



INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA
AGENDA ITEM
**Department of Community Services/
Human Services**

Date: April 19, 2024
To: The Honorable Board of County Commissioners
Thru: John A. Titkanich, Jr., County Administrator
Michael C. Zito, Deputy County Administrator
Cindy Emerson, Community Services Director
From: Megan Kendrick, Human Services Manager
Subject: Assumption to Indian River County Grant Contract for the STEP into Kindergarten Children's Program

BACKGROUND:

On October 1, 2023, the County entered into a grant contract with The Education Foundation of Indian River County to deliver the STEP into Kindergarten (STEP) summer program. The STEP program is an evidence-based model that extends learning to help mitigate the negative effects of the summer slide and promotes a smooth transition to kindergarten for children 4-5 years of age who have completed a Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) program. STEP is a bridge program that gives priority to students identified as homeless, migrant, or residing in school zones with the highest rates of poverty. Administered in partnership with the Indian River County School District, STEP is projected to serve 225 students this summer.

DESCRIPTION AND CONDITIONS:

Since having executed the contract, The Education Foundation has undergone dissolution of the organization. To ensure the continuity of the positive impact provided by the STEP program for the children of Indian River County, The Learning Alliance was designated as an alternate agency with the expertise and qualifications necessary to serve as the program's fiscal agent.

On March 5, 2024, the Children's Services Advisory Committee unanimously approved The Learning Alliance to assume the current grant contract for the STEP into Kindergarten program for fiscal year 2023-2024.

FUNDING:

There are no changes to the approved funding allocation for the STEP into Kindergarten program, however the allocation will change from being payable to the Education Foundation to The Learning Alliance.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Board of County Commissioners approve the CSAC's recommendation for The Learning Alliance to assume the STEP into Kindergarten FY 23/24 Grant Contract and authorize the Chairman to execute the Assumption Contract after review and approval by the County Attorney for legal sufficiency.

ATTACHMENTS:

Assumption Contract
STEP into Kindergarten Grant Contract

APPROVED AGENDA ITEM FOR May 7, 2024