



**CHILDREN'S TRUST**  
OF ALACHUA COUNTY

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

October 1, 2025 - October 31, 2025

### **SUMMARY**

1. Literacy Collaborative Townhall Meetings
2. CTAC Events - Community Conversation on The Child Care Economy, UF Homecoming Parade, & Lights On Afterschool Kudos

MEETINGS AND EVENTS FOR PLANNING, COORDINATION, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT		
DATE	MEETING / EVENT	SUMMARY
October 1, 2025	Retirement Reception: Santa Fe College Police Chief Ed Book	ED M. Kiner and E. McCauley attended.
October 1, 2025	Community Gun Violence Prevention Alliance Town Hall	E. McCauley attended.
October 1, 2025	Education Foundation Take Stock in Children 30th Anniversary Dinner	ED M. Kiner and E. McCauley attended.
October 1, 2025	City of Alachua Education Task Force Appointee Meeting	ED Kiner met with Ryan Reidway to discuss the Taskforce and resources available to families in Alachua.
October 2, 2025	Education Foundation Take Stock in Children 30th Anniversary Dinner	Ed Kiner and E. McCauley attended and CTAC received an award.
October 6, 2025	UF Center for Arts, Migration, and Entrepreneurship/SPARK 352	CTAC Staff and SPARK staff met to discuss Youth Engagement partnership.
October 6, 2025	Meeting with Doug Johnson	ED Kiner met with Doug Johnson to discuss the status of the local Boys & Girls Club.
October 7, 2025	Meeting with River Phoenix	ED Kiner and D. Tyson met with River Phoenix staff to discuss partnership and new opportunities for the upcoming fiscal year.
October 7, 2025	Walk to School Day at High Springs Community School	E. McCauley and K. Goldwire attended and shared resources with Safe Kids NCFL coalition.
October 7, 2025	Ribbon Cutting: Boys and Girls Club Cox Innovation Lab	ED M. Kiner, K. Goldwire, and E. McCauley attended.

October 8, 2025	Newberry City Hall Meeting and Tour	ED M. Kiner and E. McCauley met with J. Marlowe, Newberry City Manager.
October 9, 2025	Alachua County Community Conversation: The Childcare Economy	ED M. Kiner, M. Jones, K. Goldwire, A. Wagner, and E. McCauley attended.
October 9, 2025	Healthy Afternoons: Screaming for Safety with Gainesville Fire and Rescue	ED M. Kiner, E. McCauley, and CiviGator Intern A. Wherley attended and tabled event.
October 9, 2025	Housing For Children First Meeting	ED Kiner and COO Goldwire attended.
October 10, 2025	Alachua County Homeless Student Awareness Event	ED M. Kiner, K. Goldwire, and E. McCauley attended and shared resources.
October 11, 2025	BLI Session 1 - Business Development	ED Kiner & COO Goldwire attended.
October 14, 2025	Alachua County Commission Meeting: Lights on Afterschool Proclamation	ED M. Kiner and E. McCauley attended
October 14, 2025	5th Ave. Neighborhood Association meeting	E. McCauley attended.
October 14, 2025	City of Gainesville and DPI, LLC - Gun Violence Discussion	ED Kiner and COO Goldwire met with city staff and consultants from DPI, LLC to discuss the CTAC funded Gun Violence strategic planning process.
October 15, 2025	Juvenile Court Visit	ED Kiner visited Juvenile Court and met with Judge Susanne Wilson Bullard.
October 15, 2025	Meeting with Freedom School	CTAC staff met with Freedom School Staff.

October 16, 2025	Gainesville Empowerment Zone Tour	E. McCauley met with T. White, Family Engagement Specialist.
October 16, 2025	City Commission Meeting: Lights on Afterschool Proclamation	ED M. Kiner and E. McCauley attended.
October 17, 2025	UF Homecoming Parade	CTAC Staff walked in the parade with Tu Fiesta Radio.
October 20, 2025	Alachua County Legislative Delegation Meeting	ED M. Kiner and E. McCauley attended.
October 21, 2025	Quarterly Resource Center Partner Meeting	E. McCauley attended
October 22, 2025	One Community Resource Fair	E. McCauley attended and shared resources.
October 22, 2025	UF Community Relations Meeting	ED Kiner met with UF Community Relations staff.
October 23, 2025	Female Protective Society Community Event	ED Kiner attended.
October 23, 2025	Lights on Afterschool	CTAC staff hosted this event with the Gainesville Circus Center.
October 24, 2025	Safety Net Collaborative Meeting	E. McCauley attended.
October 24, 2025	Literacy Collaborative Meeting	CTAC met with the Collaborative to discuss the Townhalls.
October 25, 2025	“Check you Out” Community Health Fair at Metcalfe Elementary	E. McCauley tabled at this community event.

October 25, 2025	Flip or Treat 2025 at Balance 180	E. McCauley and CiviGator Intern A. Wherley attended.
October 26, 2025	Bridge City Community Church Fall Fest	E. McCauley attended sponsored event.
October 27, 2025	Strongminded Mentoring Meeting	ED Kiner met with Jarrell Whitehead to discuss funding opportunities and partnership.
October 28, 2025	ELC Information and Resource Session at Library Partnership	E. McCauley attended
October 28, 2025	League of Cities Meeting: Hawthorne	M. Kiner and E. McCauley attended.
October 28, 2025	TeensWork Fall Leadership Cohort	ED Kiner presented to the TWA Fall Leadership Cohort.
October 29, 2025	Community Literacy Town Hall	E. McCauley attended.
October 30, 2025	Community Literacy Town Hall	E. McCauley attended.

## PROGRAMS CALENDAR

October	
October 2, 2025	Programs' Team Meeting
October 6, 2025	Contract discussion with SPARK352: UF Center for Arts, Migration, and Entrepreneurship
October 8, 2025	Boys & Girls Club Afterschool Program - Performance Measure and Data Reporting Review and SAMIS Training
October 9, 2025	Community Conversation: Childcare Economy
October 9, 2025	Budget and contracting discussion with SPARK352 UF Center for the Arts, Migration, & Entrepreneurship.
October 9, 2025	FACCT Research and Evaluation Affinity Group
October 13, 2025	Contract Deliverables discussion with SPARK352: UF Center for Arts, Migration, and Entrepreneurship
October 14, 2025	Amplified Student Voice Coalition - Performance Measure and Data Reporting Review and SAMIS Training
October 15, 2025	FACCT IT Affinity Group
October 15, 2025	Early Learning Coalition - Performance Measure and Data Reporting Review and SAMIS Training
October 16, 2025	Programs' Team Meeting
October 17, 2025	UF Homecoming Parade
October 20, 2025	C Robinson Strategic Planning Follow-up Session with Staff
October 22, 2025	TBR Training with Genesis for Providers
October 22, 2025	Florida Afterschool Conference
October 23, 2025	Lights on Afterschool
October 27, 20245	Gainesville Thrives - Dolly Parton Imagination Library: Evaluation Discussion
October 28, 2025	SAMIS S3 Meeting
October 29, 2025	Community Literacy Collaborative Townhall
October 30, 2025	Programs' Team Meeting

## INITIATIVES



**Don't miss out on this great resource for families: The Parenting Playbook.**

Our brand-new magazine, **The Parenting Playbook**, is designed to support parents at every stage of their parenting journey. It shares information about local programs and services that can help parents who are preparing for a newborn to preparing their teen for college or careers.

To access an online version, [visit our website](#). Want free print copies? Place an [order request](#).

## PLANNING, RESEARCH, AND EVALUATION

### Preparation for FY26

- Supported providers in completing all FY25 data deliverables. Compiled and analyzed data. Met internally and with providers to review progress, impact, and data reporting process. Data reviews informed co-development of FY26 performance targets with providers. Provider meetings included:
  - A&A Consulting: Doula Friendly Initiative
  - PEAK Literacy
  - Gainesville Empowerment Zone
  - Children's Home Society of Florida: Wellness and Health Navigation
  - TeensWork Alachua
  - Early Learning Coalition: Child Tuition Assistance Program
- Discussed FY26 contracts with providers:
  - UF Center for Arts, Migration, and Entrepreneurship: SPARC352
  - City of Gainesville: Youth Violence Prevention Programming
  - Education Foundation: Amplified Student Voice

### Program Evaluation for FY2025

- TeensWork Alachua - completed data analysis and reporting on the summer youth employment program; developing a TWA Alumni Surveys to follow-up with teens as they transition into adulthood.
- Imagination Library - initial meetings to discuss evaluation study to assess kindergarten readiness outcomes on children who have been engaged in the program.

### FY2026 RFP Preparations

- Developing survey to administer to community members including youth, parents, and providers to gather input for Mentoring and Enrichment RFPs

### CTAC Strategic Planning

- Participated in internal CTAC strategic planning workshops

### Workshops, Trainings, and Collaborative Learning

- Attended Community Conversation: Childcare Economy
- Attended After School Conference in Orlando
- Participated in FACCT Research and Evaluation Affinity group meeting
- Attended Community Literacy Townhall
- Planning for convening of Enrichment providers in November

## FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

### **Reports and Addendums**

FY 2025 Budget Report (September)

FY 2025 Checks and Expenditures Report (September)

FY 2025 Programmatic Awards and Expenditures Report (September)

FY 2025 4th Quarter Financial Report

\*\*\*Please see “Annotations to Financial Statements” that accompanies Budget Report for detailed analysis

## COMMUNICATIONS

### Social Media - Key Points

- Gained **51** net followers on Facebook and **22** followers on Instagram.
- We amassed **9.8K** views on Facebook and **5.9K** views on Instagram in the **past 30 days**.
- The most viewed content on our Facebook were:
  - Our post about Lights on Afterschool (**769 views**)
  - Our promotion post with the Flyer for Lights on Afterschool (**2.5K views**)
- The most viewed content on our Instagram were:

Our post recapping the Homecoming Parade with Tu Fiesta Radio (**652 Views**)

### In the News

- <https://www.wcjb.com/2025/10/08/childrens-trust-seeks-clarity-violence-interruption-program-effectiveness-gainesville/>
- <https://www.wuft.org/education/2025-10-24/childrens-trust-rallies-families-around-after-school-safety-and-learning>
- <https://www.mainstreetdailynews.com/education/childrens-trust-raise-executive-director>
- <https://www.mainstreetdailynews.com/education/childrens-trust-alachua-county-17m-budget>
- <https://www.wuft.org/education/2025-10-23/alachua-county-celebrates-after-school-care-programs-circus-style>
- <https://www.mainstreetdailynews.com/news/local/childrens-trust-approves-millage-rate>

## BOARD MOTIONS AND REQUESTS

DATE	MOTION / REQUEST	STATUS
8.12.2024  3.10.2025	<p>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.</p> <p>Member Chance suggested checking with other CSC's and considering listing funded organizations under priorities on the website for accountability.</p>	Delegated to Incoming Director of Mktg
9.9.2024	Chair Pinkoson requested to have a discussion for future RFPs about the maximum amount of funding a provider can request of the total allocation.	Embedded in the Strategic Plan Review and Update
11.4.2024  2.10.2025	<p>The Board discussed the need for affordable housing for families with children, with a focus on those living in cars or motels. Member Hardt suggested contacting Anne Ray from the Shimberg Center to give a presentation on local issues and potential solutions.</p> <p>Member Hardt requested the Board invite Theresa Beachy to discuss affordable housing, ALICE report, and the work she's doing with the chamber. She would also like to discuss housing challenges in Gainesville, particularly among our "heroes" - teachers, law enforcement, fire rescue, and nurses.</p>	Presentation at November Board Meeting
11.4.2024	The Board requested a joint meeting with the Alachua County Library Board.	Meeting date TBD early 2026 per discussion with Lib. Dir and CTAC ED
3.10.2025	Dr. Labarta requested a follow-up to the community needs listing.	In progress December FYI section
4.7.2025	Member Chance expressed interest in learning whether other Trusts prioritize zip codes with identified gaps in funding decisions (FL Chamber Gap Map)	Completed November FYI section

## SUCCESS STORIES

### Goal 1: Children and Youth are Healthy and Have Nurturing Caregivers and Relationships

**PSF FRC/CRN/HMG Success Story:** A single father of four came to one of the Family Resource Center's seeking assistance with his utility bill after experiencing major life changes. He met with our staff, shared his situation, and together brainstormed a solution. Through our partnership with the Children's Trust of Alachua County, we were able to assist with his utility costs, helping him maintain stability for his family. Thanks to community resources and the father's determination, he left with one less worry and a little more peace of mind. A few days later, he returned, not for more help but to say thank you. He shared that the kindness and support he received gave him hope, inspired him to focus on his own mental health, and motivated him to connect with other agencies. With a clearer headspace, he felt more positive and committed to making changes to avoid future setbacks.

### Goal 2: Children and Youth can learn What They Need to be Successful

**CHS Success Story:** Metcalfe Elementary: In August, CHS supported several students and their families by addressing a range of needs. One family, with two male students, required school supplies. CHS provided them with backpacks, college-ruled paper, pencils, crayons, glue sticks, and binders to help them start the school year prepared. Additionally, CHS assisted a female student who needed a referral to her primary care physician to pursue an IEP or 504 Plan. This referral enables her to receive the necessary accommodation and support in the classroom.

As part of CHS's preparation for the new year, they met with all the teachers during their pre-planning sessions. CHS introduced the services they will be offering and informed the teachers that CHS was collecting UF Dental Consent Forms ahead of the dental team's visit scheduled for February 2026.

### Goal 1: Children and Youth are Healthy and Have Nurturing Caregivers and Relationships

#### **University of Florida-Saving Smiles Success Story:**

During a recent school-based dental screening event, a third-grade student was identified as having urgent dental needs. This child was promptly scheduled for care through our program, as was their younger sibling who was also experiencing tooth pain. Following dental exams and x-rays on the day of their appointments, both children were found to have severely decayed baby teeth with abscesses requiring extraction. Their mother shared that she had been trying for months to secure dental appointments elsewhere but had been unsuccessful. As a result, both children had been missing school due to persistent toothaches. She also expressed concern about their dental anxiety, noting that their last dental treatment required sedation.

Dr. Olga explained that while their clinic does not offer sedation, they could provide sensory comfort items to help ease the children's anxiety. Dr. Olga spoke gently and honestly with each child, explaining the procedure and asking if they felt ready to proceed. Both children immediately agreed and demonstrated remarkable cooperation throughout the visit. The tooth removals were completed successfully, and both children were scheduled for follow-up visits to address other less urgent dental issues. As the family prepared to leave, the children gave Dr. Olga a hug and thanked her for helping them. It was a sentimental moment that underscored the relief they felt following the months of tooth pain they had experienced, and which emphasizes the importance of compassionate and accessible healthcare.

### **Goal 3: All Children Live in a Safe Community**

#### **Big Brothers Big Sisters Success Story: Chelsea & Anaya - Growing Together Through Mentorship**

As Chelsea and Anaya approach their one-year match anniversary, both are filled with excitement and gratitude for the journey they've shared. What began as a site-based match at Anaya's elementary school has blossomed into a vibrant community-based mentorship — a reflection of the strong bond they've built and their desire to stay connected beyond school walls.

When Anaya completed fifth grade and prepared to transition to middle school, neither she nor Chelsea wanted their time together to come to an end. Instead, they eagerly chose to continue their relationship as a community match. At their meeting in July to make the switch official, Anaya celebrated with a joyful hug for her Big Sister — a moment that spoke volumes about the trust and affection they've developed.

In just a few short months, Chelsea and Anaya have packed their time together with laughter, learning, and adventure. They've gone swimming, enjoyed movies, explored local parks, and shared meals — all while growing closer. Chelsea has also stepped in to support Anaya's family during a tough time, helping with rides to school and volleyball practice after the family car was totaled in an accident.

The impact of their connection is already showing. Anaya's grades have improved, and Chelsea continues to be a positive, steady presence as Anaya navigates the challenges of middle school. Their story is a testament to the power of consistent, caring mentorship — and how a single connection can make a lasting difference in the life of a young person.

As they look back on their first year together and forward to the future, one thing is clear: this match is just getting started.

### **Goal 2: Children and Youth Can Learn What They Need to be Successful**

#### **Girls Place Inc. Success story:**

Maxine joined us for the first time this summer after having participated in athletics at Girls Place previously. Maxine's parents heard a lot of good things about the summer program including the structure, variety of activities, and supervision, and really wanted a space for Maxine. They were thrilled when Maxine was invited off the wait list to attend for the full summer. Maxine was in a group with a former Girls Place member who recently graduated with her degree in Education. Our team member brought a lot of knowledge into the classroom and established clear expectations for activities, communication, problem-solving, and more. Her goal was to create as much self-sufficiency for the girls to help them be more successful at GP, school, and home. Maxine thrived in this environment. She valued respect and independence and the opportunity to learn how to advocate for herself and use her voice. She soaked up knowledge from our guest speakers and willingly shared those experiences with her parents and dug deeper when she reflected on the presentations. Once she returned to school, we learned that she was using her skills to establish boundaries for her personal space and seeking help from teachers when others in her classroom were not respecting those boundaries. She was described as a "different kid" from the previous school year. We are grateful that Girls Place could play a role and invest in Maxine.