



CHILDREN'S TRUST
OF ALACHUA COUNTY

BOARD WORKSHOP ON SUMMER CAMP AND FREEDOM SCHOOL RFP DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

January 22, 2025 at 1:30 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.

Board Member Roundtable

1. [Summer Camp and Freedom School RFP: To expand access to summer camps offering Alachua County children and youth a summer filled with fun and exposure. Additionally, the CTAC seeks to fund two additional freedom school locations, expanding freedom school access and establishing sites in Hawthorne and Newberry.](#)

General Public Comments

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. Summer Camp and Freedom School RFP: To expand access to summer camps offering Alachua County children and youth a summer filled with fun and exposure. Additionally, the CTAC seeks to fund two additional freedom school locations, expanding freedom school access and establishing sites in Hawthorne and Newberry.



Item:

Summer Camp and Freedom School RFP: To expand access to summer camps offering Alachua County children and youth a summer filled with fun and exposure. Additionally, the CTAC seeks to fund two additional freedom school locations, expanding freedom school access and establishing sites in Hawthorne and Newberry.

Requested Action:

Receive the Information

Background:

The Children's Trust of Alachua County intends to release the Summer Camp and Freedom School RFP on February 13, 2025. This meeting is to discuss the components of the RFP with the Board and review staff recommendations.

Attachments:

- Summer Camp and Freedom School PowerPoint
- Solicitation Timeline
- Evaluation Criteria – Summer Camps Only
- Evaluation Criteria – Freedom School Only
- Summer Camp 2025 Board Member Feedback PowerPoint

Programmatic Impact:

Goal 2: Children & youth learn what they need to be successful

Fiscal Impact:

- Summer Camps - \$1,840,000
- Freedom School Expansion - \$160,000
- Total Allocation - \$2,000,000

Recommendation:

Receive the information



CHILDREN'S TRUST

OF ALACHUA COUNTY

Summer Camp & Freedom School RFP Development



Recap

- Goal 2: Children and youth learn what they need to be successful
- Allocation: \$2,000,000
 - Summer Camp - \$1,840,000
 - Freedom School - \$160,000
- Provider and family feedback
- CTAC staff planning sessions
- Board workshop





EVENT	DATE / DUE DATE
Release of the competitive solicitation and begin the Cone of Silence	February 13, 2025
Bidders' Conference and Application Training (attendance is highly recommended) Virtual: Insert registration link 9am: 6pm:	February 19, 2024 9 AM to 11:00 AM – Bidders' Conference & Application Training February 19, 2024 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM – Bidders' Conference & Application Training
Office hours for technical support One-on-one appointments can be scheduled during this time to answer any technical questions regarding the application materials. Send email to Procurement@childrenstrustofalachuacounty.us to schedule an appointment	February 24th-28 th 9:00AM-3:00PM
Last day to submit written questions	March 5, 2025, 3:00PM
Final response to all written questions posted	March 7, 2025
Application submission deadline	March 13, 2025, 3:00 PM
Public Opening of bids (Public Meeting) Virtual: Insert registration link	March 13, 2025, 4:00 PM
Application review period	March 17, 2025 – March 25, 2025
Review team – final score deliberation (Public Meeting) Virtual:	March 27, 2025
Funding recommendations released – (Trust Board Meeting Packet)	March 31, 2025
The Children's Trust of Alachua County Board Meeting Review funding recommendations Location: 4010 NW 25 th Place	April 7, 2025, 4:00PM
End cone of silence; Appeal process begins	April 7, 2025, 4pm at the beginning of the board meeting
Contract negotiations begin	April 14, 2025
Contract Term begin	May 1, 2025
Summer Camp Kick Off Training for SAMIS Onboarding and Delivery (Required)	TBD
Summer Camp Kick Off Training for Fiscal (Required)	TBD
Provider Professional Development Training (Required)	TBD

Timeline

Family Feedback

What Families Like Best



- **Activities**
- **Field Trips**
- **Staff**
- **Friendships**

"I love how camp was fun and educational. The campers learned basic life skills which is extremely important."

"I loved the fact that my granddaughter was in, both, a fun and learning environment. The Summer Slide is real, and the school provided lessons in all areas of learning, to help her remain strong through the summer. What a blessing to have breakfast and lunch provided daily. The program brought comfort in knowing that summer would be filled with positive and youthful activities."



Family Feedback

What Families Like Least



- **Program Length (too short)**

"Wanted more weeks."

- **Waking Up Early**

"It didn't last longer."

- **Staffing**

"Short hours."

- **Activities**

"I wish it could have ran for the entire summer"

- **Food**

"They wanted it to last the whole summer like some of the other camps."

- **Florida Heat**

"Too short of a day. They wanted to stay longer or come in earlier."

"My children wanted the camp to have more weeks."

"The camp hours were not long enough."

"Not long enough."

"Too short."

Provider Feedback



Challenges				
Staffing	Staff training	Fiscal	Enrollment	Transportation
Need more staff	Staff need more, better training	long wait time for reimbursement	Students enrolling in camp, accepting scholarship, and not coming; difficult to fill spots later in the summer	Not able to go on as many field trips due to transportation challenges
Need more administrative staff, especially to handle CTAC scholarship eligibility and reporting. Would be helpful if CTAC handled scholarship eligibility	Need more staff training in child development and managing youth behavior, working with youth with special needs, safety and emergency procedures, staff leadership and other professional skill building, staff performance and conduct	Lack of clarity and consistency in fiscal procedures		
Difficulty hiring, retaining staff (staff take vacations, teachers go back to school in early August)	Challenging to find time for staff training during summer; more pre-summer training would be helpful	Would like more flexibility in using scholarship funds		
Opportunities				
Interest in adding more academic programming	Would like to go on more field trips	Would like to add more family engagement opportunities	Provider offering dance for special needs children, but summer program fewer than 8 hours/day (best practice for target population)	Provider would like more guidance using data tools
Academic tutoring provider would like to offer programming within full time summer camps				



Minimum Qualifications to Bid

- All proposed services must take place within Alachua County.
- Applicant must be currently qualified to conduct business in the State of Florida.
- Applicant must not be a charter school approved by any public-school system in the State of Florida.
- Applicant must have experience managing an in person out-of-school-time (OST) program, such as after school or summer camp.
- Philanthropy Hub verification for nonprofits
- 501©3 and not for profits must provide a letter of support from Board of Directors.
- For profits, LLCs, and government organizations must provide a reference letter from a community partner and a letter support from executive leadership.



Summer Camp

Summer camps

- Fun and exposure
- Adventure and learning
- Develop new skills
- Lasting friendships





Target Population & Service Location

- Children and youth residing in Alachua County
- From different socioeconomic backgrounds, up to 300% of the FPL

Persons in Household	48 Contiguous States and D.C. Poverty Guidelines (Annual)						
	100%	133%	138%	150%	200%	300%	400%
1	\$15,060	\$20,030	\$20,783	\$22,590	\$30,120	\$45,180	\$60,240
2	\$20,440	\$27,185	\$28,207	\$30,660	\$40,880	\$61,320	\$81,760
3	\$25,820	\$34,341	\$35,632	\$38,730	\$51,640	\$77,460	\$103,280
4	\$31,200	\$41,496	\$43,056	\$46,800	\$62,400	\$93,600	\$124,800
5	\$36,580	\$48,651	\$50,480	\$54,870	\$73,160	\$109,740	\$146,320
6	\$41,960	\$55,807	\$57,905	\$62,940	\$83,920	\$125,880	\$167,840
7	\$47,340	\$62,962	\$65,329	\$71,010	\$94,680	\$142,020	\$189,360
8	\$52,720	\$70,118	\$72,754	\$79,080	\$105,440	\$158,160	\$210,880

For Reference: Poverty Thresholds for 2024 by Family Size



Target Population & Service Location

- Children in foster care
- Children in voluntary and formal kinship care
- Children under in-home case management supervision
- Children from families receiving SNAP benefits
- Eligible sites across the Alachua County.
 - Schools
 - City and county parks and facilities
 - Community organizations
 - Community centers
 - Faith-based locations





Target Population & Service Location

Proposed camps in one or more of the rural communities marked with an asterisk will receive bonus points during the application review process.

Alachua

Hawthorne*

La Crosse

Newberry

Archer*

High Springs

Micanopy

Waldo*



Scheduling Frequency, and Duration

- Camps should operate five days a week with the exception of holidays and unforeseen closures due to weather, etc.
- Camps should operate for a minimum of eight hours per day
- Camps have the flexibility to propose the number of weeks their camp will operate. All providers proposing a minimum of 8 weeks will receive bonus points during application review.



Program Activities Framework

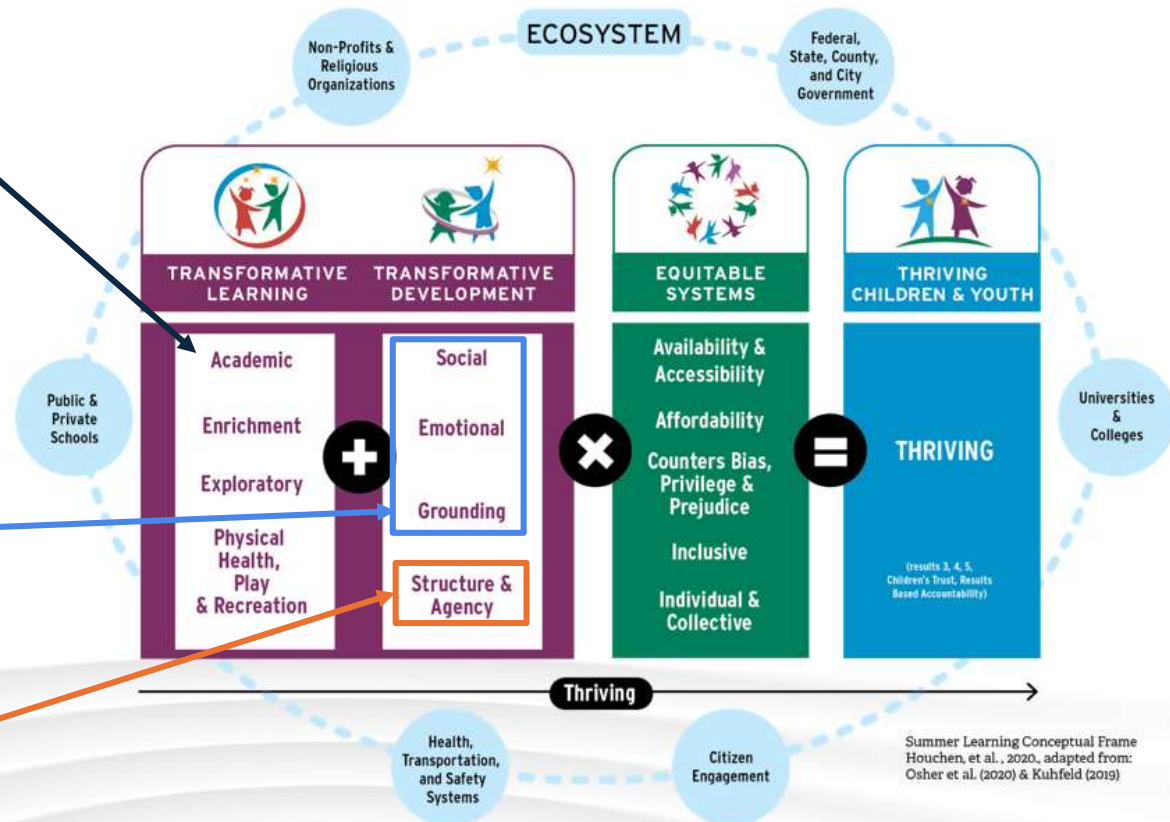
FRAMING SUMMER OPPORTUNITY

SUMMER LEARNING CONCEPTUAL FRAME Opportunity for Lifelong Impact

- Program Activities:**
- Academic
 - Literacy
 - Enrichment
 - Exploratory
 - Physical, health, play and recreation

Staff Training

Weekly Schedule



Summer Learning Conceptual Frame Houchen, et al., 2020., adapted from: Osher et al. (2020) & Kuhfeld (2019)





Program Activities

Instructions: Describe how your site will implement at least one of the activity types described in the RPF programming activities. Applicants are not required to implement more than one activity type and have great flexibility in offering programs that meet the needs and interests of children

3. Program Activities		
Activity Type	Frequency Offered	Description of Activities
Academic	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Offered <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly <input type="checkbox"/> Daily <input type="checkbox"/> Other	
Enrichment	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Offered <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly <input type="checkbox"/> Daily <input type="checkbox"/> Other	
Exploratory	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Offered <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly <input type="checkbox"/> Daily <input type="checkbox"/> Other	
Physical, Health, Play and Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Offered <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly <input type="checkbox"/> Daily <input type="checkbox"/> Other	



Weekly Schedule

Summer Camp Activity Schedule

Came Name: **Example Day Camp**

Date Range: June 2nd- 6th, 2024 |

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00-8:30	Sign in, breakfast, outdoor free play				
8:30-9:30	Literacy activity: READ aloud	Math activity	Literacy activity: READ aloud	Math activity	Field trip: Library
9:30-10:30	Outdoor group games: Amoeba tag	Art: drawing	Outdoor group games: Capture the flag	Music	
10:30-11:30	Art: painting	Outdoor group games: Birds have feathers	Music	Outdoor group games: Camp relay race	
11:30-12:30	Lunch				
12:30-1:30	Inquiry learning: work on long term project of choice	Dance	Inquiry learning: work on long term project of choice	Guest speaker	Inquiry learning: work on long term project of choice
1:30-2:30	Gardening	Book club	SEL Activity	Creative writing	Gardening
2:30-3:30	Sports games: Baseball	Sports games: basketball	Sports games: Baseball	Sports games: basketball	Sports games: baseball
3:30-4:00	Reflection, free play, pick up				



Staff Training

Why?

- Staff develop meaningful relationships with campers
- Staff intentionally build SEL skills in campers
- Staff skill building (leadership, communication, problem solving)
- Maintain mission, goal alignment among all staff
- Safety



Requirements:

- All camp directors attend CTAC training: “How to develop winning staff training program”
- Camp leaders train staff
 - Formal and informal training throughout summer
- Camp staff attend CTAC trainings
 - CPR/first aid
 - mandated reporting

Performance Measures



How Much?	Target
Children enrolled who attend at least one day	
Number of program days	
Number of staff training sessions	
How Well?	Target
Children attend for the number of days anticipated	75%
Parents were satisfied with camp communication	85%
Families were satisfied with the camp experience overall	90%
Staff felt training equipped them to succeed in their role	90%
Staff felt training equipped them with skills to maintain a safe environment and handle emergencies	95%
Better Off?	Target
Families were satisfied with the learning activities offered	90%
Families report their children enjoyed their camp experience	90%
Families felt their children were safe while at camp	90%



Data Requirements and Collection

Participant Characteristics

- Child Name
- Residence address, city, ZIP (note: must be within Alachua County)
- Child Date of Birth
- Grade (i.e., K-12)
- School Name
- Race
- Ethnicity
- Gender
- Language Spoken at Home
- English Proficiency
- Enrollment Criteria for Scholarship (i.e., below 300% FPL, in foster care, kinship care, under in-home case management, family receiving SNAP benefits)
- Number of days of expected attendance as reported by the parent/caregiver.
- **Special Education Status (yes or no)**

For each child enrolled, provider will enter into SAMIS: enrollment form, scholarship eligibility verification, consent form, image release form, and characteristics listed above.

Providers will also maintain a file on site for each camper with documentation listed above.

Staff Credentials

- Required training certificates
- DCF requirements:
 - Background check clearance
 - Affidavit of moral character

Staff credentials will be entered into SAMIS. New staff credentials to be entered weekly

Providers will also maintain a personnel file for each staff involved in the program, including in-kind staff and volunteers, with documentation listed above.



Data Reporting

Data Requirement	Data Collection
<p><u>Program Participation</u>: Providers are expected to collect and report the following on each child served individually:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daily summer camp attendance - Field trip attendance (if applicable) - Participation in family engagement events/activities 	<p>Provider will develop, collect, and maintain attendance forms to support the collection of data to be submitted to CTAC.</p> <p>Provider will submit participation data listed for each individual child through SAMIS. Attendance data and new participant demographics entered weekly.</p>
<p>Providers are expected to administer surveys provided by CTAC with all participating families and staff and encourage full participation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Family Satisfaction Survey</u> - <u>Staff Survey</u> 	<p>Providers may administer the survey to families and staff electronically, on paper, or using both methods.</p> <p>A link to each survey will be provided by CTAC for electronic administration.</p>
<p>At the end of the summer, providers submit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>End of year reflection</u> 	<p>Reflection submitted in SAMIS.</p>



Family Engagement

Why?

When families are engaged in summer camp programming, student outcomes such as **behavior**, **attendance**, and **achievement** improve (Little, n.d.).



Requirement:
CTAC funded camp providers host at least one family engagement event during the summer.



Source:

Little, P. (n.d.). *Engaging families in afterschool and summer learning programs: A review of the research*. The Expanded Learning & Afterschool Project. Retrieved January 13th, 2024, from <https://www.expandinglearning.org/expandingminds/article/engaging-families-afterschool-and-summer-learning-programs-review-research>



Evaluation Criteria

Organizational Capacity and Description = 20 Points

Summer Camp Description and Implementation = 30 Points

Budget = 20 Points

Rural Areas = 5 Bonus Points

Camp Duration = 5 Bonus Points

Provider Video = 5 Points

Site Agreement Letter = 15 Points

Total possible Points = 100



Budgeting & Compensation

Traditional camp fee cap - \$300
per child/per week

Specialty camp fee cap - \$350
per child/per week

- Cultural Arts
- STEM Camps
- Camps serving children with disabilities



Submission Checklist

- Logo
- Activity Schedule (First week only)
- Training Agenda
- Site Profile
- Budget Worksheet
- Provider Video
- Active Sunbiz Certification





Freedom School

Freedom School

- Two additional sites
- Rural Communities of Hawthorne and Newberry
- Freedom school integrated reading curriculum
- Addressing summer learning loss



AKWAABA
FREEDOM SCHOOL



Target Population & Service Location

- Alachua County, raising kindergarteners through raising 12th graders
- Receiving free and reduced lunch.
- Site will have the flexibility to select one the following enrollment options:
 - Option 1-30 scholars of the following grade levels: Level 1 (K-2), Level 2 (3-5), Level 3 (6-8), Level 4 (9-12)
 - Option 2- 40 scholars of the following grade levels: Level 1 (K-2), Level 2 (3-5), Level 3 (6-8), Level 4 (9-12)
- Eligible sites must be in Newberry or Hawthorne
 - Schools
 - City and county parks and facilities
 - Community organizations
 - Community centers
 - Faith-based locations



Scheduling, Frequency and Duration

- Site must offer six weeks of programming from June to August
- Site must operate for a minimum of eight hours per day
- Site must operate five days a week with the exception of holidays and unforeseen closures due to weather, etc.



Program Activities

- Integrated Reading Curriculum (3 hours/day)
- Daily debrief sessions
- Weekly field trips
- Weekly parent meetings/workshops (to be combined with main site)
- Afternoon Enrichment Activities (e.g., music, dance, sports, arts, STEM, etc.)
- Daily Morning Reading (each site should secure volunteer readers)
- Weekly programming at the intersection of arts, culture, entrepreneurship, education, and wellness
- National Day of Social Action
- Finale showcase(Year-end)





Staffing & Staff Training

Freedom School Sites Staff

- Site Coordinator
- 3 to 4 Servant Leader Interns
- 1 Assistant Servant Leader Intern





Staffing & Staff Training

- Background screening – DCF Clearing House
- Ratio 1:10 staff/youth
- Infant and Child CPR/First Aid - one staff member on-site and during field trips with a current and valid certification
- CDF National Freedom School Training in Knoxville, TN.
- Local Freedom School Training
- .Freedom School kick off Training

Performance Measures: Freedom Schools



How Much?	Target
Scholars enrolled who attend at least one day	
Number of program days	
Number of parents who participate in one or more family engagement activity	
Number of volunteers assisting with camp programming	
How Well?	Target
Scholar Attendance (the average number of days attended relative to the number of program days for all scholars enrolled)	85%
Parent/Caregiver Involvement (the percentage of scholars enrolled who had one or more parent/caregiver attend a weekly family engagement activity)	50%
Parents were satisfied with Camp Communication	85%
Families were satisfied with the Overall Camp Experience	90%
Better Off?	Target
Scholars Improve or Maintain Reading Scores	80%
Scholars Gain Confidence	90%
Families were satisfied with Learning Activities Offered	90%
Families felt their Children were Safe while at Camp	90%

Data Requirements and Collection: Freedom Schools



Item 1.

Participant Characteristics	Staff Credentials
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Child Name - Residence address, city, ZIP (note: must reside in city where camp is located) - Child Date of Birth - Grade (i.e., K-12) - School Name - Race - Ethnicity - Gender - Language Spoken at Home - English Proficiency - Economic need (60% of camp participants must demonstrate economic need) - Number of days of expected attendance as reported by the parent/caregiver. - Special Education Status (yes or no) <p><i>For each child enrolled, provider will enter into SAMIS: enrollment form, consent form, image release form, and characteristics listed above.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Required training certificates - DCF requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Background check clearance - Affidavit of moral character <p><i>Staff credentials will be entered into SAMIS. New staff credentials to be entered weekly</i></p> <p><i>Providers will also maintain a personnel file for each staff involved in the program, including in-kind staff and volunteers, with documentation listed above.</i></p>



Data Reporting: Freedom Schools

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<p>Providers are expected to administer surveys provided by CTAC with all participating families and staff and encourage full participation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Family Satisfaction Survey (CTAC)</u> - <u>CDF Freedom Schools Parent Survey</u> - <u>Basic Reading Inventory</u>: <i>Providers are expected to conduct a pre & post assessment with enrolled scholars.</i> 	<p>Providers may administer the survey to families electronically, on paper, or using both methods.</p> <p>Providers will enter in survey results via SAMIS if not completed by participants and linked into the system directly.</p>
<p>At the end of the summer, providers submit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>End of year reflection</u> 	<p>Reflection submitted in SAMIS.</p>



Evaluation Criteria

Organizational Capacity and Description = 25 Points

Program Description and Implementation = 35 Points

Budget = 25 Points

Provider Video = 5 Points

Site Agreement Letter = 10 Points

Total possible Points = 100



Budgeting & Compensation

- The CTAC has allocated up to \$160,000 for the Akaawba Freedom School expansion

\$60,000-Option 1-30 scholars

\$80,000-Option 2- 40 scholars



Submission Checklist

- Logo
- Budget Worksheet
- Provider Video
- Active Sunbiz Certification



D. Solicitation Timeline – Summer Camp and Freedom School RFP

Item 1.

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Provider Professional Development Training (Required)	TBD

E. Evaluation Criteria

Each application will be evaluated against the following set of criteria.

Item 1.

Evaluation Criteria	Review Guidelines	Points Awarded
Organizational Capacity and Description	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide a detailed description of your organization, including mission, services it provides, history of working on behalf of children, and organizational governance within Alachua County. 2. Provide a brief description of how summer camp programming is consistent with your organization's mission and vision. 3. Describe your experience working with children and youth in an out-of-school time environment. 4. Describe your organization's ability to hire and train qualified staff and comply with the background screening requirement. 5. Describe how your organization supports an environment of safety for children and youth, staff, and parents. 	20
Summer Camp Description and Implementation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide an executive summary of the program and services offered by this camp. Note: This summary will be used in reports and promotional materials developed by CTAC 2. Provide a list of specific program goals for your proposed camp. 3. Describe the community need for the location where you intend to offer summer camp programming. 4. How many summer camp sites are you proposing? Describe your capacity to manage each site. 5. Describe the target population you intend to offer services. Please include the grades you intend to work with. 6. Describe how you will recruit children and youth for your program. 7. Provide the overall number of children served for your program for the last year (if any), expected # without any CTAC funding and additional # of children expected if CTAC funded. 8. What is your camp's adult to student ratio? (i.e. 1:20) Note: Applicants shall not propose a ratio greater than 1:20. 	30

	<p>9. Describe your staff training program. When, how, and how often do you provide staff training and other informal learning opportunities? What competencies are covered in pre-camp training and during the summer?</p> <p>10. Attachment a training agenda you use/plan to use. Note: Agendas should include the activities facilitated, description of activities, time allotted for each activity, leader of activities, and projected outcomes of each training session.</p> <p>11. Complete and attach a summer camp activity schedule for the first week of your camp. Note: See example activity schedule.</p> <p>12. Complete and attach a site profile for all proposed camp sites.</p>	Item 1.
Budget	<p>1. Describe your camp costs including the weekly fees, enrollment fees, transportation costs, material, and field trips.</p> <p>2. Does your organization have a fiscal team? If so, describe their roles and responsibilities and how they will support your organization with your summer camp invoices?</p> <p>3. Describe how your organization determined your camp costs. Note: Complete the budget worksheet to support proposed camp costs.</p> <p>4. What do you currently charge private pay families to attend your camp? Include costs for enrollment and weekly fees. Note: Explain any differences in proposed costs to the Children’s Trust.</p> <p>5. What percentage of your budget is dependent on the funds you have requested from the Trust?</p> <p>6. If the Trust only funds your proposal at 50% percent of your request, will your organization still offer a summer camp? If yes, please describe if services will be different when compared to a fully funded proposal. If not, please explain why.</p> <p>7. What is the total amount of funding you are requesting from the Children’s Trust?</p>	20
Rural Areas Bonus Points	Five points will be awarded if the completed site profile indicates services in Archer, Hawthorne, or Waldo.	5
Duration of the Camp	Five points will be awarded if the completed site profile indicates the proposed camp services are for a minimum of 8 weeks.	5
Provider Video	<p>1. Complete a 3–5 minute video about your organization and your proposed summer camp. The video must include the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Name of organization and summary of services offered 	5

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Number of years organization has offered services in Alachua County ❑ The impact you believe your program will have on the lives of children ❑ Why it is important for the Children’s Trust to fund your proposed program 	Item 1.
Site Agreement Letter	The applicant must submit a site agreement letter from the facility owners confirming permission for access throughout the duration of the camp.	15
		Max points =100

Application Score	
80 - 100	Organizations with the highest scores will be recommended for funding, contingent upon available funding.
70-79.9	
69.9 and below	Not recommended for funding

Evaluation Criteria	Review Guidelines	Points Awarded
Organizational Information Description	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide a detailed description of your organization below, including: (1) mission, (2) services it provides, (3) history of working on behalf of children, and (4) organizational governance, within Alachua County. 2. Describe your experience working with children and youth in an out-of-school environment. Tell us about any related programming you currently offer. 3. Describe your organization's ability to hire and train qualified staff and comply with the background screening requirement. 4. Describe how your organization supports an environment of safety and inclusiveness for children and youth, staff, and parents/caregivers. 	25
Program Description and Implementation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe how your organization will facilitate the implementation of an Akwaaba Freedom School Site. 2. Select the rural area (Hawthorne or Newberry) will you implement your Freedom School site? 3. Describe how you will identify a site location within Newberry or Hawthorne. 4. How many scholars do you propose to serve? Note: Sites must choose option 1 for 30 scholars or option 2 for 40 scholars. 5. How many children do you estimate serving in each level. Note: Based on the selected option above, sites can choose to serve a maximum of 30 or 40 scholars within any level. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level I (grades K-2)? Level II (grades 3-5)? Level III (grades 6-8)? Level IV (grades 9-12)? 	35

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Describe how you will recruit participants(scholars). 7. Identify how you will recruit volunteers. 8. Describe your current community collaboration. Include how your community partners can be used to support the implementation of the Freedom School site. 	
Budget	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does your organization have a fiscal team? If so, describe their roles and responsibilities and how they will support your organization with your invoices. 2. Complete and upload budget worksheet aligned with planned option. 	25
Provider Video	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete a 3–5-minute video about your organization. The video must include the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name of organization and summary of services offered. • Number of years your organization has offered services in Alachua County. • Why is your organization well suited to implement a Freedom School site? 	5
Site Agreement Letter	<p>The applicant must submit a site agreement letter from the facility owners confirming permission for access throughout the duration of Freedom School programming.</p>	10
		Max points =100

Applicants with the two highest scores will be recommended for funding



CHILDREN'S TRUST

OF ALACHUA COUNTY

Summer Camp 2025

Board Member Feedback

Summer Camp Funding for 2025



During the September 23, 2024 Board Meeting, Trust staff provided evaluation results from summer 2024 including a summary of input received from family satisfaction surveys (n=419).

Board members were provided with a survey to gain their feedback on possible revisions and ways make improvements for summer 2025. A compilation of these results are presented in the slides that follow.

Scholarship Types



Should we continue to offer both full and partial scholarships?

Yes

Andrew

Certain

Chance

Cornell

Ferrero

Hardt

Labarta

Pinkoson

Twombly

No

All Board members are in favor of continuing to offer full and partial scholarships.

Full Scholarship Criteria



What criteria should qualify a child for a full scholarship?

Criteria used in summer 2024 are listed below. There was the space provided to make additional suggestions.

Family Income less than 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines

(Issued annually by the Dept. of Health and Human Services these guidelines are used to determine eligibility for programs)

Family receives SNAP benefits

([Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program \(SNAP\)](#) is a USDA food assistance program for low-income individuals)

Children in foster care, formal kinship, and under case management supervision

Children with IEP/504 plans and less than 400% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

(Individualized Education Plan (IEP) is a written document developed for a child who is eligible for special education. A 504 plan is a school plan for students with disabilities.

Full Scholarship Criteria



What criteria should qualify a child for a full scholarship?

Checked

Not Checked

Family Income
<200% Federal
Poverty Guidelines

Andrew Certain Chance Cornell Ferrero Hardt Labarta Pinkoson Twombly

Family receives
SNAP benefits

Andrew Certain Chance Cornell Ferrero Hardt Labarta Pinkoson Twombly

Children in foster
care, formal
kinship, and under
case management
supervision

Andrew Certain Chance Cornell Ferrero Hardt Labarta Pinkoson Twombly

All Board members endorsed retaining the above listed criteria.

Full Scholarship Criteria



What criteria should qualify a child for a full scholarship?

Checked

Not Checked

Children with IEP/504 plans and <400% FPL

Andrew

Certain

Chance

Cornell

Ferrero

Hardt

Labarta

Pinkoson

Twombly

Children with special needs like autism, downs syndrome with income <400%. An IEP/504 for accommodations for extra time or gifted services is too wide open.

Full Scholarship Eligibility suggestions:

- I think any child should be allowed to apply with priority going to children who meet the previous criteria. (Ferrero).
- Disability. (Hardt).
- Family Income <300% FPL. (Pinkoson).
- Children receiving Medicaid might also be a qualification as most are under the 200% poverty level even if th family has not applied for SNAP. (Twombly).



2024 Federal Poverty Guidelines

Persons in Family/Household	200%	400%
2	\$40,880	\$81,760
3	\$51,640	\$103,280
4	\$62,400	\$124,800
5	\$73,160	\$146,320
6	\$83,920	\$167,840
7	\$94,680	\$189,360
8	\$105,440	\$210,880

For families/households with more than 8 persons, add \$5,140 for each additional person.

Source: [HHS Poverty Guidelines for 2024](#)



2024 Federal Poverty Guidelines

Persons in Family/Household	200%	300%	400%
2	\$40,880	\$61,320	\$81,760
3	\$51,640	\$77,460	\$103,280
4	\$62,400	\$93,600	\$124,800
5	\$73,160	\$109,740	\$146,320
6	\$83,920	\$125,880	\$167,840
7	\$94,680	\$142,020	\$189,360
8	\$105,440	\$158,160	\$210,880

For families/households with more than 8 persons, add \$5,140 for each additional person.

Source: [HHS Poverty Guidelines for 2024](#)

Partial Scholarship Criteria



What criteria should qualify a child for a partial scholarship?

Criterion used in summer 2024 is listed below. There was the space provided to make additional suggestions.

Family Income between 200%-400% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines

(Issued annually by the Dept. of Health and Human Services these guidelines are used to determine eligibility for programs)



Partial Scholarship Criteria



Family Income
between 200%-
400% FPL

Andrew

Certain

Chance

Cornell

Ferrero

Hardt

Labarta

Pinkoson

Twombly

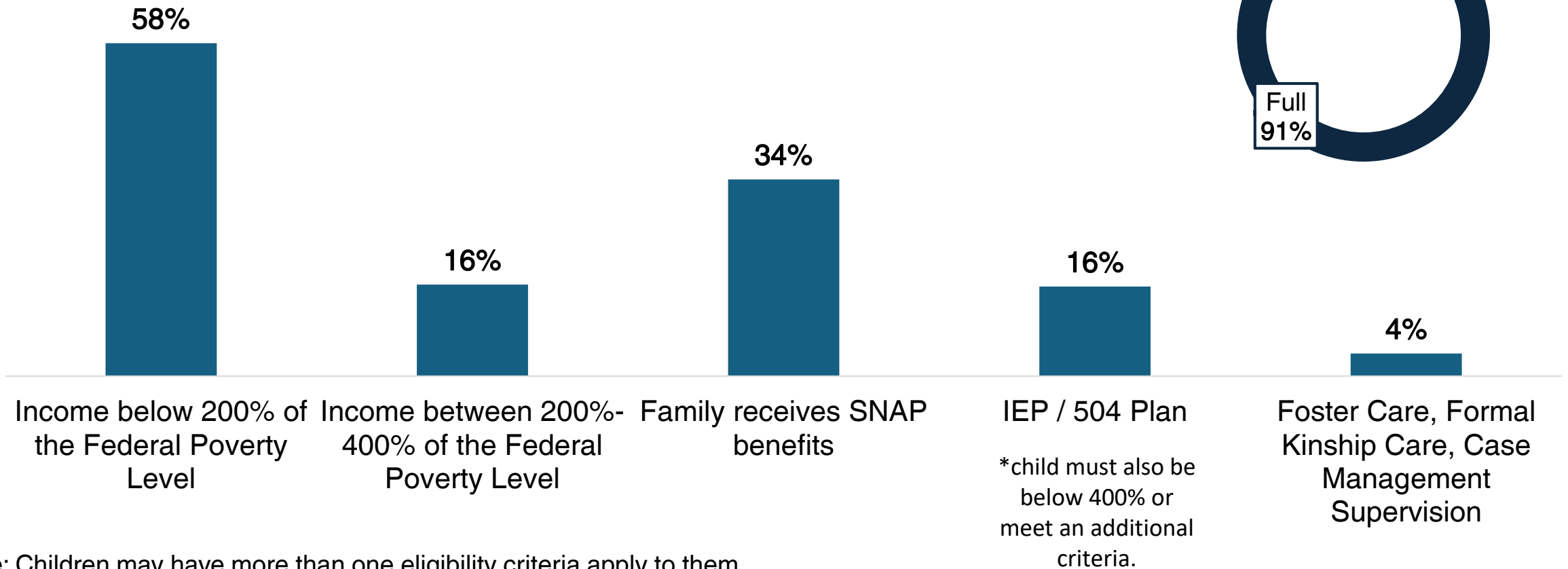
Partial Scholarship Eligibility suggestions:

- Referral from agency with documentation of hardship circumstances. (Chance).
- I think any child should be allowed to apply with priority going to children who meet the previous criteria regarding household income. I would love to see Foster children participate in the program. I think we might need to improve outreach. (Ferrero).
- Disability. (Hardt).
- Family Income <300% FPL. (Pinkoson).
- If a family is above the 200% poverty level, but has a child with involvement with DJJ, has a verified disability or guardianship over relative/non-relative child, it would be beneficial to offer the family even a partial scholarship to provide the child a positive out of school time program option. (Twombly).

Scholarship Eligibility



To be eligible for a scholarship families provide documentation to demonstrate economic or other needs.



Note: Children may have more than one eligibility criteria apply to them.

Scholarship Cost



Should we have a set weekly scholarship rate across providers?

Yes

No

Andrew

Chance

Cornell

Twombly

Not Sure

Certain

Ferrero

Hardt

Labarta

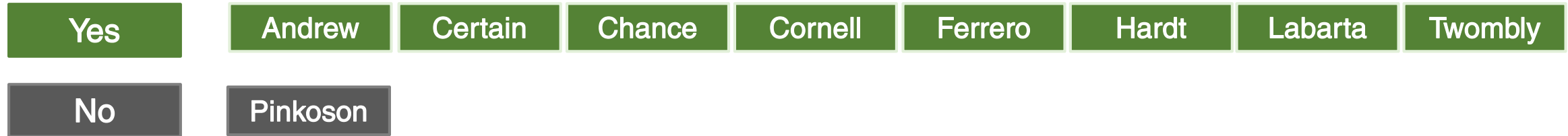
Pinkoson

Several Board members were not in favor of having a set scholarship rate; five were unsure.

Scholarship Cost



Should weekly scholarship rates vary across providers based on child population and programming/service delivery?



Nearly all Board members were in favor of scholarship rate variance.

Comments on Scholarship Cost (1 of 2)



- Program specific. Remain flexible to meet various programmatic and student needs. I trust our staff to determine this matter. (Andrew).
- I'm cautious here. I do think we need a limit, but I also recognize that some programs cost more than others. I don't know a max cost; maybe an average of past 1-3 years. We have to recognize that staffing numbers and type of staff impacts program costs. Organizations have to pay competitive wages recruit and retain staff. Eliminate the attendance incentive and approve payment for staff vacation/time off. Working with youth is often low pay, high stress work and many organizations serving children don't offer benefits paid time off due to costs. We have to recognize that staffing numbers and type of staff impacts program costs. Organizations have to pay competitive wages recruit and retain staff especially staff serving children from under resourced communities, children with special needs/ability status, or involvement with DJJ/DCF, Foster Care or homelessness. Let's approach organization serving these students and fund summer/out of school time activities. (Certain).
- More flexibility for first time scholarships and 200% / SNAP/ Foster Care / IEP kids (Cornell).
- Unsure what you mean here. I think that we should offer a variety of options that would be attractive to different children with different interests. (Ferrero).

Comments on Scholarship Cost (2 of 2)



- Not sure about this. Do you mean as a percentage of the camp fee? Or do you mean as a cap (such as \$100). Not sure what sufficient incentive would be for a camp provider to accept special needs kids. But there should be relief to families plus incentive for providers to accept the campers. (Hardt).
- Not sure what this means? If what this means is that we only subsidize up to a certain amount regardless of what the actual cost is, then no. I'd rather we decide if the cost per child is acceptable or not as part of selecting the providers. (Labarta).
- I would like to discuss an establishment of an average (or median) rate and if a program exceeds the average, an explanation or evaluation is done to see why and if there is a benefit justifying the additional expense. (Pinkoson).
- If the providers normally charge varied rates for camps, this may limit the provider's participation if we prescribed the amount they will be paid or limit a family's ability to participate if we only reimburse a set rate and the family has to make up the difference. Camps may need to staff youth with Behavioral Health/DJJ/Disabilities with a higher staff to child ratio in order to meet that child's unique needs. If it took a higher rate to ensure these populations of kids are served by the camps, I would support it. (Twombly).



Enrollment Fees & Weekly Rates

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Enrollment Fee</u>	<u>Full Scholarship</u>	<u>Partial Scholarship</u>
Santa Fe College - Counselor in Training	\$100	\$85	-
Alachua County - Cuscowilla	-	\$100	-
Girls Place	\$50	\$100	\$66
I AM STEM	\$100	\$100	\$75
City of Alachua	\$100	\$105	\$53
Boys & Girls Clubs	\$75	\$130	-
North Central Florida YMCA	-	\$145	\$115
St. Barbara CFC Ministries	\$50	\$150	-
Just for Us Education	\$45	\$160	-
Star Center Children's Theatre	\$125	\$175	\$130
Kids Count in Alachua County	-	\$186	-
Deeper Purpose Community Church	\$33	\$208	-
Community Impact Corporation	\$150	\$250	-
Santa Fe College - SF Camper	\$100	\$323	\$223
Traveling Art Camp	-	\$330	-
Greater Duval Neighborhood Association	\$25	\$351	-
Good News Arts	-	\$391	\$190
Gainesville Circus Center	\$35	\$425	\$213
University of Florida - CROP	-	\$497	-
Cultural Arts Coalition	-	\$616	-
Aces in Motion - Summer Camp	-	\$636	-
Aces in Motion - School and Career	-	\$794	-

Full Scholarship Weekly Rate:

- Average = \$282
- Median = \$197

Reimbursement Categories:

- * Enrollment Fees
- * Scholarship (Full & Partial)
- * Materials
- * Fieldtrips
- * Transportation
- * Background Checks

Not all providers requested reimbursement in each categories.

Daily Hours of Operation



Should camps operate a minimum of 8 hours per day?



Most Board members agree camps should operate at least 8 hours per day.

Comments on Hours of Operation:

- For the most part to assist families. (Andrew).
- Working parents rely on a safe and productive environment for their children. (Ferrero).
- Parents work. (Hardt).
- Half day camps may be better for littles, but working parents need 8 hours. I think variety is good and some providers may be able to offer both options. (Labarta).



Days per Week of Operation

Should camps operate 5 days per week with the exception of holidays (and unforeseen closures due to weather, etc.)?



Nearly all Board members agree camps should operate 5 days per week.

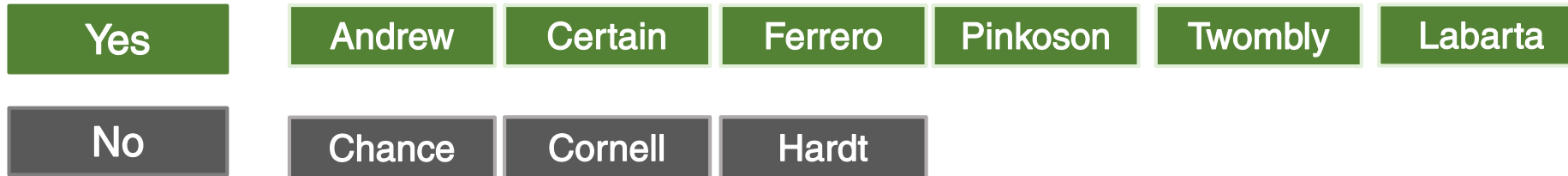
Comments on Days per Week:

- Consistency counts. (Andrew).
- Minimum of 3 days. (Cornell).
- Parents work. (Hardt).
- Would allow for consistent daily attendance and support working families with the cost of care during summer months. (Twombly).

Weeks of Operation



Should camps operate for a minimum of 4 weeks?



Most Board members agree camps should operate at least 4 weeks.

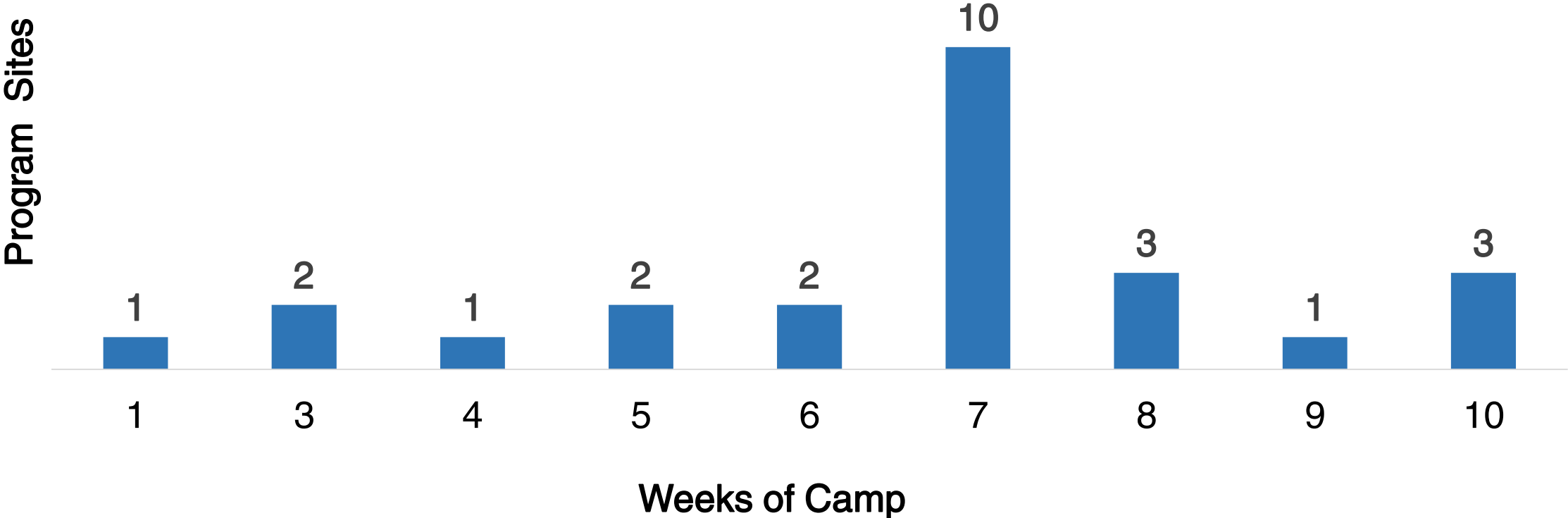
Comments on Days per Week:

- Impact takes time. (Andrew).
- A one-week camp can be highly impactful. (Chance).
- Unique camps flexibility. (Cornell).
- I would be open to one camp structure that offers different activities per week. (Ferrero).
- Depends. A really specific camp (such as pony club camp) may only be able to operate for 1-2 weeks. In such cases parents may only expect a week or two of camp. But they may be looking for other weeks of camp to fill in the rest of the summer. (Hardt).
- Again, allows for a consistent programming that children can attend during the summer months. (Twombly)



How many weeks of camp were offered?

The weeks of camp ranged from 1 to 10 weeks. The greatest frequency of camps were open for 7 weeks. Three camps offered programming all summer long. Ten weeks represents the full duration of the 2024 summer break.





What Families Liked Least:

- **Program Length (too short)**

“Wanted more weeks.”

- **Waking Up Early**

“It didn’t last longer.”

- **Staffing**

“Short hours.”

- **Activities**

“I wish it could have ran for the entire summer”

- **Food**

“They wanted it to last the whole summer like some of the other camps.”

- **Florida Heat**

“Too short of a day. They wanted to stay longer or come in earlier.”

“My children wanted the camp to have more weeks.”

“The camp hours were not long enough.”

“Not long enough.”

“Too short.”

Academic Focus



While there is no definitive dosage for producing academic results via summer programs, one article suggested that a duration of *at least* five weeks long with **70 hours of academic programming** and consistent student attendance is needed to be effective (McEachin, Augustine, & McCombs, 2018). These more effective programs are well planned, have established curriculums, small class sizes, and extensively trained staff.

	Alachua County Previous Value	Alachua County Most Recent Value	Change Between Years	State of Florida Most Recent Value
CHILDREN LEARN WHAT THEY NEED TO BE SUCCESSFUL				
<u>3rd Grade Reading Proficiency</u> <i>English Language Arts – B.E.S.T</i>	49.9% (2023) 26.5% of black students	56.1% (2024) 33.2% of black students	↑	55.1% (2024) 41.9% of black students
<u>8th Grade Reading Proficiency</u> <i>English Language Arts – B.E.S.T</i>	48.3% (2023) 22.0% of black students	49.9% (2024) 24.6% of black students	↑	50.6% (2024) 38.3% of black students
<u>3rd Grade Math Proficiency</u> <i>Mathematics – B.E.S.T</i>	49.3% (2023) 23.6% of black students	54.0% (2024) 33.2% for black students	↑	60.4% (2024) 46.5% of black students
<u>8th Grade Math Proficiency</u> <i>Mathematics – B.E.S.T</i>	63.6% (2023) 34.1% of black students	66.9% (2024) 38.6% for black students	↑	64.8% (2024) 50.1% for black students

Summer Learning Loss

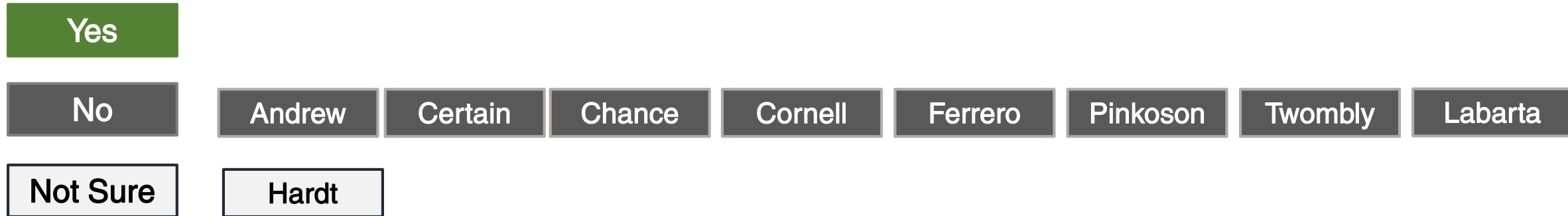
Research on summer learning has shown that children from a higher socioeconomic status (SES) continue to learn during the summer months, but lower-SES students tend to lose ground.

- 2.6 months of math
- 2 months of reading

Academic Focus



Do you think funded camps should offer 70+ hours of academic programming?



Nearly all Board members were not in favor of having 70+ hours of academic programming incorporated into funded camps; one was unsure.

Comments on Academic Focus



Do you think funded camps should offer 70+ hours of academic programming?

- I believe the hours should be a percentage of time (hrs/week) they are open. 25% or so. (Andrew).
- Burnout of staff and kids/parents. Summer can be used to expose kids to activities they may not get a chance to experience; this builds background knowledge which helps with academics. Capacity of staff to offer academic support UNLESS the program is academic focused like Freedom School. (Certain).
- For some camps it may be appropriate and for others it may not be. Summer camp experiences can be strong contributors to a child's overall development regardless. (Chance).
- New experience for these kids is more important than academic enrichment. (Cornell).
- Do all children need academics in summer? Or just children who are not reading at grade level? I would need to hear more info on this. My answer is not really yes here. My answer is "need more information". (Hardt).
- You can support keeping academic skills without doing things that feel school-like. Kids need a break. (Labarta).
- Unless it's a purely academic and even then, children probably could use a break during the day. Do we do purely academic summer programs? (Pinkoson).
- I need a better understanding on what we consider academic programming vs "learning opportunities", which could include life skills, job training, coping skills, etc., along with having mentors serving as positive influences while working with them at the camps. (Twombly).

Academic Enrichment & Summer Learning



What strategies would you like to see camps employ to support summer learning?

Curriculum

Require a summer learning curriculum that has shown promising results

Andrew

Allow providers to propose how they will incorporate academic learning

Chance

Cornell

Ferrero

Hardt

Labarta

Pinkoson

Twombly

Other

Certain

SBAC could host a convening with providers to share topics/areas that could be addressed.

Most Board members endorsed providers proposing how to incorporate academic learning rather than requiring a curriculum that has shown promising results.

Academic Enrichment & Summer Learning



What strategies would you like to see camps employ to support summer learning?

Staffing

Qualified / credentialed staff to go into the camps to provide academics to campers.

Andrew

Cornell

Hardt

Twombly

Train camp staff to deliver academics campers.

Andrew

Cornell

Pinkoson

Twombly

Hire certified teachers as camp staff to deliver academics campers.

Andrew

Cornell

Hardt

Twombly

Other

Andrew

Certain

Chance

Ferrero

Hardt

Labarta

Academic Enrichment & Summer Learning



What strategies would you like to see camps employ to support summer learning?

Staffing - Other

Andrew

Certain

Chance

Ferrero

Hardt

Labarta

- At least one qualified/credential person to support trained staff. Maybe a combination of all three staffing options based on the program and student needs. (Andrew).
- Recruiting skilled staff is becoming more challenging, I think requiring staff to provide academic support will increase burnout and thus staff turnover. (Certain).
- I think any of these could work - but only for those program with an academic component. Can we give them all these options? (Chance).
- I'm flexible here. (Cornell).
- I think that a camp that is focused on academic enrichment would be the best option for parents and students that are interested in this option. (Ferrero).
- If teachers would like this summer work, it would be ideal. (Hardt).
- Ensure that camps have enrichment that uses age/grade appropriate activities that use reading, math, and problem-solving skills without it being classroom like. (Labarta).
- Each of these options could work and would allow CTAC to work with the camp's capacity to handle this piece with their own staff or request to have an outside provider to off this program to campers.

Academic Enrichment & Summer Learning



What strategies would you like to see camps employ to support summer learning?

Materials/Resources

Book/reading materials.

Andrew Chance Cornell Labarta Pinkoson Twombly

Take home learning activities.

Andrew Chance Cornell Twombly

Incentives/prizes for youth engagement.

Andrew Chance Cornell Ferrero Hardt Labarta Pinkoson Twombly

Other

Certain

Coordinate with school district to share consumables that would otherwise be thrown away. Use library district.

Chance

Any of these are fine to me, but I would not require all.

Academic Enrichment & Summer Learning



What strategies would you like to see camps employ to support summer learning?

Assessment - Require an assessment of academic skills for youth participants.

Yes

Andrew

Pinkoson

Twombly

— Because we need to have the ability to measure a program's success to support future funding decisions, it is important to have some sort of assessment to show program efficacy.

No

Certain

Cornell

Labarta

Other

Chance

In an ideal world, for those programs with an academic component would have common assessment tools and students would be tracked in terms of school performance. This would require data sharing agreements and significant staff time and knowledge. I don't think this is feasible or reasonable for most summer programs unless they are solely focused on learning.

Hardt

Maybe parents could assess this? I hesitate to burden camp staff with testing pre and post.

Academic Enrichment & Summer Learning



What strategies would you like to see camps employ to support summer learning?

Family/Partner Engagement

Host family engagement.

Andrew Chance Cornell Ferrero Pinkoso Twombly

Partner with the Library for visits/programming.

Andrew Certain Chance Cornell Ferrero Hardt Labarta Pinkoso Twombly

Other

Certain

Joint events where 2 or more providers plan/host events for parents along with other ancillary organizations like library, health department, Early Learning Coalition and school district.



What Families Liked Best:

- **Activities**
- **Field Trips**
- **Staff**
- **Friendships**

“I love how camp was fun and educational. The campers learned basic life skills which is extremely important.”

“I loved the fact that my granddaughter was in, both, a fun and learning environment. The Summer Slide is real, and the school provided lessons in all areas of learning, to help her remain strong through the summer. What a blessing to have breakfast and lunch provided daily. The program brought comfort in knowing that summer would be filled with positive and youthful activities.”



Performance Measures

Summer Camp



How Much?

Measure	Target	Actual
Children Enrolled	1,115	1,174
Program Days	785	772

How Well?

Measure	Target	Actual
Children Attend Planned Days	75%	80%
Communication	85%	93%
Overall Experience	90%	96%

Better Off?

Measure	Target	Actual
Learning Activities	90%	95%
Program Safety	90%	96%
Camp Activities	90%	96%
Child Enjoyment	90%	95%



CHILDREN'S TRUST

OF ALACHUA COUNTY

Thank you!