



CHILDREN'S TRUST REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

May 13, 2024, at 4:00 PM

Alachua County Health Dept, Thomas Coward Auditorium, 224 SE 24th St., Gainesville, FL 32641

Call to Order

Chair Pinkoson called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

Roll Call

PRESENT

Chair Lee Pinkoson
Vice Chair Ken Cornell
Treasurer Cheryl Twombly
Member Shane Andrew
Member Tina Certain
Member Mary Chance
Member Judge Denise R. Ferrero
Member Nancy Hardt – attended virtually
Member Maggie Labarta

Motion made by Member Chance, Seconded by Member Andrew to allow Member Hardt to participate virtually.

A physical quorum of seven members voted on this motion.

Motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Agenda Review, Revision, and Approval

Motion to approve the agenda made by Member Certain, Seconded by Member Labarta.

Motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Consent Agenda

1. Board Attendance YTD
2. 12.11.2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes - Revised
3. 3.25.2024 Board Workshop on RFP Development Minutes
4. 4.8.2024 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
5. 4.8.2024 Board Meeting Evaluation - Survey Results
6. FY2024 March Checks and Expenditures Report
7. FY2024 2nd Quarter Budget Review

8. FY2024 2nd Quarter Financial Report Memo to the BoCC
9. FY2024 Programmatic Award and Expense Report
10. Resolution 2024-04 Personnel Services Budget Amendment
11. April Sponsorship Applications
12. Gainesville Circus Center – Budget Increase

General Public Comments

Executive Director's Report

13. 5.13.2024 ED Report

Executive Director Kiner introduced Scott Sumner as the new Interim Finance Director and reported that Bonnie Wagner, Research, Planning, and Evaluation Coordinator, will be transitioning to a part-time capacity. ED Kiner also confirmed the dates of the next Board Workshop on the Enrichment RFP for May 30, 2024, and the Board Workshop on the FY25 Budget for June 10, 2024.

Presentations

14. TeensWork Alachua Update (David Rey, CEO Goodwill Industries)

The Children's Trust of Alachua County has partnered with Goodwill Industries and Minority Business Listings to provide the TeensWork Alachua Program, which provides local teens, aged 14-18, the opportunity to gain valuable employment skills by training and working at area businesses within the community. David Rey, CEO of Goodwill Industries, gave a presentation on the history of Goodwill Industries, its current operations, and its plans to expand one Gainesville location to include a career center. He introduced Shardé Goodloe, TWA Leadership Program Manager, to share the success of the program which aimed to teach leadership skills, civic engagement, and soft skills to 36 students. Statistics showed that 96% of participants felt the program was valuable and 100% felt more confident upon completion. Twenty-four students received the Florida Ready to Work certification, and one student achieved the highest score in Goodwill's history.

Discussion regarding a similar program in Jacksonville prompted the board to consider ways to improve CTAC's programming. Many ideas were discussed including increasing the diverse range of work opportunities, increasing the number of student workers, questioning how to leverage funds to provide more opportunities, the importance of developing employability skills, the option of providing certification programs in targeted industries, involving more for-profit businesses, setting longer-term programming, and negotiating shared funding for youth salaries.

Mr. Rey mentioned that upcoming surveys from the team in Jacksonville may provide some good feedback and recommendations. He also mentioned that contacting the Greater Gainesville Chamber of Commerce to inquire with local businesses on why they would or would not participate in the program, what obstacles they would anticipate, and how they might utilize and pay for this programming could be beneficial information.

Motion made by Vice Chair Cornell, Seconded by Member Labarta to ask CTAC and Goodwill staff to discuss ways to modify and improve the TeensWork Alachua 2024/2025

program, and provide recommendations to the Board prior to the end of this budget cycle.

Motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Several students from local high schools shared their research and experiences in the TeensWork Leadership Program. One student focused on gun violence in the community and proposed solutions to resolve conflicts and promote community engagement. Another tackled literacy disparities among black youth on the east side of town, proposing solutions such as community engagement, teacher retention, and cultural sensitivity. One researched bullying and harassment of LGBTQ students, suggesting the need for acceptance and intervention, and another addressed cyberbullying and its effects on self-esteem and confidence. All students praised the program for enhancing their leadership, communication, and problem-solving skills, and thanked the Children's Trust of Alachua County for funding the program.

15. Florida Ready to Work Certification Recognition (Representative Yvonne Hayes-Hinson)

Representative Hayes-Hinson provided encouraging remarks for the graduating students and handed out their certificates acknowledging the successful completion of the Florida Ready to Work Certification.

General Public Comments

Board Member Comments

Next Meeting Date

Regular Board Meeting - Monday, June 10th, 2024 @ 4:00 PM
Alachua Co. Health Dept, T. Coward Auditorium, 224 SE 24th St., Gainesville, FL 32641

Adjournment

Chair Pinkoson adjourned the meeting at 5:29 PM.