



Item:

Family Resource Center/Community Navigator Program

Requested Action:

1. The Trust is asked to authorize \$191,589 for the Community Resource Center/Community Navigator Program
2. The Trust is asked to Authorize the Executive Director to negotiate a contract with Partnership for Strong Families (PSF)

Background:

At the November 8, 2021 Trust Board meeting, the Board voted to have staff meet with PSF leadership to discuss the Alachua County Family Resource Centers (FRC) and the funding needed to sustain them.

On November 22, 2021, staff met with PSF leadership and learned the FRCs are being negatively impacted by changes to State and Federal funding allocations, including the loss of the Title IV-E Child Welfare Waiver and implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA). These changes will result in reducing the number of FRC sites and staff which would immediately reduce and/or stop any services provided to residents in that service area.

Staff recommends funding PSFs Family Resource Centers/Community Navigator Program. The primary goal of the program is to build caregiver protective factors, thus reducing the risk of child abuse/neglect, decreasing entry into the child welfare system, and improving outcomes for children and families through the provision of family support services. Financial support for the Family Resource Centers will assist in sustaining prevention services to families that reside in 32601, 32609, 32605, 32653 and 32641 and expand prevention services to families that reside in underserved, rural communities in Alachua County.

All FRC services are catered to the communities being served and are designed to address current needs including generational poverty, unemployment or under-employment, financial literacy, academic performance of children/youth and community violence, among others.

This contract is exempt from competitive procurement under Board Policy 6.50,B,2 which exempts all Supplies and Services directly authorized by the Board.

Attachments:

Resolution 2021-24

Programmatic Impact:

This initiative aligns with Goal 3 - All children have nurturing and supportive caregivers and relationships and Strategy 3.1 – Support initiatives that connect families to resources.

Fiscal Impact:

\$191,589 for FY 2021-2022

Account number 001.15.1500.569.82.00

Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval