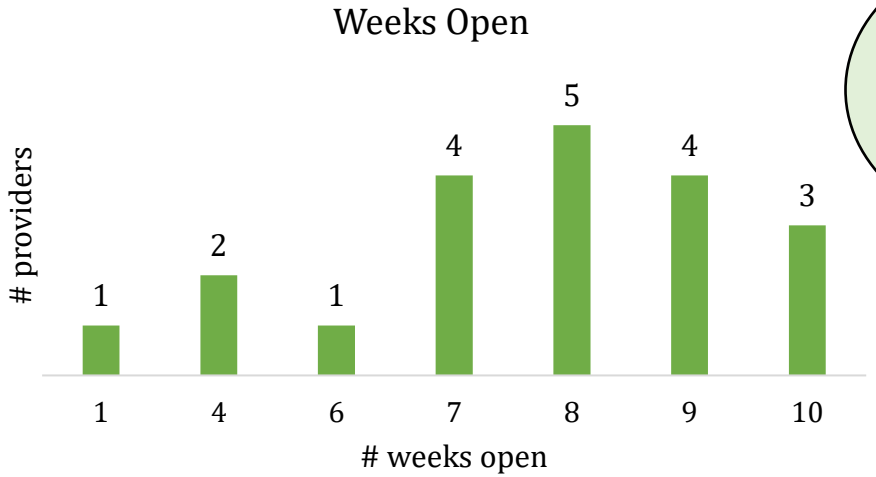


Program Locations

Children served by City of Residence

City	Count	Percentage
Gainesville	947	80.0%
Newberry	77	6.5%
High Springs	66	5.6%
Alachua	44	3.7%
Waldo	27	2.3%
Archer	15	1.3%
Hawthorne	6	0.5%
Micanopy	2	0.2%

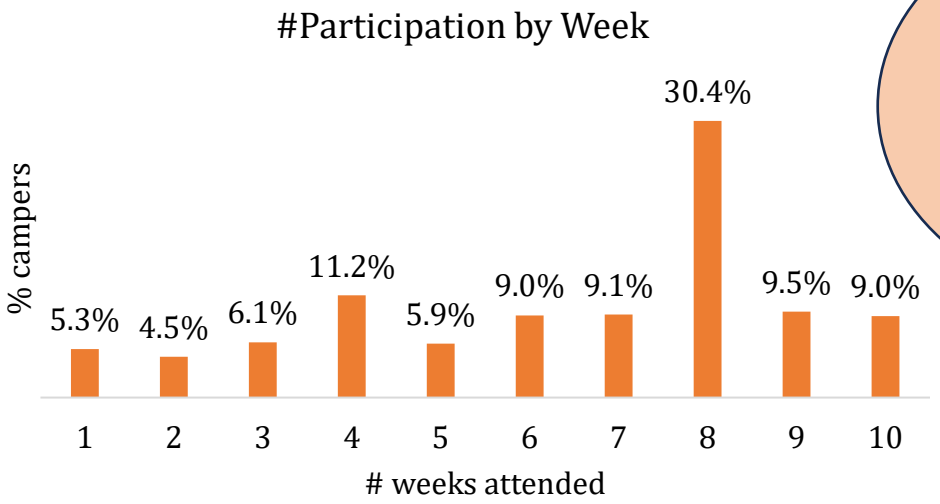
Programming Offered



Most camps (80%) were open 7-10 weeks

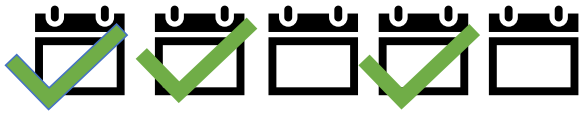






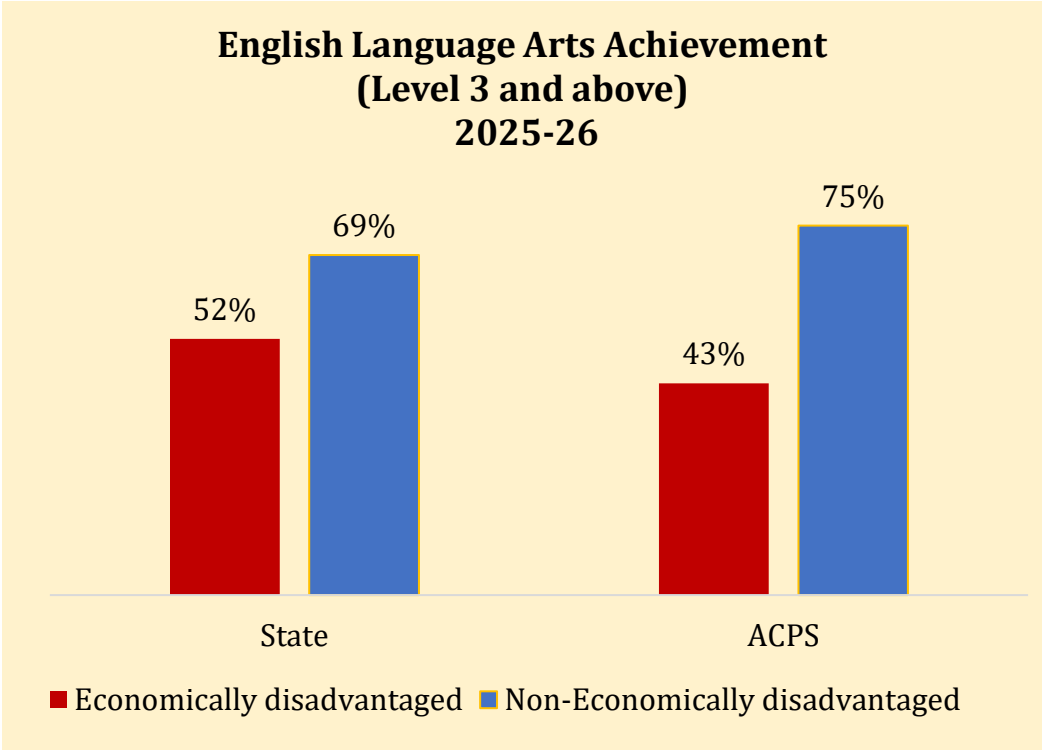
Camps were paid **per child, per week**. A child needed to attend camp **three or more days during at least one week** for the camp to receive funding for that child.

Most campers (58%) attended 7-10 weeks

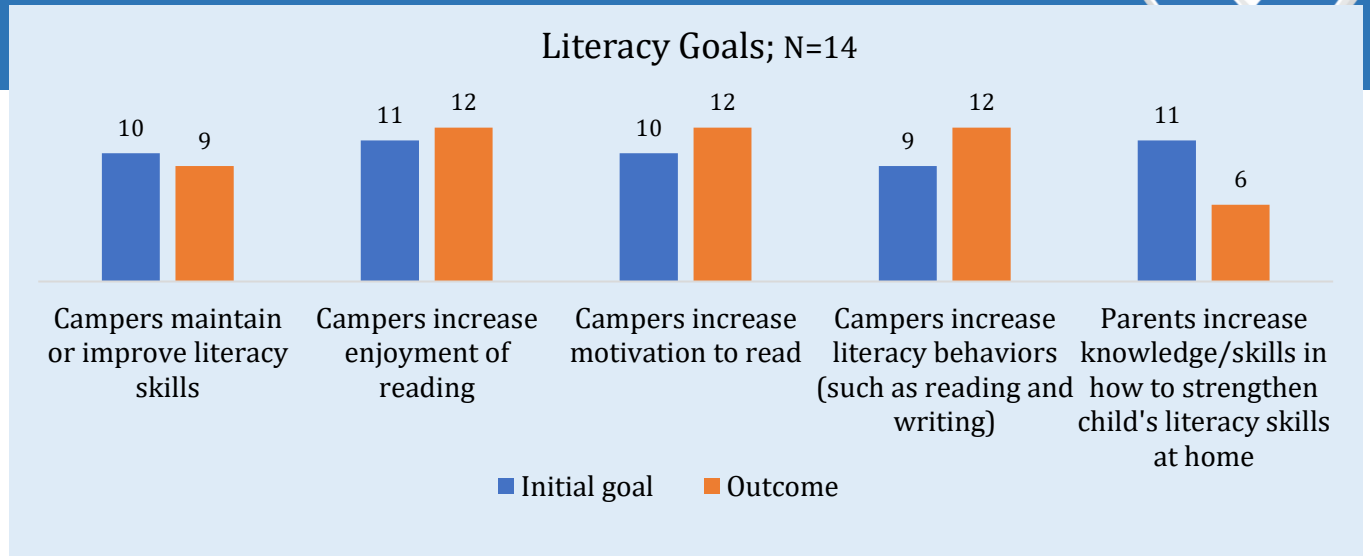


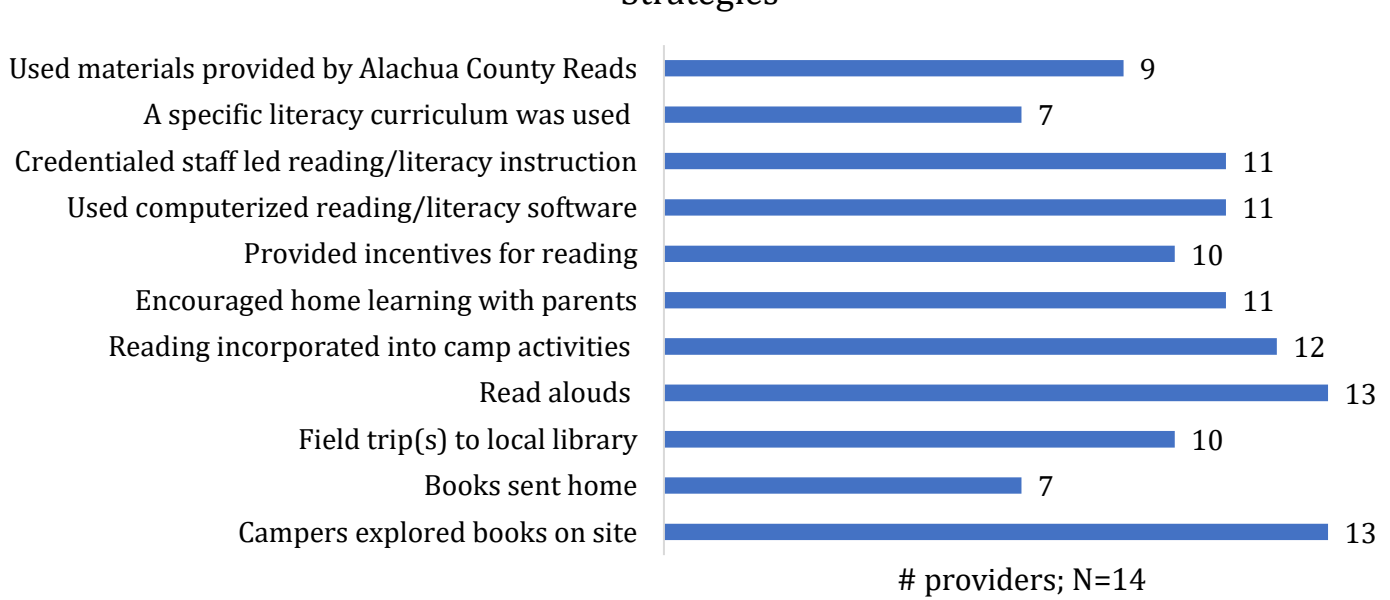
Average # of camp days offered	35 *(Camps offered an average of 35 days ranging from 5 to 50)*
Average #of days campers attended	28
Average #of weeks offered	7.5
Average #of weeks attended	6.4
Average attendance rate	81% *(Youth attended for 81% of the days they planned to attend, on average)*
% of offered days attended, on average	80% *(Youth attended 80% of the camp days offered, on average)*

Literacy Programming



https://edudata.fldoe.org/StrategicPlan/reports/ClosingTheGap.html

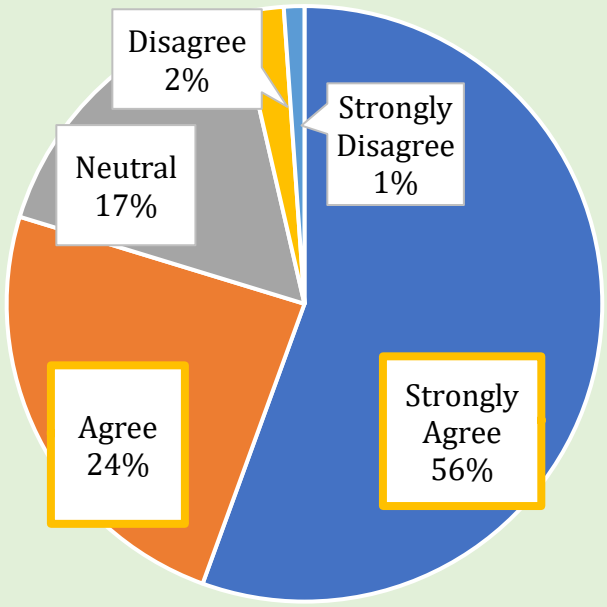




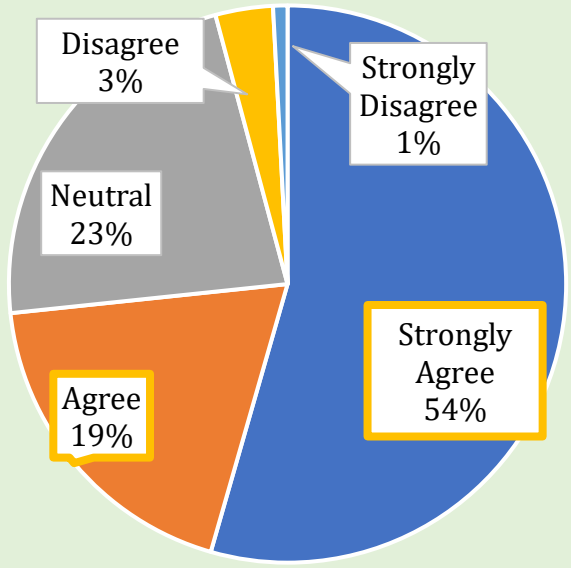
Literacy Outcomes



My child's reading skills improved this summer



My child is more excited about reading now than he/she was in the beginning of the summer



Parent survey: 14 camps; N=365

Updates for 2026
14/20 (70%) of camps engaged; 12/22 (55%) in FY25- interest!

Summer Literacy Convening, Resources provided on Padlet

Partnership with Alachua County Reads

What worked
Literacy part of the daily routine

Reading materials campers were interested in

Challenges
Range of reading abilities

Debate: "school" activities during the summer

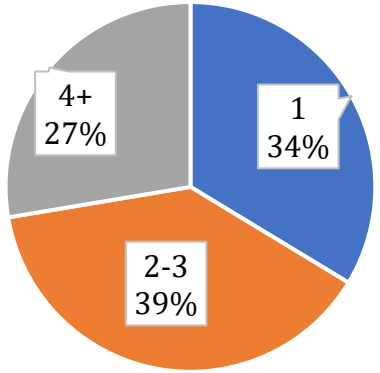
Next Steps
CTAC will continue to support providers, especially with evaluating literacy programming

Camp Staff

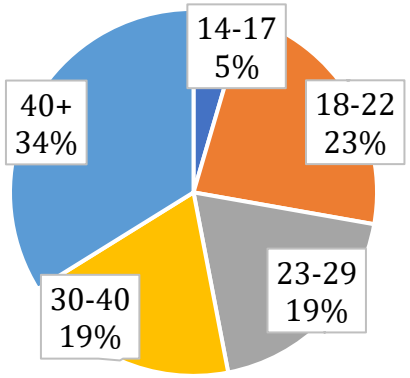
Post Camp Staff Survey N=200

"[working at camp is] probably one of the best things that has happened to me in terms of my personal growth."
-Counselor

How many summers have you worked at camp?



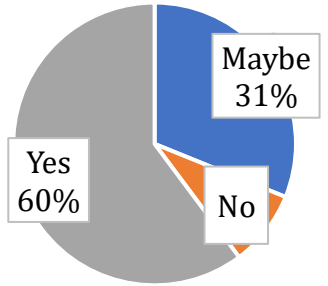
Age of Staff



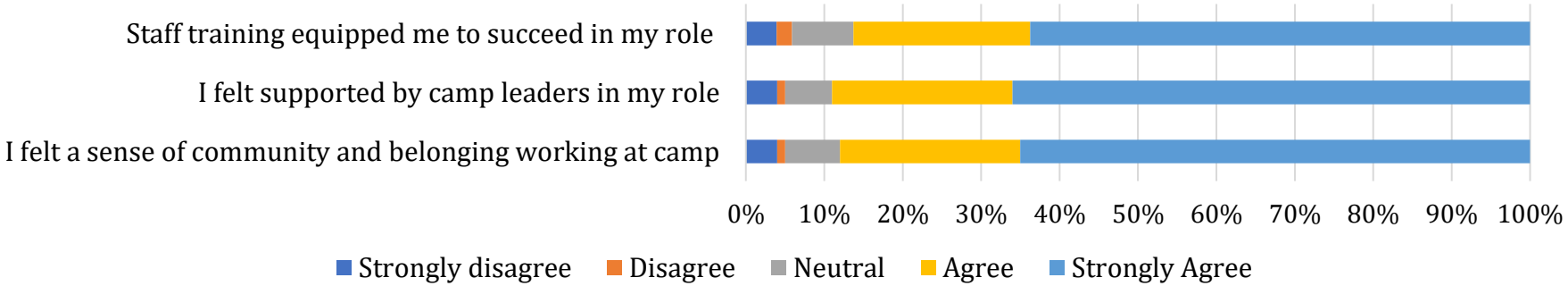


"It will go down as one of the most memorable summers of my life. The work is super fulfilling and it makes me happy knowing the kids love being around the counselors." -Counselor

Will you return next year?



Staff Satisfacation



"Limitless Adventures has become a key aspect of my life. It's so amazing seeing what goals the kids have reached while being there, and it has made me realize that I want to [continue] pursuing a career in the education field. I have learned so much and have connected with all of the kids!" –Counselor

FY26: Goal 2: Children can learn what they need to be successful

FY27: Goal 3: Children Live in a Safe Community

Focus Area 1: Safe Spaces

Objective

Children and youth have positive and safe places to learn and grow.

Strategies - What works?

- Provide a coordinated network of out-of-school programs.
- Promote awareness and skill development in programs (e.g., self-regulation, conflict resolution, planning).

CTAC Implementation Plan

Specific Tasks

- Involve youth in identifying spaces and activities of interest to inform program development and support.
- Collaborate with partners to create safe, stable home environments for children and youth.
- Exploring strategies and partnerships to address housing insecurity for families with children.

How will we know we're making an impact?
Measuring Strategic Results

Strategy	Measures	Target
Provide a coordinated network of out-of-school programs	Children and youth served in out of school time programs	1,250
	Youth felt safe while in the program	90%
	Parents felt their child was safe while at the program	90%

Strategy	Measures	Target
Promote awareness and skill development in programs	Youth demonstrate proficiency or make improvements in social-emotional skills	70%
	Youth gain knowledge and skills that contribute to their future success.	75%

Moving into FY27

Insights on FY26

- Camps provided safe spaces for children and youth for all 10 weeks of summer
- Campers gained social emotional skills and engaged in activities that promoted learning (literacy, STEM, swimming, history)

Moving into FY27

- Use camper interviews to inform future summer programming
- Support providers in developing family engagement initiatives and evaluating their benefits
- Work with providers to identify more formal ways to assess growth in social emotional skills

FY26 Summer Camp Data Alignment	
Children served in summer camp in FY26	1,184
Parents felt their child was safe at camp	98% (469/477)
At summer camp, my child gained…	
Social skills, such as communicating and cooperating with others	95% (453/477)
Confidence/ self esteem	94% (448/477)
New skills/knowledge	92% (441/477)
What skills? (free response)	Social emotional skills, especially communication

Parent Survey (N=477)

Impacting families…

Parent surveys, staff surveys, and camper interviews highlight a community effort to build accessible, safe, welcoming spaces for Alachua County children and youth.

Access

*"My child **had never been to camp before** this. Now she says she will remember this summer forever!" - Parent*

*"Honestly, it was a mix of wanting to give back and needing a summer that mattered. I'd been a camper myself for years, and **camp was where I first felt like I belonged…"** -Staff*

The Afterschool Alliance* reports that 12.6 million children nationwide miss out on summer programs due largely to affordability. The Children's Trust helped bridge this gap, providing 1,184 children access to enriching summer camp experiences.

Safety

*"[the scholarship] allowed **me to be able to work and allowed them a safe,** fun environment." -Parent*

*[I became a counselor] to **create a safe space for kids** during the summer and to **provide experiences** these kids would not be able to have otherwise. – Staff*

*"I think the summer programs are very helpful in **keeping our youth out of trouble**." –Parent*

*"The camp brings together different people from different backgrounds. We get to connect with people. **It's a safe zone**; counselors make sure it's a safe environment. If someone is getting teased, the counselors step in and help the people involved make amends." -Camper*

*"**[If I was not at camp] I would be at home playing video games** because my mom has to work". -Camper*

*"[the scholarship] **relieved a significant financial burden**. Helps make summer manageable." - Parent*

Community

*"Outside of the traditional classroom setting, there are still skills our children can develop further. **Camp highlights the importance of community support in holistically building children up.** In order to empower the child academically, you must meet other needs. It's been very informative at camp." -Staff*

*Source: https://afterschoolalliance.org/documents/AA3PM-2025/AA3PM-The-Summer-Struggle-for-Everyday-Families-Report-2026.pdf

How Much?	FY26 Target	FY26 Actual
Children enrolled who attend at least three days during one week	967	1,184
Number of program days	909	922
Number of staff training hours	230	415
How Well?	**Target**	**Actual**
Children attend for the number of days anticipated	75%	81%
Parents were satisfied with camp communication	85%	96%
Families were satisfied with the camp experience overall	90%	98%
Staff felt training equipped them to succeed in their role	90%	87.5%
Staff felt training equipped them with skills to maintain a safe environment and handle emergencies	95%	98%
Better Off?	**Target**	**Actual**
Families were satisfied with the learning activities offered	90%	94%
Families report their children enjoyed their camp experience	90%	97%
Families felt their children were safe while at camp	90%	98%



Performance Measures



Program Investment





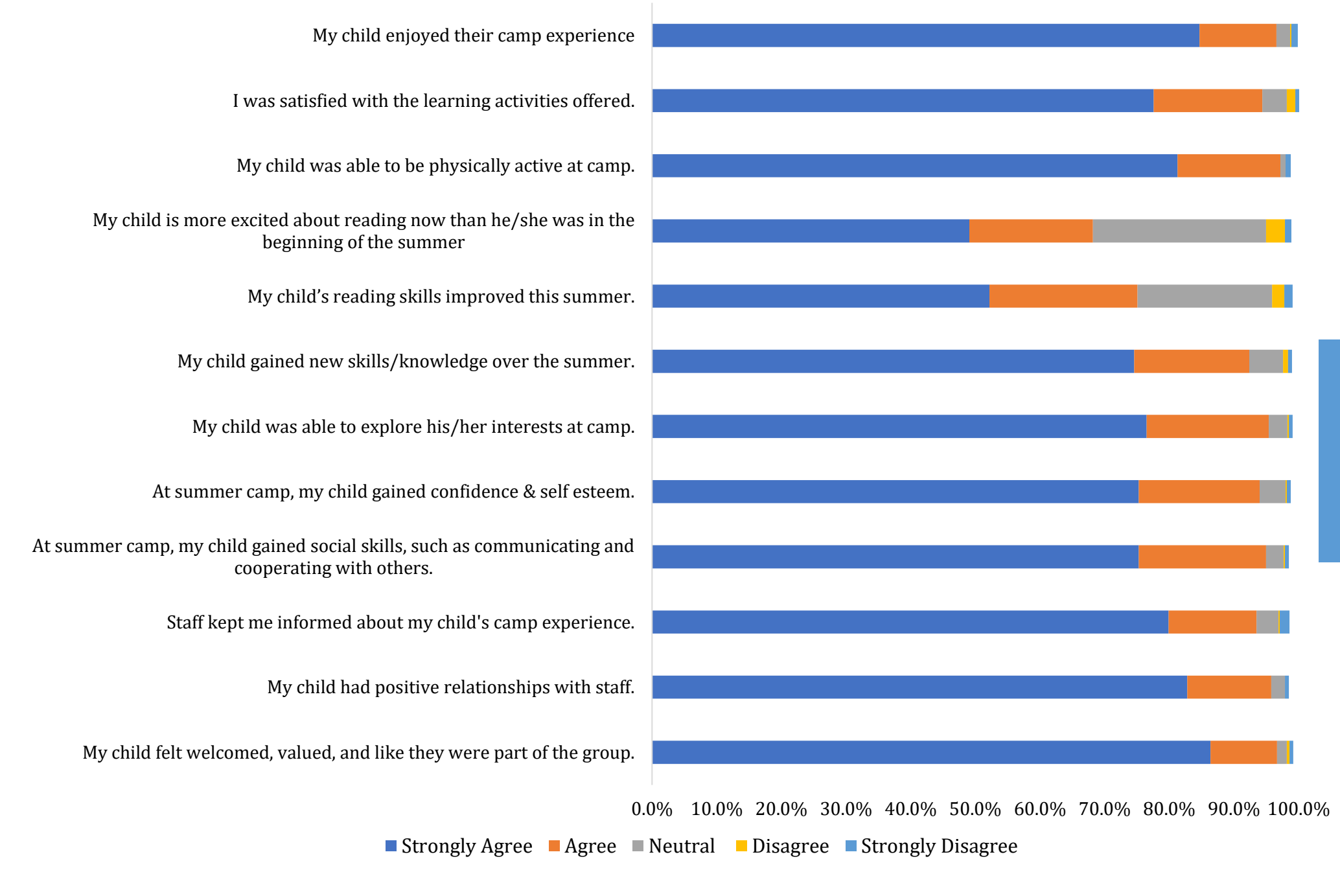
FY 2026 Summer camp budgeted amount	$2,207,731.01
Total actual expenditures	$2,054,060.51
Total investment per youth (1,184 youth)	$1,734.85

CHILDREN'S TRUST
OF ALACHUA COUNTY

Thank you!

Additional Slides





Parent Survey

N=477

Parent Survey Responses



