



CONNECT

**Community Organizing
Navigating Service Delivery
Nurturing Early Childhood Teams**

*Building Stronger
Systems for Early
Identification,
Inclusion, and Family
Support in Alachua
County*

This proposal was prepared by the Early Childhood Learning Collaborative Systems and Resources Workgroup, convened by the Children's Trust of Alachua County

Thank you to the workgroup leaders who provided feedback throughout the iterative development of this proposal

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Dorothy Thomas

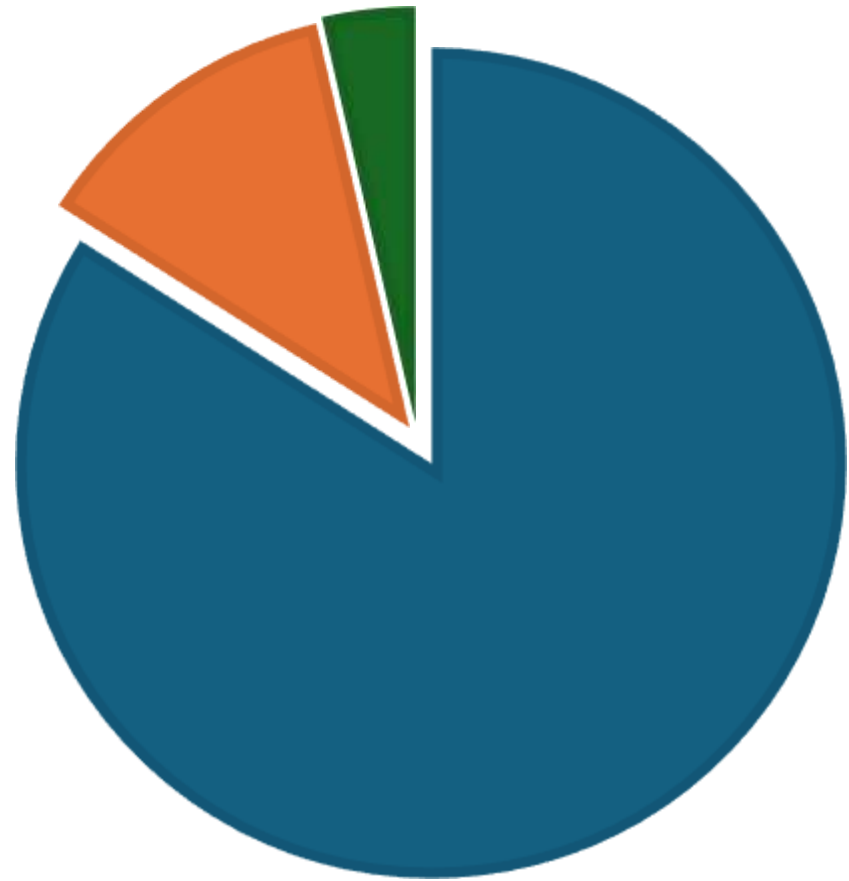
Yolanda Hagley
Stacey Williams
Lisa Heath
Heather Doles

Arlene Lambert
Crystal Bishop
Mia Jones

And to the Early Learning Coalition of Alachua County for their partnership in implementing CONNECT should it be funded



Xaviera White
Chief Executive Officer



■ ~13,400 children 0-5 in Alachua

■ ~16% likely to need services

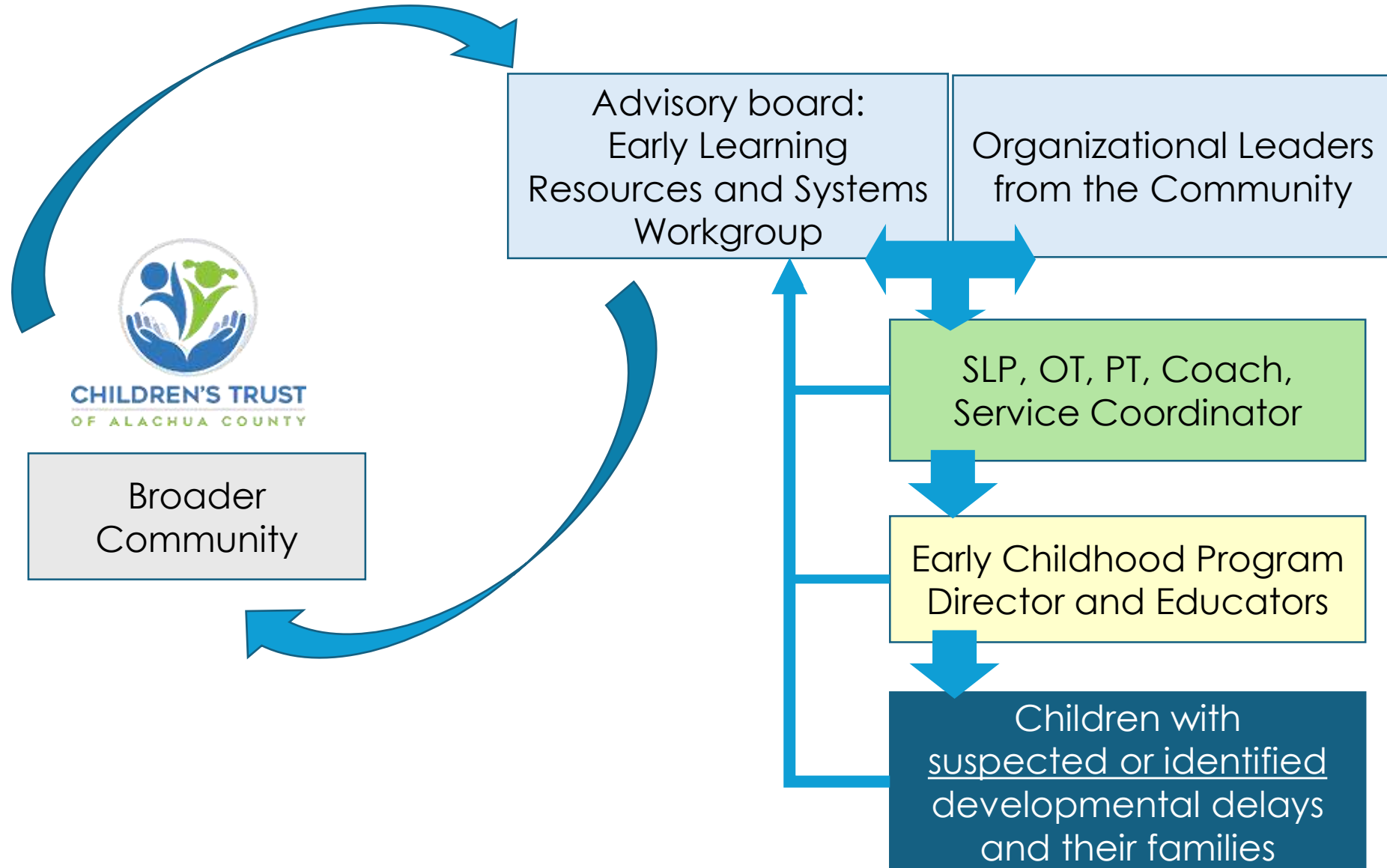
■ 3.6% receiving services

2024 U.S. Census Bureau (2024) estimates

Why CONNECT Matters

- ~1,662 children at-risk
- 44% Kindergarteners
- Community Literacy Needs Assessment
- CTAC Strategic Plan for 2027-2030FY

Who's Engaged in CONNECT?



What CONNECT Will Do

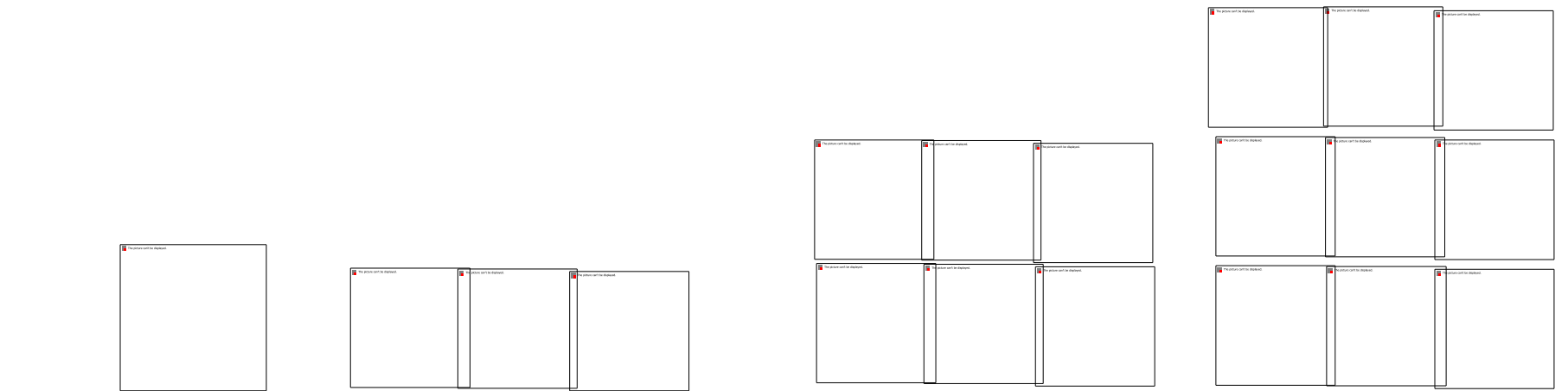


- **Identify children earlier through coordinated developmental screening and referral.**
- **Connect providers and families to work together as one team.**
- **Provide practice-based coaching to help educators meet each child's individual needs.**
- **Empower families with information, resources, and advocacy skills to help their child thrive.**

Expected CONNECT Impacts

Total Project Cost:
\$450,676

Project Impacts:
8 Implementers
9 Programs
90 Educators
270 Children



Year 1 10/1/26 to 4/30/26 5/1/27 to 9/30/27 **Year 2** 10/1/28 to 9/30/29 **Year 3** 10/1/29 to 9/30/30

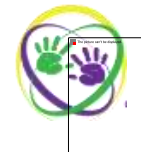
6 months to establish MOUs, and foundational training for ELC, Transdisciplinary Team, and Early Childhood Program, baseline screening data



= Existing ELC Staff & Lead Coach



= Related Services Team (SLP, OT, PT, BCBA)



= Existing ELC Staff & 1 new Coach



= Related Services Team (SLP, OT, PT, BCBA)



= Existing ELC Staff & Coach



= Related Services Team (SLP, OT, PT, BCBA)



=

- ~1 Director
- ~10 Educators Universal Support
- ~ 5 Educators PBC Support
- ~30 Children Universal Screening
- ~ 5 Children referred and receiving individualized supports

Year 1 Cost:
\$107,270

Year 1 Impacts:
7 Implementers
3 Programs
30 Educators
90 Children