



**Item:**

Comprehensive Literacy Plan and Assessment November 2024 Update

**Requested Action:**

The Board is asked to receive the update

**Background:**

In May 2023 the Children's Trust board had a joint meeting with the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners. During that meeting the Children's Trust staff were tasked with creating a Comprehensive Literacy Plan.

It was determined that a comprehensive needs assessment was needed to help inform the development of a comprehensive literacy plan aimed at improving literacy achievement for all students. In October 2023, Executive Director Kiner reached out to the UF Lastinger Center to begin a discussion about the plan development and a coordinator for the project.

**Project Phases Update:**

As of November, The UF Lastinger Center (UFLC) have completed 25 organization interviews and 26 focus groups with more scheduled. The team is aiming to reach a thousand responses to surveys and have exceeded their goal of 50 respondents for focus groups. UFLC is still working with the Alachua County School District on scheduling focus groups and releasing surveys. The Alachua County School District is reviewing the data request and IRB and will provide an update to the team on next steps soon. UFLC met with all Alachua County Commissioners individually in November and are working to schedule individual meetings with Alachua County School Board Members. The purpose of the focus groups and the individual meetings are for participants to share their own, or their children's, experiences with learning literacy skills in Alachua County and to give their opinions on programs and services that support developing these skills.

At the last committee meeting held on November 18, the committee was tasked with:

- Reviewing the draft appendix of organizations that provide literacy related services in Alachua County.
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The committee considered if the appendix was useful, possible impact, if there were gaps, and considered questions that needed to be answered. The next meeting will be scheduled for December 16. The final meeting will be in February.

We are in Phase 2 of the project plan.

### Three Phases of the Comprehensive Needs Assessment

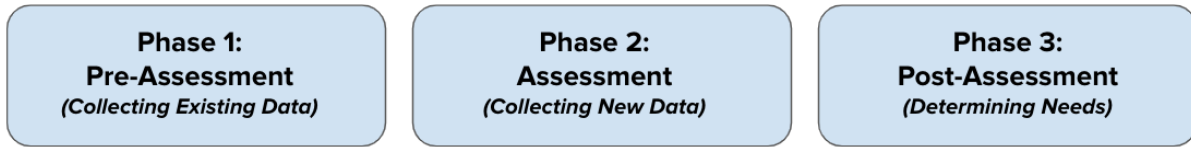


Figure 1: Three Phase of the Comprehensive Needs Assessment adapted from Witkin & Altschuld (1995).

#### **Programmatic Impact:**

Goal 2: Children & Youth Can Learn What They Need To Be Successful

#### **Fiscal Impact:**

\$175,000.00

#### **Recommendation:**

The Board is asked to receive the update.