

**ALACHUA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**LOCAL SPORTS DESTINATION ENHANCEMENT GRANT APPLICATION**

**Applications must be received no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, November 20, 2020**

*Late applications will not be considered.*

For programs and activities occurring between October 1, 2020 - September 30, 2021

Alachua County Visitors and Convention Bureau

33 North Main Street

Gainesville, Florida 32601

(352) 374-5260

**Purpose**

The Alachua County Board of County Commissioners has allocated a portion of the Tourist Development Tax revenue to aid in the operations and promotions of local sporting events that have, as one of their main purposes, the attraction of tourists as evidenced by the promotion of the event to tourists.

The total estimated award amount for the Fiscal Year 2021 grant is $130,000.

**Application Submission**

Applications should be submitted with all requested information. Missing or re-worded questions constitute an incomplete application. Each applicant is responsible for full and complete compliance with all laws, rules and regulations which may be applicable. Applications should be bound/stapled on the left side. **One (1) Original should be submitted.**

Applications should be placed in a sealed envelope and labeled on the outside:

**“Local Sports Destination Enhancement Grant Program”**

It is the complete responsibility of the applicant to compile and package its proposals according to instructions.

**ALL applications must be received no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, November 20, 2020 to:**

**Alachua County Visitor and Convention Bureau 33 North Main Street, Gainesville, Florida 32601**

**(352) 374-5260**

**Inquiries/Questions**

Questions regarding any portion of the application or application process must be made in writing via email to the VCB at [info@visitgainesville.com](mailto:info@visitgainesville.com). All questions must be submitted no later than 10 calendar days before the proposal due date. All questions will be answered and posted to the VisitGainesville.com website. It is essential that applicants check the website for Addenda.

http://www.visitgainesville.com/partner-resources

Please print the question and answers, sign and include with your application.

**Prohibited Communications**

The funding process is not over until the final award decisions are made by the County Commission. To ensure fair consideration for all applicants, the County prohibits communication regarding this funding process, including the funding recommendations to or with any department, employee, elected official, or any other person involved in evaluation of or consideration of the applications, until the County Commission has formalized its funding decision. Communication includes both oral and written, except as set forth above. The County's representative may initiate communication with an applicant in order to obtain information. Except as set forth above.

**Acceptance/Rejection of Applications**

Alachua County reserves the right to reject any application which may be considered irregular, show serious omission, or unauthorized alteration of form. Alachua County reserves the right to accept any application in whole or in part, to waive technicalities, or to accept applications which, in the County's judgment, best serve the interests of the County.

**Public Records**

Responses to this grant, upon receipt by the County, become public records subject to the provisions Chapter 119 F.S., Florida Public Records Law.

**Program Guidelines/Funding Levels**

Applicants are able to request funds based on revenues reported in the organization’s last filed 990, up to a maximum of $50,000. The funding levels are as follows:

Revenues Over $ 200,000 Maximum request $50,000

Revenues up to $ 199,999 Maximum Request 25% of budget

Revenues up to $ 100,000 Maximum Request 30% of budget

A minimum of 25% of the award must be spent on out-of-county marketing. Out-of-county marketing is defined as advertising, promotion, direct sales, publicity and sales activities that take place and are directly targeted to persons and groups who live outside the boundaries of Alachua County. To qualify for reimbursement, the marketing must reach at least 51% of the listeners/readers/viewers from beyond the Alachua County borders.

**Eligibility**

Applicants must fulfill the following at the time of application.

1. Be a local sports organization or other local organization providing a sporting event.
2. The event will be within the boundaries of Alachua County.
3. The proposed event has as one of its main purposes the attraction of tourists as evidenced by the promotion of the event to tourists.
4. Be a nonprofit organization under the Florida Department of State Division of Corporations. A copy of Active Status from Sunbiz.org must be attached to the application.
5. Have documented IRS nonprofit, tax-exempt status.
6. Governmental and educational organizations are not eligible to apply for local sports program grants.

**Credit Attribution Requirements**

All grantees must include the Visit Gainesville, Alachua County, FL logo and the following statement, “Funded in part by Visit Gainesville, Alachua County” on all organizational and promotional materials, including but not limited to print brochures, flyers, programs, posters, postcards, website, digital, radio, television, billboards, and promotional items.

**Allowable Marketing and Promotion Expenditures**

Out-of-county marketing must reach 51% outside Alachua County, including but not limited to, newspapers, magazines, radio, television, billboards and websites. Printing and postage of promotional materials distributed to over 51% out-of-county addresses.

**Social Media Promotion Guideline**

Guidelines for expenditures on social media. Please include screenshots of the promotions as backup with invoices.

Facebook / Twitter / Instagram / YouTube / Other social media outlets: Tag post with “Funded in part by Visit Gainesville, Alachua County, FL” (Text or Logo) and use hashtags #WhyILoveGNV or #WhatsGoodAlachuaCounty

**Non-Allowable Expenditures**

This grant will not reimburse for the following disallowable expenditures:

* Salaries, benefits, travel, or expenses of personnel not directly related to the creation of the programs, events or attractions that are open to the public;
* Payment of any bills of a personal nature, such as rent, mortgage, utilities, personal vehicles;
* Real property; capital improvements, including but not limited to new construction, renovation, restoration, installation or replacement of fixtures, and tangible personal property;
* Interest or reduction of deficits or loans, fines, penalties, or cost of litigation;
* Expenses incurred or obligated prior to or after funding period;
* Member-only events, entertainment, food or beverages for private events;
* Events which are restricted to private or exclusive participation, including camps;
* Making payments or reimbursements for goods or services purchased for previous or other events, invoices paid outside of contract period;
* Advertising, printing or other expenses that omit the Visit Gainesville, Alachua County, FL logo and/or recognition.
* Benefits, projects, and fundraisers that benefit organizations other than the contracted applicant;
* Benefits and projects planned primarily for fundraising purposes;
* Prize money, scholarships, awards, plaques, certificates, or contributions;
* Political or religious events;
* Alcohol;
* Any expenditure not authorized by Alachua County Code of Ordinances.

**Reimbursement**

All funds are available on a reimbursement basis only. Copies of paid invoices, cancelled checks, tear sheets, printed samples or other backup information which shows proof-of-payment must accompany all requests for funds.

Invoices for events should be submitted within 60 days of the conclusion of the event. Invoices for ongoing programs should be submitted quarterly.

**Evaluation Team Selection**

Applications will be scored by the evaluation team who will present their funding recommendations to the County Commission.

**Budget Information**

1. A complete copy of your most recently filed IRS Form 990 or IRS Form 990EZ
2. Detailed statement of revenues and expenses for the most recently completed fiscal year.
3. For applicants whose primary organizational purpose or mission is not to attract event attendees, a separate event budget with direct expenses and revenues for the program is required. Funding request amounts will be based on that figure rather than the organizational budget.

Failure to provide a complete copy of your filed IRS Form 990 and detailed budgets will disqualify the application.

# INSTRUCTIONS

Complete and provide the following:

* Grant Application Cover Page
* Addenda Question and Answers; initialed

Required Budget Documents

* A statement of revenues and expenses for the most recently completed fiscal year.
* A complete copy of the most recently filed IRS Form 990
* Detailed project / event budget for applicants whose primary organizational purpose or mission is not to attract event attendees. (Note: funding request amounts will be based on that figure rather than the organizational budget.)

Required Organizational Documents

* **Authorized Signatory** – Provide proof of persons authorized to sign contracts by submitting a Florida Department of State, Division of Corporations registration copy, board resolution or other evidentiary

document.

* **Board of Directors** – Provide a list indicating officers and all directors’ contact information including

name, business affiliation, and contact information.

* Current **State of Florida Solicitation License** from the Florida Department of Agriculture

(Continued on next page.)

**Attendance (40 Points)**

* Attendance Ratio Score Calculation (see chart below). (34 points)
* Detailed explanation of how attendance estimates were determined. (2 points)
* Attendance over previous two years with evaluation report of how is attendance is tracked and verified based on ticket sales, research, surveys, etc. (4 points)

**Attendance Ratio Score**

Funding request divided by attendance = Ratio Score

4.0 and below = 34 points | 4.1 – 9.9 = 30 points | 10-14.9 = 25 points | 15 and higher = 20 points

**Examples: Funding Request Attendance Ratio Points**

$10,000 20,000 .5 34 points

$50,000 50,000 1 34 points

$35,000 6,000 5.8 30 points

$25,000 2,000 12.5 25 points

$10,000 500 20 20 points

$5,000 100 50 20 points

Calculate Your Ratio Score Here: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Funding Request Attendance Ratio Points**

**Merit and Support (30 points)**

1. History of the organization and its contribution to sporting activities in Alachua County. (10 points)
2. Significance of the sporting event in the community and the quality of the proposed event. (10 points)
3. Community support, grants, collaborations and/or in-kind contributions. (5 points)
4. Up to 5 letters of support. (One Point Each = 5 points)

**Excellent: 25-30 points**: Organizational timeline and contributions clearly demonstrate growth, sustainability, and expansion with specific examples. Projects are well-defined, achievable, unique, and reflect excellence. Clear evidence the organization follows best practices in multi-sourced funding strategies with examples of diversified and broad-based community support.

**Good: 20-24 points:** Organizational timeline and contributions are defined. Projects are defined and achievable. Funding strategies provide examples of outside support.

**Fair: 15-19 points:** Little evidence of contributions, sustainability or growth. Programs are not well-defined or achievable. Outside funding sources are lacking and there is little evidence of broader community support.

**Marketing and Advertising Plan (30 points)**

1. Describe the organization’s marketing plan, including out-of-county marketing, and how the proposed event will be promoted to tourists. (15 points)
2. Provide a detailed description with budget breakdown of how 25% of requested grant funding will be spent to attract tourists. (10 points)
3. Additional supporting documents, attach examples of past brochures, programs, reviews, advertising, social media posts, and social media metrics and engagement reports. (5 points)

**Excellent: 25-30 points**: Well-defined marketing plan to grow attendance and attract tourists. Includes strategic use of multiple platforms (social, radio, web, etc.). Articulates understanding of target markets and the demographic profile of attendees. Includes plans for editorial press coverage. Clearly defines a return on investment for marketing and advertising expenditures.

**Good: 20-24 points:** Marketing plan to attract and grow attendance. Includes multiple platforms (social, radio, web, etc.).

**Fair: 15-19 points:** Undefined marketing plan to attract and grow attendance.

**SCORING AND AWARD RATIOS**

**Description Score Funding**

Strongly demonstrates public value of the sporting event. Merits investment of Alachua County funding. 90 – 100 Up to 100%

Satisfactorily demonstrates public value of the sporting event. Merits investment of Alachua County funding. 80 – 89.99 Up to 90%

Demonstrates public value of the sporting event. Merits investment of Alachua County funding. 70 – 79.99 Up to 80%

Makes an incomplete and/or inadequate case for the public value of the sporting event. Information is

confusing, unclear, and lacks specific details. Does not merit investment of Alachua County funding. 69.99 or below No Funding

At time of funding, Evaluation Team award recommendations will be submitted to the Board of County Commissioners. It may be necessary to apply a ratio to the amount each applicant qualifies for. The ratio will be determined by dividing the funds available by the total eligible amount of the applicants. For example: 10 vendors were awarded funding totaling $150,000.00. You will take the available funding (ex. $130,000.00) divided by the awarded funding $150,000.00 giving you a ratio of 0.866. Take your awarded amount and multiply it by the new ratio to give you your actual funding amount.

**GRANT APPLICATION COVER PAGE**

Requested Amount: $ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Contact Name and Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Board President Name and Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Project / Activity Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Project / Activity Dates: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Application Documents

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |
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| $50,000 | 50,000 | 1 | 34 points |
| $35,000 | 6,000 | 5.8 | 30 points |
| $25,000 | 2,000 | 12.5 | 25 points |
| $10,000 | 500 | 20 | 20 points |
| $5,000 | 100 | 50 | 20 points |
|  |  |  |  |

Calculate

Your Ratio Here **🡪**

1. Detailed explanation of how attendance estimates were determined. (2 points – 250 words)

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1. Attendance over previous two years with evaluation report of how is attendance is tracked and verified based on ticket sales, research, surveys, etc. (4 points – 300 words)

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**Merit and Support (30 points)**

1. History of the organization and its contribution to sporting activities in Alachua County.

(10 points – 400 words)

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1. Significance of the sporting event in the community and the quality of the proposed project.
2. (10 points– 400 words)

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1. Community support, grants, collaborations and/or in-kind contributions. (5 points – 300 words)

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1. Up to 5 letters of support. (5 points – Attach.)

**Excellent: 25-30 points**: Organizational timeline and contributions clearly demonstrate growth, sustainability, and expansion with specific examples. Projects are well-defined, achievable, unique, and reflect excellence. Clear evidence the organization follows best practices in multi-sourced funding strategies with examples of diversified and broad-based community support.

**Good: 20-24 points:** Organizational timeline and contributions are defined. Projects are defined and achievable. Funding strategies provide examples of outside support.

**Fair: 15-19 points:** Little evidence of contributions, sustainability or growth. Programs are not well-defined or achievable. Outside funding sources are lacking and there is little evidence of broader community support.

**Marketing and Advertising Plan (30 points)**

1. Describe the organization’s marketing plan, including out-of-county marketing, and how the proposed event will be promoted to tourists. (15 points—500 words.) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Provide a detailed description with budget breakdown of how 25% of requested grant funding will be spent to attract tourists. (10 points – 400 words)

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1. Additional supporting documents, attach examples of past brochures, programs, reviews, advertising, social media posts, and social media metrics and engagement reports. (5 points – Attach.)

**Excellent: 25-30 points**: Well-defined marketing plan to attract and grow attendance. Includes strategic use of multiple platforms (social, radio, web, etc.). Articulates understanding of target markets and the demographic profile of attendees. Includes plans for editorial press coverage. Clearly defines a return on investment for marketing and advertising expenditures.

**Good: 20-24 points:** Marketing plan to attract and grow attendance. Includes multiple platforms (social, radio, web, etc.).

**Fair: 15-19 points:** Undefined marketing plan to attract and grow attendance.

**Please initial next to each item below, signifying that you have read and understand the conditions of the Tourism Marketing Program.**

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that all printed and/or digital collateral and advertisements must include the Visit Gainesville, Alachua County, FL logo as one of the event sponsors and on any and all advertising/marketing materials, the event website (with link to VisitGainesville.com), programs, and any newsletters or email notifications promoting the event.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that the event will credit Visit Gainesville, Alachua County, FL at the level equal to the award amount. For example, if the award is $15,000.00 and that is a gold level sponsor, Visit Gainesville Alachua County is to be listed as a gold sponsor.

\_\_\_\_\_ Tickets for the appropriate level sponsorship must be delivered/mailed to Visit Gainesville, Alachua County, FL for promotional activities.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that all reporting requirements must be satisfied in order to receive reimbursement dollars.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that the event must be ADA accessible.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that a statement on letterhead that the applicant is a governmental entity or a copy of the Organization’s Active Status from Sunbiz.org must be attached to be eligible for funding.

\_\_\_\_\_ I certify that my agency operates within the boundaries of Alachua County.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that the budgets are required to be eligible for funding. Failure to do so will disqualify the application.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that I should complete and submit Grant Application Packet by the due date.

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Signature of authorizing official (Board Chair) Signature of Contact Person

**ALACHUA COUNTY GOVERNMENT MINIMUM WAGE**

***THIS IS FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY***

Alachua Board of County Commissioners has adopted a County Government Minimum Wage ordinance. Please provide the following information.

**Are your employees paid the Alachua County minimum wage hourly plus health insurance benefits related**

**to programs assisting Alachua County residents? \_\_\_\_\_ yes or \_\_\_\_\_ no**

**Are your employees paid a the Alachua County minimum wage hourly without health insurance benefits related**

**to programs assisting Alachua County residents? \_\_\_\_\_ yes or \_\_\_\_\_ no**

If funding is received, will your employees be paid the Alachua County minimum wage plus health insurance

benefits **related to programs assisting Alachua County residents?**

If funding is received, will your employees be paid the Alachua County minimum wage without benefits **related to**

**programs assisting Alachua County residents?**

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If funding is received and employees will not be paid the Alachua County minimum wage plus health insurance benefits, please explain:

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