



CHILDREN'S TRUST REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

September 28, 2026 at 4:00 PM

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

Call to Order

Roll Call

Agenda Review, Revision, and Approval

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

Consent Agenda

1. [Board Attendance YTD](#)
2. [Emergent Needs](#)

General Public Comments

Chair's Report

Executive Director's Report

Old Business

3. [Alachua County Reads Initiative September Project Update](#)
4. [Nonprofit Lifecycle Pilot Program Update](#)

Presentations

5. [Youth Mental Health Programs](#)

General Public Comments

Board Member Comments

Next Meeting Dates

Special Meeting - Final TRIM Hearing - Monday, September 28, 2026 @ 5:01 pm - Children's Trust of Alachua County, 4010 NW 25th Place, Gainesville, FL 32606

Regular Board Meeting - Monday, October 12, 2026 @ 4:00 pm - Children's Trust of Alachua County, 4010 NW 25th Place, Gainesville, FL 32606

Adjournment

Virtual Meeting Information

View or listen to the meeting: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpYNq_GkjCo9FQo3qR5-SOw

Public Comments: Submit online at
<http://www.childrenstrustofalachuacounty.us/commentcard>.

Guidelines for Public Comments

Public comments can be made in person at Children's Trust Board Meetings. We will no longer take comments by Zoom or by phone. If you would like to submit a written comment or a written transcript of your public comment before or after the meeting, these will be provided to Board Members prior to the next Board Meeting.

Any member of the public wishing to be heard either under the agenda section "General Public Comments" or on a specific agenda item shall approach the podium at the appropriate time.

Members of the public recognized by the Chair will have three (3) minutes to speak on a single subject matter. If an individual seeks to be heard on more than one agenda item, the Chair shall determine the amount of time allotted to the speaker. However, such time shall not exceed ten (10) minutes without the approval of the Board or Committee. The Clerk of the Trust is the official timekeeper.

Public members may not share or transfer all or part of their allotted time to any other person or agenda item, except as permitted by this Policy. To the extent a speaker has previously addressed a Board or Committee on the same subject, the Board Chair may limit repeat comments at the Board meeting by the same speaker.

File Attachments for Item:

1. Board Attendance YTD

Board Attendance 2026

Item 1.

Regular Meetings	2/9/2026	3/9/2026	4/13/2026	5/11/2026	6/8/2026	8/10/2026	9/17/2026	9/28/2026	10/12/2026	11/9/2026	12/14/2026	
Chance	P	P	P	P	P	P	P					
Wilson Bullard	Absent	Absent										
Pinkoson	P	P	V	P	P	P	P					
Certain	P	P	P	P	P	P	P					
Cornell	P	Absent	P	P	P	P	P					
Hardt	P	P	P	P	V	V	V					
Labarta	P	P	P	P	Absent	P						
Page							P					
Patton	Absent	Absent	Absent	P	Absent	Absent	Absent					
Pena			P	P	P	Absent	V					
Tate							P					
Walker	Absent	P	P	V	P	V	P					
Special Meetings	Board Workshop - 1/26/2026	Board Workshop - 3/9/2026	FY27 Board Workshop - 6/8/2026	First TRIM Hearing - 9/17/2026						V = Virtual Attendance	P = Physical Attendance	
Chance	P	P	P	P								
Wilson Bullard	Absent	Absent										
Pinkoson	Absent	P	P	P								
Certain	P	P	P	P								
Cornell	P	P	Absent	P								
Hardt	P	P	V	V								
Labarta	P	P	Absent									
Page				P								
Patton	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent								
Pena			Absent	V								
Tate				P								
Walker	P	Absent	Absent	P								

File Attachments for Item:

2. Emergent Needs



Outlook

RE: Hagios Emergent Needs request

From Marsha Kiner <mkiner@childrenstrustofalachuacounty.us>

Date Fri 9/18/2026 11:10 AM

To Molly Greenwald <mgreenwald@childrenstrustofalachuacounty.us>; Demetrica Tyson <dtyson@childrenstrustofalachuacounty.us>; Kristy Goldwire <kgoldwire@childrenstrustofalachuacounty.us>

Hagios Needs Request is approved.

Thanks,

Marsha



Marsha Kiner, MS, CAE

Executive Director

Children's Trust of Alachua County

Office: (352) 374-1830

4010 NW 25th Place

Gainesville, FL 32606

ChildrensTrustOfAlachuaCounty.us



From: Molly Greenwald <mgreenwald@childrenstrustofalachuacounty.us>

Sent: Friday, September 18, 2026 10:30 AM

To: Marsha Kiner <mkiner@childrenstrustofalachuacounty.us>; Demetrica Tyson <dtyson@childrenstrustofalachuacounty.us>; Kristy Goldwire <kgoldwire@childrenstrustofalachuacounty.us>

Subject: Re: Hagios Emergent Needs request

Good Morning Everyone,

I concur and agree we can move forward with processing this request.

We can get the payment out next week to ensure it is captured in the current fiscal year.

Kind Regards,
Molly Greenwald

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Marsha Kiner <mkiner@childrenstrustofalachuacounty.us>

Sent: Friday, 18 September 2026 10:17:00

To: Demetrica Tyson <dtyson@childrenstrustofalachuacounty.us>; Molly Greenwald <mgreenwald@childrenstrustofalachuacounty.us>; Kristy Goldwire <kgoldwire@childrenstrustofalachuacounty.us>

Subject: RE: Hagios Emergent Needs request

HAGIOS EARLY LEARNING CENTER: Emergent Needs (Submitted)

Applications

CREATED BY	Denise Brown
MODIFIED BY	Denise Brown
ORGANIZATION	HAGIOS EARLY LEARNING CENTER
ORGANIZATION NAME	Hagios Early Learning Center
ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION	Preschool.
GRANT	Emergent Needs

Emergent Needs

CONTACT PERSON	Denise McGinnis-Brown
CONTACT EMAIL	hagiosearlylearningcenter@gmail.com
CONTACT PHONE	352-256-3464
IDENTIFY CTAC GOALS THE ACTIVITY/EVENT WILL BE ADDRESSING	Which Children’s Trust Goal or Strategy does your program address? Children and youth learn what they need to be successful

Emergent needs 2

CURRENT PROVIDER?	Yes
IF NOT, HAVE YOU EVER RECEIVED FUNDING FROM THE TRUST?	Yes
NAME OF THE PROGRAM YOU RECEIVED FUNDING FOR PREVIOUSLY.	Name of the program you received funding for previously. Hagios Early learning Center Summer Camp
IF YES ABOVE DATE	5/30/2026 3 months, 2 weeks and 5 days ago
IS YOUR BUSINESS CURRENTLY REGISTERED WITH THE PHILANTHROPY HUB?	No
DESCRIBE	Describe your program including how your services impact the lives of the Children of Alachua County. We operate a preschool that prepares our students for kindergarten by offering them a state-approved curriculum and we also teach explicit phonics so that our students are reading or reading ready when they leave our preschool program. We are also in the process of starting a kindergarten class, hopefully in the fall of 2026.
SPECIFY NEED	Please Specify your need in as much detail as possible. Include the dollar amount of your request. Explain how your request is an emergent need. We need need a new AC unit, as the current unit is leaking freon and needs duct work. Since we recently closed on the building, and it took everything that I had to get the money to buy out the business portion of the preschool from the prior owner, this left me almost in the red financially. I also want the kitchen updated, as it has not been done so since the building was built in 1962, but the AC unit is our number one priority, as we cannot function without cool air, especially in the Florida summer weather.
REQUEST	What dollar amount are you requesting? \$33,790.00
STEPS	What steps have you taken to resolve the need on your own? At the present time, all of my money was used to purchase the business portion of the preschool (\$175,000) and at this time I do not have the funds to pay for a new AC unit.

SERVICE DELIVERY

How has the emergent need impacted your service delivery?

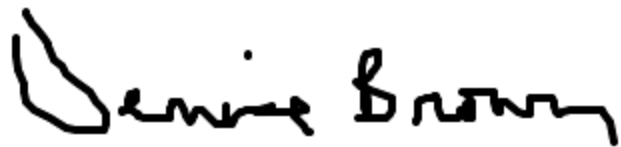
The AC issue causes some of our rooms to not get cool and it causes the cook to run a fan in the kitchen, as it is extremely hot in the kitchen. When the freon leaks out, it makes it very uncomfortable in this building, and it makes it harder to function due to the heat.

NAME OF THE SUBMITTER

Denise Brown

SIGNATURE

Signature of requestor



Captured: 7/13/26 12:57 PM by Denise Brown via 2001:579:2420:b90:d811:f7df:f1b2:f7ca

ANNUAL REPORT

Please provide your annual report if applicable.

HELC YTD P&L2025.pdf

CURRENT BUDGET

Please provide your organization's current budget.

HELC Monthly Cash Flow Statement July 2026.docx

INVOICE OR QUOTE

Include an invoice or quote for the Emergent Need.

Hagios learning center 2025.pdf

Preventative Maintenance Programs
License # CAC058522
1730 NE 23rd Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32609



Sales- Service-Installation
Residential-Commercial
Phone (352) 331-2005
Fax (352) 371-4942
www.bertieair.com

Item 2.

Proposal & Agreement:

Name:	Hagios early learning center	Phone:	352-256-3464
Address:	1704 ne 9 th st	Date:	08/31/26
City/State/Zip:	Gainesville fl	Email:	

Bertie will furnish and install the equipment listed below at the price, terms and conditions outlined on this proposal. You must do yearly maintenance to keep up the manufacturer warranty.

Installation shall include:	
Meet All Codes, All Material and Labor Included.	Lennox 1.5 ton 24 seer heat pump system \$8,225.00 Includes 5 year manufacturer parts warranty, 5 year manufacturer compressor warranty, (after registration) . 1 year labor warranty. Subtotal \$8,225.00 Customer discount -\$3,225.00 Total \$5,000.00 each \$5,000.00 x3 Total \$15,000.00 Electrical not Included Total \$15,000.00

***This project requires electrical work performed by a licensed electrician not included in proposal**

Optional/ Recommendations (not included in estimate):

Surge protectors	\$169.00 each	One year of maintenance(after Installation)	\$269.00
Voltage range monitors	\$725.00/each	Bluetube uv light	\$450.00

Total Investment:	\$15,000.00
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Terms:	50% Down. 50% At Completion OR Financing Available with approved credit. Ask your Comfort Specialist for details.		
Acceptance by Customer:		Approval by Company:	
Date Accepted:		Date Approved:	

Danny Williams – Project Estimator Email: Danny@bertieair.com

Bertie Heating & Air warrants its labor for one year beginning on the date of this Proposal and Agreement provided that warranty labor is provided on weekdays between 8 A.M and 4:30 P.M. Bertie Heating & Air also assigns all manufacturers warranties to Customer and Customer accepts said assignment as well as the labor warranty in lieu of all other warranties express or implied. Owner understands and agrees that Bertie Heating & Air retains ownership of all equipment installed pursuant to this Proposal and Agreement until Customer fully pays for all of the equipment and related labor. Customers expressly grants to Bertie Heating & Air, an easement and permission to pass onto Customer's property for the purpose of removing equipment installed by Bertie Heating & Air for which Customer does not timely pay in accordance with this Proposal and Agreement. Customer agrees that Customer's damages for any claim arising out of or related to this Proposal and Agreement may not exceed, under any circumstances whatsoever, an amount equal to the price charged by Bertie Heating & Air for the labor and materials furnished pursuant to this Proposal and Agreement. Furthermore, Customer waives all claims and holds Bertie Heating & Air harmless for any and all claims pertaining to moisture and growth as well as consequential damages arising out of or related to this Proposal and Agreement.

Customer agrees to pay finance charge equal to 1.5% per month of any unpaid amount for work performed. Customer agrees to pay a finance charge equal to 1.5% per month of any amount unpaid for more than 30 days, for work performed. Customer further agrees that regarding any dispute arising out of or related to this Proposal, the prevailing party is entitled to recover reasonable attorney's fees and costs from the non-prevailing party from the time the dispute arises through appeal, if any.

RICKY'S ELECTRIC

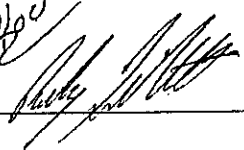
OF HAWTHORNE, INC.

P.O. BOX 531

HAWTHORNE, FL 32640

Mobile (352) 665 4807

Cert# ET0000403

NAME <i>Dr Denise Brown @ Hagios Early Learning Center</i>		DATE <i>9-17-26</i>	
ADDRESS <i>1704 NE 9th St Gville</i>		PHONE <i>260-4477</i>	
APARTMENT		DATE PROMISED	
MAKE	MODEL NO.	SERIAL NO.	DATE OF ORIGINAL INSTALLATION
NATURE OF SERVICE <i>wiring three new mini-split A/C units</i>		☐ ESTIMATE ☐ CASH ☐ WARRANTY ☐ CHARGE ☐ CONTRACT ☐ C.O.D.	
QTY.	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	AMOUNT
	<i>Will install a subpanel beside main service on outside of building to provide the extra breaker spaces needed for the 3, 240 volt circuits I will be installing for the A/C units</i>		
	<i>Payment Due when Completed</i>		<i>no</i>
REMARKS <i>Thank you</i> 		TOTAL MATERIALS	
		TECHNICAL SERVICE TIME ☐ SHOP ☐ HOME ☐ PICK UP OR DELIVERY ☐ SERVICE CALL CHARGE	
TECHNICIAN			
Signature below constitutes acceptance of above service performed as being satisfactory — and that the equipment has been left in good condition.		DATE COMPLETED	TAX
		TOTAL <i>1500.00</i>	

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

Thank-you!

File Attachments for Item:

3. Alachua County Reads Initiative September Project Update

**Item:**

Alachua County Reads Initiative September Project Update

Requested Action:

1. The Board is asked to receive the update.

Update:

Alachua County Reads continued implementation efforts across its four key strategy areas: **Readiness, Core Instruction (Grades K–3), Intervention and Remediation, and Community Awareness and Resources.** During August and September, efforts focused on expanding literacy coaching capacity, strengthening implementation partnerships, coordinating community resources, and laying the groundwork for the next phase of early learning engagement.

Dr. Heidi Keegan, Literacy Coordinator for Alachua County Reads, will provide the Board with an project update highlighting recent progress, key activities, and upcoming priorities and next steps.

Programmatic Impact:

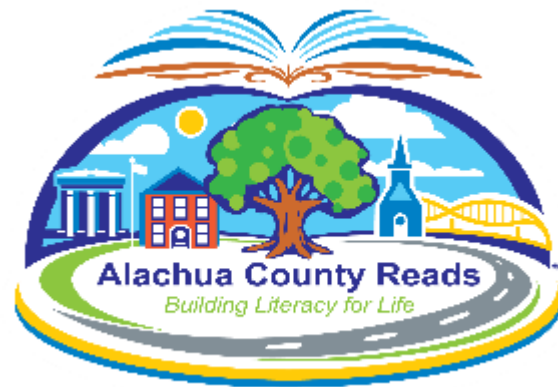
Goal 2: Children & Youth Can Learn What They Need To Be Successful

Fiscal Impact:

\$550,000.00

Recommendation:

1. The Board is asked to receive the requested action.

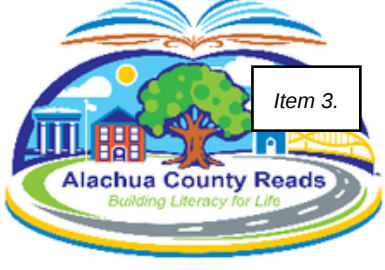


ALACHUA COUNTY READS

Project Update
September 28, 2026

Alachua County Reads Team and the Center for Nonprofit Excellence

Current Activities Update



READINESS

- Gainesville Thrives moved to shared space; Literacy Nights; Family Literacy Engagement bins resources
- Sept 23 Early Learning Experts Initial Meeting (Anita Zucker Center, University of Florida Literacy Institute, Early Learning Coalition, Partnership for Strong Families, Children’s Home Society, GNV4All, UF Laster Center, Gainesville Thrives, Campaign Grade Level Reading/United Way, Early Childhood COE, CTAC Early Childhood

K-3 CORE INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT

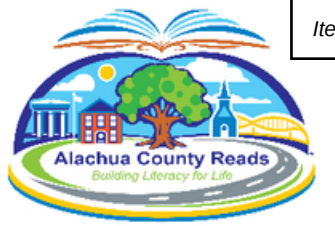
- **UFLI-ACPS Kickoff Event 9/16/26**
- **ALL K-2 teachers** in 4 School Improvement (SI) schools (Rawlings, Williams, Lake Forest, Metcalf) have completed initial training and will access coaching
- 60 educators; 40 literacy coaches and administrators trained
- 600 K-2 students in the 4 schools
- UFLI implemented across ALL ACPS schools
- Dates scheduled for School Implementation Team Partnership Meetings
- Funds secured for purchase of Project Read for **ALL ACPS** Elementary Schools (5260 licenses); UFLI-aligned program allows ALL teachers to input weekly student assessment data to create groups for targeted intervention with lesson provision

INTERVENTION / REMEDIATION

- ACR hired Literacy Specialist to support Literacy Catalyst providers (Aces in Motion, Girls Place, Kids Count, AMI Kids, Pineridge Kool Kids, Sweetwater Neighborhood, Residences at Oakview, Willie Mae Stokes, IGB, Alachua County Youth Detention Center); will train staff and work with students; highly qualified in exceptionalities and dyslexia
- Dr. Keegan meets weekly with PEAK Literacy for updates on progress; advised on acquiring assessment data from ACPS
- ACR provided TOWRE assessments needed for 700 students

COORDINATION + COMMUNITY AWARENESS

- Updates to virtual hub
- Items for 100 school readiness bags purchased for ACLD
- Acquired resource list from PFSF
- Ordered literacy materials for adult learners at ACLD and Elite Training Center
- Registered Elite Training Center with the FL Ready to Work programming
- “FREE” marketing through WUFT Tell Me About It, Ilene Silverman Show, CTAC Show, CTAC Podcast, tabling at Chamber of Commerce Expo, UFCC Event
- Social Media shares
- Community Advisory Council initial interest meeting **September 30th @ 6pm**



Next Steps

Readiness

Next Steps: Discuss locations for targeted support, gather SOW, and consider MOUs

Instructional Support

Next Steps: observations, walkthroughs, coaching cycles w/ feedback, UFLI resource portal to ALL ACPS

Intervention Remediation

Next Steps: follow up with Literacy Specialist assessment of provider needs

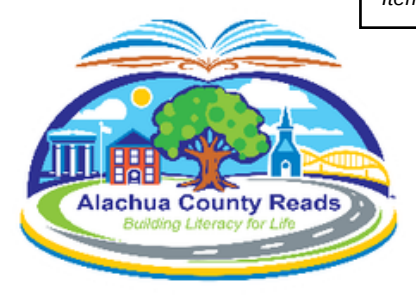
Coordination + Community Awareness

Next Steps: Continue recruiting Council members, have elected chair organize meeting schedule, develop plan to use council ties to increase awareness and media, launch and track Hub utilization in 3 sites.

Highlights in Pictures: UFLI Kickoff

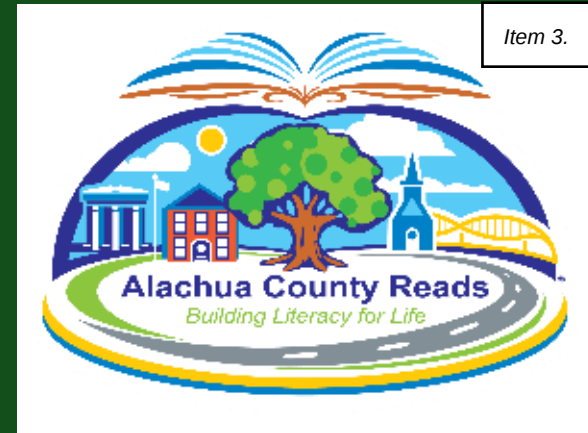
September 16 - Metcalfe Elementary

Item 3.





Questions and Discussion



If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to Dr. Heidi Keegan at
hkeegan@alachuacountyreads.org

**University of Florida Literacy Institute (UFLI)
Alachua County Reads (ACR)**

September 2026 Update

The University of Florida Literacy Institute (UFLI) supports teacher and reader development through evidence-based literacy instruction. *UFLI Foundations*, an explicit and systematic foundational reading program, is implemented across Alachua County Public Schools (ACPS) in grades K-2 as Tier 1 core instruction.

With funding from the Children’s Trust of Alachua County (CTAC), in partnership with the Center for Nonprofit Excellence (CNE), UFLI is collaborating with the Alachua County Reads (ACR) Project from July through December 2026. In partnership with ACPS district leadership, UFLI is providing targeted support to four elementary schools (Lake Forest, Metcalfe, Rawlings, and Williams) to strengthen implementation of *UFLI Foundations* and build sustainable literacy systems. The project began the 2026-2027 school year with professional learning for teachers, literacy specialists, school leaders, and district leaders. Project participants will receive ongoing *UFLI Foundations* professional development (PD), coaching, school-based support, school-level implementation team partnership meetings, and additional professional learning resources.

Building on a longstanding partnership among UFLI, ACPS, and community partners, this project reflects a shared commitment to strengthening educator capacity, school systems, and student literacy outcomes. Meaningful change takes time and requires sustained support, collaboration, and consistent implementation. Through this continued investment, the ACR Project is laying the foundation for lasting improvements and helping more students become proficient and confident readers.

UFLI Fall 2026 Key Activities: Progress & Updates

Activity	Update as of Sep. 18, 2026
Survey target schools to identify current needs	Following the beginning of the year UFLI Foundations Initial Implementation Training opportunities, ACR Project Kick-Off and Information Session (Sep. 16), and initial school-level partnership meetings (Sep. 21), educators at the target schools will receive a Qualtrics survey to identify current needs, priorities, and areas for support. Survey findings will help inform and tailor subsequent professional learning and partnership activities.
Plan a fall schedule for professional development for teachers, literacy coaches, school leaders, and district leaders	Collaborated closely with the ACPS district leadership team through ongoing meetings, planning conversations, and communication to develop and coordinate the fall professional development schedule for teachers, literacy coaches, school leaders, and district leaders. This professional development plan was shared with all educators and leaders at the ACR Project Kick-Off and Information Session on September 16. See below for schedule.

Develop content for a fall series of in-person and asynchronous PD activities and resources	Initial content has been developed for the fall series of in-person and asynchronous professional development activities and resources. Content will continue to be refined and adjusted based on needs identified through implementation team meetings, school visits, and educator survey feedback to ensure that professional learning is responsive to school and educator priorities/needs.
Develop protocols and instruments for evaluating progress	The internal UFLI ACR team meets weekly to organize project activities, coordinate implementation, and assess progress toward project goals.

Alachua County Reads (ACR) Fall 2026 UFLI Foundations Professional Development and Implementation Support				
	School & District Leaders	Literacy Specialists	K-2 Teachers	All Educators
September	Leader ACR Info Session School Implementation Team Partnership Meeting School Visit & Support #1	Literacy Specialist PD School Implementation Team Partnership Meeting School Visit & Support #1	Enrolling in Canvas (Asynchronous Professional Learning Opportunities & Resources) School Visit & Support #1 (observations)	UFLI Foundations Implementation Training ACR Project Kick-Off & Information Session Initial Support Survey
October	School Implementation Team Partnership Meeting School Visit & Support #2	School Implementation Team Partnership Meeting UFLI PD Session UFLI Coaching Cycles School Visit & Support #2	UFLI PD Session UFLI Coaching Cycles begin School Visit & Support #2 (observations)	Ongoing UFLI PD Asynchronous Professional Learning Opportunities and Resources (through project-specific Canvas)
November	School Implementation Team Partnership Meeting School Visit & Support #3	School Implementation Team Partnership Meeting UFLI PD Session School Visit & Support #3	UFLI PD Session UFLI Coaching Cycles continue School Visit & Support #3 (observations)	
December	School Implementation Team Partnership Meeting	School Implementation Team Partnership Meeting UFLI PD Session	UFLI PD Session	

File Attachments for Item:

4. Nonprofit Lifecycle Pilot Program Update

Nonprofit Lifecycle Analysis and Operational Planning Pilot

Period: Summer 2026

Overview

The Children’s Trust of Alachua County (CTAC) contracted with Tracy Burger to provide capacity-building support to up to seven CTAC-funded afterschool providers. The initiative introduced the Nonprofit Lifecycles Institute’s “Selfie” organizational assessment to help participating nonprofits evaluate their organizational capacity and develop individualized, one-year operational plans to support organizational growth and sustainability.

This initiative served as a pilot project to introduce the lifecycle assessment process to CTAC-funded providers and was implemented during the final quarter of the funding cycle.

Participation

At the launch of the pilot, seven funded afterschool providers were eligible to participate. Of those providers:

- **Five providers participated** in the summer 2026 pilot.
- **One provider deferred participation** until FY 2026–2027.
- **One provider became ineligible** to participate.

Participating Providers:

1. Girls Place
2. Kids Count
3. Deeper Purpose
4. Willie Mae Stokes
5. Gainesville Circus Center

Deferred Participation:

- Aces in Motion — Deferred to FY 2026–2027

Ineligible:

- Boys and Girls Club

Project Objectives

The initiative was designed to help participating nonprofits:

- Identify their organization’s position within the nonprofit lifecycle and assess organizational capacity-building needs.
- Develop a one-year operational plan to guide organizational capacity building and support sustainability over the subsequent 12 months.

Current Status and Completed Activities

Four of the five participating providers completed the core components of the pilot, including:

- A virtual, one-hour informational session introducing the initiative and the Nonprofit Lifecycles “Selfie” assessment.
- Completion of the online organizational assessment.
- Receipt and review of individualized assessment results.
- A five-hour in-person workshop attended by at least two organizational leaders from each participating nonprofit. The workshop focused on reviewing assessment findings and developing individualized, one-year operational plans.
- A virtual follow-up meeting with the consultant one month after the workshop.

Ongoing Support

To support continued implementation of the operational plans and ongoing organizational development, participating providers will have access to:

- A virtual follow-up meeting with the consultant six months after the facilitated workshop.
- Individualized, 15-minute virtual “office hours” with the consultant, available upon request for up to 12 months following the workshop.
- The Center for Nonprofit Excellence (CNE) will provide individualized strategy sessions and collaborative workshops to build upon the work completed through the Nonprofit Lifecycles Institute and provide continued support for implementing organizational operational plans.

Next Step:

As a component of CTAC’s Strategic Plan, organizations funded during FY 2026–2027 will participate in the Nonprofit Lifecycle Initiative to assess organizational capacity and develop individualized, one-year operational plans. Participating organizations will receive access to the same resources, technical assistance, and ongoing support

provided to the pilot cohort. The Board of Directors will receive quarterly updates on progress toward all components of the Strategic Plan, including implementation of this initiative.

File Attachments for Item:

5. Youth Mental Health Programs

**Item:**

Youth Mental Health Programs (Bonnie Wagner & Kristy Goldwire)

Requested Action:

The Board is asked to receive information.

Background:

The Children's Trust currently funds three organizations to provide mental health programming to children and youth in Alachua County.

- Child Advocacy Center – Reducing Trauma Therapy Program
- Pace Center for Girls – Reach Community Counseling
- UF Health Shands Psychiatric Hospital – Partners in Adolescent Lifestyle Support (PALS)

So far in FY2026, across these programs, 592 children and youth were served. Therapeutic services provided include individual, family, and group therapy. Additionally, funded programs offer case management, mental health education, suicide prevention, and support groups. Service provision occurs in locations across Alachua County. Mental health services are available in fourteen Alachua County schools via Reach Community Counseling and/or PALS. All programs offer in-office sessions. Options available to meet via telehealth, at home, or in other community locations vary by program.

Each program exhibits success in meeting “better off” outcomes. These successes include children and youth improving mental health well-being and symptoms, increasing coping skills and knowledge in addressing trauma reactions, improving or maintaining positive relationships, acceptance of others, improving mental health concerns, having no juvenile justice involvement following program completion, achievement of treatment goals, and receiving mental health care that they wouldn't have been able to access otherwise.

Attachments:

Board Presentation – Youth Mental Health Programs on 9-28-2026

Programmatic Impact:

Mental Health Programs support the following Trust goal:

Goal 1: All children and youth are healthy and have nurturing caregivers & relationships.

Fiscal Impact:

Budget Allocation – FY2027

Overall Total - \$405,859

Partners in Adolescent Lifestyle Support (PALS) – \$123,724

Reach Community Counseling – \$123,690

Reducing Trauma Therapy Program – \$158,444

Recommendation:

Receive the information.

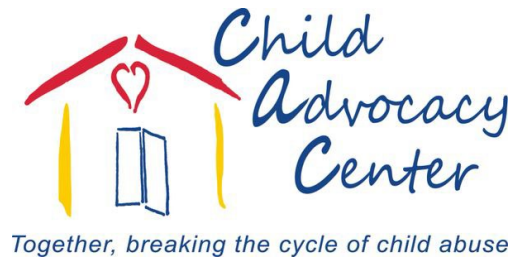
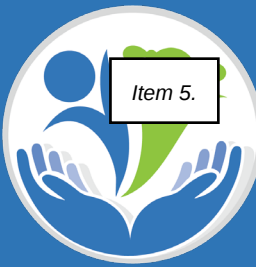


CHILDREN'S TRUST

OF ALACHUA COUNTY

Youth Mental Health Programs

Provider Agencies

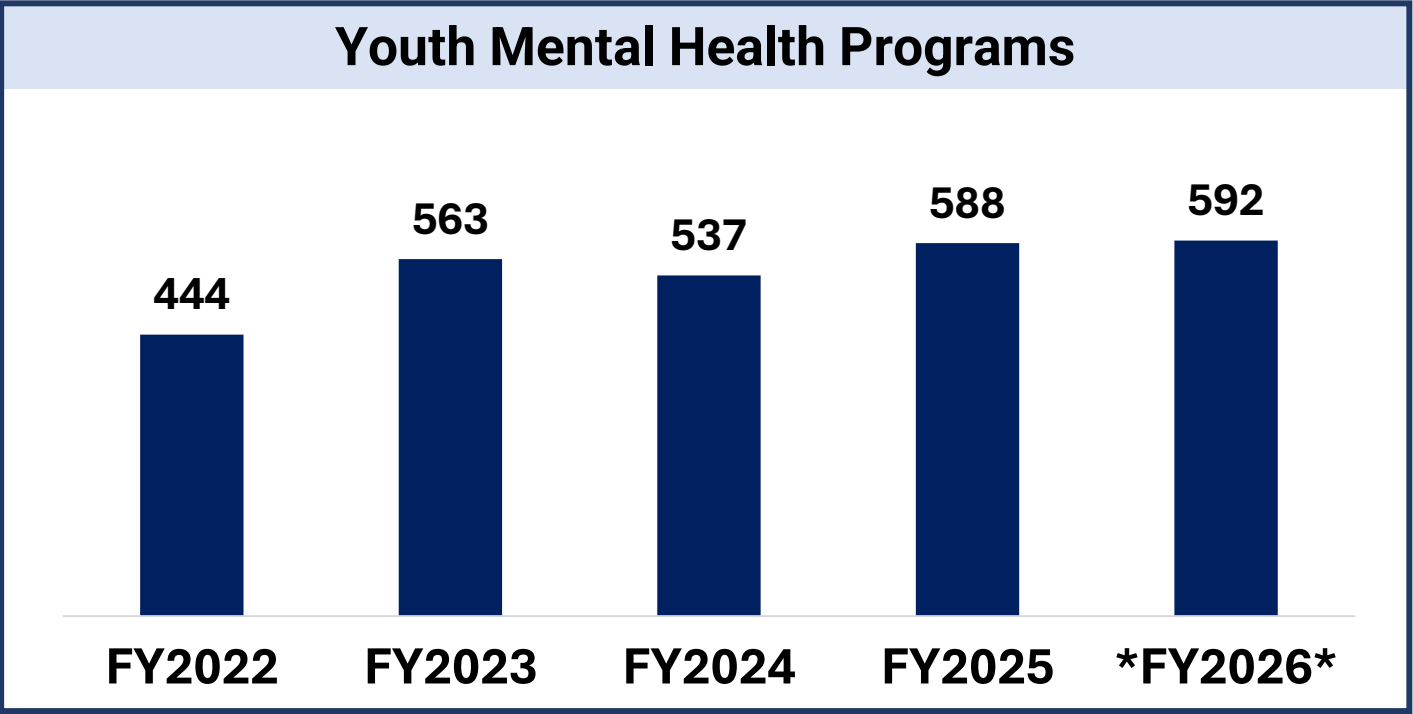
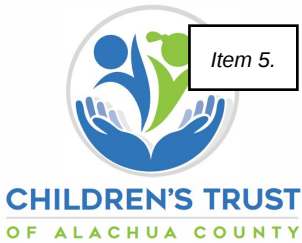


- **Child Advocacy Center – Reducing Trauma Therapy Program:** Serves children exposed to severe abuse and neglect and their non-offending family members. The program serves children ages 2.5 – 18 years old.
- **Pace Center for Girls – Reach Community Counseling:** Serves girls ages 11-17 exhibiting needs or risk factors in 3 or more life domains (school, family, mental health, behavior and victimization) through community-based counseling.
- **UF Health – Partners in Adolescent Lifestyle Support (PALS):** Provides services to adolescents 11-18 years old in Alachua County schools and UF Health Psychiatric Hospital. PALS also offers mental health education and suicide prevention workshops.

Children Served



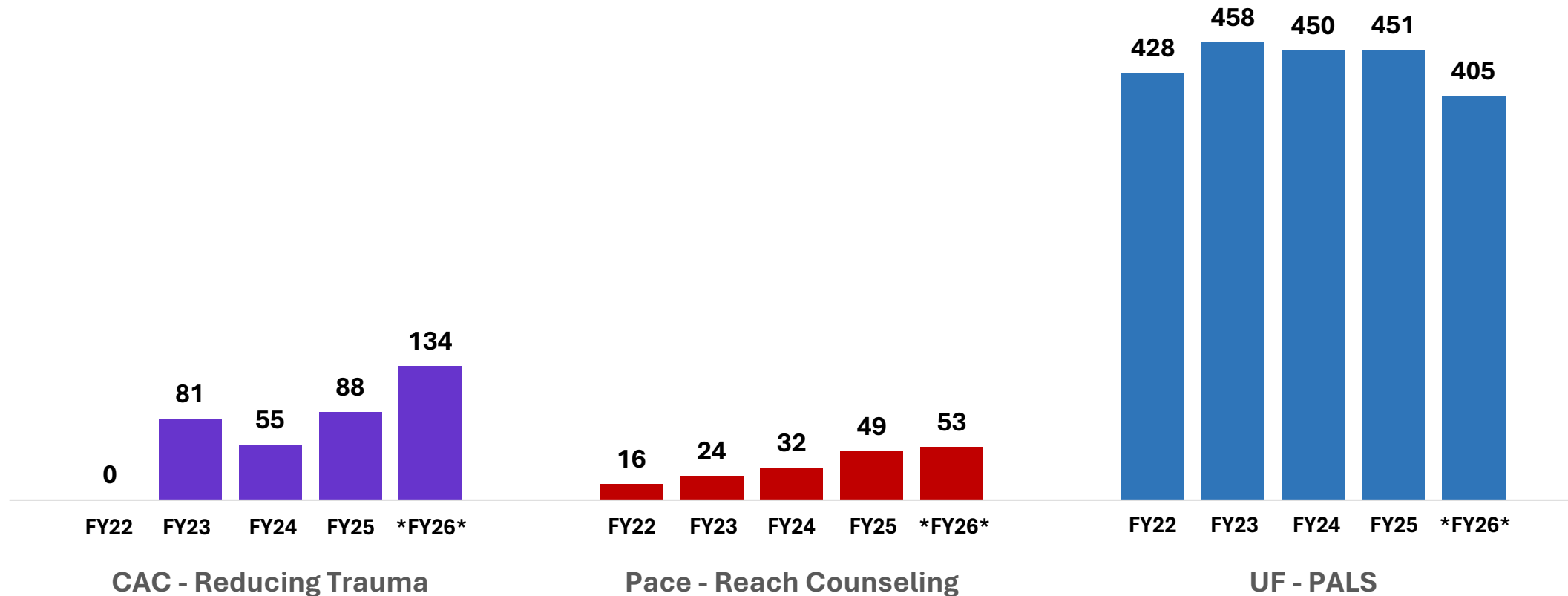
Children served with funding from Children’s Trust of Alachua County:



- FY2026 represents year-to-date numbers through August 2026.
- Child Advocacy Center - Reducing Trauma Therapy Program was added in FY2023.

Children served by Agency

All programs have exceeded their goal for children served in FY2026.



- FY2026 represents year-to-date numbers through August 2026.
- Child Advocacy Center - Reducing Trauma Therapy Program was added in FY2023.

FY2026 – Youth Mental Health Services



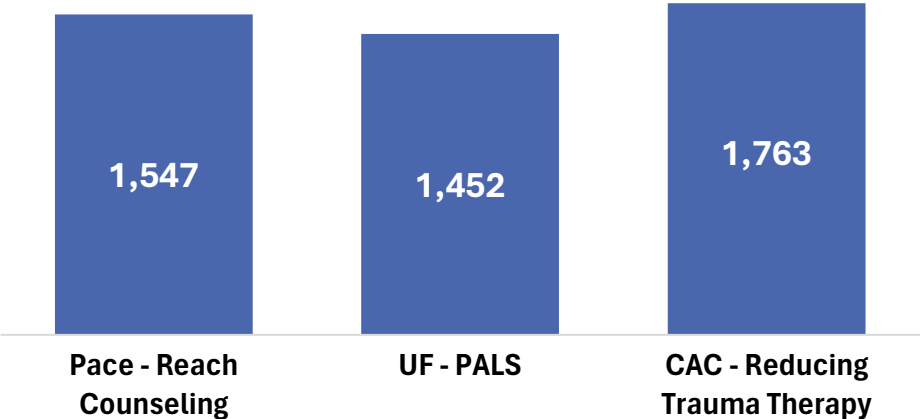
Individual Therapy: 4,762

Family Therapy: 191

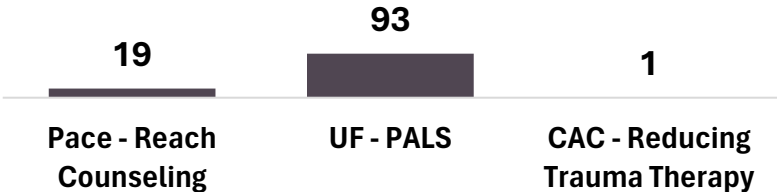
Group Sessions: 113

* Year-to-Date through August 2026 *

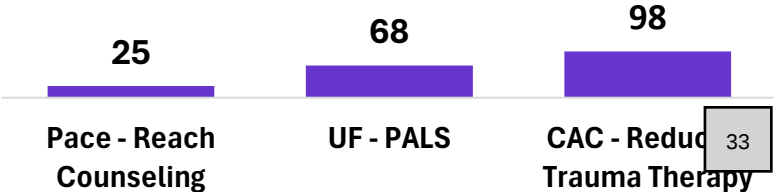
Individual Sessions



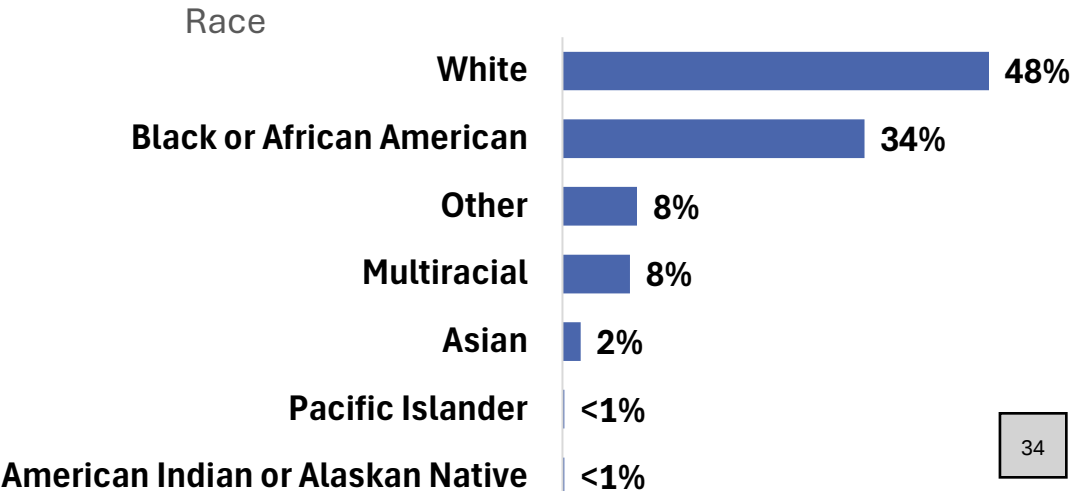
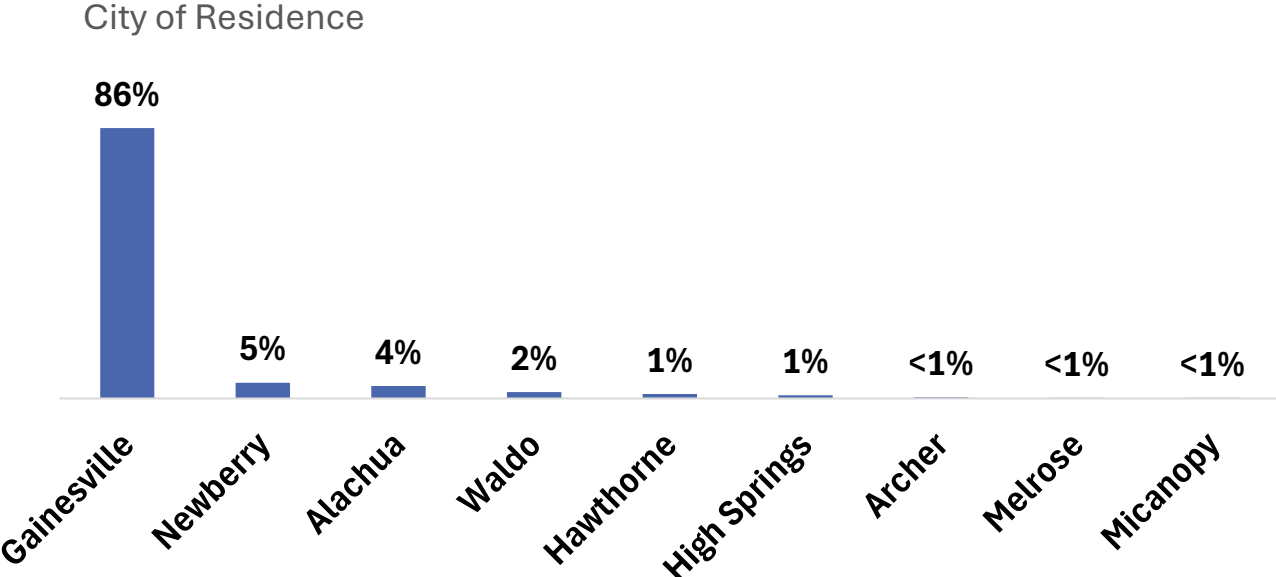
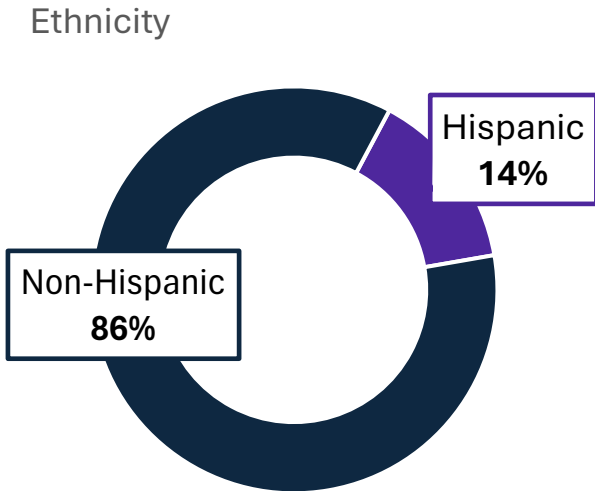
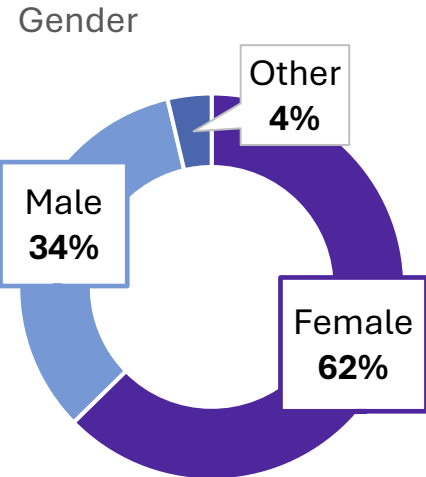
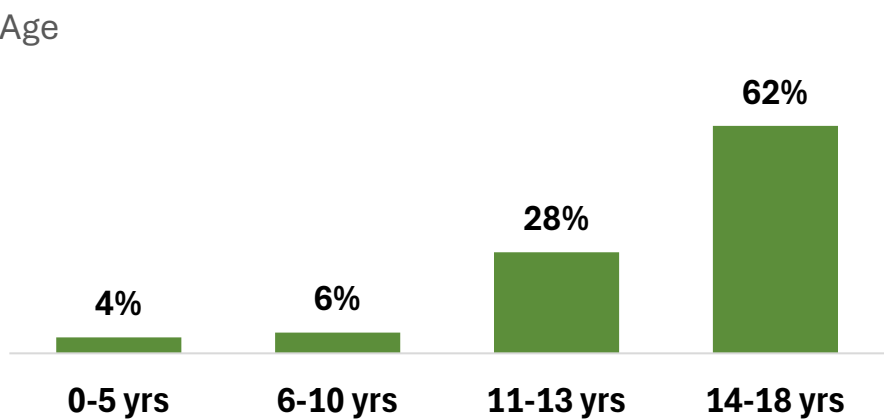
Group Sessions



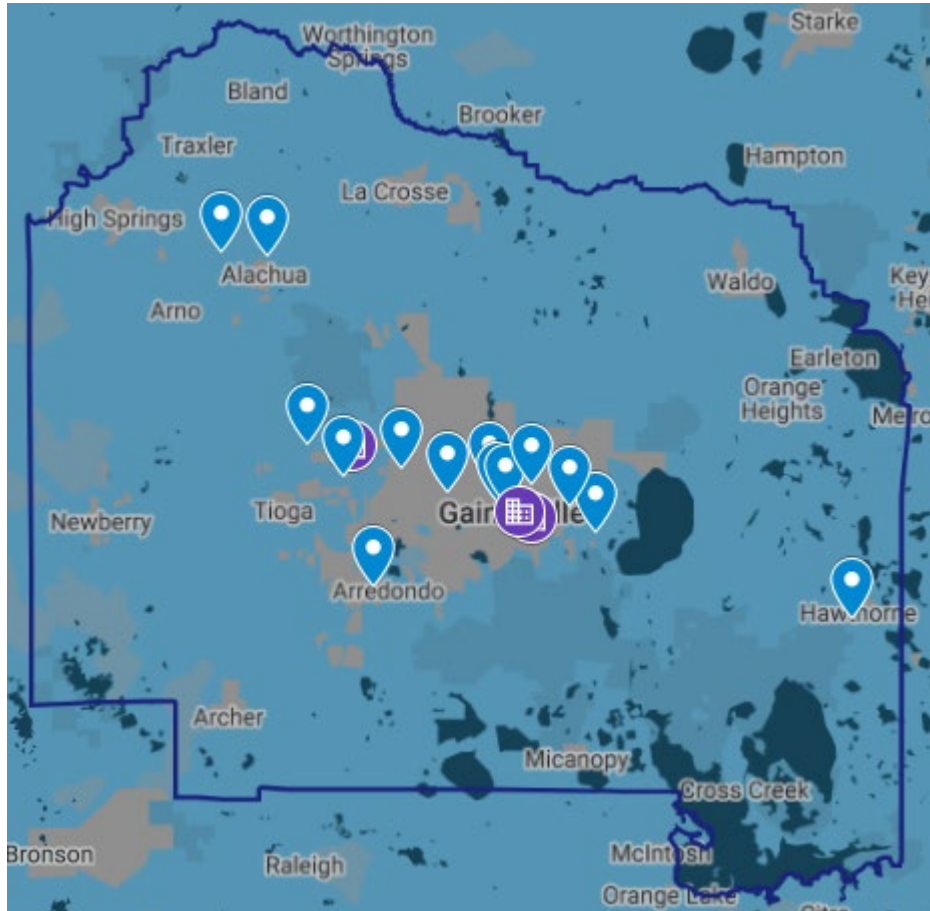
Family Sessions



FY2025 – Demographics of Children Served



Services are Provided throughout Alachua County



- 🏠 A. Quinn Jones
- 🏠 Buchholz High
- 🏠 Eastside High
- 🏠 Fort Clarke Middle
- 🏠 Gainesville High
- 🏠 Hawthorne Middle-High
- 🏠 Howard Bishop Middle
- 🏠 Kanapaha Middle
- 🏠 Lincoln Middle
- 🏠 Mebane Middle
- 🏠 PAM @ Loftan High
- 🏠 Project YouthBuild
- 🏠 Saint Francis Catholic Academy
- 🏠 Santa Fe High
- 🏠 Westwood Middle
- 🏢 **Child Advocacy Center**
- 🏢 **Pace Center for Girls**
- 🏢 **UF Shands Psychiatric Hospital**
- 💻 Telehealth
- Home, Libraries, and Other Community Locations



FY2027

Performance Measures:

How Much?

Children Served

Agency	Measure	Target	Total
Child Advocacy Center	Children Receiving Therapy	120	405
Pace Center for Girls	Girls Receiving Therapy	35	
UF Health Shands	Adolescents Receiving Therapy	250	

Service Provision

Agency	Measure	Target	Total
Child Advocacy Center	Therapy Sessions	1,500	3,650
Pace Center for Girls	Individual Therapy Sessions	900	
UF Health Shands	Individual Therapy Sessions	1,250	

Family & Peer Engagement

Agency	Measure	Target
Child Advocacy Center	Parents participating in Therapy	80
Pace Center for Girls	Family Engagement Sessions	4
UF Health Shands	Psychoeducation Workshops	100

FY2027

Performance Measures: How Well?

Engagement in Services

Agency	Measure	Target
Pace Center for Girls	Girls are enrolled 3+ months	80%
Pace Center for Girls	Girls receive 10+ therapy sessions	80%
Pace Center for Girls	Girls successfully complete the program	80%
UF Health Shands	Adolescents receive 2+ individual sessions	80%

Accessible, Specialized, & Staff Support

Agency	Measure	Target
Child Advocacy Center	Prompt referral response	90%
Child Advocacy Center	Children have a specialized treatment plan	85%
UF Health Shands	Allowed for access to mental health services	75%
UF Health Shands	Staff receive weekly clinical supervision	90%

Satisfaction with Services

Agency	Measure	Target
Child Advocacy Center	Child/Caregiver satisfaction with services	90%
Child Advocacy Center	Services helped children feel safe	85%
UF Health Shands	Adolescent satisfaction with workshops	75%

FY2027

Performance Measures:

Better Off?

Increase Coping Skills

Agency	Measure	Target
Child Advocacy Center	Skills & knowledge in addressing trauma reactions	80%
Pace Center for Girls	Improvement/flourishing in meaning and purpose	70%
UF Health Shands	Adolescents increase coping skills	75%

Improve Mental Health

Agency	Measure	Target
Child Advocacy Center	Children experience decreased symptoms	80%
Pace Center for Girls	Girls experience improved mental health	75%
UF Health Shands	Adolescents report improved mental health	75%

Improve Relationships

Agency	Measure	Target
Pace Center for Girls	Improvement/flourishing in social relationships	75%
UF Health Shands	Adolescents improve family and peer relationships	75%

Achieve Treatment | Program Goals

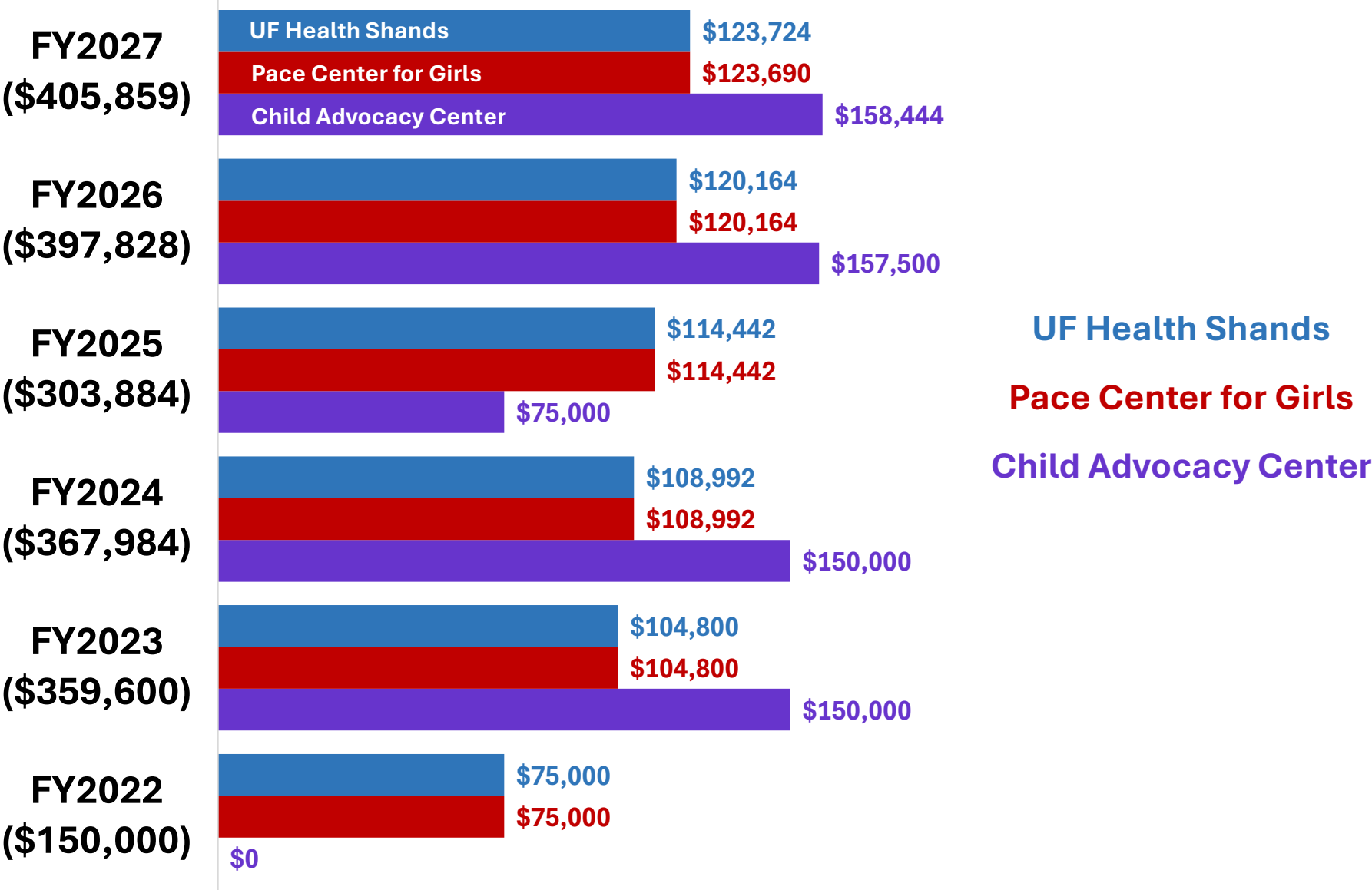
Agency	Measure	Target
Child Advocacy Center	Children achieve treatment goals	75%
Pace Center for Girls	No involvement with juvenile justice	90%
UF Health Shands	Adolescents report improvement due to services	90%

Program Funding Allocations by Fiscal Year

Children’s Trust funding investment in programs that support youth mental health.



Funding Allocation



Requested Board Action

Youth Mental Health Services | Proposed Convening



Convene the major youth mental health providers and identify how CTAC can improve distribution of services and allot/distribute throughout the county.

Summary of System Strengths and Service Gaps



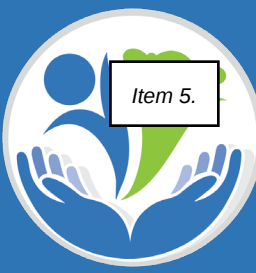
SYSTEM STRENGTHS

- Multiple access points, including school based, home, community, and program-based services.
- Services are available without insurance approval or billing barriers at PALS, PACE/REACH, and CAC.
- Specialized care addresses trauma, grief, abuse, and violence, along with broader behavioral health needs.
- Flexible service models include individual and group therapy, prevention, and extended engagement.
- Providers maintain referral and collaboration relationships to connect youth with higher levels of care when needed.

SYSTEM GAPS / OPPORTUNITIES

- Conflicting input regarding if the demand meets the total need in schools. Duplication in some schools.
- Insurance coverage information is not consistently collected, limiting system level understanding of coverage and unmet need.
- Services are not billed to private insurance or Medicaid, limiting opportunities to leverage other funding sources for care.
- Provider capacity to establish mechanism to bill private or Medicaid.
- Waitlist for high-demand services for children experiencing abuse and violence

Recommendations



1.
Maintain mental health funding during FY26-27, to sunset at the end of the fiscal year.

2.
Collaborate with funded mental health providers to convene a countywide discussion on youth mental health services.

3.
Include a mental health Scope of Work (SOW) in the FY27-28 Youth Health RFP.



CHILDREN'S TRUST

OF ALACHUA COUNTY

Thank you!