



## CHILDREN'S TRUST BOARD WORKSHOP MINUTES

March 09, 2026, at 9:00 AM

Children's Trust of Alachua County - 4010 NW 25th Place, Gainesville, FL 32606

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### Chair Chance called the workshop to Order at 9:00 AM

#### Roll Call

Board Members Present: Mary Chance (Chair), Lee Pinkoson (Treasurer), Tina Certain, Commissioner Ken Cornell, Dr. Nancy Hardt, Dr. Maggie Labarta.

#### Agenda Review, Revision and Approval

**Member Pinkoson moved to approve the workshop agenda;** Dr. Labarta seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

#### Public Comment

Ross Ambrose (High Springs resident) shared concerns regarding reduced seed funding and capacity-building for programs in rural areas. He suggested a performance bonding model for CTAC-funded providers and lobbying for state rules to allow funding for programs that support parents. CTAC Board members and staff shared with Mr. Ambrose that much of what he highlighted as recommendations are currently in place. Executive Director Marsha Kiner invited Ross to schedule a meeting with staff to discuss his ideas further and learn about CTAC current procedures, and practices.

#### Strategic Plan Presentation

Jaqui Gibbs and Regine Denis of C. Robinson Associates facilitated a review and discussion of the proposed final draft of the FY 2027-2030 Strategic Plan. **Commissioner Cornell moved that the board approves the strategic plan draft** with the following amendments:

- Goal 2 – Add chronic absence as an indicator
- Goal 2 - Formalize communication with the school district and superintendent
- Goal 3 – Add to the implementation plan to explore strategies and partnerships to address housing insecurity for families with children
- Goal 4 – Rephrase to, “Empower and equip our provider community and build sustainable structures for CTAC”
- Goal 4 – Make CTAC’s capacity building the top focus area

Dr. Labarta seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

During *general discussion*, Dr. Labarta recommended including a line graph of how CTAC program participants measure against the state and county levels.

#### Public comment:

Christi Arrington (Executive Director, Girls’ Place) raised questions regarding data reporting, graduation rate accuracy, and consideration of poverty and risk for indicators and eligibility.

### Funding Allocation Framework

CTAC Chief Financial Officer, Molly Greenwald, presented a percentage-based funding model that aligns with best practices utilized by most children’s trust and children’s services councils.

Goal	% of Program Funds	Proposed Dollar Allocation	FY 26 Dollar Allocations
Goal 1 – Healthy & Nurturing	33%	\$2,477,475	\$5,280,850
Goal 2 – Learning & Academic	34%	\$2,552,550	\$7,165,107
Goal 3 – Safe Community	23%	\$1,726,725	\$733,500.00
Goal 4 – Provider Capacity	10%	\$750,750	\$0.00

Dr. Labarta and Member Pinkoson discussed the discrepancy between allocated and actual spending. The Board emphasized the importance of aligning allocated funds with actual spending to ensure fiscal responsibility and better resource allocation, and more accurate budgeting. Member Certain reminded the Board and staff that some providers have personnel issues that prevent them from using their full allocation, which should be taken into consideration. Belita James, Director of Program Operations, shared strategies to strengthen program accountability and monitoring through use of continued mid-year evaluations, funding periods and a hybrid funding structure. This plan recommends contractual adjustments based on performance and expenditures to support stronger program management and ensure that funding is producing measurable impact. The hybrid funding structure for RFPs includes a fixed award pool with a predetermined funding allocation that cannot be exceeded. Under this proposed model, programs will be ranked based on final evaluation scores, with awards issued to the highest-scoring proposals until the maximum number of awards is reached or no additional fundable proposals remain. The structure also includes provisions for redistributing remaining funds to qualified, unfunded proposals or allowing top-ranked programs to serve more children. Member Pinkoson expressed support for the strategy, noting it would help maintain fiscal discipline while prioritizing high-performing programs. Member Certain voiced concerns about programs potentially inflating their budgets, to which DPO James assured her that the contract and budget review and negotiation process will include adjustments if needed. Member Cornell asked how staff ensures the “agency retains multiple funding sources”. ED Kiner responded that the capacity building support through the Center for Nonprofit Excellence will be part of each program’s contractual requirement. **Member Pinkoson moved to adopt the funding strategy;** Member Cornell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

During Public Comment of the motion, C. Arrington cautioned that capacity building impact may take longer than one year for agencies who do not know how to write a good proposal.

Ambrose liked the model and suggested additional weighting for programs that serve rural areas. Dr. Labarta confirmed that extra weight is currently given for those providing services in the rural areas of the county.

**General Public Comments - none**

**Board Member Comments – none**

**Chair Chance adjourned the workshop at 10:58 am.**



CHILDREN'S TRUST  
OF ALACHUA COUNTY

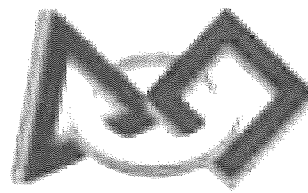
## Children's Trust Board Workshop

Sign - In Sheet

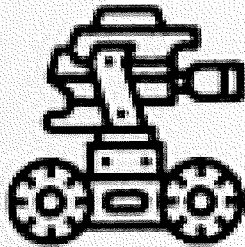
March 9, 2026 from 9a-12a

Name	Organization	Email
Ross Ambrose		rossambrose@dicloud.com
Danie   Durante	Hands on Gainesville	
CHRISTY KAPINMAN	HANDS PEACE	

FIRST Lego League



# CORE VALUES



## DISCOVERY

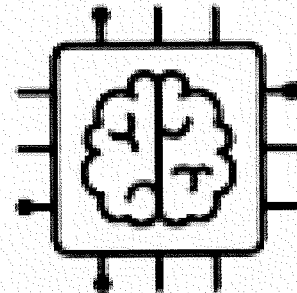
We explore new skills and ideas.

## TEAMWORK

We are stronger when we work together!

## INCLUSION

We respect each other and embrace our differences.



## WHAT IS COOPERTITION?

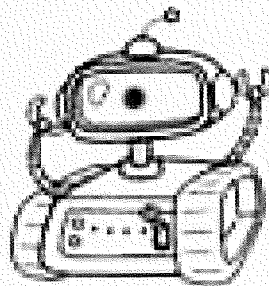
It means to display kindness and respect to others during competition. It is learning and teaching others.

## INNOVATION

We use creativity and persistence to solve problems.

## IMPACT

We apply what we learn to improve our world.



## WHAT IS GRACIOUS PROFESSIONALISM?

A way of doing things that encourages high-quality work, emphasizes the value of others, and respects individuals and the community.

