



Item:

Contracting for Direct Community Services (Goldwire)

Requested Action:

The Trust is asked to receive the information

Background:

The Children's Trust of Alachua County (CTAC) developed and approved **Board Policy Chapter 6 – Procurement**. Procurement policies establish the legal authority of the procurement function within the Trust. All purchases by the CTAC, including the purchase of services for the benefit of children in Alachua County, are procured in accordance with CTAC's procurement policies.

Direct Community Services, or programs such as early learning, after-school, summer and other direct services offered to children and families in Alachua County, are required to be procured through Section 6.50, C, Competitive Sealed Proposals. When using a competitive sealed proposal, the Board approves the 1) minimum qualifications, 2) scope of service, 3) evaluation criteria, and 4) evaluation team. Following the evaluation process, the Executive Director makes a recommendation to the Board for approval.

Once the Board approved a recommendation, the contract negotiation process begins. The procurement policy gives the Executive Director the authority and latitude to negotiate contracts and, if necessary, "reframe(e) the proposed services, and adjust the total allocation, budget or any other changes necessary to comply with the requirements of the solicitation and resulting contract."

Section 6.70: Contract Administration outlines the Executive Director's authority to administer contracts, the types of contract that may be used, and required contractual clauses. The CTAC has developed a model contract for Direct Community Services. CTAC has used a variety of different payment methods for contracts including fee-for-service and cost reimbursement payment arrangements.

Notwithstanding the current CTAC procurement policies, federal funding makes a distinction between "Grants" and "Contracts". While CTAC has no such distinction in its procurement policies, tension between the two can be seen in some of the feedback CTAC has received about its current funding approach. This presentation will 1) describe CTAC's current contracting

method, and 2) frame the difference between issuing grants and contracting for services, with the intent of providing policy options for the Board to discuss in the future.

Attachments:

Grants vs. Contracts

Contracting for Direct Community Services PowerPoint

Programmatic Impact:

N/A

Fiscal Impact:

N/A

Recommendation:

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