



Agenda Item Summary

File #: 25-00660

Agenda Date: 8/26/2025

Agenda Item Name:

Children's Trust of Alachua County Literacy Initiative Update

Presenter:

Claudia Tuck, Community Support Services Director, (352)231-0058

Dr. Theresa Beachy, Chief Organizational Strategist, CNE (352) 318-7766

Description:

Program Planning Update

Recommended Action:

Hear the presentation

Prior Board Motions:

2/2/2024- BoCC approved funding not to exceed \$62, 500

4/21/2025-Earmarked \$250,000 for literacy activities

Fiscal Note:

\$250,000 Earmarked

Strategic Guide:

Social and Economic Opportunity

Background:

On February 11, 2025 Alachua County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) and the Children's Trust of Alachua County (CTAC) entered into an agreement to fund a comprehensive literacy needs assessment of children throughout Alachua County. CTAC contracted with the University of Florida Lastinger Center to conduct the assessment. The County agreed to the amount not to exceed \$65,000 towards the assessment.

The CTAC and UF Lastinger Center presented the completed assessment to the BoCC on April 21, 2025, The County Commission earmark a budget of at least \$250,000 this year from the County partner with the Children's Trust and the Non-Profit Center for Excellence to work with key literacy organizations, stakeholders in the community, and the School Board to develop a plan for implementation and evaluation of this reform based on recommendations in this needs assessment. Bring back to the Board within 90 days what a map of that plan is and a formal budget by the end of the budget cycle so that if there is more money needed or if there is other funding needed, we can allocate it

before the end of the budget cycle. 2. Write a letter to the School Board asking them to adopt the needs assessment and recommendations in this report.