



**Children's Trust of Alachua County  
Strategic Plan  
Implementation Update**

**Goal 1**

**Children and youth are healthy and have nurturing caregivers and relationships.**

1. Maternal & Child Health (MCH) Initiatives RFP
  - a. Currently funded MCH programming ends September 30, 2024.
  - b. RFP to fund new and/or existing MCH programs will be released by July/August 2024.
  - c. Multiyear funding starts October 1, 2024.
  - d. Strategies to determine the type of MCH services to fund include the following:
    - i. Review of local & statewide programs/outcomes.
    - ii. Family input sessions to share MCH experiences in Alachua County.
    - iii. Community and provider input sessions.
    - iv. Board Workshop.
    - v. Implementation of RFP strategies will start in spring of 2024.
  
2. Access to Comprehensive Care for Children & Youth
  - a. Trust staff will work with current providers that offer health services listed below to determine if unallocated program funds is the appropriate next step to eliminate gaps in care while awaiting the release of the RFP.
    - i. Dental health, vision, and primary care.
  - b. RFP to fund new and/or existing programs will be released by April 2024.
  - c. Multiyear funding starts October 1, 2024.
  - d. Strategies to determine the type of comprehensive services to fund include the following:
    - i. Community and provider input sessions.
    - ii. Family input sessions to share feedback regarding challenges and success gaining access to care.
    - iii. Board Workshop.
    - iv. Implementation of RFP strategies will start in spring of 2024.

3. Family Resource Center
  - a. Trust staff have executed contracts with Partnership for strong families to support continued services at the SWAG Family Resource Center and the Library Partnership Resource Center. The contracts also include the following:
    - i. Two Community navigators to serve as mobile resource center staff, offering families resource navigation and care coordination support in High Springs, Alachua, Micanopy, and Hawthorne. Conversations to add Porter’s Community Center and Pineridge Community Center to the Community Navigator’s route are under way.
    - ii. Expansion consultant to support growth and sustainability at the new east Gainesville location, One Community Health and Wellness Resource Center and Willie Mae Stokes Community Center in Micanopy, FL.
    - iii. Trust staff are also finalizing contracts for Resource Center staff funding for One Community Health and Wellness Resource Center and Willie Mae Stokes Community Center.
4. Care Coordination & Navigation Services
  - a. Care coordination and navigation services currently fall under the umbrella of the MCH programs and family resource center services.
5. System of Care Building with Partners & Families
  - a. Trust staff will create a process for continued listening opportunities for families, partners, and providers.
  - b. Currently these opportunities are offered via input sessions for funding, year-end surveys, and community outreach activities.

## **Goal 2**

### **All children and youth can learn what they need to be successful.**

1. Quality Volunteer Prekindergarten – Outreach and Messaging
  - a. Determine if the state has a marketing plan for enrollment.
  - b. Does ELC get marketing dollars for VPK from the state.
  - c. Use of FY24 dollars to do the following:
    - i. Enhance and push local messaging for VPK enrollment.
    - ii. Scholarships or stipends for families unable to pay for extended day after VPK hours end during the school year.
2. Equitable participation in Quality Early Care & Education

- a. Partnership with ELC and funding to support BLI graduates with increased fee per child per day, during accreditation process.
  - b. Continue work with Early Learning Collaborative.
  - c. BLI Programming.
3. Mentoring & Character-Building Programs
- a. Trust staff have executed contracts with six providers to offer mentoring services throughout Alachua County, with a total allocation of \$345,026.
  - b. The remaining funds, \$154,974, will be used to offer mini grants to the remaining eight applicants that earned a score between 70-80 points.
4. Out of School Time Activities
- a. In addition to the out of school time update above, Trust staff are contracting with a number of providers to ensure out of school time activities are funded and offered throughout the county.
    - i. Seven afterschool contracts - eligible for 3-year renewals.
    - ii. Six enrichment contracts.
      - 1. new RFP to be released by July 2024.
      - 2. Community and provider input sessions.
      - 3. Review of family voice via program surveys.
      - 4. Board Workshop.
    - iii. Two STEM contracts.
    - iv. 23 summer camp contracts.
      - 1. new RFP to be released September 2024.
      - 2. Community and provider input sessions.
      - 3. Board Workshop.
      - 4. Review of family input via program surveys.
      - 5. Family input sessions to share local summer camp experiences.
      - 6. Review of local & statewide programs/outcomes.
    - v. Three summer programming contracts (Midnight Basketball & Freedom School, & TeensWork Alachua).
5. Community Advisory Board
- a. The Trust has facilitated a meeting with the school district to discuss possible implementation of the Peak Literacy Program during Extended Day Enrichment Programs (EDEP). Follow up meetings to discuss location and assessment of need at 3-4 locations will be scheduled in the coming weeks.
  - b. The Comprehensive Literacy Plan committee met to discuss collaboration with the University of Florida, Lastinger Center for Learning. The Lastinger Center has submitted a proposal to conduct a literacy needs assessment and literacy plan.

### **Goal 3**

## **All children and youth live in a safe community.**

1. Out of School Time Activities
  - a. Trust staff have created a sports scholarship initiative to make youth participation in sports offered by each municipality equitably accessible to Alachua County families.
  - b. ED Kinker introduced the initiative to city leaders at an Alachua County League of City Meeting.
  - c. An invitation to meet and discuss local interests, needs, and implementation has been shared with city leaders and their recreation departments.
2. Mentoring & Character-Building Program
  - a. See goal two update.
3. Community Safety Convenor/Participant
  - a. The Trust increased safety goal to \$1,000,000 to support gun violence events/initiatives throughout out the county.
  - b. The Trust co-sponsored local gun violence summit, Choose Peace: Gun Violence Must Cease.
  - c. The Trust has received an invitation to serve as a member of the Gun Violence taskforce, in collaboration with the City of Gainesville, Santa Fe Community College, and other local organizations.

## **Provider Capacity Building & Mini Grants**

1. Center for Nonprofit Excellence
  - a. Trust staff allocated funding to the Center for Nonprofit Excellence, to expand services offered to local nonprofits, helping to support and sustain their operations.
  - b. Contract is under review at the Community Foundation.
  - c. Contract execution is expected in February 2024.
2. Provider Trainings
  - a. Trust staff are finalizing contracts with the following organizations to offer training to local providers. Training rollout is expected to take place in February/March 2024.
    - i. River Phoenix Center for Peace Building.
    - ii. Child Advocacy Center.
    - iii. Florida Afterschool Network.
3. Mini Grants
  - a. Trust staff expects to offer mini grants to the remaining eight mentoring applicants that earned a score between 70-80 points.

