Memorandum of Agreement Between Human Rights Coalition of Alachua County and Rural Women's Health Project

This Memorandum of Agreement is entered between Rural Women's Health Project (RHWP) and Human Rights Coalition of Alachua County (HRC) with respect to expanding and strengthening the mission of both entities through the assimilation of HRC as a program of RWHP. This document serves to clarify the process to both RWHP and HRC's Board of Directors in order to proceed with the legal assimilation.

I. Background

The Rural Women's Health Project and Human Rights Coalition of Alachua County share a mutual interest and mission in serving North Central Florida's rural immigrant communities and ensuring that those communities are aware of, and can avail themselves of, legal, medical and social service information and assistance.

The Rural Women's Health Project is a non-profit health and justice agency whose mission is to dismantle structural exclusion because of rurality, xenophobia, language, health status, legal status, or agricultural employment. RWHP does this through evidence-based strategies that build sustainable and replicable community programs and policies which strengthen communities' capacity to overcome health and social justice barriers. RWHP involves communities in the development and implementation of all aspects of their work as they seek to build the capacity of emerging leaders, create advocacy opportunities, build coalitions and improve linkage to health and justice protective services. Through its deep rooted work with rural immigrant families, RWHP has a handle on the emerging needs of our quickly changing immigrant community in North Central Florida.

Human Rights Coalition of Alachua County is a nonprofit organization committed to educating and assisting individuals and groups who are experiencing difficulties exercising their basic human rights. HRC promotes networking; collective efforts; and coalition-building around issues, policies, and practices affecting human rights. Their mission is to cultivate safety, empowerment, and belonging for immigrants in North Central Florida by working with the immigrant community to build knowledge and self-sufficiency through community education, tangible services, advocacy, and strengthening community connections. The HRC Community ID program builds greater understanding, trust and cooperation between local public services and North Central Florida's diverse community by filling the need of residents who may have limited access to government issued ID cards. Through its legal navigation services HRC provides information about legal rights and responsibilities, navigation of the criminal and immigration legal systems, assistance locating detained family members or peers, and power of attorney assistance for immigrants in North Central Florida.

II. Purpose

The purpose of this Memorandum of Agreement is to formalize the arrangement to assimilate HRC programing (ID program and legal navigation) under the umbrella of the RWHP. The RWHP will take on HRC programming and initiatives and create a human rights section of RWHP in order to serve the holistic and mutual well-being of immigrant communities in North Central Florida and to improve the access of immigrant community members' to information about legal rights, navigation of the criminal and immigration legal system and education on legal interactions between immigrant community members and law enforcement. This human rights program will be placed along side of RWHP's health, policy and social service departments.

III. Partners' Roles and Responsibilities

Human Rights Coalition of Alachua County will assume and maintain its non-profit status and IRS responsibilities through June 30th, 2024 at which point HRC will begin its process to dissolve as an independent 501(c)(3). Existing HRC funding will be transferred to the RWHP for the new program over two payments: July 1, 2024 and the remainder on October 1, 2024. Any grant's deliverables of HRC that are not complete, become the responsibility of the RHWP on July 1, 2024. Prior to this date, the HRC must notify their funders of this change and send copies of notification of approval to the RWHP. Grants written in tandem will also fall under the RWHP. Two existing HRC board members will join a new RWHP Board of Directors.

RWHP agrees to integrate HRC into the ongoing work of the organization as a department within the RWHP. ID programming and legal navigation will function in the existing manner of the current HRC program. The RWHP will hire both the current HRC Director and the part-time ID Drive Coordinator. HRC Director and Drive Director will enter the RHWP at a salary rate agreed to by the RWHP and its new employees. RWHP will update the Sunbiz filings with new Board members and any other pertinent information.

IV. Effective Date of Agreement

Parties agree to the above commitments. Assimilation of HRC as a program of RWHP will have the effective date of July 1, 2024.

Signed and agreed this June 10, 2024 by:

Board President

Rural Women's Health Project

Board President

Human Rights Coalition of Alachua County