

LEON COUNTY RESOLUTION NO. 22-48

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING A CITIZEN COMMITTEE NAMED THE TRUSTED PEOPLE NEIGHBORHOOD ENGAGEMENT STEERING COMMITTEE, WHICH SHALL OPERATE AND FUNCTION AS A FOCUS GROUP; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Leon County (County), in collaboration with Second Harvest of the Big Bend, Inc. (Second Harvest), Children’s Services Council of Leon County (CSC), and the City of Tallahassee (City), conducted nine meetings in May and June 2022 entitled, *Breaking Bread Together: Neighborhood Dinner and Conversation on Tackling Food Insecurity*, to identify barriers that exacerbate food insecurity in neighborhoods with the highest food insecurity rates in Leon County as determined by Second Harvest’s *Map the Meal Gap* data; and

WHEREAS, nearly 300 neighborhood residents participated in the meetings; and

WHEREAS, the most significant barrier identified by the participants at every meeting was the lack of awareness of the variety of resources currently available to address food insecurity and other basic needs such as childcare, healthcare, and employment services; and

WHEREAS, on July 12, 2022, the Board of County Commissioners (Board) ratified its actions taken at its June 21, 2022 Budget Workshop, directing staff to bring back an agenda item on the establishment of the Trusted People Neighborhood Engagement Steering Committee as a focus group comprised of leaders and stakeholders of the neighborhoods with the highest food insecurity rates to connect human service providers and resources with residents of the neighborhoods for greater awareness and access; and

WHEREAS, the County is committed to engaging neighborhoods, human services providers, funding partners, and other stakeholders to connect neighborhoods to resources that provide basic needs, enhance the quality of life, allow for economic prosperity, and decrease food insecurity and poverty; and

WHEREAS, the County, in partnership with the City, CSC, and United Way of the Big Bend (UWBB), intends to further its commitment through deliberate, targeted, and long-term engagement with residents of the neighborhoods regarding available resources and build relationships to improve trust by the establishment and appointment of the Trusted People Neighborhood Engagement Steering Committee to function and operate in accordance with Board Policy No. 03-15, "Board-Appointed Citizen Committees."

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:

Section 1. Creation of Steering Committee.

The Board hereby establishes a focus group named the Trusted People Neighborhood Engagement Steering Committee, which shall engage leaders and stakeholders in neighborhoods experiencing the highest rates of food insecurity in the County. This Steering Committee shall function and operate as a Focus Group in accordance with Board Policy No. 03-15, "Board-Appointed Citizen Committees."

Section 2. Purpose and Intent of Steering Committee.

The purpose and intent of the Trusted People Neighborhood Engagement Steering Committee is to connect human service providers and residents of the neighborhoods for greater awareness and access to available resources. Additionally, the focus group will serve as a fact-finding source of community input and technical resources for use by County, City, CSC, and UWBB staff in developing staff recommendations to those governing bodies regarding means to strengthen

engagement with neighborhoods experiencing the highest rates of food insecurity to build relationships; improve access to and knowledge of available resources; and reduce barriers to healthy and nutritious food as well as overall economic prosperity. The Steering Committee will perform the following tasks:

- Conduct quarterly meetings with agencies funded by the County, City, CSC, and Big Bend Continuum of Care (CoC) to become familiar with the services available to support residents and how the services are accessed and delivered (CoC provides support services to homeless individuals and families in the Big Bend region).
- Conduct quarterly meetings with neighborhood stakeholders to gather information on the human services needs of residents and disseminate information about the available services through frequent community contacts such as churches, HOAs, youth sports team coaches, barber shops, beauty salons, Title I school counselors, etc.
- Gather feedback from residents to assist the County, City, CSC and UWBB in developing recommendations for consideration by the respective Boards to improve the residents' access to information and services thereby reducing or eliminating barriers to basic services that support economic prosperity.
- Assist County, City, CSC, and UWBB staff in planning and implementing programs and events that engage neighborhood leaders and stakeholders to raise awareness of available resources to the community.
- Participate in the review of Community Human Services Partnership (CHSP) outcome measures and provide feedback on programmatic success and challenges of funded programs to improve outcomes for residents that utilize human services agencies.
- Participate in the development and implementation of diversity, economic, and inclusionary training for CHSP agencies to improve cultural sensitivity and awareness to expand access and delivery of human services to residents in the targeted neighborhoods.

Section 3. Composition of Steering Committee and Appointment of Members.

The Trusted People Neighborhood Engagement Steering Committee shall have twelve (12) members. All members must be at least 18 years old and shall be residents of the County, with demonstrated knowledge, experience, capacity, and cultural awareness necessary to engage families and households within the neighborhoods that struggle, or are reluctant, to access nutritious food and meals as well as available human service resources in Leon County.

The Board of County Commissioners waives section six (6) of Board Policy No. 03-15, “Board-Appointed Citizen Committees”, and authorizes the County Administrator to make the County’s appointments to the Trusted People Neighborhood Engagement Steering Committee. The members shall be appointed as follows:

- a. Three (3) appointments by the County Administrator;
- b. Three (3) appointments by the City Manager;
- c. Three (3) appointments by the Executive Director of the CSC; and
- d. Three (3) appointment by the President and CEO of the UWBB

At least five of the appointments shall be residents of the following neighborhoods and shall include at least one resident from each neighborhood:

- e. Bond;
- f. Frenchtown;
- g. Griffin Heights;
- h. Providence; and
- i. South City

Section 4. Terms of Service on Steering Committee.

The terms of members of the Trusted People Neighborhood Engagement Steering Committee shall be for three (3) years, with no member serving more than three full consecutive three-year terms.

Section 5. Vacancies on Steering Committee.

Any vacancy shall be filled by the respective appointing organization for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Section 6. Staffing of Steering Committee.

The County's Office of Human Services and Community Partnerships shall staff the Trusted People Neighborhood Engagement Steering Committee.

Section 7. Applicability of Disclosure of Financial Interests.

The members of the Trusted People Neighborhood Engagement Steering Committee shall not be subject to full and public disclosure of financial interests.

Section 8. Dissolution of Steering Committee.


The Trusted People Neighborhood Engagement Steering Committee shall be dissolved only as directed by the Board.

Section 9. Effective Date.

This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

DONE, ADOPTED AND PASSED by the Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida, this 13th day of September, 2022.

LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: 
 Bill Proctor, Chair
 Board of County Commissioners

ATTESTED BY:

Gwendolyn Marshall Knight, Clerk of Court & Comptroller, Leon County, Florida

By: 
  DocuSigned by:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Chasity H. O'Steen, County Attorney
Leon County Attorney's Office

By: 