



Item:

Early Learning Coalition of Alachua County Additional Funding Investment (Mia Jones)

Requested Action:

- 1) The Trust is asked to approve the recommendation to accept additional ARPA investment funds from the Early Learning Coalition of Alachua County in the amount of \$360,000.00.

Background:

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Early Learning Discretionary Grant Program

At the April 8, 2024 Children's Trust of Alachua County Board meeting, the board approved to accept \$350,926.30 in ARPA investment funds from the Early Learning Coalition of Alachua County (ELCA). These funds were provided to support the Children's Trust Business and Leadership Institute V'Locity Masterclass and Accreditation Academy Spring 2023-2024 programming.

The Federal Office of Child Care provided funding through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Discretionary Child Care and Development Block Grant Trust Fund.

ELCA wants to maximize the child care funding investment for Alachua County even more and requested additional ARPA funding in the amount of \$360,000.00. These funds would be a pre-investment to support Cohort 4 of the Children's Trust Business and Leadership Institute V'Locity Masterclass and Accreditation Academy Fall 2024-2025 programming. This funding will also fully fund Accreditation Academy Cohort 3 support for additional months.

With this additional funding investment, the Children's Trust can reinvest more Trust dollars back into the community and by 2025-2026 the additional investment will increase the number of quality and accredited Early Care and Education businesses in Alachua County.

Programmatic Impact:

Goal 2- Children and youth can learn what they need to be successful.

Fiscal Impact:

\$360,000.00- Pre-Investment from the ARPA Early Learning Discretionary Grant Program

Recommendation:

The Children's Trust staff recommend approval of the requested actions.