



AGENDA

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE WORKSHOP BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Board Chambers
Suite 100
Ernie Lee Magaha Government Building - First Floor
221 Palafox Place

June 16, 2020
9:00 a.m.

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1. Call to Order

(PLEASE TURN YOUR CELL PHONE TO THE SILENCE OR OFF SETTING.)
2. Was the meeting properly advertised?
3. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
4. Escambia Children's Trust
(Ron Ellington/Dr. Kim Krupa - 15 mins)
 - A. Board Discussion
 - B. Board Direction
5. COVID-19 Impacts to 2021 Budget
(Sharon Harrell - 15 min)
 - A. Board Discussion
 - B. Board Direction
6. Adjourn

Committee of the Whole

4.

Meeting Date: 06/16/2020

Issue: Escambia Children's Trust

From: ALISON ROGERS, County Attorney

Information

Recommendation:

Escambia Children's Trust
(Ron Ellington/Dr. Kim Krupa - 15 mins)

- A. Board Discussion
 - B. Board Direction
-

Attachments

- Children's Trust Handout
 - Proposed Ordinance
 - Letter from Dr. Horton
 - Letter from Doug Smith
 - Letter from Sarah Heard
 - Representative List of Escambia Children Council Supporters
 - Escambia Children's Trust Letters of Support Names
-



**ESCAMBIA
CHILDREN'S TRUST**

Our Children. Our Community. Our Future.

Escambia County Commission
June 16, 2020



What is a Children's Services Council?

Florida for 74 years was the only state in the nation with a law enabling communities to create a local entity with the sole purpose of investing in children's services. Colorado in 2019 joined Florida with legislation allowing the creation of special taxing districts to fund early childhood services.

- A Children's Services Council (CSC) is a governmental entity approved by the taxpayers (special taxing district) to fund children's services in the county where it exists.
- Chapter 125.901 of Florida Statutes governs the creation and operation of CSCs. This legislation gives each CSC ad valorem taxing authority up to .5 mill.





Roles & Functions



CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCILS SERVE MANY ROLES IN THE COUNTIES WHERE THEY EXIST

- Provide funding for children's programs through data-driven, evidence-based investments
- Collect information and statistical data, monitor program performance and conduct strategic planning
- Serve as the hub for child advocacy to provide leadership, oversight, and coordination of efforts focused on children
- Ensure both fiscal and programmatic accountability of programs
- Maximize local revenue and develop new resources based on needs

While the services offered and age groups served by each CSC vary depending on the needs of the community, the primary focus is investing in prevention and early intervention programs that reduce the need for more costly services later in life.

Common focus areas include:

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- Supporting quality early care and education
 - Supporting child welfare and mental health, and preventing human trafficking and juvenile delinquency
 - Reducing infant mortality, and promoting healthy births, strong families and positive parenting
 - Afterschool and summer programming

Common Focus Areas



Statutory Requirements

Florida Statute 125.901 not only allows counties to create CSCs, but also establishes strict parameters for how they operate and ensure accountability to taxpayers. Some of those requirements include:

- The CSC Board shall consist of **10 local members**, serving 4-year staggered terms, including: a county commissioner, a school board member, a juvenile judge, the Department of Children and Families Services district administrator, the superintendent of schools, and 5 members appointed by the governor from a list recommended from the Board of County Commissioners; with public input.
- Each CSC must submit **Quarterly Financial Reports** to the County Commissioners.
- Each CSC must submit **Annual Programmatic Reports** to the County Commissioners.
- Each CSC is subject to Florida's Sunshine Law for open, transparent government as well as the same laws and requirements governing local government entities including **annual filing of financial reports, public audit requirements**, etc.

CSC-SPECIFIC INFORMATION

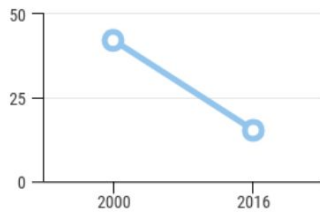
HOW CSC COMMUNITIES DIFFER IN SIZE, FUNDING, AND PURPOSE

ST. LUCIE	PALM BEACH	MIAMI-DADE
Population Estimate 297,634	Population Estimate 1,414,144	Population Estimate 2,743,095
Ad Valorem Receipts \$8,610,188	Ad Valorem Receipts \$116,814,453	Ad Valorem Receipts \$121,938,094
Created, Reauthorized 1990, 2014	Created, Reauthorized 1986, 2014	Created, Reauthorized 2003, 2008
<u>46 Programs Reach 56,000 Children in 4 Areas</u> Strengthening Families Nurse Home Visitation Afterschool Programs Prevention of Risky Behaviors	<u>50 Programs Reach 123,000 Children in 3 Areas</u> Maternal & Child Health Quality Early Childhood Education Family Support Services	<u>359 Programs Reach 250,000 Children in 3 Areas</u> Youth Development Health & Wellness Family & Neighborhood Supports

Community impact occurs in collaboration when multiple organizations leverage funding, expertise and other resources. Across the Florida CSC landscape, well over 90% of partner agency outcomes are met or exceeded on an annual basis.

POPULATION-LEVEL RESULTS

Population-level change, particularly in the largest urban counties, takes considerable time and effort. However, through sustainable, recurring funding and strategic investment in evidence-based programs, CSCs have been able to document **population-level change in key areas.**



St. Lucie County funds several family-strengthening and afterschool programs that together correlate with a **63% reduction in youth substance abuse from 2000-2016.**



Overall, **youth arrests among 10-17-year-olds declined 75% from 28 to 7 per 1,000 from 2010 to 2019** as a result of neighborhood-level programs addressing youth violence in Miami-Dade County.

Martin, Broward & Miami-Dade Counties are **increasing the number of 3rd graders reading proficiently at a faster pace than the state average** through literacy-focused initiatives that connect the dots between the different kinds of literacy skills needed for students to succeed in the 21st-century workforce.

FOCUS: EARLY LEARNING & EDUCATION

Percentage of Middle School Students

Not Promoted (2017)

Florida: **1.8%**
St. Lucie County : **1.1%**
Martin County : **0.6%**
Palm Beach County: **0.4%**
Escambia County: 3.1%

Percentage of K-12 Students Absent

21+ Days from School (2017)

Florida: **10.2%**
Miami-Dade County : **9.7%**
Martin County : **7.5%**
Palm Beach County: **6.6%**
Escambia County: 10.8%

- **St. Lucie** | Funds programs like Reading Bigs, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Truancy Program and others that enable students to access reading mentors and family supports to help ensure academic attendance and success. **91% of children mentored were promoted to the next grade level and 87% of children reduced their rate of unexcused absences.**
- **Martin** | Provided **2,610 youth the opportunity to attend afterschool/summer programs** that helped provide academic support and paired **150 children with mentors to serve as positive role models.**
- **Miami-Dade** | Served **18,219 children and youth through summer camps** to combat summer slide. 34,807 students were screened for vision and 8,077 financially-disadvantaged children received comprehensive eye exams resulting in 5,554 receiving corrective eyeglasses..

FOCUS: FAMILY & COMMUNITY

Juvenile Arrests

(2013/14 - 2017/18)

Florida: **-24%**

Martin County: **-28%**

Miami-Dade County: **-37%**

Broward County: **-30%**

Escambia County: +6%

Children ages 5-11 Experiencing Child Abuse

(2010 -2017)

Florida: **-27%**

St. Lucie County: **-36%**

Miami-Dade County: **-44%**

Palm Beach County: **-46%**

Escambia County: -11%

- **St. Lucie** | Focuses on **empowering parents** to be the primary educator about **preventing youth involvement in drugs, alcohol or other risky behaviors**. St. Lucie County has demonstrated a **90% reduction in the teen birth rate (ages 10-17)** and **"0" cases of child abuse and neglect among participating parents since the point of CSC investment**.
- **Miami-Dade** | Investments in more than 15 early learning programs have resulted in **third-grade reading proficiency rate of 60% in 2019, up from 53% in 2015**. As children age, The Children's Trust invests in programs that keep them safe, engaged and off the streets. Overall, **youth arrests from crimes have declined 75% from 28 per 1,000 in 2010 to 7 per 1,000 in 2019**.
- **Martin** | Since 2013, Martin County **juvenile arrests have decreased by 48%**. This drop is a credit to the CSC's investments in the Stuart police department's first offender and gang prevention programs.

FOCUS: PHYSICAL & MENTAL HEALTH

Hospitalizations for Self-Inflicted Injuries ages 12-18 per 100,000 (2017)

Florida: **72.8**
Miami-Dade County: **57.7**
St. Lucie County: **53.7**
Martin County: **46.9**
Escambia County: 106.9

Infant Death Rate per 1,000 Births (2017)

Florida: **6.1**
St. Lucie County: **4.6**
Palm Beach County: **4.5**
Broward County: **4.9**
Escambia County: 7.6

- **Miami-Dade** | Added 40 mental health staff to existing CSC-funded school health initiative
- **St. Lucie** | 4,752 children were served last year through the BRAIN development program and home visiting programs. **96% of parents improved parenting skills including parent-child interactions.**
- **Palm Beach** | Invests over \$34 million into the Healthy Beginnings system of care which provides comprehensive services to pregnant women, infants, young children and their families so more children are born healthy, grow up safe and are ready for school.
- **Broward** | Mothers Overcoming Maternal Stress (MOMS) program helps ensure a healthy environment for babies in their most vulnerable initial weeks and months of life.



Escambia Children's Trust
Targeted Investments For Specific Improvements

What investments today could improve economic outcomes tomorrow?

At a time when many question government's capacity to deliver, Children's Services Councils have proven their value.

- Florida TaxWatch has endorsed CSCs as “**an incredibly good value to taxpayers.**” Council-funded programs reduce the long-term tax burden with treatment and prevention programs. CSCs bring together silos and eliminate overlapping or duplicating services, **saving up to \$20 for every dollar invested in prevention programs.**
- CSC program investments are leveraged up to 85% with matching funds. The St. Lucie CSC currently draws down on \$5.7 million in matching funds annually; 67% leverage and the programs in which they invest support 450 new program jobs.
- Voters have repeatedly recognized and reauthorized their CSC because the CSCs have demonstrated that their program investments make their community safer, healthier and stronger by proving that their **children are more likely to stay on a positive path, graduate high school and become productive, tax-paying citizens.**

The substantial needs in Escambia County, especially now with the negative impacts of COVID-19, dwarf the resources of the service providers working in early childhood education, detection, prevention, and wellness.

The Trust would provide a **new local source of sustainable, recurring success-based investments in programs** to meet the critical needs of our children. These investments would be made fairly in evidenced based proven expanded and new programs in three targeted focus areas. The Trust will have a significant advantage in that it will have a sustainable, recurring revenue stream with a ten (10) year life that is controlled by an Escambia County organization. **Its funding comes directly to the Trust and is not dependent upon fluctuating annual governmental appropriations or the strength of the economy**, which is particularly important in unstable times like these when contributions to service providers can drop while demand for services increase.



Escambia Children's Trust Funding Mechanics

How the Escambia Children's Services Trust is Funded

- The voters will be asked to approve the creation of the Trust as a special taxing district with the ability to levy a .5 mill ad valorem tax on the **property's taxable value.**
- The .5 mill will not be billed until 2021 and paid in 2022.
- The .5 mill will raise a projected \$8.2 million, which will after tax collection cost **net the Trust around \$7.8 million.**
- The average increased cost to a homeowner is \$40 and \$67 to every other property tax. Obviously, the larger taxpayers will pay more than that average.
- The Trust local governing board will set the budget and approve the funding focuses.

The Board of County Commissioners must approve an ordinance by July 2020 and place the Trust referendum on the November 3, 2020 general election ballot.

The Trust is on the Commissioner's June 16th Committee of the Whole and June 18th regular meeting agenda.

It is expected to be placed on the July 2nd regular meeting agenda and with a preceding public hearing.



Escambia Children's Trust

Funding Process

How the Budget and Investments Are Determined

- The Trust local governing board will set the budget, approve the funding focuses and bucket amount allocations.
- Florida CSCs control costs and generally put an average of 90% of their budget into direct programing contracts.
- The Trust will have a professional staff trained in fiscal accountability and program services development and evaluation that will help give provider staff development training as needed.
- An RFP will be sent to all service providers inviting their evidence-based proposal addressing one or more of the Trust focuses demonstrating fiscal responsibility and proposing successful metrics-based outcomes.
- Trust staff will grade the proposals on established criteria and recommend funding amounts, terms and performance conditions to be included in the contract.

The Escambia Children's Trust is Escambia County based with a local government board and a direct funding source.



How the Trust Holds Funded Programs Accountable

- Accountability is paramount both in fiscal integrity and meeting contractual program performance goals.
- Recipients must spend their funds and provide documentation for reimbursement.
- Trust staff will quarterly meet with the grantees to evaluate fiscal standards and programmatic goal achievement progress.
- The Trust will place the contract holder on Corrective Status if they are deficient in any area and work with funded programs to help correct the deficiency.
- The Trust will withdraw its support and funding if the deficiency is not corrected.

Community impact occurs in collaboration when multiple organizations leverage funding, expertise and other resources. **Across the Florida CSC landscape, well over 90% of partner agency outcomes are met or exceeded on an annual basis.**

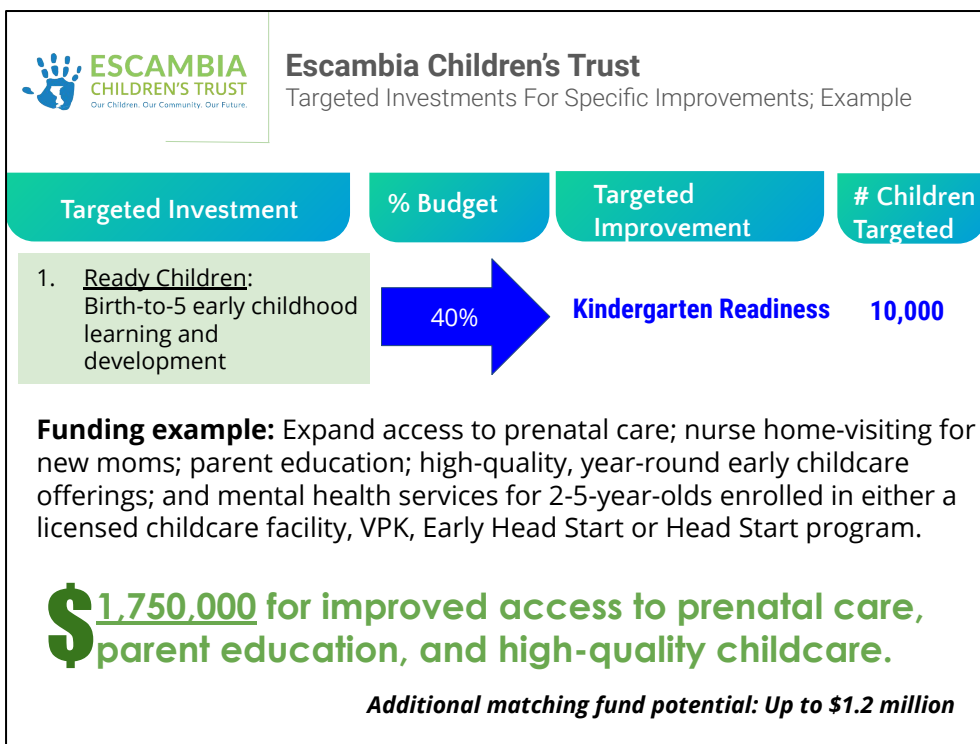


Targeted Investment	% Budget	Targeted Improvement	# Children Targeted
1. <u>Ready Children</u> : Birth-to-5 early childhood learning and development	40%	Kindergarten Readiness	10,000
2. <u>Ready Youth</u> : Out-of-school time, career-readiness and enrichment programs for adolescents and teens	20%	Third-Grade Reading High School Graduation Juvenile Delinquency Teen Pregnancy	40,000
3. <u>Ready Families</u> : Stable, strengthened families, homes and communities	40%	Child Abuse and Neglect Alcohol and Drug Abuse School Discipline Referrals	1,000

The Escambia Children's Trust would prioritize programs that would reach more than 50,000 children in three focus areas: Ready Children, Ready Youth and Ready Families. The Escambia Children's Trust would partner with other community funders (e.g., United Way, school district, agencies) in planning and funding, which efficiently focuses all funders toward shared goals and outcomes, reduced duplication and overlapping. **These focuses were developed based on need in collaboration with multiple governmental agencies and service providers.**

Initiatives in these areas would help meet the following critical needs:

- Every baby is a healthy baby with a coordinated system of care for all newborns, babies, toddlers, preschool children, mothers and families of young children in our community.
- Help kids stay safe and off the streets while preparing for the workforce through high-quality afterschool and summer enrichment and positive youth development programs, internships and apprenticeships.
- Help reduce child abuse through targeted counseling and case management programs that target families in the home and neighborhood setting.



The first funding bucket is Ready Children, where programs would align around the birth-to-5 early childhood continuum. The overarching goal of this priority area is ensuring every baby is a healthy baby with a coordinated system of care for all newborns, babies, toddlers, preschool children, mothers and families of young children, and addressing the geographic voids for these services.

The Trust will commit approximately 40% of the budget to this focus because birth-to-5 programs are critical to a child's success. When children are born healthy, their opportunities soar. They are more likely to reach their developmental milestones, succeed in school and become thriving adults. That is why this priority area includes ensuring pregnant women have access to early, consistent care and continued support if they need it. A healthy mother is more likely to have a healthy baby who is ready for kindergarten. This is companioned with high quality childcare and education, physical and mental health programs.

CSC program investments typically are used as leverage to get an estimated .70 cents of matching funds for every \$1 invested (**70% leverage**); **some individual investments achieve up to 85% leverage in matching funds.** Here are some additional noteworthy outcomes from peer Children's Services Council counties:


****Miami-Dade:** Collectively, partners provide early childhood services to more than 80% of young children prior to kindergarten. Investments in a continuum of more than 15 evidence-based and promising parenting programs span from the prenatal period through transition to adulthood, with several programs supporting the Thrive by 5 initiative by specifically targeting parents with young children. **Overall, kindergarten readiness increased from 50% in 2017 to 58% in 2019.**

****Martin County:** The Healthy Families program offers support services to families who may

be experiencing stress in their lives that makes parenting more challenging. Services are offered through home visits with a Family Support Worker which may start before or shortly after the birth of a baby and can continue until the child's 5th birthday. **99% of families participating in Healthy Families Martin Match program decreased their child abuse risk factors in the most recent reporting year.**

****Martin County:** All mothers of newborns receive a voluntary Martin Health System nurse home visit within 3 days of leaving the hospital. Six weeks later, a child development specialist from Helping People Succeed follows up with a second visit known as the BRAIN (Building Readiness Among Infants Now) visit. **In the most recent reporting year, 491 children under age 3 were identified as developmentally at-risk, and provided intervention services, putting them on track to be ready for kindergarten.**

****Palm Beach:** Collectively, partnership with child-serving agencies and organizations, developed an early childhood framework and logic model with key indicators for child health and well-being. The framework guides the development and implementation of council initiatives and activities. **The indicators have helped the council demonstrate county-wide impact of collective efforts.** For example, due to the county's Healthy Beginnings prenatal services, **305 out of 766 infants at-risk of being born prematurely were carried to full term. This is an expected return on investment of \$22,875,000** for the county! The council works in partnership with other councils and organizations to **create a statewide early childhood framework so all work in the state has a consistent set of indicators.**

 **ESCAMBIA CHILDREN'S TRUST**
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Escambia Children's Trust
Targeted Investments For Specific Improvements; Example

Targeted Investment	% Budget	Targeted Improvement	# Children Targeted
1. <u>Ready Children:</u> Birth-to-5 early childhood learning and development	40%	Kindergarten Readiness	195

Funding example: Scale the 3-year-old preschool program currently operating at C.A. Weis Community School into all Title 1 elementary schools. 2019 Weis School results **showed 53% children enrolled in the program in 2017 were ready for kindergarten two years later, compared to 18% of their peers who did not participate in the program.**


\$70,000/classroom X 13 classrooms at Title 1 schools
= \$910,000

Additional matching fund potential (School Readiness and Early Head Start): \$780,000

Being ready for kindergarten means more than knowing your ABCs and 123s. It means being able to sit patiently and listen. It means knowing how to take turns, express yourself and make friends. It means being eager and ready to learn. That's why high-quality preschool is so important. **Children who are ready for kindergarten are more likely to be reading on grade level by the end of third grade, and more likely to graduate high school.**

One evidence-based model is the 3-year-old preschool program at C.A. Weis Community School, which is a collaborative between Title 1, Early Head Start and Achieve Escambia with proven sustained results. **Scaling the full-day, wraparound preschool model to additional Title 1 elementary schools would significantly improve the county's overall kindergarten readiness rate.**


The CSC investment is expected to be used by the providers as **leverage to get an estimated .85 cents of matching funds for every \$1 invested; 85% leverage.**



Escambia Children's Trust
Targeted Investments For Specific Improvements; Example

Targeted Investment	% Budget	Targeted Improvement	# Children Targeted
1. <u>Ready Children:</u> Birth-to-5 early childhood learning and development	40%	Kindergarten Readiness	1,000

Funding example: Bring Help Me Grow to Escambia County. Help Me Grow promotes the healthy development of every child in our county by ensuring every infant, toddler and preschool child receives routine developmental screenings as well as connections to community-based services and supports with no wait lists




\$ 125,000 for expansion of 211 Helpline to include early childhood system of care.
Additional matching fund potential: \$87,500

Help Me Grow is an evidence-based program that is part of a national effort to identify children at-risk for developmental, behavioral, or social challenges. This program is designed to support questions and concerns of families, while providing access to resources and supports. Knowing too many children with special needs are slipping through the cracks, Help Me Grow connects families with free or low-cost community programs for health and developmental services.

Locally, Help Me Grow would be a “warmline” integrated into our county’s existing 211 Helpline that offers support and access to developmental screenings and referrals for families who have questions about their child's growth and development. Designed for families with children ages 8 and younger, Help Me Grow would allow families to call 211 and ask for “Help Me Grow,” where trained developmental specialists will be on hand to answer questions, provide over-the-phone Ages and Stages screenings, and provide connections to local resources as well as follow-up case management at intervals up to 1 year.

We estimate this program **would reach the special needs population in Escambia County, numbering approximately 1,000 (or 20% based on data from the Escambia County School District),** with the potential for drawing down additional matching funds of \$87,500 from Help Me Grow Florida and other sources; **70% leverage.**



Escambia Children's Trust
Targeted Investments For Specific Improvements; Example

Targeted Investment	% Budget	Targeted Improvement	# Children Targeted
2. <u>Ready Youth</u> : Out-of-school time, career-readiness and enrichment programs for adolescents and teens	20%	Third-Grade Reading High School Graduation Juvenile Delinquency Teen Pregnancy	40,000

Funding example: Coordinate, align and strengthen afterschool and summer enrichment programs to focus on academic support, literacy, workforce skills and summer learning loss – the targeted geography includes areas of the county with little to no afterschool and summer learning programs.

\$1,000,000 for K-12 afterschool and summer enrichment programs targeting youth living in resource deserts

Additional matching fund potential: \$700,000

The second funding bucket is Ready Youth, which would specifically **target adolescents and youth ages 10-18 years old**. When children are safe, happy and engaged after school and during the summer, the adults in their lives have less worry and stress. They know they can go to work or school while their children continue to learn, gain confidence and discover new strengths. That's why funding quality afterschool and summer opportunities is so important - between school and home, there's a whole world to explore. We estimate the Ready Youth investments have the potential to reach **up to 40,000 Escambia County youth, with a specific emphasis on the 14,000 youth and teens in sixth-12th grade**.

The CSC investment is expected to be used by the providers as leverage to get an estimated .70 cents of matching funds for every \$1 invested; **70% leverage**. Here are some noteworthy outcomes from peer Children's Services Council counties:

****Miami-Dade: The HERO Truancy Prevention Program identifies elementary and K-8 students most at risk** and provides them with the necessary prevention and intervention services to increase school attendance and reduce risk related to youth violence. Last year, **the program served 10,643 students with 2,987 home visits and 634 referrals. As a result, 93% of participating elementary and 91% of participating middle school students attended school regularly (defined as less than 10 absences per year)**.

****Miami-Dade: The 2019 Summer Reading Explorers program assessed 2,020 children** the summer before they entered kindergarten and first and second graders at 70 camp sites. They **identified 1,108 as struggling readers** who then received small group intervention for an average of 19 sessions over the summer. **70% of participants increased or maintained reading levels at instructional or higher**, and 188 students were referred for follow-up school-year services.

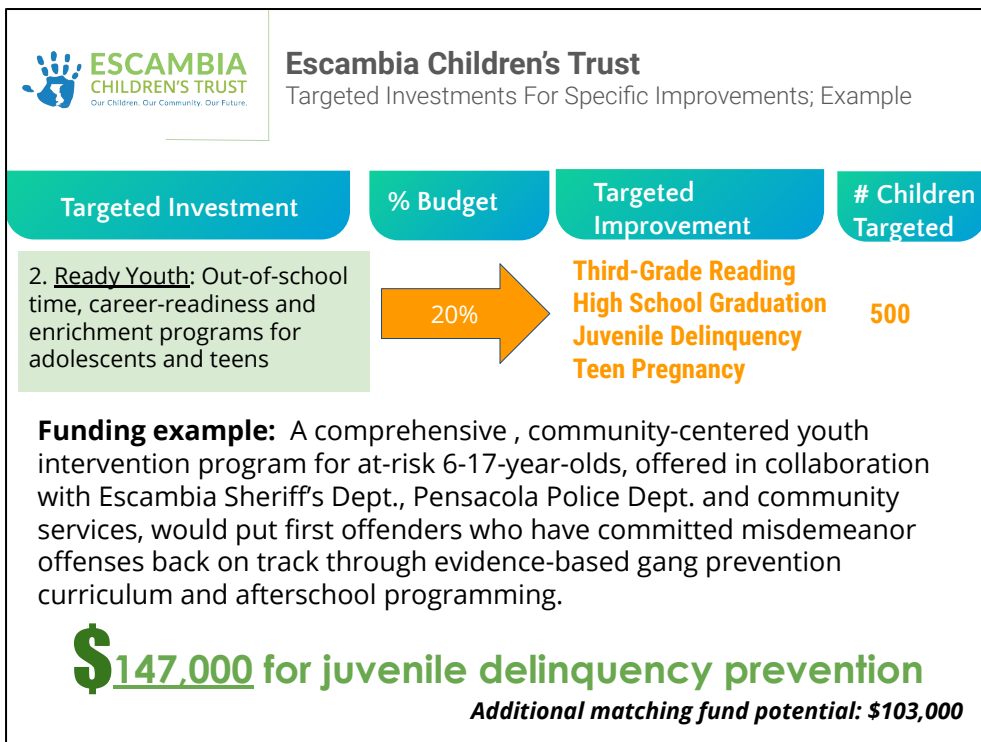
****St. Lucie: 90% of 315 participants in the YMCA of the Treasure Coast afterschool program improved their academic performance in nine-week report cards.**

****Hillsborough: 91% of children with special physical, developmental, and behavioral needs participating in quality of out-of-school time CSC-funded programs improved reading skills.**

****Broward: 92% of 801 children with special needs enrolled in out-of-school-time programs improved reading and language development.**

****Broward: 100% of female youth enrolled in Youth FORCE (Friends, Opportunities, Resource, Counseling and Education), an out-of-school-time program, did not become pregnant and male youth did not cause a pregnancy.**

****Broward: 82% of at-risk high school students enrolled in BOSS (Best Opportunities to Succeed and Shine) improved reading grades, with 80% improving math grades, as a result of case management services in CSC-funded high school out-of-school time programs (LEAP High and 21st Century Community Learning Centers)**

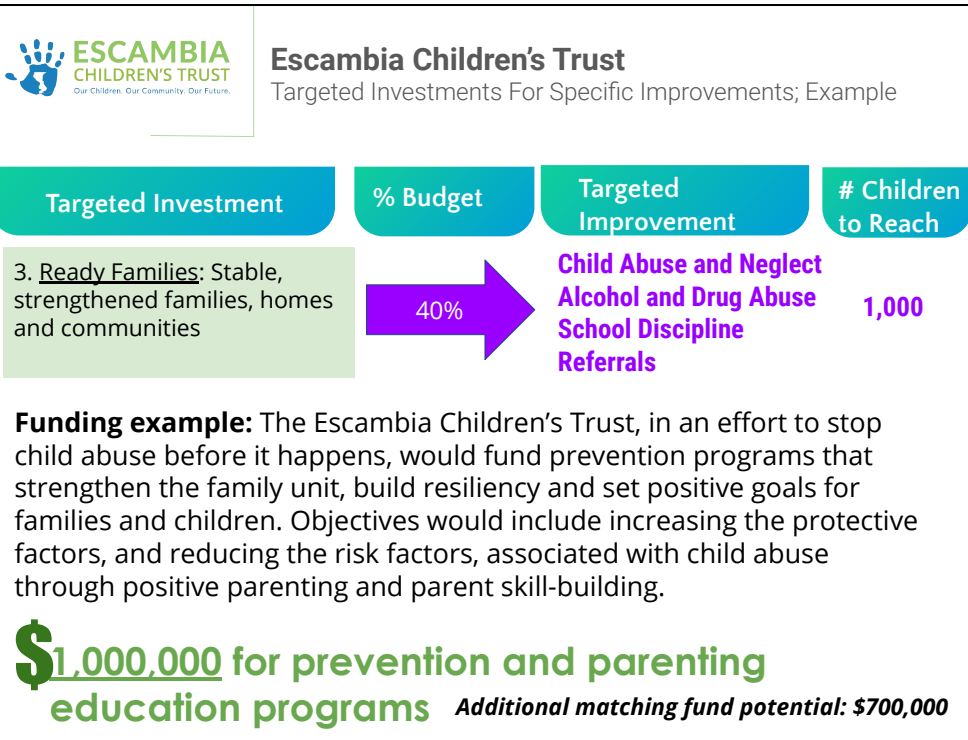


Enrichment programs beyond the school day and in the summer can significantly reduce troubling trends related to juvenile delinquency and teen pregnancy, as this funding example shows.

A similar program funded by the **Children's Services Council of Martin County** is called **the East Stuart Youth Initiative - Police Intervention Program**. Funded under the bucket, "Safe Communities," the program is **widely credited for reducing Martin County School District juvenile arrests by 48% since 2013**.

While juvenile arrests are largely on the decline across Florida, in **Escambia County, juvenile arrests have risen 6% total since 2013-2014. Escambia County is ranked #4 in Florida in number of first-time arrests for common youth misdemeanor offenses** (total count was 173 arrests in 2018-2019). **Black children make up 31% of the juvenile population (ages 10-17) in Escambia County and 69% of juvenile arrests.** We have a significant opportunity to decrease these numbers. Further, **having a criminal record limits job opportunities.**

The Martin County best practice provides a comprehensive, community-centered suite of services for 6-17-year-olds, in collaboration with the City of Stuart Community Services Department, and Stuart Police Department. The Stuart Police **Youth Intervention Program is comprised of two components: (1) the First Offender Program and (2) Gang Prevention.** The First Offender component is a pre-arrest program for youth who have committed misdemeanor offenses. The **juvenile has the ability to keep his/her criminal record clean with voluntary participation in the program.** The Gang Prevention component provides education by teaching the "Phoenix Gang Curriculum" to at-risk youth. This is an evidence-based curriculum and is offered at the East Stuart Youth Initiative Afterschool Program, as well as, a nearby elementary school.



Escambia County in 2019 had the 4th highest child abuse rate of Florida's 67 counties. That is why our third funding bucket is Ready Families, where funded programs would align programs and services around adults who care for our children.

An abused child or a neglected child cannot trust the adults around them. They cannot take normal, developmental risks. They cannot focus in school or develop healthy relationships if they are always on alert for the next threat.

This funding would include behavioral health counseling, neighborhood support, legal guidance and other vital services for families and children at risk. Because, as the saying goes, "It is easier and cheaper to build strong children than repair broken men."

A standout example of a proven program is in **St. Lucie, where 99% of 42 participating families had no verified reports of abuse and neglect while receiving services** from the Henderson Behavioral Health wraparound intervention program **AND 100% of 203 families had no cases of child abuse and neglect one year after receiving services** from the Hibiscus Children's Center's "supporting families in crisis" program. We anticipate drawing down an additional \$700,000 in matching funds from state and federal resources; **70% leverage.**

The Road Ahead



- The needs for children's services dwarf the resources of our providers.
- We continue to be at the top of the wrong lists.
- Local funding sources are finite and are tapped by everyone.
- The Escambia Children's Trust is a new source of \$8 million in recurring annual funding that can leverage into \$13+ million with matching grants.
- We need the County Commissioners to place the Trust on the Nov. ballot
- We need to raise \$130,000 to educate the voters



Escambia Children's Trust
Return on Investment



What investments today could improve economic outcomes tomorrow?

- We are already investing in negative outcomes. The Trust provides new money to invest in positive outcomes and reduce the cost of negative outcomes; like \$33,000 to keep a person in jail for one year or the County's \$8.8 million annual cost sharing reimbursement to the State for the juvenile detention facility and Medicaid charges.
- Early childhood education and quality after school programs are a good example of children's services we can supplement. The Federal Reserve in Minneapolis determined that the return on investment in early childhood education can be as high as \$16 to \$1.
- The funds that CSCs invest in primary prevention and early intervention help diminish or eliminate the need for more costly punitive and remedial services that will be needed later in a child's life.
- States have conducted studies on the benefits of quality after school programs, which provide opportunities for our youth and help parents keep their jobs, with ROI ranges of 2 to 3 times the annual cost. There are hundreds of studies confirming the value of these investments.
- CSC investments are used to draw down up to 85% in matching funds, further leveraging the value of every local taxpayer dollar invested.

While there are obvious positive outcomes in improving the lives and expectations of children and their families in these programs, there are also far reaching broad-based community economic benefits. Community impact occurs in collaboration when multiple organizations leverage funding, expertise and other resources. Across the Florida CSC landscape, well over 90% of partner agency outcomes are met or exceeded on an annual basis.

We need your help with

- **A letter of support; lend your voice and your name**
- **Introduce us to other community, business and faith-based persons**
- **Invite us to present to your civic, service and professional organization**
- **Make a contribution**



QUESTIONS?

Donate today to:

**Escambia Children's
Trust PAC**

P.O. Box 1255
Pensacola, FL 32591

Questions? Call (850) 462-4790



**ESCAMBIA
CHILDREN'S TRUST**

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ORDINANCE NO. 2020 - __

1
2
3 AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
4 COMMISSIONERS OF ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA;
5 CREATING CHAPTER 90, ARTICLE 10 OF THE CODE OF
6 ORDINANCES, PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION OF A
7 COUNTYWIDE INDEPENDENT SPECIAL DISTRICT TO INVEST
8 IN METRICS BASED, SUCCESSFUL CHILDREN’S SERVICES
9 PROGRAMS THROUGHOUT ESCAMBIA COUNTY; PROVIDING
10 FOR A GOVERNING BOARD TO BE KNOWN AS THE
11 ESCAMBIA CHILDREN’S TRUST; PROVIDING FOR THE
12 MEMBERSHIP; PROVIDING FOR THE POWERS AND DUTIES
13 OF THE TRUST; PROVIDING FOR THE CONDUCT OF
14 BUSINESS; PROVIDING FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS,
15 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS, AND BUDGET PROCEDURES;
16 PROVIDING FOR AUTHORIZATION OF THE LEVY OF AD
17 VALOREM TAXES OF ONE-HALF MILL FOR A TERM OF 10
18 YEARS; PROVIDING FOR A NOVEMBER 3, 2020
19 REFERENDUM AND A BALLOT QUESTION; PROVIDING FOR
20 SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR REPEALER; PROVIDING
21 FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN
22 EFFECTIVE DATE.
23

24 **WHEREAS**, the Legislature of the State of Florida has, in Chapter 125, Florida
25 Statutes, conferred upon local governments the authority to adopt regulations designed
26 to promote the public health, safety and general welfare of its citizenry; and

27 **WHEREAS**, the Legislature of the State of Florida has, in Chapter 125.901,
28 authorized the creation of Children's Services Councils (CSCs) as a countywide special
29 taxing district created by ordinance, and approved by voters, to invest in metrics based,
30 successful programs and services that improve the lives, health and well-being of children
31 and their families; and

32 **WHEREAS**, to date, nine Florida counties have created independent CSCs that
33 invest taxpayer dollars in the well-being of their community’s children and families, and
34 the primary focus of all CSCs is to invest in early childhood education, prevention and
35 early intervention programs that produce measurable results; and

36 **WHEREAS**, in nine counties, voters have approved independent taxing authority
37 for their CSC to ensure that a dedicated, recurring funding source is available for
38 children’s programs and services. The counties are Palm Beach, Alachua, Broward,
39 Hillsborough, Martin, Miami-Dade, Okeechobee, Pinellas and St. Lucie; and

40 **WHEREAS**, the community has taken action to formally recommend to the
41 Escambia County Board of County Commissioners the establishment of an independent

1 Children’s Trust to be known as the Escambia Children’s Trust and to hold a referendum
2 on the creation of an independent special district; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Escambia County children need increased and enhanced services;
4 and

5 **WHEREAS**, more than half of the children in Escambia County are not prepared
6 to enter kindergarten¹; and

7 **WHEREAS**, in Escambia County only 56% of children in 3rd grade read on grade
8 level and only 50% of 7th graders are proficient in 7th grade math. While 12.1% of
9 Escambia County students are chronically absent²; and

10 **WHEREAS**, Escambia County ranks 47 out of 67 Florida counties, according to
11 the 2019 Florida Child Well-Being Index³; and

12 **WHEREAS**, every year in Escambia County over 5,000+ reports of suspected
13 child abuse are received by the Department of Children and Families. Child abuse comes
14 in many forms – physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect – and recognizing child abuse is
15 not easy⁴; and

16 **WHEREAS**, allegations of child abuse or medical neglect affect one in eight
17 children in Escambia County⁵; and

18 **WHEREAS**, as many as 70% of children with developmental delays or disorders
19 are not diagnosed or properly treated before they start school; and

20 **WHEREAS**, the higher a person’s educational attainment and income, the more
21 likely that person is to have a longer life expectancy; and

22 **WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners determines that it is in the best
23 interests of the health, safety and welfare of the public to place a referendum establishing
24 said independent district within Escambia County before the qualified Escambia County
25 voters on the November 3, 2020 general election ballot.

26 **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Board of County Commissioners
27 of Escambia County that the following regulation is hereby adopted.

28
29

¹ <https://www.achieveescambia.org/data>

² <https://www.achieveescambia.org/data>

³ <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5ba3f2780feb9d7656220531/t/5e273266c8d88d7566a9227b/1579627124664/Annual+Report+2020.pdf>

⁴ <https://www.gulfcoastkidshouse.org/child-abuse-prevention/programs.asp>

⁵ <https://test.gulfcoastkidshouse.org/>

1 **Section 1.** The above recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein
2 by reference.

3 **Section 2.** Chapter 90, Taxation, Article 10, Children’s Services Independent
4 District, is created as follows:

5 Sec. 90-311 – Sec. 90 – 349. Reserved.

6 **Article X. Children’s Services Independent District. The “Escambia Children’s**
7 **Trust.”**

8 **Sec. 90 – 350. Short Title.**

9 This article shall be known and may be cited as the “Escambia Children’s Trust”

10 **Sec. 90 – 351. Authority.**

11 This article is adopted pursuant to §125.901, Florida Statutes (2019), Children’s
12 Services.

13 **Sec. 90 – 352. Creation of an Independent Special District; Creation of the**
14 **Children’s Trust of Escambia County.**

15 Subject to the approval of a majority of the qualified electors of Escambia County
16 voting in November 3, 2020 referendum, there is hereby created an independent special
17 district to invest in children’s services throughout the County. The boundaries of the
18 District shall be coterminous with the boundaries of Escambia County. The governing
19 body of the District shall be a board of directors to be known as the Escambia County
20 Children’s Trust council on children’s services.

21 **Sec. 90 – 353. Purpose.**

22 The purpose of the Escambia Children’s Trust is to invest in the well-being of
23 children within Escambia County by maximizing resources and ensuring accountability
24 through investment in and support to community provider programs through a competitive
25 review process. Escambia Children’s Trust shall serve to collaborate and support
26 necessary educational, preventive, developmental, treatment, intervention, and
27 rehabilitative services for children within the County through funding and/or through
28 cooperative agreements where not otherwise prohibited. The Escambia Children’s Trust
29 will assist the children through issuance and evaluation of requests for proposals from
30 children’s services providers when such is determined to be in the best interest of the
31 health, safety and welfare of the community. Eligibility for application, review, and
32 approval of Trust funding shall require that the direct service provider meets the Trust’s
33 requirements of proven fiscal accountability and performance based metrics to ensure
34 successful program operation and accountable use of funding for the benefit of children.

1 **Sec. 90 – 354. Membership.**

2 The Escambia Children’s Trust shall consist of 10 members as mandated by State
3 of Florida Statute 125.901, Florida Statutes (2019), including:

- 4 (1) The superintendent of schools;
5 (2) A local school board member;
6 (3) The district administrator from the appropriate district of the Department of
7 Children and Families, or his or her designee who is a member of the Senior
8 Management Service or of the Selected Exempt Service;
9 (4) One member of the county governing body;
10 (5) The judge assigned to juvenile cases who shall sit as a voting member of the
11 board, except that said judge shall not vote or participate in the setting of ad
12 valorem taxes under this section. If there is more than one judge assigned to
13 juvenile cases in a county, the chief judge shall designate one of said juvenile
14 judges to serve on the board; and
15 (6) The remaining five members shall be appointed by the Governor, and shall, to
16 the extent possible, represent the demographic diversity of the population of
17 the county. After soliciting recommendations from the public, the county
18 governing body shall submit to the Governor the names of at least three
19 persons for each vacancy occurring among the five members appointed by the
20 Governor, and the Governor shall appoint members to the council from the
21 candidates nominated by the county governing body. The Governor shall make
22 a selection within a 45-day period or request a new list of candidates. All
23 members appointed by the Governor shall have been residents of the county
24 for the previous 24-month period. Such members shall be appointed for 4-year
25 terms, except that the length of the terms of the initial appointees shall be
26 adjusted to stagger the terms. The Governor may remove a member for cause
27 or upon the written petition of the county governing body. If any of the members
28 of the council required to be appointed by the Governor under the provisions of
29 this subsection shall resign, die, or be removed from office, the vacancy thereby
30 created shall, as soon as practicable, be filled by appointment by the Governor,
31 using the same method as the original appointment, and such appointment to
32 fill a vacancy shall be for the unexpired term of the person who resigns, dies,
33 or is removed from office.

34 **Sec. 90 – 355. Powers and Functions.**

35 The Escambia Children’s Trust shall have the following powers and functions:

- 36 (1) To provide funding and maintain in the County such preventive,
37 developmental, treatment, intervention, and rehabilitative services for children from birth
38 to 18 years of age as the council determines are needed for the general welfare of the
39 county.

1 (2) To provide such other services for all children as the council determines are
2 needed for the general welfare of the county.

3 (3) To allocate and provide funds for other agencies in the county which are
4 operated for the benefit of children, provided they are not under the exclusive jurisdiction
5 of the public school system.

6 (4) To collect information and statistical data and to conduct research which will
7 be helpful to the council and the county in deciding the needs of children in the county.

8 (5) To consult and coordinate with other agencies dedicated to the welfare of
9 children to the end that the overlapping of services will be prevented.

10 (6) To lease or buy such real estate, equipment, and personal property and to
11 construct such buildings as are needed to execute the foregoing powers and functions,
12 provided that no such purchases shall be made or building done unless paid for with cash
13 on hand or secured by funds deposited in financial institutions. Nothing in this
14 subparagraph shall be construed to authorize a district to issue bonds of any nature, nor
15 shall a district have the power to require the imposition of any bond by the governing body
16 of the county.

17 (7) To employ, pay, and provide benefits for any part-time or full-time personnel
18 needed to execute the foregoing powers and functions.

19 (8) All powers, functions, and duties specified in Section 125.901, Florida Statutes
20 or otherwise permitted by law.

21 (9) It is the intent of the County that the funds collected pursuant to the provisions
22 of this section shall be used to support improvements in children’s services and that such
23 funds shall not be used as a substitute for existing resources or for resources that would
24 otherwise be available for children’s services.

25 (10) Members of the council shall serve without compensation, but shall be
26 entitled to receive reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses consistent with the
27 provisions of Section 112.061, Florida Statutes (2019), as amended.

28 **Sec. 90 – 356. Conduct of Business.**

29 The Escambia Children’s Trust shall:

30 (1) Immediately after the members are appointed, elect a chair and a vice chair
31 from among its members, and elect other officers as deemed necessary by the council.

32 (2) Immediately after the members are appointed and officers are elected, identify,
33 and assess the needs of the children in Escambia County and submit to the Escambia
34 County Board of County Commissioners a written description of:

35 a. The activities, services, and opportunities that will be provided to children.

1 b. The anticipated schedule for providing those activities, services, and
2 opportunities.

3 c. The manner in which children will be served, including a description of
4 arrangements and agreements which will be made with community organizations, state
5 and local educational agencies, federal agencies, public assistance agencies, the juvenile
6 courts, foster care agencies, and other applicable public and private agencies and
7 organizations.

8 d. The special outreach efforts that will be undertaken to provide services to at-
9 risk, abused, or neglected children.

10 e. The manner in which the council will seek and provide funding for unmet
11 needs.

12 f. The strategy which will be used for interagency coordination to maximize
13 existing human and fiscal resources.

14 (3) Provide training and orientation to all new members sufficient to allow them to
15 perform their duties, including operating transparency and Sunshine requirements.

16 (4) Make and adopt bylaws and rules and regulations for the council’s guidance,
17 operation, governance, and maintenance, provided such rules and regulations are not
18 inconsistent with federal or state laws or county ordinances.

19 (5) Provide an annual written report, to be presented no later than January 1, to
20 the governing body of the county. The annual report shall contain, but not be limited to,
21 the following information:

22 a. Information on the effectiveness of activities, services, and programs offered
23 by the Escambia Children’s Trust, including cost effectiveness.

24 b. A detailed anticipated budget for continuation of activities, services, and
25 programs offered by the Escambia Children’s Trust, both public and private.

26 c. Procedures used for early identification of at-risk children who need additional
27 or continued services and methods for ensuring that the additional or continued services
28 are received.

29 d. A description of the degree to which the council’s objectives and activities are
30 consistent with the goals of this section.

31 e. Detailed information on the various programs, services, and activities available
32 to participants and the degree to which the programs, services, and activities have been
33 successfully used by children.

34 f. Information on programs, services and activities that should be eliminated;
35 programs, services and activities that should be continued; and programs, services, and
36 activities that should be added to the basic format of the council.

1 **Sec. 90 – 357. Sunshine Law and Public Records**

2 (1) The Council shall operate as required by the Florida Sunshine Law, Chapter
3 286, Florida Statutes (2019), as amended and the Florida Public Records Act,
4 Chapter 119, Florida Statutes (2019), as amended.

5 (2) The Council shall maintain minutes of each meeting, including a record of all
6 votes cast, and shall make such minutes available to any interested person.

7 (3) Meetings of the council shall be publicly noticed.

8 **Sec. 90-358. Fiscal Year.**

9 (a) The fiscal year of the District shall be the same as that of the county.

10 (b) On or before July 1 of each year, the council shall prepare and adopt an
11 annual written budget of the District’s expected income and expenditures, including a
12 contingency fund. The council shall, in addition, compute a proposed millage rate within
13 the voter-approved cap necessary to fund the tentative budget and, prior to adopting a
14 final budget, comply with the provisions of s. 200.065, relating to the method of fixing
15 millage, and shall fix the final millage rate by resolution of the council. The adopted budget
16 and final millage rate shall be certified and delivered to the governing body of the county
17 as soon as possible following the council’s adoption of the final budget and millage rate
18 pursuant to chapter 200. Included in each certified budget shall be the millage rate,
19 adopted by resolution of the council, necessary to be applied to raise the funds budgeted
20 for district operations and expenditures. In no circumstances, however, shall any district
21 levy millage to exceed a maximum of 0.5 mills of taxable valuation of all properties within
22 the county which are subject to ad valorem county taxes.

23 (c) The budget of the district so certified and delivered to the governing body of
24 the county shall not be subject to change or modification by the governing body of the
25 county or any other authority.

26 **Sec. 90-359. Levying of Ad Valorem Taxes.**

27 (1) In order to provide funds for the Escambia Children’s Trust, the District may levy ad
28 valorem taxes annually on all taxable property in the County of one-half mill for a term
29 of 10 years, provided that the authority to levy such taxes has been approved by a
30 majority vote of the electors of the County voting in a countywide election to be held
31 in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution and the laws of Florida. The
32 tax shall be assessed, levied and collected in the same manner and at the same time
33 as is provided by law for the levy, collection and enforcement of collection of County
34 taxes. The authority to levy the ad valorem tax must be submitted to the voters for
35 reauthorization every 10 years commencing with the effective date of this ordinance.
36

1 (2) All tax money collected under this section, as soon after the collection thereof as is
2 reasonably practicable, shall be paid directly to the council by the tax collector of the
3 county, or the clerk of the circuit court if the clerk collects delinquent taxes.

4 (3) a. All moneys received by the council shall be deposited in qualified public
5 depositories, as defined in s. 280.02, with separate and distinguishable accounts
6 established specifically for the council and shall be withdrawn only by checks signed
7 by the chair of the council and countersigned by either one other member of the
8 council or by a chief executive officer who shall be so authorized by the council.

9 b. Upon entering the duties of office, the chair and the other member of the council
10 or chief executive officer who signs its checks shall each give a surety bond in the
11 sum of at least \$1,000 for each \$1 million or portion thereof of the council’s annual
12 budget, which bond shall be conditioned that each shall faithfully discharge the duties
13 of his or her office. The premium on such bond may be paid by the council as part of
14 the expense of the council. No other member of the council shall be required to give
15 bond or other security.

16 (4) No funds of the district shall be expended except by check as aforesaid, except
17 expenditures from a petty cash account which shall not at any time exceed \$100. All
18 expenditures from petty cash shall be recorded on the books and records of the
19 council. No funds of the council, excepting expenditures from petty cash, shall be
20 expended without prior approval of the council, in addition to the budgeting thereof.

21 **Sec. 90-360. Reporting.**

22 (1) Within 10 days, exclusive of weekends and legal holidays, after the expiration of each
23 quarter annual period, the council on children’s services shall cause to be prepared and
24 filed with the governing body of the county a financial report which shall include the
25 following:

26 a. . The total expenditures of the council for the quarter annual period.

27 b.. The total receipts of the council during the quarter annual period.

28 c. A statement of the funds the council has on hand, has invested, or has deposited with
29 qualified public depositories at the end of the quarter annual period.

30 d. The total administrative costs of the council for the quarter annual period.

31 **Sec. 90 – 361. Referendum.**

32 _____ The authority of the Escambia Children’s Trust Special District to levy 0.5 mills to
33 carry out the purposes and intent of this ordinance and to do all things necessary to fund
34 the Children’s Trust and the independent district created hereby shall be presented to the
35 County electorate by placing a question on the November 3, 2020 general election ballot.
36 The Supervisor of Elections of Escambia County shall place the following question on the
37 November 3, 2020, general election ballot:

**CHILDREN’S TRUST OF ESCAMBIA COUNTY – AUTHORITY TO LEVY
ONE-HALF MILL AD VALOREM TAXES**

IN ORDER TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL EARLY CHILDHOOD
EDUCATION, SAFETY, DEVELOPMENTAL, PREVENTATIVE, HEALTH,
AND WELL-BEING SERVICES, INCLUDING AFTER SCHOOL AND
SUMMER ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS, SHOULD AN INDEPENDENT
SPECIAL DISTRICT TITLED THE “ESCAMBIA CHILDREN’S TRUST” BE
CREATED AND BE AUTHORIZED TO LEVY AN ANNUAL AD VALOREM
TAX OF ONE-HALF (1/2) MILL FOR 10 YEARS.

 YES
 NO

Section 3. Severability.

If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any Court of competent jurisdiction, then said holding shall in no way affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

Section 4. Inclusion in Code.

It is the intention of the Escambia County Board of County Commissioners that the provisions of this Ordinance shall be codified as required by Chapter 125, Florida Statutes, and that the sections, subsections and other provisions of this Ordinance may be renumbered or re-lettered and the word "ordinance" may be changed to "section," "article," or such other appropriate word or phrase in order to accomplish such intentions.

Section 5. Liberally Construed.

The Ordinance shall be liberally construed in order to effectively carry out the purposes hereof which are deemed not to adversely affect public health, safety or welfare.

Section 6. Repeal of Conflicting Ordinances.

All Escambia County Ordinances and resolutions, or portions thereof, in conflict with this Ordinance are, to the extent of such conflict, repealed.

This Ordinance does not prohibit the County from exercising such power as is provided by general or special law to provide children’s services.

Section 7. Effective Date.

A certified copy of this ordinance shall be filed with the Department of State by the Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners within ten (10) days after enactment. This ordinance shall become effective only if approved by a “yes” vote of the majority of those voting on the question posed in a November 3, 2020 referendum. If the majority of those voting do not vote “yes” to the question proposed, the District shall not be created and

1 this ordinance shall be of no force and effect. The effective date of the creation of the
2 special district, if approved by the November 3, 2020 referendum, shall be December 1,
3 2020.

4 DONE AND ENACTED this ____ day of _____, 2020.

5

6

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

7

8

9

10

By: _____
Steven Barry, Chairman

11

12

13

14

15

ATTEST: Pam Childers
Clerk of the Circuit Court

16

17

18

By: _____ Date Executed: _____

19

20

(SEAL)

21

22

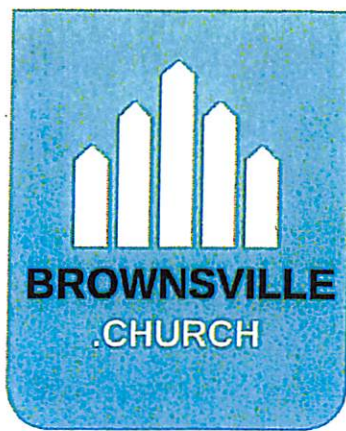
ENACTED:

23

24

EFFECTIVE DATE:

25



June 2, 2020

Hon. Steven Barry, Chair
County Commission District 5
221 Palafox Place
Pensacola, Florida 32502

Dear Commissioner Barry,

I hope you and your family are well. Thank you for all you and your colleagues are doing to keep us safe and keep the county moving forward in this terrible time. I am pleased to tell you that the (name of the organization) Board voted unanimously to support the creation of the Escambia Children's Trust. We respectfully ask the County Commissioners to place a referendum on the November 3, 2020 general election ballot creating the Trust with the taxing authority to levy 0.5 mill ad valorem tax and give the voters the opportunity to approve investing in this transformational initiative to help maximize the potential of all of our children.

The needs in Escambia County to serve our children dwarf the resources of the children's services providers working in early childhood education, detection, intervention, prevention, health and wellness. Our community has wrestled with these problems for decades and the COVID-19 pandemic has shown crucial gaps in our most vulnerable children's safety net. We can do better, and the Escambia Children's Trust can be a significant working partner to help make that happen.

The Escambia Children's Trust, a state statute created Children's Services Council, is a transformational initiative that can be a material part of helping the County recover from COVID-19's impact on our children with additional resources to invest in proven new and expanded evidenced-based programs. There are currently 9 independent CSCs in the State, whose metrics-based program investing has created many documented, positive outcomes. Some of these outcomes include: decreased violent crime, teenage pregnancy, child and sexual abuse, infant mortality, and the number of young black males in jail. They also helped increase reading fluency, kindergarten and school preparedness, high school graduation rates, improved mental and physical health, with the goal of creating a bigger, better educated work force. CSC's also

invest in provider staff development, especially to capture data and measure programmatic success.

The Trust's 10-year term sustainable funding is controlled locally by a diverse 10-member governing board. The sustainable funding is a unique feature as it is not dependant upon the strength of the economy or a governmental or private annual appropriation.

We realize this is a terrible time to ask anyone to incur more cost, but we feel the investment dividends are well worth it as history shows that every \$1 invested early in children saves up to \$13 later in social services. The Trust is funded by a voter approved 0.5 mill increase in ad valorem taxes, which would cost a homeowner an average of \$40 per year and the owner of any other type property an average of \$67 per year. Please put the Trust referendum on the November 3rd general election ballot and give your citizens an opportunity to vote on it.

Please let me know if you have any questions or if I can be of any service.

Sincerely,


Dr. Evon Horton

Cc; Hon. Jeff Bergosh District 1
Hon. Doug Underhill District 2
Hon. Lumon May District 3
Hon. Robert Bender District 4
Ms. Janice Gilley, County Administrator
Ms. Alison Rogers, County Attorney
Dr. Kim Krupa, Executive Director Achieve Escambia

COUNTY ATTORNEYS OFFICE

05 JUN2020

AM11:05



MARTIN COUNTY

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

2401 S.E. MONTEREY ROAD • STUART, FL 34996

DOUG SMITH	Commissioner, District 1	TARYN KRYZDA, CPM	County Administrator
STACEY HETHERINGTON	Commissioner, District 2	SARAH W. WOODS	County Attorney
HAROLD E. JENKINS II	Commissioner, District 3		
SARAH HEARD	Commissioner, District 4	TELEPHONE	(772) 288-5400
EDWARD V. CIAMPI	Commissioner, District 5	WEBSITE	www.martin.fl.us

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May 29, 2020

Hon. Steven Barry, Chair
County Commission District 5
221 Palafox Place
Pensacola, Florida 32502

Dear Commissioner Barry,


Hope you and your family are well. I have served as a Martin County Commissioner since 2000 and have the honor of being a past FAC president. I have served on our Children's Services Council for five years. We have had a Children's Services council since 1988. Martin County voters in 2014 reauthorized the Council with a 77% affirmative vote.

The voters have seen and appreciate the positive outcomes created by the Council's investment in over 30 children's programs. These range from oral health to prenatal care for at risk moms, after school and summer programs, children with developmental disabilities, child abuse, mentoring and school readiness. The voters also appreciate the Council's transparency and accountability. We really control operating cost; 91% of our budget is spent in direct programming.

Grantees are held to strict accountability to hit their established program outcome goals. Our staff works with them to help them achieve those goals and we will pull their funding if they do not. We are all very mindful that we are spending taxpayer dollars that needs to be wisely and fairly allocated where it can achieve the best results.

Our Children's Services Council has had a profound and lasting impact in Martin County. I like having a separately funded entity that is laser focused on children's services. I understand that Escambia County is working to place a referendum on the November 3rd general election ballot creating a Children's Services Council. I encourage you to support that effort. We all benefit in so many ways when our children are better prepared to succeed. Please let me know if you have any questions or if I can be of any service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doug Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Doug Smith

Cc;
Hon. Jeff Bergosh, District 1
Hon. Doug Underhill, District 2
Hon. Lumon May, District 3
Hon. Robert Bender, District 4
Ms. Janice Gilley, County Administrator
Ms. Alison Rogers, County Attorney
Ms. Kim Krupa, Executive Director Achieve Escambia



MARTIN COUNTY

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

2401 S.E. MONTEREY ROAD • STUART, FL 34996

DOUG SMITH	Commissioner, District 1	TARYN KRZYDA, CPM	County Administrator
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HAROLD E. JENKINS II	Commissioner, District 3		
SARAH HEARD	Commissioner, District 4	TELEPHONE	(772) 288-5400
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May 19, 2020

Dr. Kim Krupa
Escambia Children's Trust
P.O. Box 1255
Pensacola, FL 32591

Dear Dr. Krupa,

I have served as a Martin County commissioner since 2002. I have served as our Commission's representative to our Children's Services Council for over 9 years. Of the several committees upon which I sit as my county's advocate, it is one of the most rewarding.

Martin County residents first approved our Children's Services Council by referendum in 1988. In 2014, our voters re-authorized our Children's Services Council with a whopping 77% approval from our citizens.

Our residents are supportive because our programming is accountable and successful. Our Board insists that tax dollars are spent to help and enrich our children. Last year, 91% of our budget of \$12.8 million was spent on program services. While our staff is of superlative quality, they accounted for only 7.4% of our expenditures.

Following are some examples of the more than 30 programs that we help to fund:

211

The ARC of Martin County – which helps children with developmental disabilities

Big Brothers/ Big Sisters – mentoring

Boys and Girls Clubs – after school care/ mentoring/ Americorps Members for education

Boys Town – child neglect and abuse

Dunbar – school readiness

Early Learning Coalition

Department of Health – oral health and health

Helping People Succeed – baby care/ early childhood/ positive parent and child interaction

Light of the World Charities – low income children’s dental care

Martin County – after school and summer programs

Healthy Start – prenatal care for at risk parents

Project L.I.F.T. -teens with substance abuse issues

Safe Space

Sickle Cell Foundation

SPLASH – free swimming instruction for poor children

TYKES and TEENS – mental health services

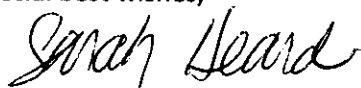
Our service providers deliver the successes they promise each year when they apply for our grants. They must. Our staff enforces rigorous performance standards, or the agency will lose our support and funding.

Our staff and Board are all active and informed advocates for our children while always mindful that our tax dollars are wisely and fairly allocated.

I am very proud of the profoundly beneficial impact our Children’s Services Council has in Martin County. I sincerely wish you the same success in Escambia County.

Thank you.

Special best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Heard". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sarah Heard

Representative List of Escambia Children's Services Trust Supporters June 11, 2020

1. Justin Beck
2. Quint Studer
3. Sandy Sansing
4. Allen Turner
5. Collier Merrill
6. Julian MacQueen
7. Brigette Brooks
8. Jerry Watson
9. Steve Moorhead
10. Walker Wilson
11. Keith Hoskins
12. Beggs and Lane Law Firm
13. Donnie McMahon
14. DC Reeves
15. Mort O'Sullivan
16. Teri Levin
17. Buzz Ritchie
18. Bill Wein
19. John Peacock
20. Joel Smith
21. John Gormley
22. Anthony Caldwell
23. Connie Bookman
24. Fred Donovan, Sr.
25. Fred Donovan, Jr.
26. Robin and Lloyd Reshard
27. John Hosman
28. Vinnie Whibbs
29. Fred Hemmer
30. Bill Dagnall
31. Carolyn Appleyard
32. Laura Gilliam
33. Susan and Greg Carleton
34. Shannon Nickinson
35. Jennifer McFarren
36. Rick Appleyard
37. Michelle Taylor, Ed.D
38. Donna Harper
39. Jason Crawford
40. Sheriff David Morgan
41. Superintendent Malcom Thomas
42. Escambia School Board Patty Hightower
43. Escambia School Board Dr. Laura Edler
44. Escambia School Board Paul Festko
45. Escambia School Board Kevin Adams
46. Workforce Education, Escambia School District
47. Century Mayor Henry Hawkins

48. Martin County Commissioner Doug Smith
49. Martin County Commissioner Sarah Heard
50. St. Lucie Commissioner Linda Bartz
51. Dr. Ed Meadows, President Pensacola State College
52. First Place Partners
53. Greater Pensacola Chamber of Commerce
54. Gulf Coast Minority Chamber of Commerce
55. Escambia Education Association, 4,000 teachers and professional support staff
56. Escambia County Public Schools Foundation
57. Escambia County School Board; passed a resolution unanimously
58. Pensacola Young Professionals
59. YMCA of Northwest Florida
60. Council on Aging for West Florida
61. Florida Department of Health in Escambia County
62. Re-Entry Alliance Pensacola
63. Ascension Sacred Heart
64. Baptist Health Care
65. West Florida Hospital
66. Nemours Children's Specialty Care
67. Mary Mehta, MD
68. John Lanza, MD
69. James Jimenez, MD
70. Pastor Lonnie Wesley
71. Pastor Tyler Burns
72. Pastor George Ladd
73. Pastor Dave Snyder
74. Pastor Michael Collins
75. 160 letters of support

Name	District
Achieve Escambia	3
Alexis Bolin Realtor	5
Allison McCory	5
Amanda Edge	4
Andrew Jones	4
Anita Totten	
Basil Kuloba	4
Bill Dagnall	1
Bill Wein, IMS Expert Services	4
Blaise Moehl	4
Brandon McFarren	4
Briana Wigley	2
Bridget Wilson	4
Brunie Emmanuel	2
Carol Cleaver	4
Carolyn Appleyard	3
Cassandra Smith, Lincoln Park Elementary	3
Cate Jordan, 90 Works	3
Cindy Kirk	4
Claire Kirchharr	4
Cognitive Big Data Systems	3
Cynthia Brown	5
Dahlen Wilson	4
Darzell Warren	1
Deborah Corbin	4
Deborah Douma Ed.D	3
Deborah Goldberg PhD.	4
Donna Curry	5
Donna Harper President EEA	3
Doreen Swartz	4
Dr. & Mrs. James Jimenez	4
Dr. Jamin Wells	4
Dr. Laura Edler	3
Dr. Ramie Gougeon	4
ECARE	3
Dr. Ed Meadows, President Pensacola State College	4
Elizabeth Morgan	4
Ellen Kent	
FSA Investment Group	2
Gary McCormick	5
Gary Tringas	3
Geoffrey Ramirez	4
Gini Beran	2
Gordon Wade	1
Greg Strader, BRACE	2

Holly Busse	4
Ildi Hosman	1
Jennifer Grove	4
Jennifer McFarren	4
Jenn Petion	1
Jessica Edwards	2
Jessica Prather	5
Jimmy Wilson	4
Johnathan Hosman	1
John Clark, Council on Aging	3
Beggs & Lane, John Daniel Managing Partner	3
John Hodgdon	3
Dr. John Lanza, Escambia Health Department	3
Jonathan Green	4
Jonathan Potrzeba	3
Julian MacQueen, Innisfree Hotels	2
Kathleen Goldsborough	4
Katrina Madden	2
Kelly Gontarski, Star Point Screening	2
Kerri Coots	3
Kevin Adams	1
Kim Stefansson	1
Dr. Kimberly Krupa	4
Krissy Smith	2
Kristie Kelley ECSD Foundation	3
Laura Gilliam	1
Laura McAuley, Pediatric DDS	4
Lauren Anzaldo	4
Leah Harrison	4
Leah Nalty Ralls	4
Lesley Mickles	3
Lesley Mickles, Boys and Girls Club, Emerald Coast	
Lindsey Cannon Childrens Home Society	3
Lindsey Shaw	4
Lloyd and Robin Reshard	3
Lonnie Wesley, Pastor Greater Little Rock	3
Lucinda Bateman	2
M.J. Ziemba	4
Mark Faulkner, Baptist Hospital	3
Marti Meacher	1
MaryAnn Bickerstaff	1
Matthew C. Durham	5
Century Mayor Henry Hawkins	5
Megan Fry	2
Melissa Jones	4
Melissa Keener, Big Brothers, Big Sisters NW FL	1
Melissa Lewis	5

Michael E. Collins, Pastor Charity Chapel	1
Michael Wimmer	1
Michelle Coleman	4
Mike Kilmer	3
Morgan Robinson	2
Nemours Children's Specialty Care, Mary Mehta, MD	4
Nicole Partridge	5
Olevia McNalley	4
Patsy Barrington	4
Patty Hightower	4
Paul Fetsko	2
Pensacola Chamber of Commerce, Justin Beck Chairman	3
Project Empower, Tara Potter	3
Raymond Hunt	4
REAP, Inc., Vinnie Whibbs	3
Rick Appleyard	4
Ridgely Goldsborough	4
Robert Foster, Veterans Florida	5
Ruby Monica Sanford BC AG ACNP	4
Sarah Gatewood	
Sarah Head, Martin County Commissioner	
Shannon Nickinson	4
Shirley Stanley	5
Stacey Kostevicki, Gulf Coast Kids House	3
Stan Lollar	5
Steve Marcanio	3
Susan Fawcett	1
T.J. Rollins	5
The ARC Gateway	3
Todd Torgersen, Torgersen Causey	3
Todd Torgersen	3
Tom Hilton	4
Torgenson Causey Insurance	1
Tracy Carreola	1
Vanessa Rainey, PhD. UWF Psychology Dept.	5
Vicki Mathis	3
Vicki Pugh	2
Walker Wilson	3
William Slayton	4
Pensacola Young Professionals, Ruthie Christie Executive Dir.	3
Workforce Education, Aisha Adkison	3
John Porter	3
United Way Of West Florida	3
P-20 Education, Andrea Wilson	1
Emaly Allison	3
Ascension Sacred Heart, Will Condon	4
Allen Turner	3

Rachelle Burns, M.A.	4
Walter B. Watson, jr.	1
Ruthie Christie	3
La-Vonne Haven, Campfire Gulf Winds	4
Jerry Resch, Kiwanas Clubs, Pensacola	4
Dave Synder, Senior Pastor, First Baptist Church	1
Connie Bookman	4
Healthy Start Coalition	3
John Jensen	4
Karen Belmore	4
D'Anna Entrekin	2
Max Petion	1
Shaletha Robinson	5
Early Learning Coalition	3
Gulf Coast Minority Chamber, Brian Wyer Executive Director	3
John Gromley, BBVA Compass Bank	
Claudia Girgis, Kinderworld	4
Dave Synder, Senior Pastor, First Baptist Church	3
West Florida Hospital, Gary Nord CEO	4
Mort O'Sullivan, CPA	2
Keith Hoskins	1
Michael Wimmer	
Dahlen Wilson	
Cassandra Smith, Lincoln Park Elementary	
Lloyd & Robin Reshard	3
Lonnie Wesley, III, Pastor Greater Little Rock Baptist Church	3
First Place Partners, Mark Faulker, Chairman	
Doug Smith, Martin County Commissioner	
YMCA of Northwest Florida	

Committee of the Whole

5.

Meeting Date: 06/16/2020

Issue: COVID-19 Impacts to 2021 Budget

From: Janice Gilley, County Administrator

Information

Recommendation:

COVID-19 Impacts to 2021 Budget

(Sharon Harrell - 15 min)

A. Board Discussion

B. Board Direction

Attachments

No file(s) attached.
