



Item:

TeensWork Alachua - Summer Youth Employment – Program Results (Bonnie Wagner)

Requested Action:

The Board is asked to receive information.

Background:

The Children's Trust began funding TeensWork Alachua – a summer youth employment program – in summer 2022 and the program recently completed its fourth year. TeensWork provides an outlet for youth to explore and develop career aspirations and professional connections while deterring teens from idleness or delinquent activity.

In summer 2025, 270 teens were served in 125 work sites across Alachua County. Teens were able to work for up to 150 hours at their job placement over the course of 6-8 weeks. All youth complete 8 hours of training prior to beginning work. An additional 6 hours of training were offered weekly over the course of the summer. Training topics covered include career readiness, college and career pathways, workplace culture, résumé writing, interview skills and mock interviews, adding value to the workplace, and financial literacy. Teens on average worked for 133 hours and participated in 12 hours of training. Teens received coaching and guidance from both their job coach and work site supervisor.

Both teens and employers report high levels of satisfaction with the program. Notable program successes included gains in career readiness, financial literacy, and work skills among teens served. Nearly all teens reported that they learned skills that benefit them in the future and they gained valuable work experience. Some teens detailed how their TeensWork experience taught them responsibility, communication skills, prepared them for the “real world” and helped them gain confidence.

Attachments:

Board Presentation – TeensWork Alachua – Summer Youth Employment on 11-10-2025

TeensWork Alachua – Year 4 Evaluation Report – FY2025

Programmatic Impact:

TeensWork Alachua support the following Trust goals:

Goal 2: All children and youth learn what they need to be successful.

Goal 3: All children and youth are safe.

Recommendation:

Receive the information.