



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

September 1, 2026 - October 1, 2026

SUMMARY
1. Special Needs Thank You 2. City of Gainesville Gun Violence Funding

**MEETINGS AND EVENTS FOR PLANNING,
COORDINATION, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

DATE	MEETING / EVENT	SUMMARY
September 1, 2026	Alachua Chamber Luncheon	E. McCauley and D. Cunha attended.
September 1, 2026	Dorothy Thomas Meeting	ED Kiner & M. Jones meeting with D. Thomas. Early Learning Collaborative discussion.
September 2, 2026	Alachua County Health Promotion and Wellness Coalition Quarterly Meeting	E. McCauley attended.
September 2, 2026	Board Member Melissa Walker Meeting	ED Kiner met with Board Member Walker.
September 3, 2026	Greater Gainesville Chamber Business Expo	ED Kiner spoke at the event.
September 5, 2026	Together We Rise Community Recovery event.	E. McCauley tabled with resources at event.
September 8, 2026	Fun 4 Gator Kids Fall Fun Day: Teddy Bear Picnic	E. McCauley tabled with resources at event.
September 8, 2026	5th Ave. Neighborhood Association	E. McCauley attended.
September 9, 2026	Finance Committee Meeting	Conducted amongst Finance Committee Members of the Board of Directors, CFO Greenwald, ED Kiner, COO Goldwire and DOP James.
September 9, 2026	Meeting with Janeice Smith, Thrive Newberry	E. McCauley met Janeice Smith to share about Family Resource Centers and learn more about organization.

September 10, 2026	Lights on Afterschool Planning Meeting	E. McCauley met with Bishop Stokes and his team at the Willie Mae Stokes Community Center in Micanopy.
September 10, 2026	10th Annual Steps to Wellness Fundraiser for Mental Health hosted by Meridian Healthcare and the Greater Gainesville Chamber	COO Goldwire and CFO Greenwald Attended.
September 10, 2026	ACSO Meeting	ED Kiner, COO K. Goldwire, & DPO B. James met with Katy Burnett, Strategic Projects Manager, Alachua County Sheriff's Office to discuss the Sheriff's Office's plans for partnering/supporting the Detention Center.
September 11, 2026	New Board Member Orientation with Dr. Lisa Tate	ED Kiner and staff provided Dr. Tate with an overview of the Trust.
September 12, 2026	Waldo Sweet Potato Festival	E. McCauley and Communication Intern tabled at sponsored event.
September 12, 2026	BLI Alumni Learn & Lunch Session 4	ED Kiner and ECC M. James attended the session. Participants identified intentional services opportunities to unmet community needs while strengthening and stabilizing existing programs. Participants explored practical strategies for family engagement initiatives, collaborative partnerships, and niche programming.
September 15, 2026	Board Meeting with Judge Pena	ED Kiner and Judge Pena met to discuss gun violence initiatives.
September 15, 2026	Early Childhood Learning Collaborative	ED Kiner and ECC M. Jones met with the Collaborative to share about phase 1 of Project CONNECT, reconnect partners, review progress, and begin the discussions on the next phase of our shared work.

September 16, 2026	High Springs Bike to School Day	E. McCauley tabled at Safe Kids of NCFL collaborative event at High Springs Community School.
September 16, 2026	ACPS-ACR and UFLI Kick-Off for Teacher and Leaders	ED Kiner and staff attended the event at Metcalfe Elem. to share additional general professional learning content to ACPS leaders, teachers, and staff <i>and</i> to build a sense of excitement, celebration, commitment, and community around the CTAC/ACR-sponsored activities in the four SI schools.
September 17, 2026	Santa Fe Saints Cares Open House	E. McCauley tabled with resources.
September 18, 2026	STEAM Night at Micanopy Area Cooperative School	Communication Intern M. del Moral tabled at the event.
September 18, 2026	A.Q. Jones Administration Meeting	ED Kiner, COO Goldwire, & DPO James met with Principal Bing to learn more about the school and the students it serves and to share potential community resource information.
September 19, 2026	Senior Spotlight	E. McCauley tabled with resources at the event.
September 21, 2026	ACPS Superintendent Meeting	ED Kiner, Research & Eval. Coordinator B. Wagner, & DPO B. James met with Superintendent Patton to discuss CTAC Special Needs Listening Project and how to best to reach parents and faculty of students with special needs through ACPS.
September 22, 2026	Coca-Cola Meeting	ED Kiner met with J. Horner to discuss Coca-Cola's community investments and partnerships.
September 22, 2026	Ilene Silverman Show Taping	ED Kiner and CMD D. Cunha met with Ilene Silverman and taped a CTAC segment.

September 23, 2026	ELC Board of Directors Meeting	ED Kiner attended.
September 23, 2026	DJJ Probation Meeting	ED Kiner, DPO B. James, & COO K. Goldwire met with DJJ staff Kelly Baldwin and Sandi Brannan to discuss probation in Alachua County, the detention center, and gain a better understanding of all services available to children and youth when on probation.
September 23, 2026	Gainesville Chamber Meeting	ED Kiner met with Interim CEO Ian Fletcher to discuss the Prosperity Initiative and upcoming Chamber projects.
September 24, 2026	UF September Eye Opener Breakfast	ED Kiner attended.
September 24, 2026	Special Needs Partner Focus Group	ED M. Kiner, B. Wagner, and A. Wagner attended.
September 24, 2026	Lights on Afterschool Planning Meeting	E. McCauley met with Bishop Stokes and WMSCC Team for event planning check-in
September 24, 2026	Annual Luncheon: Family Promise	COO K. Goldwire, E.McCauley and Board Chair M. Chance attended.
September 24, 2026	Special Needs Parent Focus Group	ED M. Kiner, E. McCauley, and A. Wagner attended.
September 25, 2026	Women's Giving Circle Symposium	COO K. Goldwire, E. McCauley. DOP B. James, A. Wagner, and Board Chair M. Chance attended.
September 25, 2026	Friday Night at the Center: Harvest Kick Off and Community Showcase	E. McCauley tabled with resources and kids' activity.
September 25, 2026	Cade Community Day	E. McCauley tabled with resources and kids' activity at sponsored event.

September 27, 2026	HPW Color Run Tabling	E. McCauley tabled with resources at event.
September 29, 2026	Ribbon Cutting: Jessie's Village Affordable Housing	E. McCauley attended.
September 29, 2026	River Phoenix Communication Teach Back at A. Q. Jones	ED Kiner & COO K. Goldwire joined CTAC Board Chair Chance at the Teach Back to see students facilitate a discussion and session on communication and self-esteem to other students and community members. A tour of A.Q Jones took place after the session.
September 30, 2026	Santa Fe Volunteer Fair	E. McCauley tabled with resources.
September 30, 2026	Greater Gainesville Chamber Higher Education, Higher Rewards: Talent Strong Alachua County Discussion	ED Kiner attended the Chamber and the Florida College Access Network's breakfast focused on increasing college enrollment and the economic future of the county. Superintendent Patton spoke and provided an overview of CTE in ACPS.

PROGRAMS CALENDAR

September	
September 1, 2026	Amplified: Student Voice Coalition Contract Negotiation
September 1, 2026	City of Hawthorne - FRC Contract Negotiation
September 1, 2026	FACCT Programs Affinity Group
September 1, 2026	City of Hawthorne FRC Contract Discussion
September 1, 2026	PEAK Literacy Contract Negotiation
September 1, 2026	Contract Negotiation - Gainesville Thrives / DPIL
September 2, 2026	Pace Center for Girls Contract Negotiation
September 2, 2026	Family Resource Centers Performance Measures Discussion
September 2, 2026	CNE Contract Discussion
September 8, 2026	Contract Negotiation - Goodwill - TeensWork Alachua
September 9, 2026	CTAC Enrichment Provider Session #1
September 10, 2026	Programs' Team Meeting
September 10, 2026	CTAC Enrichment Provider Session #2
September 10, 2026	Family Promise Case Manager/FRC Collaboration Meeting
September 11, 2026	Police Youth Dialogue at AMI hosted by River Phoenix
September 12, 2026	Early Learning- BLI Alumni Learn and Lunch Session 4
September 14, 2026	CTAC Afterschool Provider Info Session #1
September 15, 2026	Family Resource Center Convening
September 15, 2026	Early Childhood Learning Collaborative - Sept 2026
September 15, 2026	SAMIS S3 Meeting
September 16, 2026	CTAC Afterschool Provider Info Session #2
September 16, 2026	PSF FRC/CN/HMG Contract Negotiation
September 16, 2026	Maternal Health- FIMR CRT of North Central Florida
September 16, 2026	ACPS-ACR and UFLI Kick-Off for Teacher and Leaders

September 16, 2026	FACCT IT Affinity Group
September 17, 2026	FACCT Policy Meeting
September 17, 2026	Maternal Health- Contract Meeting Doulio + CTAC Meeting 3
September 18, 2026	Maternal Health- Contract Meeting NHVP + CTAC Meeting 3
September 18, 2026	CTAC x A.Q. Jones Administration Meeting
September 21, 2026	CTAC Regular Staff Meeting
September 22, 2026	The Future Call: Conversations on Florida's Early Learning Future
September 22, 2026	Quarterly Payment Pilot - Aces in Motion
September 22, 2026	Quarterly Payment Pilot - Willie Mae Stokes
September 23, 2026	CTAC + DJJ Probation Meeting
September 24, 2026	Programs' Team Meeting
September 24, 2026	Maternal Health- HSNCF Board of Directors Meeting
September 25, 2026	Women's Giving Circle Symposium: Overcoming Obstacles to Prosperity for Women and Children
September 28, 2026	M.K. Rawlings CPS & Howard Bishop CPS Joint Cabinet Meeting
September 29, 2026	Early Learning- BLIEL and CTAC Contract Review Meeting
September 29, 2026	Communication and Self-Esteem (CSE) Teachback at A'Quinn Jones
September 30, 2026	Early Childhood- NCIT Five State Power Sharing Initiative Quarterly Meeting
September 30, 2026	Literacy- Alachua County Reads Community Advisory Meeting
October	
October 1, 2026	Nonprofit Lifecycles Intro Session #1
October 1, 2026	FACCT Policy Meeting
October 5, 2026	CTAC Regular Staff Meeting
October 6, 2026	The Future Call: Conversations on Florida's Early Learning Future
October 6, 2026	Nonprofit Lifecycles Intro Session #2

October 6, 2026	Just for Us Education, LLC Launch Brunch
October 8, 2026	FACCT Research Affinity Group
October 8, 2026	FACCT Policy Meeting
October 8, 2026	Programs' Team Meeting
October 9, 2026	Community: UF Homecoming Parade
October 12, 2026	Capacity Building: Nonprofit LifeCycle Introduction
October 13, 2026	NCIT STeering Committee Meeting
October 14, 2026	Leadership Gainesville
October 15, 2026	CTAC Staff Retreat
October 20, 2026	The Future Call: Conversations on Florida's Early Learning Future
October 20, 2026	SAMIS S3
October 21, 2026	Lights On Afterschool - Willie Mae Stokes
October 21, 2026	FIMR CRT Meeting
October 22, 2026	Programs' Team Meeting
October 22, 2026	FACCT Policy Meeting
October 26, 2026	CTAC Regular Staff Meeting
October 29, 2026	FACCT Policy Meeting
October 27-30, 2026	Florida Afterschool Conference

INITIATIVES



Lights on Afterschool is an annual celebration of the important role that afterschool programs provide in the lives of children and communities, providing safe and engaging places for children to learn and develop outside of school hours. The Children's Trust hosts an event each year in partnership with CTAC-funded afterschool providers to celebrate and shine a light on afterschool programs in Alachua County. This year, the event will be hosted by the Willie Mae Stokes Center in Micanopy, FL, on Wednesday, October 21, 2026, from 2:30-5 p.m. Families and afterschool programs are invited to join for free cake, music, fall activities and more.

PLANNING, RESEARCH, AND EVALUATION

Preparation for FY27

- Review of FY26 program data. Met internally and with providers to review progress, impact, and data reporting process. Data reviews informed co-development of FY27 performance targets with providers. Provider meetings included:
 - AMI Kids
 - Pace Center for Girls - Reach Community Counseling
 - UF Health - Partners in Adolescent Lifestyle Support (PALS)
 - Center for Nonprofit Excellence
 - PEAK Literacy
 - Amplified: Student Voice Coalition
 - City of Hawthorne - Family Resource Center
 - Pleasant Street - Family Resource Center
 - Deeper Purpose - Family Resource Center (SAMIS training)
 - Alachua County Reads
 - NewboRN Home Visiting
 - CONNECT
 - Wellness Coordinators
 - Gainesville Thrives - Dolly Parton Imagination Library
 - Goodwill Industries - TeensWork Alachua
 - Business Leadership Institute for Early Learning - Accreditation Academy
- Participated in FY27 contract negotiation meetings with providers, including:
 - Gainesville Thrives - Dolly Parton Imagination Library
 - Goodwill Industries - TeensWork Alachua
 - Partnership for Strong Families - Family Resource Centers (FRCs), FRC Consulting, and Help Me Grow

Family Resource Centers

- Hosted a convening of all seven CTAC funded Family Resource Centers in partnership with Partnership for Strong Families consulting staff. The focus of the convening was to have staff come together, discuss ways to improve recruitment and engagement of families leveraging the strengthening families framework, learn from each other, review performance measures and data reporting, and plan for the upcoming year. FRC convenings will occur quarterly to allow FRCs to connect regularly with each other and partners.
- Met with CSC evaluators from Leon and Hillsborough County to discuss their Family Resource Center models
- Met with FRC providers to discuss FY27 performance measures and provide SAMIS training.

Special Needs Initiative

- Partnered with C. Robinson to facilitate two focus groups: one for parents of children with special needs (on 9/24) and one for providers who serve children with special needs (on 9/23).
- Continued to disseminate surveys across the county for parents of children with special needs and providers who work with families with special needs children. Surveys will provide insight into available resources and gaps in services for families. Provider surveys will also inform the development of an asset map of resources and services available to families
 - Link to Parent Survey: <https://lxm.cc/g4qnvq>
 - Link to Parent Survey Flyer: [Special Needs Parent Flyer with QR Code](#)
 - Link to Partner Survey: <https://lxm.cc/5604q8>
 - Link to Partner Survey Flyer: [Special Needs Partner Flyer with QR Code](#)
(Please share!)
- Facilitated translation of the parent survey into Spanish for increased reach
 - Link to Parent survey in Spanish: <https://lxm.cc/hcv4b4>
(Please share!)
- Working closely with C. Robinson to plan interviews with community partners and providers serving special needs families
- Facilitated ongoing meetings with CTAC team to plan and implement initiative

Alachua County Reads

- Attended Alachua County Reads and UFLI kickoff at Metcalfe Elementary
- Participated in ACR Convening: Early Learning Experts

Workshops, trainings, and collaborative learning

- Attended the Women's Giving Circle Symposium: Overcoming Obstacles to Prosperity for Women and Children
- FACCT Programs Affinity Group meeting

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Financial Reports and Addendums

- FY 2026 Budget Report (August)
- FY 2026 Checks & Expenditures Report (August)
- FY 2026 Programmatic Awards & Expenditures Report (August)
- FY 2026 4th Quarter Financial Memorandum to the BoCC
- FY 2026 4th Quarter Budget Report

COMMUNICATIONS

Social Media - Key Points

- Gained **59** net followers on Facebook and **22** followers on Instagram.
- We amassed **85.6 K** views on Facebook, **70** views on LinkedIn and **4.9K** views on Instagram in the **past 30 days**.
- The most viewed content on our Facebook was:
 - Our post about our new board members and current board members reappointment (**12.2 K views**)
- The most viewed content on our Instagram were:
 - Our reel featuring Deeper Purpose and PSF “thank you Children’s Trust” (**414 views**)

New Campaigns / Projects

- Homecoming materials
- Lights on Afterschool event
- CBS community show segment
- Ilene Silverman show

Continuing Campaigns / Projects

- Awards push
- Website redesign / YouTube Redesign
- Board meeting video pulls for socials and youtube
- Live monthly morning shows with Tu Fiesta
- Monthly podcast, now with promos
- Provider Tours
- Special Needs Survey push
- Alachua County Reads push

In the news:

WUFT

- [PEAK Literacy expands tutoring to reach more than 600 Alachua County children — Sept. 25](#)

Mainstreet Daily News

- [DeSantis Appoints Four to Children’s Trust of Alachua County — Sept. 7](#)
- [Community Spring to host inaugural block party in downtown Gainesville on Saturday — Sept. 29](#)

WCJB TV20

- [Governor appoints four to Children's Trust of Alachua County](#) — Sept. 5

Alachua Chronicle

- [Governor DeSantis appoints four to the Children's Trust of Alachua County](#) — Sept. 6

Florida Governor's Office

- [Governor Ron DeSantis Appoints Four to the Children's Trust of Alachua County](#) — Sept. 4

Alachua County Library District

- [Community Resource Navigator](#) — September

University of Florida

- [EduGator Newsletter — September 2, 2026](#) — Sept. 2

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Tabling/Resource Sharing:

In September, CTAC tabled and shared resources at the following events:

- Together We Rise Community Recovery Event (Zero Hour Life Center), Gainesville
- Fall Family Fun Day: Teddy Bear Picnic (Fun 4 Gator Kids), Gainesville
- Sweet Potato Festival (Waldo Area Historical Society), Waldo
- High Springs Bike to School Day (Safe Kids NCFL), High Springs
- Saints Cares Open House (Santa Fe College), Gainesville
- MACS Steam Night (MACS), Micanopy
- Senior Spotlight (City of Gainesville), Gainesville
- Friday Night at the Center: Harvest Kick-Off (NCFL Community Center), Gainesville
- Cade Community Day (Cade Museum), Gainesville
- HPW 5K Color Run (HPW), Gainesville
- Santa Fe Volunteer (Santa Fe), Gainesville

Total September Tabling Interactions: 727 (Estimated), in the municipalities of **Gainesville, Waldo, High Springs. and Micanopy**

FY 2026 in Review:

This brings our **Fiscal Year 2026 total “tabling touchpoints” to 9,579**. This number includes individuals who have stopped at our tables to learn about CTAC, gather resources, and take home promotional items. CTAC Community Engagement was a part of **156 events** this fiscal year.

In **FY 2026** our resource tabling reached the municipalities of:

Archer, Alachua, Newberry, Waldo, Micanopy, High Springs, Gainesville, and Hawthorne

Community Meetings/Event Attendance:

CTAC Highlights: Promoted special needs listening project and Community Champions Awards

- Alachua County Health Promotion and Wellness Coalition Quarterly Meeting
- 5th Ave. Neighborhood Association
- Alachua Chamber Monthly Luncheon
- Family Promise Annual Luncheon
- Women’s Giving Circle Symposium
- Ribbon Cutting: Jessie’s Village
- Safe Kids NCFL Coalition

Collaborations and Conversations:

Communications, introductions, and/or planning with the following organizations: Willie Mae Stokes Community Center, Alachua County Library District, Help Me Grow Alachua, Cade Museum, Peak Literacy, Limitless Adventures, Alachua County Reads, Harn Museum, Micanopy Area Cooperative School, Vystar Credit Union, New Worlds Reading: Books and Cooks, Alachua County HPW, Library Partnership FRC, Fun 4 Gator Kids, Santa Fe College, GHA, Moms Demand Action, JBF Gainesville, Deeper Purpose, Zero Hour Life Center, Thrive Newberry, Waldo Area Historical Society, Waldo New Vision Coalition, Promise and Purpose, Community Spring, Safe Kids NCFL, HOPE Alachua, NCFL Community Center, ACSO, Hawthorne Chamber

Looking Ahead:

October will be a very busy month for Community Engagement with 12 scheduled events so far, including our **Trick or Treat and Read Campaign**, where we will be promoting literacy with 500 free Halloween-themed books at several trick or treat events. Additionally, CTAC staff will participate in the **UF Homecoming Parade** and celebrate **Lights On Afterschool** with proclamations at the County Commission as well as Micanopy, culminating in the annual **Lights On After School Celebration (Oct. 21, 2:30-5 p.m., Willie Mae Stokes Center in Micanopy)**.

BOARD MOTIONS AND REQUESTS

DATE	MOTION / REQUEST	STATUS
8.12.2024	Member Chance mentioned that programmatic dashboards showing awarded amounts and actual invoiced/funded amounts for each program area would be helpful and useful for staff to create or distribute.	In progress pending website host update completion
3.10.2025	Member Chance suggested checking with other CSC's and considering listing funded organizations under priorities on the website for accountability.	
2.9.2026	Dr. Labarta moved that staff convene the major youth mental health providers and identify how CTAC can improve distribution of services and allot/distribute throughout the county.	Completed - September 28th Board Meeting Presentation

SUCCESS STORIES

Child Advocacy Center | Success Story

A client with a significant history of sexual abuse and attachment trauma became involved with DJJ after being pressured by a peer to engage in criminal behavior. Since referral, the client has remained consistently engaged in trauma-responsive therapy and has demonstrated meaningful progress toward her treatment goals, including strengthening healthy boundaries, making safer decisions, and seeking support from trusted adults. As her sense of safety and trust has increased, she has also made additional disclosures of past abuse, allowing treatment to address previously unmet trauma needs.

These gains have strengthened important protective factors and reduced risks associated with future justice system involvement. A review of services letter documenting her consistent engagement and therapeutic progress was provided to the court. Her public defender and caregiver reported that her progress in treatment helped the court consider a less restrictive outcome, resulting in a reduced charge and a lesser sentence of probation and community service. This outcome highlights the impact of sustained engagement in trauma-responsive services in promoting safety, stability, and healthier long-term decision-making.

Harmony & Her | Success Story

During one of the last sessions, each of the participants reflected on what they learned from the group. Each participant shared what they learned from the group sessions. After that session, three caregivers of three of the participants reached out and asked if Harmony & Her would share the dates and times of future group sessions so their children could attend. Additionally, two caregivers inquired about ongoing individual support for their children to receive therapy services because they had experienced behavioral improvements during the summer group.

Aces in Motion| Success Story

Akeem (AJ) Thompson Jr., a senior, and Kyle Sims, an 11th grader at Aces In Motion were two of the EIGHT winners who were awarded the opportunity to attend an all-expense paid trip to New York for the National Junior Tennis & Learning Essay Contest. Both students were tasked with writing an essay on what leadership meant to them and expressed that it looks differently for the both of them.

Leadership can mean sticking up for people even when they don't ask or empowering others to be successful as well. We are so proud of both students for their hard work and commitment to leadership in their own lives. Local news reports highlighting AJ and Kyle's accomplishments can be found here:

<https://www.mainstreetdailynews.com/education/alachua-county-high-school-students-win-national-essay-competition>

<https://www.wcjb.com/2026/09/27/alachua-county-high-school-students-win-trip-us-open/>

University of Florida College of Dentistry | Saving Smiles

This month, the Saving Smiles program supported a mother and her eight children who were struggling to access dental care. Despite calling multiple dental offices, she couldn't find a provider

willing to schedule all eight children on the same day, creating significant challenges related to transportation, school absences, and missed work.

Our team coordinated appointments for all eight children through Saving Smiles on a single date, reducing the family's transportation burden and preventing unnecessary time away from school and work. During their visit, each child received comprehensive preventive dental services and oral health education. Several adolescents showed early signs of gum disease, which were promptly treated to prevent further progression.

The mother expressed deep gratitude for both the convenience and the quality of care. This success highlights the impact of flexible, family centered care models that reduce barriers to access and make preventive oral healthcare more attainable for working families.