



**CHILDREN'S TRUST**  
OF ALACHUA COUNTY

## **STEERING COMMITTEE - STRATEGIC PLAN WORKSHOP MINUTES**

December 16, 2022 at 9:30 AM

CTAC, 802 NW 5th Ave, Gainesville, FL 32601

---

### **Call to Order**

Meeting called to order by Chair Cheryl Twombly at 9:30am.

### **Roll Call**

#### **Attendance**

#### **Present**

Cheryl Twombly  
Ken Cornell  
Lee Pinkoson  
Barzella Papa  
Candice King  
Christi Arrington  
Patricia Snyder  
Christopher Stokes

#### **Trust Staff Present**

Marsha Kiner  
Kristy Goldwire  
Bonnie Wagner  
Elizabeth Cayson  
Mia Jones  
Dan Douglas  
Diana Sanchez  
Ashley Morgan-Daniel

#### **Also Present**

Nikki Martin-Bynum  
Vashti Rutledge

#### **Agenda Review**

Approval of the agenda also approves all of the items on the consent agenda.

### **Consent Agenda**

#### **Motion made to accept by Member Pinkoson seconded by Member Cornell**

1. 10.17.22 Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

### **Discussion Items**

2. Purpose of the Strategic Planning Process (Marsha Kiner)

Executive Director Kiner introduced the strategic planning consultant Nicole “Nikki” Martin-Bynum to the group. Nikki introduced a member of her team Vashti Rutledge. Nikki expressed her thanks to the team for the invitation to work on the project.

3. Project Review (Kristy Goldwire)

Trust Staff DOP K. Goldwire recapped what led up to the listening project. She explained the RFP process and the voices that were included in the guiding and crafting. Goldwire noted that the steering committee is made up of more than board members. It includes staff and community members.

4. Listening Project Update (Dr. Tatia Prieto)

Dr. Prieto updated the committee on the current progress. She showed a graphic of the completed activities and discussed the upcoming events and deadlines. Dr. Prieto explained the project pivots with surveys, community meetings and focus groups. The project efforts were discussed. She asked the group for input on the final product should look like.

### **Discussion**

Member Pinkoson asked how the parent focus groups went.

Member Cornell asked Dr. Prieto to share with the group the conversation that they had at the Praise Center. Dr. Prieto shared in a post Covid world people wanted more in person opportunities.

Executive Director Kiner thanked Dr. Prieto for being flexible and understanding when she reached out asking for changes. Dr. Snyder and Chair Twombly also expressed their thanks.

Trust staff member B. Wagner also thanked Dr. Prieto and her team for all the hard work. She also mentioned to the team that the parent and youth surveys are still live. Wagner acknowledged Member C. King’s question about the rural areas and survey completion. Member King asked specifically about if the churches had been contacted.

Dr. Prieto explained the extensive efforts to reach churches.

Member C. Stokes communicated with the group what he was working on to have survey completion in Micanopy and agreed that the rural areas need to be heard. Member Stokes shared that it is important to have the Pastor of the churches on board.

Member Cornell asked Dr. Prieto how many surveys does she believe she needs to hear from the rural areas? Dr. Prieto advised that she needs 30 quality results from each community parent and youth.

Member C. King asked about getting paper surveys to hand out at the Acorn Clinic.

N. Martin-Bynum r asked for Dr. Prieto to share with the group the zip codes and areas that were short on surveys. Dr. Prieto explained that the list that Staff member Wagner shared is accurate.

5. Environmental Scan (Bonnie Wagner)

Trust staff member B. Wagner discussed the environmental scan that she is working on for Alachua County. She is using valuable secondary data that is collected from various places including the Florida Census and Florida Charts. This data will help us to take a catalog of what our resources and assets look like in each of our municipalities that might supplement and compliment the work of the listening project. The environmental scan of Alachua County includes resources and assets, our municipalities, population statistics and child demographics. The indicators of child well-being in the areas of Health, Education, Support, and Safety were briefly discussed. The scan is not complete, and B. Wagner is hoping to receive feedback from the steering committee on how to figure out what is missing and what the group would like to see included.

**Discussion led by strategic planners** (Nikki Martin-Bynum and Vashti Rutledge)

Breakout Sessions

The committee broke up in smaller groups to discuss the indicators of child well-being Health, Education, Support and Safety.

Questions for each group.

- What trends do you see? Positive, negative, turbulent
- What factors could have impacted the trends? Social environmental, economical
- Which factors can CTAC impact?
- What opportunities/ challenges do you see?

Each group answered what they saw and heard from the data in front of them followed by a group discussion.

**General Public Comments: None**

**Meeting adjourned at 12:30.**

# Children’s Trust of Alachua County

## Environmental Scan

December 2022

### Table of Contents

#### Alachua County

Resources and Assets

Our Municipalities

Population Statistics and Child Demographics

#### Indicators of Child Well-Being

Health

Education

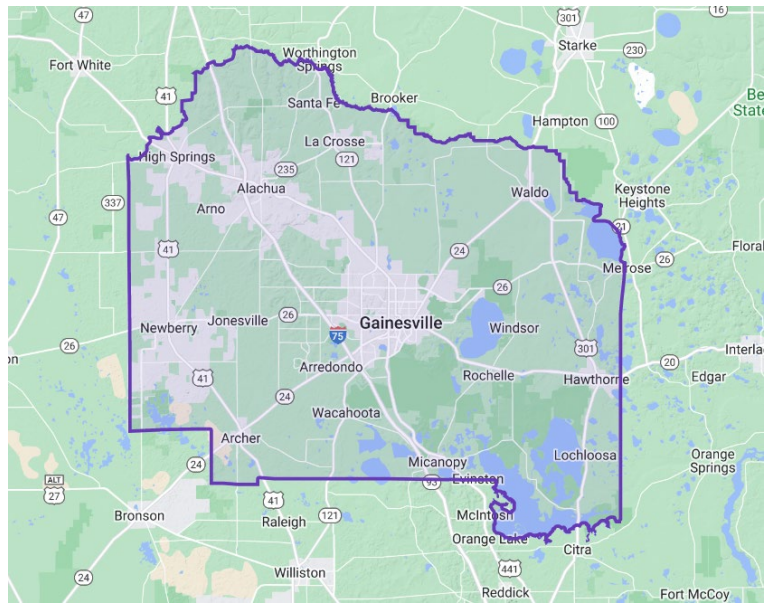
Support

Safety

#### References

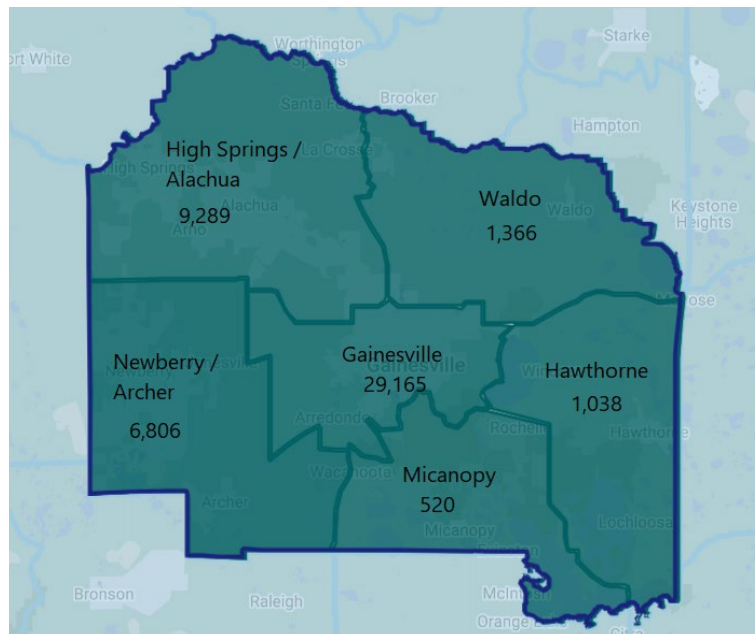
## Resources and Assets

- 50,722 children
- 2,572 births
- 2 birth hospitals
- 7 prenatal care providers
- 143 licensed child care providers
- 32 public elementary schools
- 18 public middle and high schools
- 12 libraries
- 1,980 non-profit organizations



## Our Municipalities:

- Alachua
- Archer
- Gainesville
- Hawthorne
- High Springs
- Micanopy
- Newberry
- Waldo



County Subdivisions	Children Under 18
Gainesville	60.5%
Hawthorne	2.1%
High Springs-Alachua	19.3%
Micanopy	1.1%
Newberry-Archer	14.1%
Waldo	2.8%

## Population Statistics and Child Demographics

### Child Population by Age

Age Group	Count	Percent
0-4 years	13,508	4.8%
5-9 years	15,826	5.7%
10-14 years	12,998	4.7%
15-17 years	8,390	3.0%
<b>Total Child Population</b>	<b>50,722</b>	<b>18.2%</b>
County Population	279,238	100%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (2021)

### Income and Population by County

County	Median Household Income	Total Population	Child Population	Children Below Poverty
<b>Alachua</b>	<b>\$56,445</b>	<b>279,238</b>	<b>50,722</b>	<b>18.1%</b>
Clay	\$76,679	222,361	51,235	13.5%
Escambia	\$54,228	322,390	67,997	22.0%
Leon	\$58,118	292,817	54,912	19.2%
Okaloosa	\$69,823	213,255	47,863	16.1%
St. John	\$91,602	292,466	63,678	8.5%
St. Lucie	\$62,797	343,579	67,639	17.3%
<b>Florida</b>	<b>\$63,062</b>	<b>21,781,128</b>	<b>4,287,823</b>	<b>18.2%</b>

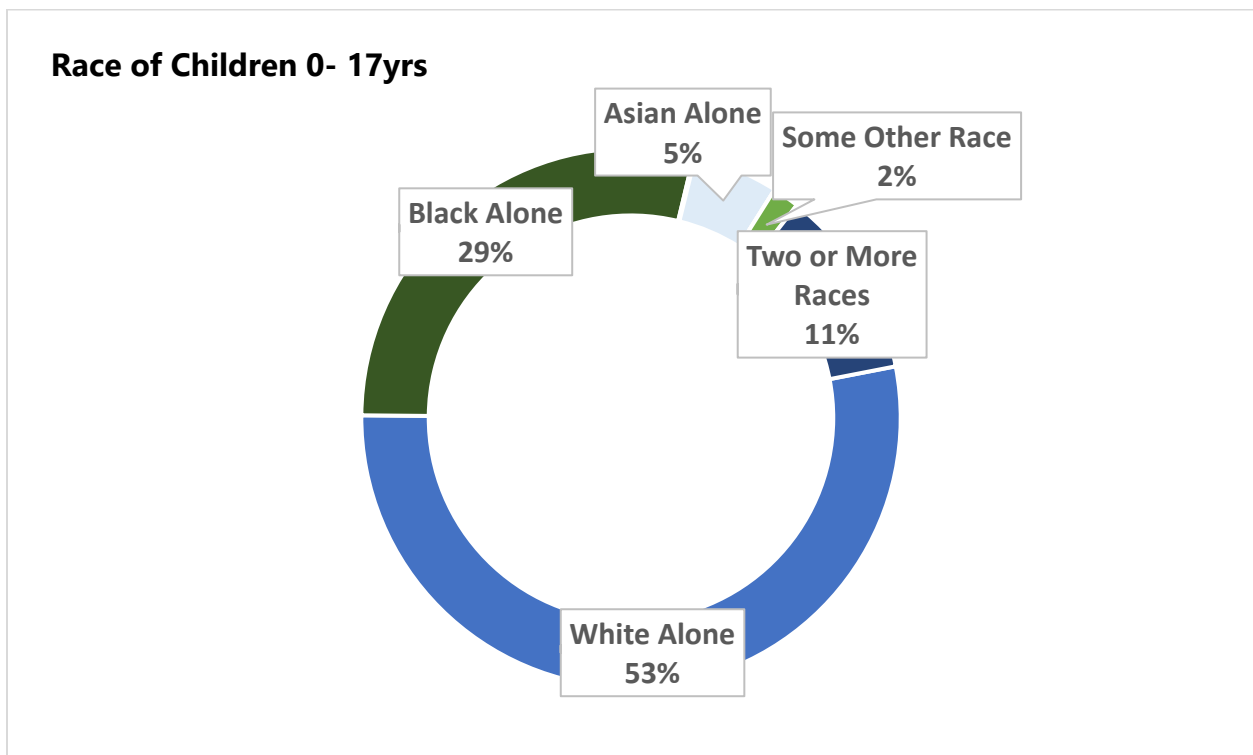
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (2021)

### Children Below Poverty Level

Age Group	<b>Gainesville</b>	<b>Hawthorne</b>	<b>High Springs-Alachua</b>	<b>Micanopy</b>	<b>Newberry-Archer</b>	<b>Waldo</b>	<b>Alachua County</b>
Children under 18 years	18.3%	42.5%	21.0%	3.9%	12.7%	5.1%	18.1%
Children under 5 years	21.0%	67.3%	22.8%	11.0%	11.5%	8.6%	20.8%

## Children Race and Ethnicity

<b>Children 0-17</b>	<b>Percent</b>
White Alone	53.2%
Black Alone	28.6%
American Indian / Alaskan Native Alone	0.1%
Asian Alone	5.1%
Native Hawaiian / Other Pacific Islander	0.0%
Some Other Race	1.6%
Two or More Races	11.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Hispanic or Latino	11.0%
White Alone, Not Hispanic	47.9%



## Household Internet Access in Alachua County

Age Group	<b>Gainesville</b>	<b>Hawthorne</b>	<b>High Springs-Alachua</b>	<b>Micanopy</b>	<b>Newberry-Archer</b>	<b>Waldo</b>	<b>Alachua County</b>
With an Internet Subscription	86.5%	72.8%	91.1%	76.1%	92.2%	81.6%	87.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (2021)

# Indicators of Child Well-Being



**Alachua County's child well-being ranking**, out of 67 Florida counties. Based on Florida Kids Count's index of 16 child and family outcomes, Alachua County falls in the bottom half relative to other Florida counties<sup>1</sup>.

Healthy	Educated	Supported	Safe
Prenatal Care	VPK Enrollment	Father Involvement	Child Injuries
Inter-Pregnancy Interval	Quality Child Care	Mental Health	Child Deaths
Healthy Pre-Pregnancy Weight	Kindergarten Readiness	Child Maltreatment	Youth Arrests
Low Birthweight Babies	Chronic Absence	Special Needs Inclusion	Violent Crime
Oral Health	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading		Domestic Violence
Child Obesity	High School Graduation		
Teen Alcohol/Drug Use			

<sup>1</sup> Florida Policy Institute. 2021 Florida Child Well-Being Index. <https://www.dropbox.com/s/dxtbzu4lpum15t6/CWBI%20One-Page%20ALACHUA.pdf>



# Healthy

## First Trimester Prenatal Care by County

Women who see a health care provider regularly during pregnancy have healthier babies and are less likely to have pregnancy complications. Mothers with unknown prenatal care are excluded from the denominator in calculating the percentage.

Prenatal care visits provide benefits to both the mother and baby and are used to monitor the progress of a pregnancy. To achieve the greatest benefit for both the mother and baby, it is recommended that women begin PNC visits in the first trimester of pregnancy or as soon as pregnancy is suspected. Early PNC allows health care providers to identify potential problems as early as possible so they can be prevented or treated before they become serious.

County	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Alachua</b>	<b>81.0%</b>	<b>80.3%</b>	<b>78.9%</b>	<b>78.3%</b>	<b>80.0%</b>
Clay	73.9%	74.1%	74.0%	67.4%	64.5%
Escambia	73.7%	73.7%	73.7%	70.9%	71.4%
Leon	77.1%	79.7%	75.8%	76.8%	77.7%
Okaloosa	82.9%	81.9%	79.3%	73.1%	78.1%
St. John	83.8%	84.4%	84.8%	81.0%	73.5%
St. Lucie	64.6%	72.5%	74.0%	71.6%	70.4%
<b>Florida</b>	<b>77.3%</b>	<b>76.5%</b>	<b>75.9%</b>	<b>76.1%</b>	<b>74.0%</b>

Source: FL Health Charts – Birth Count Query System

## Inter-Pregnancy Interval < 18 months by County

A short pregnancy interval (less than 18 months) is a risk factor for preterm birth. Women who become pregnant before folate restoration is complete have a raised risk of folate insufficiency at the time of contraception and during pregnancy. Consequently, their offspring have higher risk of neural tube defects, intrauterine growth retardation, and preterm birth.

County	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Alachua</b>	<b>37.5%</b>	<b>36.9%</b>	<b>36.2%</b>	<b>40.2%</b>	<b>39.5%</b>
Clay	34.4%	35.3%	33.9%	36.1%	36.5%
Escambia	34.4%	35.3%	33.9%	36.1%	36.5%
Leon	34.3%	39.5%	38.8%	35.9%	36.7%
Okaloosa	42.2%	41.5%	41.7%	42.9%	40.8%
St. John	41.7%	41.7%	40.8%	41.5%	41.5%
St. Lucie	34.5%	33.1%	35.1%	37.0%	36.8%
<b>Florida</b>	<b>34.8%</b>	<b>34.5%</b>	<b>34.9%</b>	<b>35.6%</b>	<b>35.9%</b>

Source: FL Health Charts – Birth Count Query System

# Healthy

## Mother's Pre-Pregnancy Healthy Weight by County

Healthy weight is defined as body mass index of 18.5-24.9. This indicator is a count of births to mothers with a pre-pregnancy BMI of 18.5 - 24.9. Mothers with unknown pre-pregnancy BMI are excluded from the denominator in calculating the percentage.

One aspect of health is having a healthy weight. Eating healthy foods, staying active and gaining the right amount of weight during pregnancy helps optimize health for mothers and babies.

County	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Alachua</b>	<b>45.1%</b>	<b>45.1%</b>	<b>42.1%</b>	<b>41.6%</b>	<b>43.0%</b>
Clay	41.7%	39.7%	37.7%	35.7%	34.3%
Escambia	39.6%	38.8%	38.7%	36.8%	36.8%
Leon	41.9%	41.0%	41.9%	39.8%	41.7%
Okaloosa	46.2%	43.8%	42.9%	42.5%	42.8%
St. John	52.3%	49.3%	50.3%	48.0%	47.2%
St. Lucie	37.6%	38.4%	34.1%	32.8%	33.9%
<b>Florida</b>	<b>44.5%</b>	<b>43.0%</b>	<b>41.7%</b>	<b>40.9%</b>	<b>39.5%</b>

Source: FL Health Charts – Birth Count Query System

## Mother's Pre-Pregnancy Weight in Obese Range by County

Obesity is defined as a body mass index (BMI) of 30 or more. This indicator is a count of births to mothers who had a pre-pregnancy BMI of 30 or more. Mothers with unknown pre-pregnancy BMI are excluded from the denominator in calculating the percentage.

Women who are overweight or obese while pregnant are more likely to have premature births, babies with birth defects like neural tube defects, or babies who are large for gestational age. These women are more likely to have complications during labor and birth, and their babies are at a higher risk of developing heart disease, diabetes, and obesity later in life.

County	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Alachua</b>	<b>27.8%</b>	<b>27.4%</b>	<b>29.1%</b>	<b>28.7%</b>	<b>29.6%</b>
Clay	28.3%	30.9%	30.8%	33.4%	34.5%
Escambia	30.0%	31.4%	31.3%	34.1%	33.3%
Leon	29.2%	30.3%	29.2%	30.9%	30.4%
Okaloosa	25.1%	24.6%	26.4%	28.0%	27.3%
St. John	19.5%	20.5%	20.7%	20.9%	21.8%
St. Lucie	30.6%	30.4%	34.0%	35.4%	34.8%
<b>Florida</b>	<b>25.0%</b>	<b>26.2%</b>	<b>27.1%</b>	<b>28.1%</b>	<b>28.9%</b>

Source: FL Health Charts – Birth Count Query System

# Healthy

## Babies Born Low Birthweight by County

Low birthweight is defined as birthweight less than 2500 grams (5.5 pounds). Birthweight is one of the strongest predictors of an infant's health and survival.

County	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Alachua</b>	<b>10.1%</b>	<b>10.9%</b>	<b>11.7%</b>	<b>11.0%</b>	<b>10.3%</b>
Clay	7.8%	8.4%	8.1%	8.1%	8.3%
Escambia	10.2%	10.7%	9.2%	11.1%	11.4%
Leon	9.3%	10.1%	10.1%	11.2%	10.0%
Okaloosa	7.7%	8.2%	8.5%	8.5%	8.3%
St. John	7.1%	6.6%	6.9%	6.7%	7.3%
St. Lucie	8.7%	8.6%	9.3%	8.5%	9.2%
<b>Florida</b>	<b>8.7%</b>	<b>8.8%</b>	<b>8.7%</b>	<b>8.8%</b>	<b>8.7%</b>

Source: FL Health Charts – Birth Count Query System

## Oral Health

Oral health is essential to general health and well-being. Dental caries or cavities remains the most common preventable chronic infectious disease among young children and adolescents in the United States. If decay remains untreated, it may cause pain, dysfunction, poor appearance, loss of self-esteem, absence from school or work, and difficulty concentrating on daily tasks ([Florida Oral Health Screening Project](#)).

### Third Grade Students with Untreated Cavities

County	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Alachua</b>	-	<b>35.5%</b>	<b>38.3%</b>	-	<b>39.5%</b>

Source: University of Florida, Alachua County Third Grade Oral Health Surveillance

### Middle and High School students who have not visited a Dentist in the past 12 months

County	2014	2016	2018	2020	2022
<b>Alachua</b>	<b>17.5%</b>	<b>14.7%</b>	<b>16.8%</b>	<b>22.6%</b>	<b>25.2%</b>
Clay	19.2%	14.1%	16.3%	31.1%	0.0%
Escambia	20.5%	16.6%	21.8%	44.7%	0.0%
Leon	15.4%	-	-	33.8%	0.0%
Okaloosa	-	13.4%	21.5%	22.8%	26.3%
St. John	10.0%	8.8%	11.9%	19.0%	21.1%
St. Lucie	20.6%	-	18.0%	20.4%	27.4%
<b>Florida</b>	<b>18.4%</b>	<b>14.8%</b>	<b>19.0%</b>	<b>28.7%</b>	<b>9.2%</b>

Source: [Florida Department of Health, Florida Youth Tobacco Survey](#)

# Healthy

## Middle and High School students who are Overweight or Obese

Maintaining a healthy weight starting at an early age and continuing throughout life has many health implications and contributes to the avoidance health problems such as type 2 diabetes, heart disease, and some cancers ([Center for Disease Control](#)). The Florida Youth Tobacco survey collects height and weight as self-reported by adolescents in grades 6-12 to determine the prevalence of young adults who are overweight or obese. Overweight is defined as a body mass index (BMI) of 25-29.9. Obesity is defined as a BMI of 30 or more.

County	2014	2016	2018	2020	2022
<b>Alachua</b>	<b>25.8%</b>	<b>29.3%</b>	<b>30.6%</b>	<b>32.0%</b>	<b>31.1%</b>
Clay	26.9%	28.0%	30.0%	28.4%	30.5%
Escambia	30.1%	32.1%	30.0%	31.5%	33.2%
Leon	26.7%	-	-	29.8%	30.5%
Okaloosa	-	26.1%	28.0%	28.9%	29.6%
St. John	-	-	21.7%	19.3%	20.1%
St. Lucie	29.4%	-	32.9%	36.2%	40.5%
<b>Florida</b>	<b>27.7%</b>	<b>29.4%</b>	<b>30.4%</b>	<b>30.4%</b>	<b>31.7%</b>

Source: [Florida Department of Health, Florida Youth Tobacco Survey](#)

## Middle and High School students who are Obese

Obesity is defined as a body mass index (BMI) of 30 or more.

County	2014	2016	2018	2020	2022
<b>Alachua</b>	<b>11.2%</b>	<b>14.1%</b>	<b>13.7%</b>	<b>16.6%</b>	<b>16.3%</b>
Clay	11.4%	11.6%	13.3%	13.6%	15.2%
Escambia	13.5%	16.3%	14.5%	16.7%	16.3%
Leon	11.8%	-	-	15.2%	15.0%
Okaloosa	-	10.7%	13.1%	11.7%	14.0%
St. John	-	-	8.4%	7.8%	7.3%
St. Lucie	13.3%	-	15.2%	9.9%	19.8%
<b>Florida</b>	<b>12.2%</b>	<b>13.0%</b>	<b>13.9%</b>	<b>14.4%</b>	<b>15.4%</b>

Source: [Florida Department of Health, Florida Youth Tobacco Survey](#)

# Healthy

## High School Students who used Alcohol in the Last 30 days by County

Percent of students who reported that they used alcohol during the past 30 days.

This measure is important for monitoring priority health-risk behaviors that contribute substantially to the leading causes of death, disability, and social problems among youth.

County	2014	2016	2018	2020	2022
<b>Alachua</b>	<b>28.4%</b>	<b>27.6%</b>	<b>21.3%</b>	<b>24.7%</b>	<b>21.5%</b>
Clay	30.8%	29.6%	23.8%	22.9%	15.5%
Escambia	27.9%	23.1%	24.0%	13.6%	11.7%
Leon	26.1%	28.9%	21.9%	18.3%	20.3%
Okaloosa	27.9%	25.9%	21.6%	24.6%	15.4%
St. John	27.9%	28.3%	26.2%	30.6%	24.5%
St. Lucie	29.1%	18.3%	15.2%	24.3%	5.6%
<b>Florida</b>	<b>28.4%</b>	<b>25.5%</b>	<b>21.2%</b>	<b>19.9%</b>	<b>15.5%</b>

Source: [Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey](#)

## High School Students who used Any Illicit Drug in the Last 30 days by County

Percent of students reporting that they have used any illicit drug during the past 30 days

This measure is important for monitoring priority health-risk behaviors that contribute substantially to the leading causes of death, disability, and social problems among youth

County	2014	2016	2018	2020	2022
<b>Alachua</b>	<b>22.9%</b>	<b>23.8%</b>	<b>19.8%</b>	<b>22.3%</b>	<b>18.2%</b>
Clay	21.9%	19.0%	20.8%	21.6%	15.7%
Escambia	21.6%	16.8%	20.5%	13.8%	14.9%
Leon	18.6%	20.4%	18.7%	21.4%	22.8%
Okaloosa	19.5%	19.4%	16.4%	18.3%	14.3%
St. John	18.8%	20.1%	21.1%	23.1%	18.2%
St. Lucie	23.7%	19.8%	19.8%	10.1%	8.0%
<b>Florida</b>	<b>22.3%</b>	<b>20.0%</b>	<b>19.0%</b>	<b>19.5%</b>	<b>15.7%</b>

Source: [Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey](#)

## Educated

### VPK Utilization rates by County

This indicator displays the percent of children who enrolled in VPK relative to the county population. VPK prepares children to be ready for school. Children who participate in early childhood education programs develop better language skills, score higher in school-readiness tests, and have better social skills and fewer behavioral problems once they enter school.

County	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
<b>Alachua</b>	<b>80.6%</b>	<b>78.9%</b>	<b>73.8%</b>	<b>49.3%</b>	<b>60.0%</b>
Clay	68.6%	68.2%	69.5%	60.0%	64.5%
Escambia	59.4%	56.8%	54.5%	38.1%	45.8%
Leon	68.6%	66.2%	62.2%	51.9%	62.1%
Okaloosa	91.4%	91.4%	84.8%	64.6%	72.7%
St. John	89.1%	90.7%	84.8%	77.9%	86.9%
St. Lucie	76.6%	75.5%	72.0%	57.2%	66.1%
<b>Florida</b>	<b>75.8%</b>	<b>74.2%</b>	<b>71.2%</b>	<b>56.8%</b>	<b>64.2%</b>

Source: Florida Office of Early Learning

### Kindergarten Readiness rates by County

The percentage of kindergarten students who score 500+ on the Florida Kindergarten Readiness Screener. State law requires screening for all public school kindergarten students within the first 30 days of the school year. Kindergarten teachers use the results to help understand each child's readiness for school and plan lessons to meet individual needs. Readiness at kindergarten entry greatly impacts future school success.

County	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
<b>Alachua</b>	<b>57.5%</b>	<b>58.2%</b>	<b>56.9%</b>	<b>58.4%</b>	<b>54.8%</b>
Clay	53.9%	53.3%	53.5%	57.4%	54.2%
Escambia	45.8%	45.2%	46.8%	48.1%	42.0%
Leon	53.0%	55.7%	53.5%	61.6%	49.5%
Okaloosa	57.7%	56.6%	54.7%	56.0%	52.2%
St. John	72.6%	70.7%	72.5%	66.9%	65.6%
St. Lucie	49.1%	46.6%	47.4%	49.0%	48.6%
<b>Florida</b>	<b>53.9%</b>	<b>52.7%</b>	<b>53.4%</b>	<b>56.9%</b>	<b>49.9%</b>

Source: Florida Department of Education

## Educated

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading Proficiency by County

Florida public school students participate in the English language arts reading and writing assessments aligned to the Florida Standards. These assessments provide parents, teachers, policy makers, and the public with information about how well students are learning the Florida Standards. This indicator shows the percent of students in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade achieving a passing level of 3 or above on the Florida Standards Assessments for English Language Arts.

County	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
<b>Alachua</b>	<b>56.0%</b>	<b>56.6%</b>		<b>52.5%</b>	<b>49.7%</b>
Clay	67.8%	67.9%		63.2%	60.9%
Escambia	51.6%	56.4%		52.7%	50.5%
Leon	61.3%	61.0%		54.2%	54.4%
Okaloosa	65.7%	66.0%		62.6%	58.3%
St. John	78.0%	78.1%		77.9%	76.0%
St. Lucie	46.3%	50.0%		47.0%	47.6%
<b>Florida</b>	<b>56.9%</b>	<b>57.6%</b>		<b>54.4%</b>	<b>53.0%</b>

Source: Florida Department of Education

### Students Absent 21 or More Days by County

The number of K-12 students absent 21 or more days divided by the total number of enrolled K-12 students, expressed as a percent. Chronic absenteeism leads to low academic achievement and triggers dropouts.

County	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
<b>Alachua</b>	<b>11.8%</b>	<b>11.6%</b>	<b>7.8%</b>	<b>16.0%</b>	<b>18.9%</b>
Clay	12.4%	11.7%	6.6%	19.6%	22.0%
Escambia	12.7%	14.1%	8.1%	19.6%	21.8%
Leon	12.9%	14.1%	14.5%	25.6%	22.5%
Okaloosa	9.6%	9.5%	4.8%	8.7%	12.8%
St. John	7.1%	7.2%	3.7%	8.4%	10.1%
St. Lucie	18.4%	17.8%	17.0%	21.5%	29.4%
<b>Florida</b>	<b>11.3%</b>	<b>11.3%</b>	<b>9.8%</b>	<b>16.6%</b>	<b>20.9%</b>

Source: Florida Department of Education

## Educated

### High School Graduation by County

Florida's high school graduation rate is the percentage of students who graduated with a standard diploma within four years of their initial enrollment in ninth grade.

Graduation rates provide information about performance of schools and future employability of students. Higher salaries are typically available to high school graduates. Receiving a high school diploma enables someone to pursue a higher education, including vocational school, trade programs, a certified work-program or college.

County	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
<b>Alachua</b>	<b>88.0%</b>	<b>88.5%</b>	<b>90.4%</b>	<b>86.6%</b>	
Clay	91.1%	91.9%	93.4%	92.7%	
Escambia	80.7%	84.8%	86.5%	87.0%	
Leon	93.0%	92.4%	94.4%	94.0%	
Okaloosa	88.1%	87.9%	90.0%	92.2%	
St. John	93.3%	94.3%	94.8%	95.0%	
St. Lucie	91.8%	90.4%	93.2%	94.5%	
<b>Florida</b>	<b>86.1%</b>	<b>86.9%</b>	<b>90.0%</b>	<b>90.1%</b>	

Source: Florida Department of Education



## Support

### Paternaly Acknowledged on the Birth Certificate by County

Having a paternity acknowledged on a birth certificate is an indication of greater social and financial support for the infant. Research studies have shown this is linked to infant mortality.

County	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Alachua</b>	<b>86.4%</b>	<b>86.3%</b>	<b>87.7%</b>	<b>84.8%</b>	<b>87.3%</b>
Clay	90.1%	90.0%	90.3%	90.8%	90.0%
Escambia	80.3%	80.1%	80.0%	80.6%	81.7%
Leon	84.6%	86.5%	85.8%	84.3%	85.2%
Okaloosa	90.5%	89.8%	90.4%	90.2%	91.3%
St. John	93.7%	94.0%	92.9%	93.1%	94.8%
St. Lucie	87.1%	88.3%	87.8%	89.3%	89.0%
<b>Florida</b>	<b>87.7%</b>	<b>88.3%</b>	<b>88.4%</b>	<b>88.0%</b>	<b>89.4%</b>

Source: FL Health Charts – Birth Count Query System

### Pregnant Women Feeling Alone by County

The Healthy Start prenatal risk screen asks pregnant women during their initial prenatal care appointment whether “In the last month, have you felt alone when facing problems?” This indicator reflects the percentage of women who reported “yes” to this question.

County	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Alachua</b>	<b>8.8%</b>	<b>7.5%</b>	<b>9.3%</b>	<b>9.4%</b>	<b>9.0%</b>
Clay	7.8%	7.5%	8.5%	9.3%	9.3%
Escambia	10.9%	11.8%	12.1%	11.2%	9.5%
Leon	10.0%	10.3%	9.5%	11.7%	10.8%
Okaloosa	10.6%	8.6%	8.5%	8.0%	7.3%
St. John	8.3%	7.2%	7.5%	6.5%	8.9%
St. Lucie	5.3%	5.4%	6.7%	6.9%	5.0%
<b>Florida</b>	<b>8.4%</b>	<b>8.2%</b>	<b>8.4%</b>	<b>7.7%</b>	<b>7.8%</b>

Source: FL Health Charts – Healthy Start Prenatal Screen Report System

## Support

### Pregnant Women Feeling Depressed by County

The Healthy Start prenatal risk screen asks pregnant women during their initial prenatal care appointment whether “In the last month, have you felt down, depressed or hopeless?”. This indicator reflects the percentage of women who reported “yes” to this question.

County	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Alachua</b>	<b>13.4%</b>	<b>12.2%</b>	<b>15.4%</b>	<b>15.3%</b>	<b>14.6%</b>
Clay	11.9%	14.4%	13.9%	13.9%	13.9%
Escambia	17.4%	18.5%	18.3%	17.6%	16.7%
Leon	14.8%	13.8%	16.1%	17.0%	16.0%
Okaloosa	14.8%	12.8%	14.2%	13.4%	11.8%
St. John	12.6%	12.9%	11.9%	11.4%	12.2%
St. Lucie	9.9%	9.7%	10.9%	10.2%	8.6%
<b>Florida</b>	<b>13.2%</b>	<b>13.0%</b>	<b>13.3%</b>	<b>12.2%</b>	<b>12.4%</b>

Source: FL Health Charts – Healthy Start Prenatal Screen Report System

## Support

### Child Maltreatment Investigations Rate by County

This indicator represents the number of official hotline reports that become investigated divided by the child population.

County	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
<b>Alachua</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>7.3</b>	
Clay	6.3	6.0	5.0	4.9	
Escambia	9.1	8.2	6.8	6.8	
Leon	6.7	6.8	5.9	5.9	
Okaloosa	10.1	7.9	7.0	7.2	
St. John	4.6	4.4	3.9	4.6	
St. Lucie	7.0	6.4	5.1	5.3	
<b>Florida</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>4.8</b>	

Source: Florida Department of Children and Families – Child Welfare Dashboard

### Children with Verified Maltreatment Investigations by County

Official hotline reports that become investigated are given a finding of “no indicator”, “not substantiated”, and “verified” based on the extent of credible evidence for each alleged maltreatment ([State of Florida Department of Children and Families](#), 2018).

County	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
<b>Alachua</b>	<b>0.6%</b>	<b>0.6%</b>	<b>0.6%</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	
Clay	1.0%	1.1%	1.1%	1.0%	
Escambia	1.7%	1.7%	1.4%	1.5%	
Leon	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	
Okaloosa	1.4%	1.4%	1.1%	0.9%	
St. John	0.8%	0.8%	0.6%	0.6%	
St. Lucie	1.0%	0.8%	0.7%	0.5%	
<b>Florida</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>0.8%</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>0.6%</b>	

Source: Florida Department of Children and Families – Child Welfare Dashboard

# Safe

## Child Deaths by Age Group and Year

Age Group	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<1	22	30	27	24	27
1-4	4	4	2	4	4
5-9	1	2	2	4	0
10-14	2	2	2	4	8
15-19	8	7	4	7	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>49</b>

Source: FL Health Charts – Death Count Query System

### Top Causes of Death in Children:

- **80** Perinatal Period Conditions
- **54** External Causes
  - **15** Homicide (12 by Firearms / 3 Other)
  - **15** Motor Vehicle Crashes
  - **13** Suicide
- **23** Congenital & Chromosomal Anomalies

### Infant Mortality Rates (deaths of children between 0-364 days old per 1,000 live births)

County	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
<b>Alachua</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>9.4</b>
Clay	5.4	4.6	4.6	6.7	5.2
Escambia	8.3	7.6	8.0	8.0	8.0
Leon	5.4	6.7	8.6	8.4	10.2
Okaloosa	5.0	4.5	7.7	5.2	5.1
St. John	5.2	4.7	3.1	4.5	5.1
St. Lucie	5.3	4.6	3.8	6.1	4.6
<b>Florida</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>5.8</b>

### Child Death Rate per 100,000 population by Age Group and Year

Region	Age Group	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Alachua	1-4	35.2	35.1	35.4	17.7	35.4
	5-9	31.0	7.5	14.7	14.6	28.7
	10-19	15.4	30.6	26.7	17.6	31.6
Florida	1-4	27.6	31.1	26.7	24.0	25.5
	5-9	13.7	11.9	12.8	12.2	12.5
	10-19	35.9	35.4	31.1	31.6	37.6

# Safe

## Hospitalizations for Non-Fatal Injuries by Year

Age Group	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<1	18	17	12	8	
1-4	37	39	45	47	
5-9	33	30	29	19	
10-14	36	40	39	21	
15-19	89	94	88	40	
<b>Total</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>135</b>	

## Youth Arrest Rate by County

This indicator provides a count of youths arrested. If the same youth is arrested for several offenses during a fiscal year, only one is counted in this report.

Crime is a social determinant of health. Research has shown that risks associated with juvenile arrests are cognitive deficits, low school involvement, living in poverty, or being runaway or homeless.

County	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
<b>Alachua</b>	<b>24.4</b>	<b>21.3</b>	<b>23.6</b>	<b>18.3</b>	<b>14.6</b>
Clay	13.2	12.2	10.6	7.4	6.5
Escambia	36.6	38.2	34.9	30.5	20.6
Leon	22.9	21.4	19.3	14.9	11.8
Okaloosa	31.3	31.1	30.0	24.4	26.1
St. John	11.0	7.8	8.3	8.5	5.8
St. Lucie	22.8	22.1	24.7	17.4	14.1
<b>Florida</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>17.6</b>	<b>16.3</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>9.7</b>

Source: Florida Department of Law Enforcement – Crime in Florida, Uniform Crime Report

# Safe

## Violent Crime Rate by County

County	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Alachua</b>	<b>634.3</b>	<b>686.6</b>	<b>661.9</b>	<b>748.9</b>	
Clay	278.5	298.7	255.2	258.3	
Escambia	554.0	539.3	550.3	597.3	
Leon	649.9	616.4	572.6	600.6	
Okaloosa	373.7	361.9	367.5	323.0	
St. John	187.1	153.6	157.0	141.7	
St. Lucie	240.4	263.5	262.7	257.4	
<b>Florida</b>	<b>416.2</b>	<b>390.8</b>	<b>381.3</b>	<b>383.3</b>	

Source: Florida Department of Law Enforcement – Crime in Florida, Uniform Crime Report

## Domestic Violence Rate by County

Domestic violence is any criminal homicide, manslaughter, rape (includes forcible sodomy), fondling, aggravated assault, aggravated stalking, simple assault, threat/intimidation, or simple stalking of one family or household member by another family or household member. A family or household member means spouses, former spouses, parents, children, siblings, other family members, cohabitants, and persons who are parents of a child in common regardless of whether they have been married (FDLE's Uniform Crime Report).

County	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Alachua</b>	<b>586.9</b>	<b>543.9</b>	<b>595.2</b>	<b>604.6</b>	
Clay	353.4	393.8	394.9	394.9	
Escambia	762.6	688.4	724.6	670.7	
Leon	600.6	550.7	716.7	827.4	
Okaloosa	638.9	768.1	618.3	734.5	
St. John	329.5	301.2	245.3	263.8	
St. Lucie	452.9	491.0	474.5	511.1	
<b>Florida</b>	<b>522.2</b>	<b>503.4</b>	<b>496.5</b>	<b>493.7</b>	

Source: Florida Department of Law Enforcement – Crime in Florida, Uniform Crime Report

## References:

Annie E. Casey Foundation. (2022). Kids Count Data Profile – Florida.

<https://assets.aecf.org/m/databook/2022KCDB-profile-FL.pdf>

Children’s Trust of Alachua County, “Gap Analysis of Child Well-Being Indicators and Program Support.” (April 10, 2019).

[https://www.childrenstrustofalachuacounty.us/sites/default/files/fileattachments/communications/page/6013/csab\\_gap\\_analysis\\_of\\_child\\_well-being\\_indicators\\_and\\_program\\_support\\_with\\_cover\\_letter.pdf](https://www.childrenstrustofalachuacounty.us/sites/default/files/fileattachments/communications/page/6013/csab_gap_analysis_of_child_well-being_indicators_and_program_support_with_cover_letter.pdf)

Florida Policy Institute. (2021). Florida Child Well-Being Index.

<https://www.floridapolicy.org/posts/2021-florida-child-well-being-index>

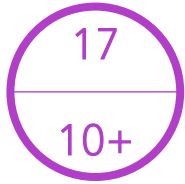
Well Florida Council. (2020). [Alachua County Community Health Needs Assessment](#).

Needs Assessment recently completed by other CSCs:

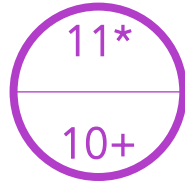
- [Leon County](#)
- [Escambia County](#)
- [Duval County](#)



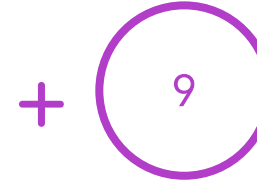
# LISTENING PROJECT: PROGRESS AS OF 15DEC22



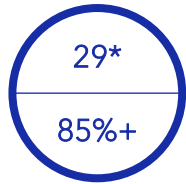
Interview



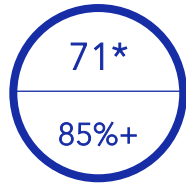
Interview  
\*KI and partners



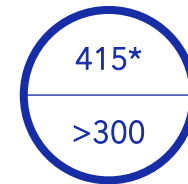
Trust Staff Interviews



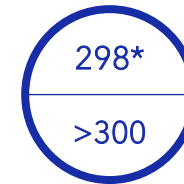
Survey



Survey



36 in Spanish  
Survey



17 in Spanish  
Survey

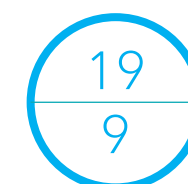
\*raw results



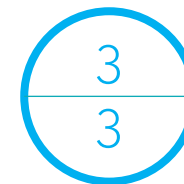
+1 scheduled  
Focus Group



+1 scheduled  
Focus Group



Focus Group



Focus Group

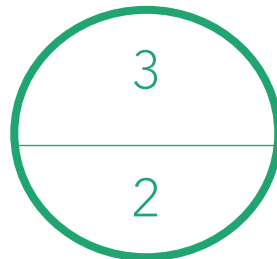
**Key Informants**

**Partners**

**Providers**

**Parents**

**Youth**



Community Meeting

**Community**





# PROJECT PIVOTS

Group	Event	Originally Planned	Completed	Reason for Pivot	Change Made
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parents</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Focus Group</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9 Focus Groups (+3 if needed)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>19 Focus Groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Too Few Participants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+10 Parent Focus Groups</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Providers</li> <li>Partners</li> <li>Key Informants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interviews</li> <li>Focus Group</li> <li>Surveys</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 Interviews</li> <li>4 Focus Groups</li> <li>85% Surveys</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>17 Interviews</li> <li>1 Focus Group</li> <li>100 Surveys</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ Interviews</li> <li>- Focus Grp Interest</li> <li>+ Survey Responses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+Interviews</li> <li>Shifted 3 FGs</li> <li>+Surveys</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Focus Group</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 Focus Groups (+2 if needed)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 Focus Groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data saturation with Focus Groups and Surveys</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shifted 2 FGs</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Meeting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 Meetings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 Community Meetings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide Additional Community Opportunities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+1 Additional Community Meeting</li> </ul>

# PROJECT EFFORTS

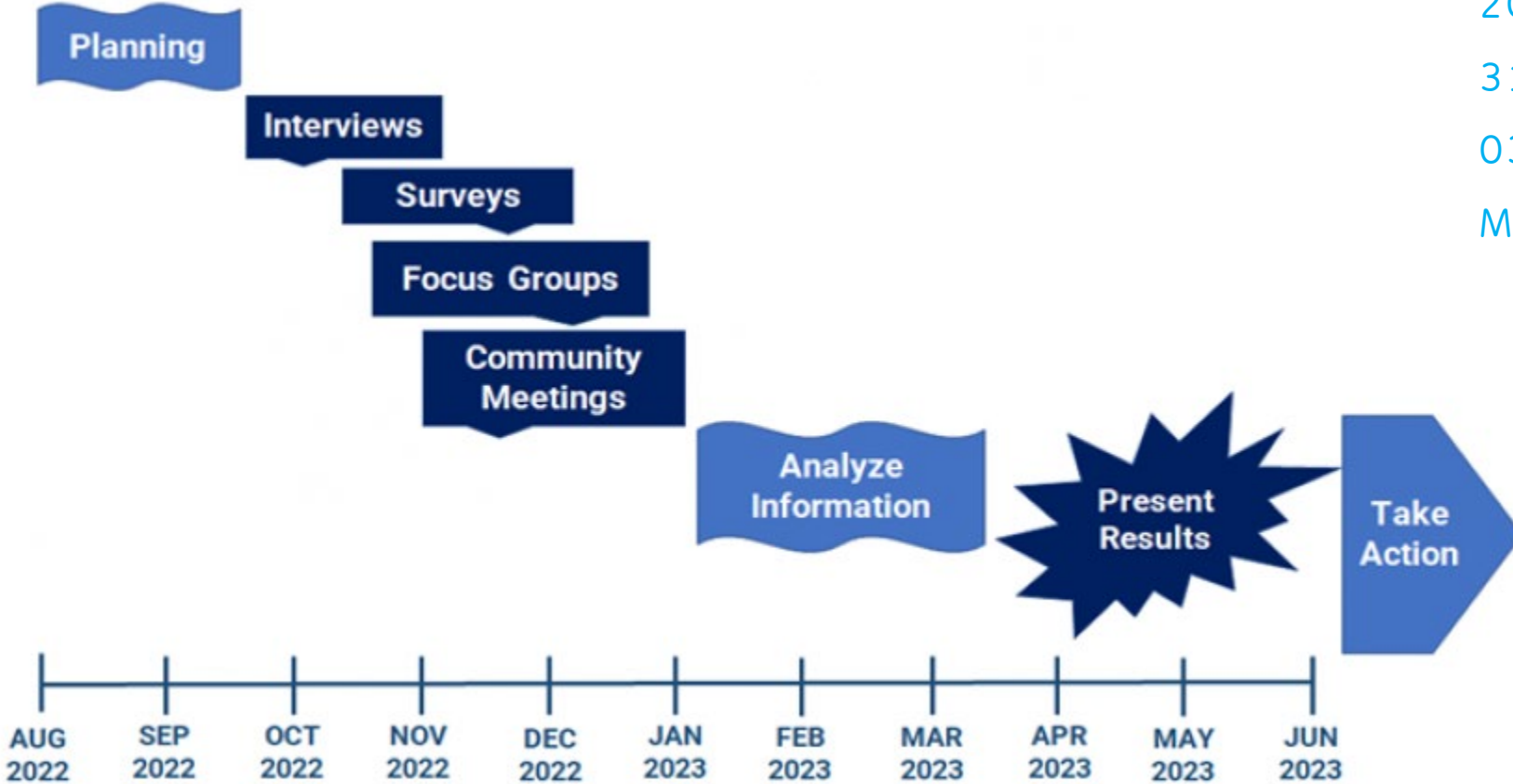
- Attended 5 community events to promote Listening Project and collect surveys (Trust staff attended additional events)
- Sent Peach Jar Flyer to all parents of Alachua County Public Schools (ACPS)
  - (22,090 deliveries; 14,543 Impressions; 1,261 views, 1 Action)
- ACPS to get publicity for events and surveys shared on social media
- 16 Private/Charter Schools to promote Listening Project Activities
- 5 Private/Charter Schools to request space for focus groups
- 164 parents to request survey participation
- 62 Key Informants, 130 Providers, 192 Partners 3+ times to promote project activities
- 157 Partner/Provider/KI to promote Virtual Partner/Provider/KI Focus Group
- 138 Alachua County childcare centers to request support with parent surveys
- 40 childcare centers to request permission to attend Holiday Events to promote surveys



CHILDREN'S TRUST  
OF ALACHUA COUNTY

# LISTENING PROJECT

## NEXT STEPS



FEB - Data Party

20MAR - Initial Report

31MAR - Final Report

03APR - Presentation

MAY - Communications Products

What should these look like?

# Strategic Planning Process

Children's Trust of Alachua County

12.15.22



**Vashti Rutledge**  
Seek Higher Ground  
Member

**Nikki Martin-Bynum**  
Seek Higher Ground  
Founder & Chief Vision Keeper



# Agenda

9:30 - 9:40am

Call to Order  
Cheryl Twombly, Steering Committee Chair

9:40 - 9:50am

Welcome  
Marsha Kiner, CTAC Executive Director

9:50 - 10:00am

Project Review  
Kristy Goldwire, CTAC Director of Program Operations

10:00 - 10:15am

Listening Project Update & Discussion  
Prismatic Services, Inc. Dr. Tatia Prieto

10:15 - 11:30am

Environmental Scan Update & Discussion  
Bonnie Wagner, CTAC Research, Planning, and  
Evaluation Coordinator

11:30-12:00pm

Closing & Next Steps  
Seek Higher Ground  
Nikki Martin-Bynum & Vashti Rutledge



# Environmental Scan Discussion Prompts



- What trends do you see?-positive, negative, turbulent
- What factors could have impacted the trends-social, environmental, economical....
- Which factors can CTAC impact?
- What opportunities/challenges do you see?

