



CHILDREN'S TRUST REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

September 22, 2025, at 4:00 PM

CTAC, 4010 NW 25th Place, Gainesville, FL 32606

Call to Order – Chair Cornell called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Ken Cornell – Board Chair, Cheryl Twombly – Board Vice Chair, Dr. Maggie Labarta – Treasurer, Tina Certain – Member, Mary Chance – Member, Dr. Kamela Patton – Member, Lee Pinkoson – Member, Honorable Susanne Wilson Bullard – Member

Board Members Attending Virtually: Dr. Mary Hardt – Member

Agenda Review, Revision, and Approval

Member Pinkoson moved for the approval of the agenda. Member Certain seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote.

Consent Agenda

Board Attendance YTD

9.8.2025 Regular Board Meeting Evaluation - Survey Results

Sponsorship Requests

No General Public Comments were made

Chair's Report

Chair Cornell provided a draft of the chair letter to City of Gainesville requesting information about the Violence Interrupters program. **Member Chance moved for approval of the letter.** Judge Wilson Bullard seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote. The Board will invite the City of Gainesville Gun Violence Initiative staff members to attend the October 13th CTAC meeting. Judge Wilson Bullard asked if there is still opportunity for budget amendment. Executive Director Marsha Kiner stated the contract for FY26 has not been signed and changes to the contract may be made if needed.

Chair Cornell asked all Board members to complete ED Kiner's yearly evaluation that was sent via email from James Moore Associates. The evaluation will be an agenda item during the October Board meeting. Dr. Labarta voiced concerns about the survey scale and that no room for feedback or recommendations was provided. The Board agreed that a 3-point scale is not preferred and recommended returning to a 5-point scale next year.

Executive Director's Report

ED Kiner shared a congratulatory message from Congresswoman Kat Cammack, U.S. Congress and publicly thanked her for the recognition.

An update was provided for the strategic planning timeline. The Board agreed to meet Monday, January 26, from 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM to continue work on the strategic plan.

ED Kiner reported that the City of Gainesville sent the updated gun violence statistics Member Certain requested along with the number of youth ages 0-18 served by the Violence Interrupters. The Board needs further clarification and details. Requested a definition of “RMS”, a GPD monthly gun related incidents report, and a request for another column on the report showing the number of youths charged with misdemeanor or felony firearm offenses.

New staff members Molly Greenwald (CFO) and Linda Means (Contract Manager) were introduced.

Old Business

Resolution No. 2025-14 Adoption of Changes to the Employee Handbook – FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT (FMLA)

Member Pinkoson moved the Board approve Resolution 2025-14 adopting changes to the Employee Handbook – FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT (FMLA). The motion was seconded by Member Chance. Member Certain agreed the policy is clearer but she still has concerns. Vice Chair Twombly stated that she is fine with the policy as it aligns with the County. The motion passed by majority vote with Member Certain and Judge Wilson Bullard in opposition.

Presentations

NewboRN Home Visiting Program (NHVP) 2025 Update

Sandee Muir – Nursing Supervisor, Well Florida, provided a program update, which included benefits, challenges, impacts and barriers to data collection. A success story of one family who credits the program with saving mom’s life was shared.

Board members were particularly interested in the decline in statistical reporting in May 2025. Moir explained this decrease is only at UF Shands, not North Florida, as the program still has chart access at North Florida. Dr. Hardt suggested working with the mother-baby bus to gain more access to eligible mothers.

The **meeting was paused at 5:01 pm** for the final TRIM hearing and **resumed at 5:09 pm**.

Dr. Labarta noted that at \$550/child for an assessment and home visit in perspective is a positive measurable outcome. Chair Cornell asked Moir what CTAC can do to increase outcomes. Moir said NHVP will let CTAC know how it can help.

Children’s Trust 2025 Sponsorship Review

Emily McCauley, Community Engagement Coordinator, provided an overview of the Sponsorship Fund application and recapped the organizations that were funded in FY25 while detailing which Goals they align with. Programs were sponsored in nearly every municipality in the county.

Public comment

Joy Cullen from CDS Family and Behavioral Health Services thanked CTAC for sponsoring their Self Care event. The event was well attended and CDS could not have done it without CTAC. Cullen also commented that McCauley was a joy to work with.

Sherry Kitchens, Interim Chair of the Child Abuse Prevention Taskforce, commented that their Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month event in April would not have happened without CTAC's support.

General Public Comments - none

Board Member Comments

Member Chance thanked staff for the follow-up information that was provided on the campaign for grade level. She also appreciated the childcare info and plans to attend. Dr. Patton was impressed by how CTAC makes sure to serve all the municipalities. Chair Cornell thanked everyone and reminded the Board that there is a lot of work to be done for the strategic plan.

For Your Information

Items were provided for informational purposes:

Inquiry on Grade-Level Reading Campaigns

Community Conversation on the Business of Child Care

Next Meeting Dates

Special Meeting - Final TRIM Hearing - Monday, September 22, 2025 @ 5:01pm

Regular Board Meeting - Monday, October 13, 2025 @ 4:00 pm

Special Meeting - Strategic Plan Workshop - Monday, November 10, 2025 @ 2:00 pm

Regular Board Meeting - Monday, November 10, 2025 @ 4:00 pm

Adjournment

CHAIR CORNELL adjourned the meeting at 5:28 pm.



CHILDREN'S TRUST
OF ALACHUA COUNTY

CHILDREN'S TRUST REGULAR MEETING

09/22/2025 from 4pm-5pm

CTAC Office, 4010 NW 25th Place, Gainesville, FL 32606

Attendance List

Name	Organization	Email address	Contact number
Nick Anschutz	Mainstreet Daily News	NAnschutz@mainstreetdailynews.com	
Cara Goss	Newborn Home Visiting Program	cgoss@wellflorida.org	(352) 514-4130
Julie Moderie	HSNCF / NHVP	jmoderie@wellflorida.org	352-313-6500
Alison Frank	CAD	afranklin@alachua.us	
Kyler Burke	Palms Medical Group	kjb2013@gmail.com	352-756-3338
Joy Cullinan	CDS	Joy-Cullinan@cdsfl.org	352-318-9418
Graysen Valentine	AMT Kids	gvalentine@amtkids.org	251 751 6410
Sandee Mair	NHVP	Smair@wellflorida.org	
Charles Pap Jack	MANHOOD YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION	Jackscharl@aol.com	
Sherry Kitchens	CAC	Sherry@cacgainesville.org	352-494-3839



CTAC Office, 4010 NW 25th Place, Gainesville, FL 32606

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BOARD MEMBERS

Ken Cornell

Chair

County Commissioner

Cheryl Twombly

Vice Chair

*Department of
Children and Families*

Dr. Maggie Labarta

Treasurer

Gubernatorial Appointee

Hon. Susanne

Wilson Bullard

Circuit Judge

Tina Certain

School Board Member

Mary Chance

Gubernatorial Appointee

Dr. Nancy Hardt

Gubernatorial Appointee

Dr. Kamela Patton

Interim Superintendent

Alachua County

Public Schools

Lee Pinkoson

Gubernatorial Appointee

Marsha Kiner

Executive Director

Monday, September 22, 2025

City of Gainesville
Office of the City Manager
200 East University Avenue
Gainesville, FL 32601

Dear Ms. Curry,

On behalf of the Children's Trust of Alachua County (CTAC) Board, I am writing to request additional information about the City of Gainesville's Violence Interrupter (VI) Program. As you know, the Trust is deeply invested in programs that support youth, strengthen families, and build safer communities. In light of recent discussions at our Board meeting, members would like to better understand how the VI Program is structured, implemented, and evaluated.

To help us review the program fully, we ask that you provide responses to the following areas of interest:

1. Governance and Oversight

- What policies and procedures guide the operation of the program?
- Who manages the program on a day-to-day basis, and who is ultimately accountable?
- How are program policies reviewed and updated, and what channels exist for community or participant feedback and complaints?

2. Staff Qualifications and Training

- What qualifications are required of Violence Interrupters and staff at the time of hiring (e.g., education, prior experience, certifications, background checks)?
- What initial and ongoing training do staff receive, including topics such as de-escalation, trauma-informed care, confidentiality, mandated reporting; and safety?
- What process is followed if a staff member violates program policies?

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3. Program Operations

- How do staff establish relationships and familiarity with the neighborhoods and youth they serve?
- How are youth and families identified and connected with the program?
- How is information shared across partners—such as law enforcement, DJJ, the school system, and social services—while maintaining confidentiality and compliance with applicable laws?
- How are interactions with youth documented, and what safeguards protect the privacy of that information?

4. Community Engagement and Accountability

- In what ways are youth and community members involved in shaping policies and evaluating the program's effectiveness?
- How does the program share outcomes with the public to maintain transparency and trust while protecting confidentiality?

5. Evaluation and Performance

- What specific measures are used to assess program effectiveness (e.g., reduction in violent incidents, changes in school disciplinary referrals, arrests, retaliation, or recidivism)?
- How often is this information reported, and to whom?
- What baseline data was established prior to program launch, and how is progress measured against it?
- Does the program use independent evaluators or third-party audits?
- How are long-term participant outcomes tracked?
- What systems are in place to ensure compliance with state and federal requirements?

We respectfully request that the city provide a written response by October 3rd, 2025, so the information can be reviewed and discussed at the next CTAC Board meeting scheduled for Monday, October 13, 2025.

Thank you for your partnership and for your continued efforts to prevent gun violence through communitywide collaboration. We value the City's leadership in this work and look forward to continuing our collaboration to ensure the Violence Interrupter Program is both effective and accountable to the community it serves.

Sincerely,

Ken Cornell

Chair, Children's Trust of Alachua County Board

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GPD Monthly Gun Related Statistics

Crime	August 2024	August 2025	% Change
Stolen Firearms*	8 (5 Conveyance Burglary)	6 (5 Conveyance Burglary)	-25.00%
Firearms Seized/Recovered by LEO**	23	10	-56.52%
Number of Shots Fired*	9	2	-77.77%
Number of Persons Shot or Injured by a Gunfire*	3	0	-100.00%
Homicides *	0	0	N/A

* Numbers can change due to updates in RMS.

**Numbers include any firearms seized as a result of criminal activity, as well as instances where a firearm was located, and could not be tracked back to an owner (i.e. found firearm with no record of being stolen and no owners located).



GPD YTD Gun Related Statistics

Crime	Jan 1 – Mar 31, 2025 (1 st qtr 2025)	Apr 1 – June 30, 2025 (2 nd Qtr 2025)	July 1 – Aug 31, 2025 (3 rd Qtr 2025)	YTD Totals thru August 31, 2025
Stolen Firearms*	25 (18 Conveyance Burglary)	49 (28 Conveyance Burglary)	16 (13 Conveyance Burglary)	90 (59 Conveyance Burglary)
Firearms Seized/Recovered by LEO**	54	91	41	186
Number of Shots Fired*	16	21	13	50
Number of Persons Shot or Injured by a Gunfire*	2	7	4	13
Homicides *	1	2	0	3

* Numbers can change due to updates in RMS.

**Numbers include any firearms seized as a result of criminal activity, as well as instances where a firearm was located, and could not be tracked back to an owner (i.e. found firearm with no record of being stolen and no owners located).

Agenda Item:



Violence Interruption: Youth 0-18



Community Engagement

- Provided 120 youth with back-to-school supplies and backpacks funded through CTAC. Used this as an opportunity to build relationships with youth and families.
- Partnered with Gainesville Fire Rescue and Black on Black Crime Task Force to assist with a Back-to-school rally in Pineridge that served 275 youth.
- Partnered with Residence at Oakview Back-to-school rally that served 167 youth.
- Hosted a movie night in May serving 10 youth from Duval.
- VI engaged these youth regularly throughout the previous school year and discussed topics related to resources, mental health and wellness, conflict resolution, with information and exposure to jobs, civic engagement, and education.

Services

- VI initiated 116 parental contacts from the end of May-July.
- Parental contacts are directly related to intervention and/or engagement with or on behalf of youth.
- 240 field contacts from the end of May-July.
- Estimate that about half of those contacts were with youth 0-18. Field contacts are used to provide resources to neighbors for education, jobs, basic needs, etc. as well as to provide intervention and engagement related to conflicts, if needed, and build community trust and relationship.
- VI Staff provided 72 referrals and mitigated 28 conflicts involving fights, threats, and potential gun violence for the same time-period. While several of these instances involved youth, data related specifically to youth 0-18 was not captured.