

## 10CAN, INC

Operations of 10 CAN Inc. are based in Florida, but the organization includes chapter initiatives of their mission replicated in Texas, Arizona, Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Missouri, Indiana, and Virginia. We have been in operation for eleven years.

Our target demographic includes children up to the age of 16 and we actively seek youths in low income and minority areas. We target these groups through social media marketing and research low-income areas, minority areas, HUB Zones, etc.

Our ,all volunteer led, program’s intention is to find youths in need of mental health assistance or with a lack of reliable access to food and get them outside to learn. We conduct fishing and hunting retreats to teach the children what it takes to provide for themselves and give them the power to provide for themselves and their family. While this will not eliminate the need for outside food sources, we actively see it offset the need for EBT and the like. In addition, we have mental health screenings that identify which youths may need additional care for their mental health and connect them with the physician on our Board of Director or a local treatment facility, if appropriate. It is through these means that we provide assistance with child education, healthcare and food provision. We believe in the old saying “give a man a fish and he will eat for a day, teach a man to fish and he will eat for his lifetime”. We provide mentorship and help to those who need it in a way that enable them to take care of themselves in the future and reduce the need for government assistance. We do this in the county but also bring residents of the county into other counties for events.

## ACCHH, Inc. dba GRACE

After nearly a decade of steady decreases in the number of people without housing in Alachua County, homelessness increased by 16% from 2022 to 2023. The most significant increase was in unsheltered homeless due to a critical shortage of emergency shelter beds. In 2023, the local homeless Continuum of Care reported to the U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development that Alachua County had 308 people in emergency shelters and another 417 without shelter. In short, more than twice as many people need shelter as there are shelter beds.

There are several reasons for the recent increase in homelessness. While rents and living expenses have increased, wages have not kept pace. The UF Shimberg Center for Housing Studies' most recent brief reported that 36 percent of Alachua County low-income renters put more than 40 percent of their income toward housing. The Center has also noted that, although rents typically rise between 3% & 5% annually, local rents rose by 20% in one year recently.

Since 2014, GRACE has developed programs and services based on best practices that have helped reduce local homelessness by more than 40% and moved more than 2,800 people out of homelessness and into housing. As the largest homeless service provider in Alachua County, we have served more than 20,000 community members in crisis. In recent years, GRACE has had the honor of serving more than 3,500 people and moving as many as 562 people into permanent housing in a single year. On average, 87 of every 100 people GRACE moves into housing do not return to homelessness in the community for at least a year.

The shortage of affordable housing has increased the number of first-time homeless people. Many of the newly homeless have minimal experience with the social service system. We must prepare our homeless system with tools to get these people back into housing as quickly as possible.

## Aces in Motion

Aces in Motion (AIM) is an after-school mentorship program with a mission to support the “whole child” through academics, life skills, socio-emotional and physical development with a focus on tennis, five days per week. AIM was founded as a community outreach organization, specializing in bringing the sport of tennis to students of color. As AIM developed connections with several socially marginalized neighbors in Gainesville, the mission extended to include supporting the tangible needs of historically underserved students and families in an afterschool setting. Currently, AIM operates out of Prairieview Elementary, located in southeast Gainesville. We are open to approximately 65 middle and high school students from the Alachua County area, many of which come from families whose income is under 150% of the Federal Poverty Level. Currently, 95% of our students are Black, 62% are female and 38% male.

In addition to experiencing significant poverty, many of our students persevere through traumatic experiences resulting in poor school attendance, low test scores and low GPAs. According to data provided by the Alachua County Public School District (ACPS) in the 2022-2023, school year, Black middle and high school students reported the lowest school attendance rates than all other demographics. In the same year, only 24% of Black students passed state testing in English- Language Arts, 23% in Math and 25% in Science. Passing scores are often used as a reflection of proficiency in each subject matter, college-readiness and future academic success. The low testing scores of Black students in our community communicates a greater need for student success support and preparation for life after high school. AIM previously utilized CAPP funding to provide academic tutors for 39 AIM students. Students received academic assistance each week for a total of 3,472 hours throughout the 2022-2023 funding period (October 2022 - September 2023). For the 2023-2024 school year (October to May), CAPP funded students received 2,567 hours of academic support.

## Alachua County Organization for Rural Needs, Inc. dba ACORN Clinic

Outline of ACORN Clinic’s Response to RFA Item 10:

Describe the program, service or goods that your agency is requesting funding for.

The Oral Health Crisis  
The Background, History and Experience of ACORN Clinic (Response to Evaluation Criteria #1 is described in RFA Item 8 above)  
Volunteerism at ACORN Clinic (Item 10c)  
ACORN Dental Clinic’s Proposed Dental Home Program for Alachua County Residents (Item 10a)  
Dental Home Program Staffing Plan (Item 10d)  
Dental Home Program Enhancement Staffing (Item 10d)  
Dental Home Program Staff Training and Licensure (Item 10e)  
Proposed Dental Home Program Participants (Item 10b)  
Evaluation Criteria Addressed in RFA Item 10 (Item 10f)

The Oral Health Care Crisis

From Floridian's for Dental Access

(<https://www.floridiansfordentalaccess.org/florida-overview/>):

"Florida leads the nation in the number of individuals living in dental health professional shortage areas. Millions of Floridians live in pain or miss school and work because they can't find or afford dental care in their communities.

Many myths persist about the state of oral health in Florida, but here's the reality: Florida ranks poorly on most oral health indicators. Consider these facts:

Florida ranks last (50th out of 50 states) in percentage of children receiving a dental health visit in the last 12 months. Out of 50 states, Florida ranks 42nd for percentage of adults who have received one

## Alachua Habitat for Humanity

### Program Description and Impact

The program for which we are requesting funding is our Homeownership Program. Our goal with this program is to construct 14 affordable homes for low-income individuals and families in our community. For this application, we are seeking funding to build 5 homes and to offset the costs of building materials and supplies.

Each home built through this program will benefit at least one low-income individual, with our average household size being four individuals. By utilizing the proven model of Habitat for Humanity International, Alachua Habitat for Humanity (AHFH) staff will identify and support potential homeowners. These families undergo a rigorous selection process that includes educational courses on homeownership and the completion of 250 hours of sweat equity. This sweat equity involves working on their own homes as well as the homes of other clients, fostering a strong sense of community and ownership.

Applicants for our Homeownership Program must demonstrate a need for adequate shelter, maintain a low debt-to-income ratio (Frequency and Duration of Activities)

The activities funded by CAPP will be continuous throughout the year as we build and prepare homes for five families. Each home construction project typically spans several months, depending on various factors such as weather and volunteer availability.

### Anticipated Participants and Demographics

We anticipate that at least 20 individuals (average household size of four) will directly benefit from the five homes funded by this grant. Historically, more than 80% of the heads of households applying for our homes are African-American, and over 70% are women,

## AMIkids Gainesville

### Overview

AMIkids Gainesville, a decades-old education provider in the Gainesville community, requests CAPP funding to support a new alternative education program – a School-in-a-School. Working in close collaboration with Alachua County Public Schools, AMIkids Gainesville proposes to provide alternative education services, in a blended environment, to up to 60 middle school students in grades 6-8 and/or high school students in grades 9-12 who are assigned to an alternative school setting and require focused academic and behavioral interventions. AMIkids Gainesville will utilize the AMIkids Personal Growth Model™ with all enrolled students.

USDA Income Eligibility Guidelines for free or reduced meals, effective from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, will be used to confirm participant eligibility for this program. The Department's guidelines for free meals and reduced-price meals were obtained by multiplying the year 2024 Federal income poverty guidelines by 1.30 and 1.85, respectively, and by rounding the result upward to the next whole dollar. Students eligible for free lunch will be prioritized for enrollment in the AMIkids program.

AMIkids is committed to creating an environment where student safety, staff safety, and public safety are the responsibility of everyone in the organization. Both physical and emotional safety provide the foundation for a positive learning environment in a place where youth feel welcome and included, and where adults help them learn how to regulate their behavior as they have positive

## Caring and Sharing Learning School

The Academic/After-School and Summer Program as outlined in this proposal focuses on the components that contribute to high academic student achievement as well as providing the necessary elements which will play an important part in breaking the cycle of poverty. Alachua County's youth must be primed for academic and professional success in all their future endeavors and pursuits. Such elements include but are not limited to Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) activities.

91.73% of Caring and Sharing Learning School (CSLS) students are considered below the Federal Poverty Level. All students receive free lunch as part of the community eligibility program. Program participants include individuals who reside in several of Alachua County's underserved communities. Some targeted areas in Southeast Gainesville are Woodland Park Housing Development, Lincoln Estates Neighborhood, Eastwood Meadows, Lewis Place, Verdant Cove, Tiger Bay, Lake Terrace, Carver Gardens, and Gardenia Gardens Apartments.

The maximum enrollment is not to exceed 100 students during the school year and 200 students during the summer. During the school year, each student receives an average of eight hours per week in the academic areas of Reading and Math. To assist students in mastery of reading and math skills, their academic progress is monitored, and necessary teaching adjustments are made as student assessment scores indicate. Certified teachers tutor the students. Additionally, fifth (5th) grade students participate in STEM activities three times per week. The skills taught in these sessions are based on Science Benchmarks of the Florida State Science Assessment Test.

The primary phase of this program encompasses a tutorial component designed to boost the academic performance of student participants. The instructional activities in the tutorial sessions are based on student preassessment through the Alachua Instructional

## Catholic Charities Gainesville

For the past 15 years, our agency has consistently received the CAPP grant, which has funded a variety of programs. These grants have played a crucial role in assisting the Alachua County community to combat food insecurity. Catholic Charities has been at the forefront, offering unrestricted services to many in need. However, the rising cost of daily necessities, including food, has exacerbated insecurities within numerous households in our community.

Our programs strive to be beacons of hope, addressing these insecurities and providing solace. In the previous fiscal year, our combined efforts have resulted in providing meals to over 3,000 individuals, with a distribution exceeding 95,000 pounds of food. It's important to note that these figures represent individuals and not the broader impact on households. With an average household size of three, and a greater number of dependents among the most vulnerable populations, our Homeless Prevention Program has supported 482 households by contributing to overdue rent and utility payments, thus enabling them to stay in their homes. Specifically, the CAPP grant aided 102 families, benefiting over 200 individuals across various households.

Our Food Pantry and Weekend Hunger Backpack Programs rely on the dedication of both staff and volunteers who collaboratively pack and distribute non-perishable food items. Conversely, the Rural Mobile Outreach Program is primarily overseen by a sole coordinator, with occasional volunteer support. Many of our Food Pantry volunteers have been committed to Catholic Charities for nearly two decades. The Emergency Assistance Department oversees all three programs, with one part-time coordinator for the Weekend Hunger Backpack Program, one full-time coordinator for the Rural Mobile Outreach Program, and three full-time staff members who divide their responsibilities between the Homeless Prevention Program and the Food Pantry. Among these, we have two full-time case managers and one program administrator

In 2023, there were 5,308 reports of child abuse and neglect reported to Department of Children and Families (DCF Dashboard, 2024). Children living in safe, nurturing environments are able to thrive, learn and succeed. When children are traumatized and exposed to violence, their brain chemistry is altered and their ability to connect, learn, and regulate their emotions is hampered. These children develop mental health issues such as depression, anxiety, suicidal ideation, oppositional defiant disorder, personality disorders, post traumatic stress disorders, struggle academically, are drawn to substance abuse as a means to manage emotions, and suffer physical symptoms such as chronic headaches, diabetes and obesity. Children who experience child abuse and neglect are 9x more likely to engage in criminal activity and 2/3 of people who are in treatment for substance abuse report they experienced abuse as children (ASPPCC, 2021). Poverty can not only be created by these conditions, but is also a significant contributor to poverty for children and families whose caregivers experienced abuse and trauma as children and never received treatment.

Trauma affects caregivers' parenting skills, ability to recognize safety risks, support of their children's treatment, overall nurturing of their children and ability to secure employment (Gilbert, et al, 2009). The program will address these needs by providing mental health therapy to children and their non-offending caregivers to help them heal from the horrors of abuse and develop skills to protect themselves from dangers and ongoing abuse. Children are often referred for therapy services, but do not receive the services they need. There are many reasons for this including 1) caregivers not understanding the need for therapy, 2) caregivers are uneducated about the benefits of therapy, 3) stigma regarding therapy, 4) providers not being culturally competent or fully understanding the complex nature of community trauma, 5) fear, and 6) limits of time

The Cultural Arts Coalition Science Clubs provide afterschool academic programs to low-income and underserved elementary school students through grade-appropriate, engaging, hands-on science activities designed to supplement and enhance the school curriculum. These programs are offered in two ways: 1) regularly scheduled days/times at partner sites; 2) on our mobile Science bus as requested by partner sites and other locations.

Science Clubs are held at the following sites throughout the school calendar year with the anticipated number of participants listed for each site:

Caring and Sharing Charter School: 35 students, one hour per week  
 G. Washington Carver at Wilhelmina Johnson Resource Center: 8 students, 3 hours/week  
 Resilience Charter School: 12 students, 1 hour/week  
 Partnership for Strong Families Resilience Charter School: 8 students, one hour  
 Pine Ridge: 10 students, two hours  
 Oak Park: 10 students, two hours  
 City Recreation Center: 20 students, two hours  
 Girls Place: 15 students, two hours  
 For our Science Bus events, we expect to be at 10 locations each year. Each event lasts 3-4 hours and will have 50-100 in attendance over that time.

Demographics: CAC's Science Clubs and Science Bus events are designed to address gaps in educational opportunities -- linked to poverty and racial discrepancies -- through targeted enrichment programs in rural and urban areas. Ninety percent or more of the students we serve will be at or below 150% of the Federal Poverty Level, but since the Science Bus will go to libraries and other public places, access can't be restricted to specific income groups for those events.

Volunteers: CAC relies heavily on volunteers to develop and present

Early Learning Coalition of Alachua County, Inc.	Easter Seals Florida, Inc
<p>a. ELCAC's fiscal year runs from July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025. However, our CAPP funded activities will run from October 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025.</p>	<p>Our ADHC, Altrusa House, provides services to our clients' as well as their caregivers and families. Altrusa House is open 10.5 hours, Monday through Friday which allows caregivers and family members to remain employed in the community knowing their loved one is being cared for in a safe, stimulating environment during the day.</p>
<p>b. CAPP funding will be used to serve 133 unduplicated children within Alachua County. Demographics: 87% elementary school and 13% middle school; 1% Hispanic/black, 5% Hispanic/white, 80% Non Hispanic/black, 4% Non Hispanic/black/white, and 9% Non Hispanic/white; 48% male and 52% female</p>	<p>Our center is a daytime program for adults that require a healthy, safe environment that honors and empowers each participant to live the best life possible. It is a positive alternative to staying home, health declining, socially isolated, or placed prematurely in a residential (long-term care) facility. The goals for our ADHC align with the CAPP funding's intent, to meet the most basic physical needs of residents living at or below 150% of the federal poverty level. The following are some of the ways our ADHC services align with meeting the need of these underserved Alachua County residents:</p>
<p>c. ELCAC does not utilize volunteers to administer the School Readiness program.</p>	<p>Providing daily on-site nursing services to all members and coordinating with clients' primary care doctors for continuity of care. Setting up and providing referrals, when needed.</p>
<p>d. N/A</p>	<p>Assisting clients and their caregiver/family with securing health and other insurance entitlements for further health needs.</p>
<p>e. All ELCAC contracted providers are trained and credentialed as required by DCF licensing.</p>	<p>Keeping families united and enriching the participants' lives by providing person-centered therapeutic recreational activities in the areas of socialization, gross motor skills, fine motor skills, cognitive skills, and health/wellness.</p>
<p>f. The School Readiness program provides subsidized care and education to children of working poor parents, enabling them to secure and hold jobs. The families that qualify for our services are economically disadvantaged families working a minimum of 20 hours per week or furthering their education as a full time student. Without our services, the families we serve would be using up to 50% of their income to pay for their children's care. By assisting our qualified families, only 7% of their income is used to pay for their child's care. The subsidized pay we offer enables parents to become more economically stable in their communities.</p>	<p>Providing our clients assistance with adult daily living skills.</p>
<p>The Early Learning Coalition is unique in the fact that we were created by the Florida legislature under the School Readiness Act. Our authority was written in the Florida Statutes. The ELCAC is a sole-source provider of the School Readiness Program for Alachua County.</p>	<p>Providing our clients with daily dietician- approved breakfast and lunch as well as an afternoon refreshment.</p> <p>Coaching and educating our clients' caregivers on the health and</p>

**ElderCare of Alachua County, Inc.**

According to The Florida Department of Elder Affairs (2023 Profile of Older Floridians), Alachua County has a senior population of 58,297 with approximately 18% living at or below 150% of poverty or roughly 10,493 seniors. The impact of rising inflation cost can be devastating, especially to those on a fixed income. Financial stress can, and often does have a significant impact on both the physical health as well as emotional well-being. For many seniors, these rising costs can often leave them with the dilemma of whether to allocate resources for food, medicine, housing costs, utilities, or other basic necessities. Rising transportation costs can also prevent seniors from leaving home, adding to isolation and further impacting emotional distress. By supplying meals to these individuals, we help relieve both the food cost issue as well as some of the emotional stresses of trying to deal with all of these issues alone. Meals also contribute to a healthier lifestyle, leading to better overall health and lower health cost for the recipient while helping to avoid nutritional decline. The well-being checks that occur with meal delivery are highly anticipated by many of our clients, as it may be the only face to face contact that individual has on any given day. Participants in our nutrition programs also receive ongoing nutritional handouts or other information outlining various resources for improving nutritional awareness and ways to improve overall health. Senior Nutrition Program clients also have access to Case Managers' expertise that can align them with additional community resources that the senior may otherwise be unable to access on their own. ElderCare has been providing meals, along with a great number of other senior-related services, to Alachua County residents for over 30 years at a highly successful rate of helping seniors remain independent and in their own homes.

The ElderCare Board of Directors meets four times annually, with the last meeting being held on April 18th, 2024. At each meeting, overall organizational progress, fundraising and community outreach opportunities, volunteer status overview, and grant funding and

**Epilepsy Florida, Inc. (d/b/a/ Epilepsy Alliance Florida)**

Grant Proposal: Improving Healthcare Access for Individuals with Epilepsy

**Program Description:**

Our agency seeks funding to support our comprehensive case management program, which provides essential healthcare services to individuals with epilepsy who lack access to proper medical care. Through one-on-one assistance from our dedicated Case Managers, clients receive support in managing their condition, obtaining necessary medications, and addressing family issues associated with epilepsy. The program also includes referrals to healthcare providers, dental care, employment resources, and transportation services. Additionally, clients are connected to support groups and educational programs to enhance their understanding of epilepsy and its management.

After over 50 years as Florida's premier provider of services to low-income individuals with epilepsy, EAFLA is an expert in the field. Approximately 2,000 clients are directly assisted each year, and thousands more benefit from educational outreach that teaches how to recognize, treat, and even prevent epilepsy and similar disorders. The organization is governed by experienced leadership, including a 17-member Board of Directors that meets quarterly to ensure programmatic and administrative oversight, establish policies, and secure funds and resources. Four committees meet as needed: Executive, Governance, Audit, and Program Committees. Finances for the organization are audited annually by an external reviewer. No significant findings have resulted from this process.

**Reduction of Poverty Symptoms:**

By providing consistent healthcare support and access to medications, our program aims to reduce the financial burden on I

**Equal Access Clinic Network**

**Family Promise of Gainesville**

a. Include the number of anticipated participants and demographics

CAPP Funding Proposal for Promise Center Shelter/Self-Sufficiency Program

EACN receives over 2400 encounters annually, and 56.7% of these encounters are related to the care of female patients. Of these patients, EACN's gynecology night receives roughly 15-17 referrals per month. Each patient frequently requires a pap smear, screening lab testing, and STI testing. This represents a significant demand for EACN's financial resources to support health disparities in the community related to women's health.

10. Program Overview

Family Promise of Gainesville is requesting \$100,000.00 in CAPP funding to support the Promise Center Shelter/Self-Sufficiency Program. This program serves families with children under 18 who are at or below 150% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). The Promise Center is dedicated to empowering homeless families to achieve long-term stability and self-sufficiency through the ALIGN Program. This innovative program offers comprehensive support and resources to reduce poverty symptoms, helping families overcome barriers, build resilience, and create lasting change.

For almost 10 years, twice per month, we have staffed our clinics with OBGYN physicians from UF Health. We counsel and provide contraception, test for and treat sexually transmitted infections, conduct cervical cancer screening, refer for breast cancer mammography, and evaluate complaints such as pelvic pain in a setting cultivated to make all women feel safe and comfortable when discussing sensitive issues. In the last 5 years, using the funding of the CAPP grant, we also have hosted a prenatal night to provide prenatal screening, obstetric health maintenance, and ultrasonographic screening for fetal anomalies. We have utilized an eligibility survey for income and family size to ensure CAPP grant resources are only used for those patients who meet the eligibility requirements of being at or below 150% FPL. We seek to expand our previous CAPP funding to cover women's health beyond prenatal care, given the significant health need within the community to sustain healthcare resources for gynecologic health. This CAPP funding would ensure support for clinic operations related to our network's two intrinsically important clinic nights, prenatal night and gynecology night.

10a. Utilization of Funds

CAPP funding will support the Promise Center's year-round shelter and self-sufficiency services, which operate 24/7. Cost include shelter manager and shelter advocate salaries who provide direct self-sufficiency services to families with children at or below 150% as well as financial support to address the barriers of poverty that the families face. The program offers 90-day increments for families, with potential extensions for those engaged in career-boosting education. During their stay, families receive shelter, meals, personalized stabilization services, working closely with case management and support staff to help breakdown the barriers of poverty. Case managers follow families after they complete the program for at least 90 days as they transition into affordable housing to provide services to ensure long term stability. The program has a 95% success rate over the past eight years, with families maintaining housing for at least 12 months post-service.

The services we offer have been implemented to combat the healthcare disparities within the community, specifically related to cancer screening and prenatal health. The leading cause of death for female patients within Alachua County is cancer, followed by heart

CAPP funding is also utilized to bring in affordable housing programs



**Florida Institute for Workforce Innovation d/b/a Project YouthBuild****Gainesville Community Counseling Center**

Project YouthBuild is a 9-month educational, occupational, leadership, and pre-apprenticeship program for young people ages 16 -24 who have dropped out of school and have low incomes. While enrolled in Project YouthBuild, young people have the opportunity to earn their high school diploma, nationally recognized construction and healthcare credentials, and a scholarship to be used for post-secondary education or trades school. Young people participate in a rigorous leadership program helping prepare them for civic engagement and employment. Young people spend nearly half of their time completing hands on training renovating affordable housing in Alachua County. Lastly, young people receive intensive case managements services, coaching, and comprehensive wrap-around services to address obstacles to successfully meeting their educational, occupational, financial and well-being goals.

Project YouthBuild is requesting \$62,658.00 to support a full-time Leadership & Wellness Coach who is a Certified Youth Resilience Coach to work 1 on 1 and facilitate group work to increase graduation rates of young people who have dropped out of school and reside in Alachua County. The Certified Youth Resilience Coach certification is a 25 week, 80 hours training offered by the Youth Coaching Institute and accredited by the International Coaching Federation and approved by the Center for Credentialing and Education. Project YouthBuild's Leadership & Wellness Coach has a B.A. in African American Studies, and is a Certified Youth Resilience Coach.

YouthBuild's services are specifically designed to assist Opportunity Youth. Opportunity Youth are defined as young people between the ages of 16 and 24 who are neither enrolled in school nor participating in the labor market. The Aspen Institute reports that one estimate places the personal and public costs of not changing the trajectories of opportunity youth at \$6.3 trillion dollars over the lifetimes of all current opportunity youth. As reported in the 2020 A

The Gainesville Community Counseling Center was formed in 2016 and has continuously offered low-cost mental health services to residents of Alachua County. The organization has grown from a single part-time therapist to a staff of 8 full time therapists, 4 part-time therapists, and 2 graduate interns. This growth has resulted in us increasing the number of monthly sessions by over 600%. We have long-standing working relationships with UF Mobile Outreach, The Pride Center, Rural Women's Health, Unspoken Treasure Society, Peaceful Paths, Alachua County Schools, Human Rights Coalition of Alachua County, and Family Promise. Our staff is trained in trauma therapy and culturally appropriate use of mental health interventions. This proposal includes the utilization of mindfulness as an evidence-based approach to managing mental health. We have done so because research indicates it is effective (A Mindfulness-Based Intervention for Low-Income African American Women with Depressive Symptoms Delivered by an Experienced Instructor Versus a Novice Instructor | The Journal of Alternative and Complementary Medicine (liebertpub.com) ) while also indicating that it is a tool not often made available to low income clients. We have been fortunate to receive CAPP and CHOICES grants which have allowed us to do significant work with this population already. Our board of directors is committed to finding ways to continue to make mental health care accessible and affordable for all of our community. This grant will allow us to expand our already existing work by providing a dedicated staff member (a CHW) to go out into the community to provide direct services to the target population. We have provided short answers to the items listed under #10 and have then provided a more detailed description and plan for this work.

A. As evidenced by the timeline below, there are a variety of services being provided. Some of our services may be one time services (in-home visits; mental health assessments; workshops). Our group experiences will last for 6 weeks per group. Other services will be ongoing (referrals/resources; training)

## Gainesville for All

a. The critical need our program addresses is providing low cost and high quality childcare as well as family support to the Gainesville community. There is a shortage of high quality childcare centers in the Nation, especially centers that support and advocate for families. Gainesville is considered a childcare desert. Our center offers this vital resource to the community. The GEZFLC serves children six weeks to 4 years old with quality education and care. The center also connects families to community resources. The center is open year round from 7 am to 6 pm. Services are provided year round within these hours.

The need for this Family Learning Center was affirmed with the release of the damning report, "Understanding Racial Inequity in Alachua County, 2018." That report, commissioned by seven powerful local institutions and organizations, exposed the fact that African- American children and their families fared worst in areas ranging from economic well-being, education, and criminal justice to health access and transportation within Alachua County. This study also revealed that when compared to Florida's statewide graduation rates, African American students have lower graduation rates in Alachua County than any other race. More than half of those who dropout of high school in our county are Black. The GEZ Family Learning Center is designed to directly address and help prevent these inequities from affecting future generations of Black citizens in our community. Numerous studies have shown that children who participate in high-quality early childhood education programs tend to have better cognitive skills, language development, mathematical abilities and problem solving skills. Research has also shown that these children are also more likely to succeed in school, less likely to require special education services or repeat a grade. They also have increased graduation rates. The research points directly to the core of our mission, to eliminate socioeconomic and racial inequities that result from families having limited access to key resources, such as quality early childhood care and education.

## Gainesville Opportunity Center

The Gainesville Opportunity Center (GOC) stands out as a mental health clubhouse, providing steadfast support to adults with chronic mental health conditions since 2007. It proudly earned accreditation from Clubhouse International in 2021. What sets us apart is our unique peer-led program that fosters inclusion and empowerment among our members. We operate with a small staff, relying on the unwavering support of our members. While Florida has around 20 similar Clubhouses, the GOC is truly one of a kind and this is due in part of the continuous support from community partners. With funding support from the Community Agency Partnership Program (CAPP), the GOC will continue to provide direct support services to persons with mental illness on a daily basis.

The program addresses three of the four initiatives supported by the CAPP Funding. GOC provides support for:

**Safe, Affordable Housing:** Clubhouses help members find suitable housing. The GOC assists members in securing funding and adequate housing through partnerships with Meridian Behavioral Health, Community Resource Paramedicine Program, Grace Marketplace, local housing authorities, and businesses. **Adequate Food:** Many Clubhouse members live at or below the poverty level and experience food insecurity. Therefore, the Clubhouse provides low-cost meals (less than \$4 a day) for breakfast, lunch, and snacks. Additionally, the GOC hosts an employment dinner on the last Wednesday of each month and offers members access to low-cost grocery shopping every Friday. **Quality Healthcare:** The GOC helps members gain access to medical services and assists with coordinating care services. The program itself offers a range of services to aid in the recovery of individuals with mental illness. The GOC is more than just a place. It's a lifeline for our members. We're open Monday - Friday from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, and we go the extra mile to ensure our members build friendships and camaraderie. We host socials at least one Saturday per month from

## Gator Junior Golf

### Program Overview:

Since 2016, Gator Junior Golf provides educational golf programs that build character, promote team-building, and establish mentorship for youth aged 4-18. The program focuses on life skills, academic skills, literacy, healthy habits, and golf fundamentals through engaging, hands-on experiences. Activities include weekly golf classes, after-school programs, summer camps, and Shands children's hospital-based programs. The curriculum integrates academic enrichment and physical fitness, aiming to foster personal growth and community engagement among participants. Our curriculum is delivered across 7 class levels based on age and skill level, and the class levels are designed to promote continued advancement and retention in the program.

Program uses evidence-based practices to reduce poverty for participants: Please read below about First Tee's connection with our curriculum. To view First Tee's four-year longitudinal research study led by University of Minnesota, visit this link: <https://issuu.com/thefirsttee/docs/impactreport/1?e=2021829/5254200>.

### Frequency/Duration:

Programs run weekly year round. We have programs at two locations in Alachua County on Saturday 8:00-2:00, Sunday 2:00-6:00, Monday 4:00-5:00 and Tuesday 4:00-5:00. Our new programs that we seek funding for will run Monday through Friday 3:00-5:00.

### Participants and Demographics:

Approximately 500 children participate annually in Alachua County, including underserved, at-risk, and disabled children.

## Girl Scouts of Gateway Council, Inc

### Community Development Troop Overview

Girl Scouts is the preeminent leadership development organization for girls, with a research-proven program helping them cultivate important skills to take the lead in their own lives and in their community. At Girl Scouts, girls learn and grow in a safe, all-girl environment, discovering who they are, connecting with others, and taking action to make the world a better place. Research from the Girl Scout Research Institute provides evidence that Girl Scouts stand out significantly from non-Girl Scouts, demonstrating more well-rounded lifestyles and a stronger propensity for success.

For nearly 30 years, Girl Scouts of Gateway Council (GSGC) has delivered the Community Development Troop program to girls in low-income, high crime communities. This preventive program provides curriculum that focuses on financial literacy, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math), and life skills. While girls are learning in this fun, safe environment, girls can discover their passions, make an impact on their community, increase their self-confidence, and develop critical leadership skills that will last a lifetime. Throughout the 30 years of this program, GSGC has measured the program's outcomes, while continuously improving its implementation and curriculum.

Today, we have an outcome driven program that has been proven to help girls succeed in school and break the cycle of poverty. This preventive program not only supports girl's academic success directly, but also provides them a place to belong, develop their confidence, discover their passions, and establish goals for their future in a safe, nurturing environment.

Funding from the Community Agency Partnership Program will help sustain the Community Development (CD) Troops in Alachua County by providing 100 lower socio-economic girls in grades K-8 the

**Kids Count in Alachua County**

**New Technology Made Simple Now, Inc.**

Program Overview (evaluation criteria 1)

Kids Count is requesting a continuation of funding that will pay a portion of the salaries of the three full time staff and two part time staff that facilitate the implementation and continuous development of our tutoring and literacy-based after school programming in East Gainesville. Kids Count has been a literacy-focused after school program serving East Gainesville students as a 501(c)3 since 2007. Since our inception in 2007, Kids Count has sustainably grown from providing 12 students from Rawlings Elementary literacy support three days a week to are now operating five days per week and serve 35 students at each of our sites. The result of such growth is that 70 students with noted literacy challenges receive services daily for a maximum of 3.5 hours per day. Our longevity in the community is a testament to the strength of our programming and community investment in our mission.

Kids Count is open every day that our students are required to attend school, and will continue serving Rawlings Elementary school as they shift to a year-round calendar. Kids Count delivers individualized one-on-one literacy tutoring to our students twice a week, with each tutoring session lasting one hour. Through a partnership with the University of Florida Lastinger Center for Learning, Kids Count has been trained to implement the evidence-based curriculum, UFLI. UFLI is currently used in all Alachua County Public Schools for literacy intervention at both the individual and whole class level. The utilization of the same curriculum used in their schools translates to students receiving double-doses of a high quality intervention. As of Spring 2024, no other after school program in Alachua County is explicitly using UFLI in their academic programming nor providing targeted literacy instruction to their students completely free of charge.

Kids Count’s use of the same curriculum that the Alachua County

a.) NTN introduces practical and hands on educational technologies to students and teachers that are proven to support student advancement in order to reduce poverty and improve our communities, and shows students how to access existing free educational technology in their communities.

Our workshops use state-of-the-art technology tools and licensed design software maintained and updated by our trained staff to teach robotics, 3D printing, 3D design, photography, animation, story form, coding, IT, and digital graphic design. Each workshop varies from once a week to multiple times per week. Services are delivered using our mobile technology educational Ford Transit Van. This essential vehicle stores all the technology, supplies, equipment, wi-fi hotspot, and software needed to deliver direct educational service to students living 150% below the Federal Poverty Level throughout Alachua County.

b.) NTN anticipates increasing the number of individuals served by our previous CAPP funding in the 2021 - 2023 funding cycle from 60 students per year at or below the 150% FPL to 100 students per year.

c.) NTN requires background checks on all direct service instructors that in any capacity work directly with students. Volunteers wishing to be involved in direct service are also required to pass such a background check and have the advanced education necessary to instruct students in technology. NTN actively seeks such instructors to assist students by communicating regularly with select University of Florida Professors who can recommend qualified students for volunteer work at NTN.

NTN fundraising events and public outreach events that do not directly involve students use volunteers for those events with great success. These volunteers assist in networking and community

**Pace Center for Girls, Inc. Alachua**

Pace, a year-round alternative school for girls ages 11-18, provides a balanced emphasis on academics and social services to break the cycle of generational poverty for girls and young women in Alachua County. Our agency helps girls develop the tools to empower them to finish school, apply for jobs, and enroll in higher education. An integral part of the success of the Pace model is the Spirited Girls! program.

Spirited Girls! is a life skills course specially designed to address the needs of impoverished girls at risk of teenage pregnancy, dropping out of school, and juvenile delinquency. The program offers a comprehensive curriculum proven effective in preventing and decreasing high-risk behaviors. Focused on strengthening protective factors that promote healthy decision-making skills, Spirited Girls! uses discussion-based lesson plans, experiential activities, and community engagement opportunities to empower girls to succeed.

Lessons draw from eight developmental domains of adolescent girls that promote intellectual, spiritual, emotional, relational, sexual, physical, substance and career/vocational awareness. Topics relating to essential life skills taught include, but are not limited to, financial literacy, career planning, volunteerism, healthy relationships, anger management and sexually transmitted infections, and pregnancy prevention. Experiential activities expose girls to positive practices and behaviors through firsthand involvement. Engaging in volunteerism encourages our girls to make their own positive mark on the community and educates them about resources available in Alachua County.

Pace, Alachua serves girls 11 to 18 residing in Alachua County.

Offered daily year-round, Spirited Girls! serves an average of 53 girls at any one time and approximately 110 girls each year. While demographics may vary slightly because girls come into and transition from our program year-round, of the 109 girls served in FY

**Partnership for Strong Families, Inc.**

**Program Description**

We are requesting funding to sustain and refine our Academic Success and Enrichment Program, hosted by Library Partnership Resource Center (LP) and SWAG Family Resource Center (SWAG FRC), along with the addition of children's events to be hosted by our Community Resource Navigation (CRN) Program. Using a collaborative approach, the proposed program addresses the academic and social emotional needs of participating children, while also supporting their parents/caregivers by providing free services and supports (e.g., emergency food pantries, food distribution days, clothing closets, support seeking or improving employment, financial literacy classes, assistance with benefits applications, connections to other social service agencies) through our Family Resource Center (FRC) Network. Children may attend some or all components of the program which include homework help, enrichment activities, and/or a summer program, along with children's events hosted by our CRN Program. Nutritious snacks, lunches (as applicable), and celebratory meals are also provided to participating children. Summer program participants will receive backpacks and school supplies, based upon their school's supply list. As described in further detail under Program Impact (Question 11), our program will address the symptoms of poverty by providing quality and accessible out of school programming and comprehensive family supports to a target population who have experienced limited access to resources and have been disproportionately affected by poverty and other risk factors. Our strategies for reducing poverty are informed by national research aimed at interrupting generational poverty with both concrete supports and quality education.

During Homework Help, participating children are assisted with homework completion by staff and volunteers in a small group setting. Staff/volunteers are able to access students' Alachua County Public School's Skyward accounts and school folders, with

**PEAK Literacy**

We are requesting funding for direct costs related to delivering our literacy program to K-12 students who are (1) a year or more behind in their literacy development and (2) live in households at or below 150% of the poverty level.

Childhood literacy is a crucial component of what children need to be successful and has direct and indirect benefits that reduce the symptoms of poverty. Directly, an improvement in literacy skills leads to greater academic success, increasing the likelihood of graduating and pursuing higher education. It enhances critical thinking, problem-solving and fosters overall intellectual growth, encouraging kids to engage more actively in school and other activities. Indirectly, literacy is foundational for better employment prospects, leading to higher incomes and economic stability and social mobility and there are further correlations with better health and well-being and greater civic engagement. All of this means that PEAK Literacy’s services address a basic need for Alachua County residents living below 150% of the federal poverty level. It is clearly within the BoCC’s approved funding category (2) which includes education.

PEAK Literacy was developed as a direct response to the large discrepancy in literacy achievement rates among Black and White students in Alachua County. We are focused on providing support for children with the greatest need - those who are already a year or more behind in their literacy development. To our knowledge, no other local program specifically targets this documented gap for students of all ages using data-driven methods and quantifiable outcomes. Our program serves K-12 children in Alachua County with an evidence-based, one-to-one reading tutoring program implemented by volunteers. According to the Education Trust, targeted intensive tutoring is highly effective, reducing the need for grade repetition and other more costly interventions. <https://national.edtruststag.org/resource/targeted-intensive->

**Rebuilding Together North Central Florida**

If fully funded, this proposal aims to provide fifty-eight (58) low-income households in Alachua County with targeted evidence-based repairs and/or modifications to ensure affordable, safe, and healthy housing through four multifaceted programs.

Rebuilding Together North Central Florida (RTNCF) is a home repair non-profit organization that brings volunteers and communities together to address the housing needs of low-income homeowners. Our goal is to preserve affordable home ownership in Alachua County, and help homeowners in need remain safe and healthy in their homes, through provision/completion of critical home repairs and accessibility modifications at no cost to qualified applicants. As we focus our efforts and expertise toward helping ensure more of our most vulnerable neighbors have a decent, safe, and sanitary place to call home, we decrease the burden on the oversaturated housing market, prevent homelessness, and increase health and safety for our neighbors living in substandard conditions, while promoting equity.

Improvements in home safety, security, and accessibility allow these homeowners to remain in homes where they’ve lived for years and provide them with a firm foundation to combat poverty and be active members of their community. Maintaining low-income homeownership:

Is often less costly than renting (due to lack of or low mortgage), reducing the rate of those housing cost burdened

Promotes equity as housing costs go toward the security of their own futures and communities

Reduces the number of individuals entering our homelessness and housing assistance system

**St. Francis House, Inc.**

10. Safe, Affordable Housing Our shelter program model is based on HUD’s standards and best practices for emergency shelters. Our program reduces one of the immediate symptoms of poverty by providing a basic human need: safe shelter. Providing safe shelter combined with support services such as case management has been proven to reduce homelessness and reduce the symptoms of poverty by both HUD and the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness. “The Evidence Behind Approaches that Drive an End to Homelessness September 2019 Evidence-Behind-Approaches-That-End-Homelessness-Brief-2019” PDF (www.usich.gov)

10. (a.,b.) Our program provides safe emergency shelter for single women and families with children. Shelter residents also receive essentials (clothes, toiletries, bedding, sheets, etc.); laundry facilities; shower-equipped restrooms; family/single bedrooms; communal living spaces; and a dedicated computer lab. A study conducted by Scott Keyes found that it cost 68% less in public dollars to permanently house and provide support services (shelter; food; case management that provides referrals to job training, access to health care, etc.) to our homeless than it does by leaving them on the street. We average 35 residents per night in shelter 365 days a year for a total of 12,775 bed nights. On average, each resident remains in shelter for 90 days. Our shelter serves, on average, at least 140 individuals per year. Based on 22/23 HMIS data our demographics follow. Of all residents, 52% are adults and 42% are children. Twenty one percent of adults are men and 79% are women. Of women, 45% are single women. Of children, 50% are girls and 50% are boys. Of children, 16 % are under 5, 25% are 5-12, 15% are 13-17. Of all adult residents, 11% are 18-34, 19% are 35-54 and 14% are 55 or older. Of all residents, 98% are experiencing homelessness for the first time. Fifty-nine percent of residents identify as black, 24% as white 17% as bi- or multiracial.

All program participants are screened for program eligibility by the

**The Children's Home Society of Florida**

Howard Bishop Middle School, a Community Partnership School, opened in 2017 and provides students and families services through the four pillars of community schools: Expanded Learning (before school, after school and summer programming), Wellness (medical, dental, vision, mental health), Family and Community Engagement, and Collaborative Leadership. Research conducted by the Learning Policy Institute in December 2017 concluded that well implemented community schools utilizing the four pillars “lead to improvements in student and school outcomes and contribute to meeting the educational needs of low-achieving students in high poverty schools”. Their findings concluded that there is sufficient evidence to support the community schools' approach as an evidence-based intervention under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Community schools help close achievement gaps and create access to opportunities for students from low-income families, students of color, English Language Learners (ELL), and Students with Disabilities (SWD). Children and families enrolled in community schools demonstrate a range of improvements in academic performance and overall health. (Flynn 2021) According to "Building School Communities for Students Living in Deep Poverty" published by the Learning Policy Institute in May 2022, since community schools are associated with positive student outcomes, such as reduced absenteeism, improved academic outcomes, and student reports of more positive school climates, they represent promising opportunities for meeting the needs of students living in deep poverty (Cookson Jr. and Darling Hammond 2022).

Howard Bishop CPS (Community Partnership School) addresses the most basic needs of children and families living at or below 150% of the federal poverty level through the provision of services through the four pillars of Community Partnership Schools: Wellness, Expanded Learning, Family and Community Engagement, and Collaborative Leadership. The services provided at Howard Bishop CPS by The Children's Home Society of Florida (CHS) Staff fit into the

Three Rivers Legal Services, Inc.	UF Mobile Outreach Clinic
<p>In 2019, TRLS did an extensive study to determine the most important civil legal needs of low-income residents in the service area. Hundreds of low-income residents were asked to answer a carefully designed survey about civil legal needs. Surveys were also sent by email to lawyers, judges and social services agencies. Survey data was then compiled and the TRLS Board of Directors adjusted the TRLS priorities according to the needs assessment results. It came as no surprise that legal assistance regarding rental housing and eviction rated as the second most important legal priority in the community.</p>	<p>A. Include the frequency or duration of any CAPP funded activities - 4 full clinic days per week</p> <p>B. Include the number of anticipated participants and demographics - 2500 unique patients annually.</p> <p>C. Include if the agency uses volunteers to provide the program or service; detail the role of volunteers in the program</p> <p>Total Number of Community Volunteers:</p>
<p>In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic brought national attention to the plight of low income renters and home owners who were faced with losing their housing due to loss of employment and other income. TRLS has been well aware of the need for legal assistance in housing related matters, which is why this area of law has been a priority for TRLS for over 40 years. In 2023, TRLS closed a total of 644 housing cases for Alachua County residents. Program-wide, housing and probate matters comprised 42.8% of all closed cases for 2023. During the past two years, the Alachua County Property Appraiser's Office has been hosting Heirs Property Summits throughout Alachua County, which has resulted in a substantial increase in the number of clients seeking services to clear the titles to their properties. Clearing title to heirs property enables the "homeowners" to remain in their homes, which is a relatively simple solution to the affordable housing crisis. Heirs who lack legal title to their homes are unable to negotiate with mortgage lenders which often results in foreclosure of the property; are unable to receive assistance for repairs and/or disaster relief; are unable to enter into contracts for home repairs even if they have the funds for the repairs; and are unable to apply for homestead tax exemptions. The need for legal services related to housing is clear, and the Community Agency Partnership Program is in complete alignment with the mission of TRLS.</p>	<p>40 undergraduate student volunteers act as care coordinators who commit to multiple semesters of clinic and office-based volunteer work. Most students end up volunteering for their entire undergraduate career and many report that their work with MOC changed the trajectory of their career path toward community service and care of the underserved.</p> <p>2 faculty members from UF College of Physician Assistant Studies</p> <p>1 volunteer RN</p> <p>2 faculty from UF Health OB-GYN</p> <p>4 faculty from UF Health Radiology</p> <p>4 faculty from UF Health Neurology</p> <p>2 community physicians</p> <p>Total: 55 volunteers</p>



## United Church of Gainesville

We send home backpacks/bags of food with the participants once a week throughout the school year (including summer school). This is approximately 30 weeks during the school year and 3 additional weeks of summer school for a decreased number of students. The foods included are milk, canned ravioli, vienna sausages/slim jims, cereal, peanuts, granola bars, peanut butter crackers, raisins/dried fruit and fresh apples. On our volunteer staff we have a registered dietitian who has helped create our food list. Initially we started the program serving Duval Elementary School. For the past eight years we have been at Rawlings Elementary School, a Title 1 school, where all children receive free school lunch. For the past three years the program has registered an average of 180 children. Rawlings Elementary, located in East Gainesville, has a population with approximately 95% black, 2 % white, and 2% hispanic students. Nearly all are from homes with incomes below the poverty level and all students receive free school lunch (between 130% and 185% of the federal poverty level). For the 2023-24 school year we registered ~170 children, with a max of 190 kids in the spring of 2024 since we accept applications from families throughout the year. We have never had a waiting list, always serving all who applied. In the event that we do not receive CAPP funding, we will still run our program as we always have. We would run an additional fundraiser halfway through the year, and if that didn't provide sufficient funds, would cut back on 1-2 items of food.

For the 2024-25 school year, Rawlings is one of the schools to be in a pilot program for Year-Round Schooling. We are not quite sure how this will affect our numbers other than perhaps increasing the number of weeks we will need to provide food. We believe this will be a critical year to show our support for these students and their families in the form of our weekly food bags.

Our program is staffed completely by volunteers and 100% of the money we raise is spent on food and backpacks. Our volunteers

## University of Florida College of Dentistry

According to the 2020 Alachua County Community Health Needs Assessment, dental care is the most difficult-to-obtain healthcare service for Alachua County residents. Left untreated, common dental problems such as tooth decay or gum disease can result in pain, infection, difficulty eating and speaking, poor sleep, missed school or work time, and exacerbation of chronic health conditions. Unfortunately, individuals and families from lower income households, underrepresented racial and ethnic groups, and those with complex medical conditions are disproportionately affected by dental problems and experience heightened barriers to receiving needed dental care. Some of the greatest barriers reported that preclude needed dental care utilization include cost, lack of dental insurance or insurance not accepted, and long wait times for appointments. Other common challenges include language barriers and limited transportation.

As a result of the challenges that many residents face in accessing dental services, there have been noted increases in the use of Emergency Departments (ED) for non-traumatic dental conditions. This is evident in Alachua County, where the rate of ED visits from dental conditions for persons aged 5 years and older was nearly twice that of the rate for the entire state of Florida (Florida Health Charts, 2022). Health care providers in the ED setting are typically ill-equipped to address dental issues, resulting in nondefinitive treatment for patients and costly care for taxpayers. In fact, over \$10 million dollars was spent on hospital ED visits for preventable dental problems in Alachua County alone in 2021, primarily for uninsured adult patients (Catalanotto, 2023). Across the state of Florida, approximately 30% of adults with ED visits for non-traumatic dental conditions had Medicaid dental insurance. Unfortunately, Florida Medicaid dental coverage for eligible adults is an optional benefit that covers a limited number of services, forcing patients to pay out of pocket for more complex restorative dental treatment needs, or resort to procedures such as tooth extractions which are I