



# **BEESS Discretionary Grant Project Descriptions**

Updated January 1, 2019

Florida Department of Education  
Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS)  
Program Accountability, Assessment and Data Systems

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## ACCESS PROJECT

The Access Project focuses on evidence-based instructional strategies and supports that align with the Florida Standards access points. The Access Project continues to support statewide professional development for teachers to ensure a greater understanding of Florida Standards access points, resources and supports, as they apply to more effective instructional planning, teaching and learning of academic content. The project also provides professional development regarding appropriate supports and strategies for students with significant cognitive disabilities. The project understands the critical need for the identification and development of communication strategies for this population of students and supports training for communicative competence. The project also supports alternate assessment activities that align instruction with assessment, as needed.

**Website:** <https://accesstofs.weebly.com/>

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## ARTS4ALL FLORIDA (FORMERLY KNOWN AS VSA FLORIDA)

The Arts4All Florida project supports student achievement by providing direct arts experiences to students with disabilities and by providing professional development and technical assistance to individuals that provide programs that relate to students' access to art. The project supports the development of inclusive programs and activities in the arts for students with disabilities from prekindergarten (PreK) to 21 years of age.

**Website:** <http://www.arts4allflorida.org/>

**Fiscal Agency:** University of South Florida

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## AUDITORY/ORAL EDUCATION (CLARKE SCHOOLS FOR HEARING AND SPEECH)

The Clarke School Auditory/Oral Education project provides funding assistance at the Clarke School for an attending student's services. The Clarke School serves children with implants or assistive hearing devices from birth to seven years of age in multiple counties, including rural and underserved areas. The Clarke School solely offers an auditory-oral education program, as defined in section 1002.391, Florida Statutes (F.S.), and has an administrator and faculty members who are credentialed as certified listening and spoken language specialists (LSLS). The project facilitates the provision of appropriate services for students who meet eligibility for programs for students who are deaf or hard of hearing (DHH) (Rule 6A-6.03013, Florida Administrative Code [F.A.C.]) or programs for students who have dual sensory impairments (Rule 6A-6.03022, F.A.C.), and have a current individual educational plan or individualized family support plan. The project provides funding for services at auditory-oral education programs, as defined in s. 1002.391, F.S., to attending Florida students who are DHH or who have dual sensory impairments. This project also seeks to provide technical assistance and trainings related to auditory-oral education to public school districts with students who are DHH or who have dual sensory impairments.

**Website:** <http://www.clarkeschools.org/>

**Fiscal Agency:** Clarke Schools for Hearing and Speech

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## AUDITORY/ORAL EDUCATION (DEBBIE SCHOOL)

The Debbie School Auditory/Oral Education Program provides funding assistance at the Debbie School for an attending student's services. The Debbie School serves children in multiple counties, from birth to seven years of age, including rural and underserved areas. The Debbie School solely offers an auditory-oral education program, as defined in s. 1002.391, F.S., and has a supervisor and faculty members who are credentialed as certified LSLs. The project facilitates the provision of appropriate services for students who meet eligibility for programs for students who are DHH (Rule 6A-6.03013, F.A.C.) or who have dual sensory impairments (Rule 6A-6.03022, F.A.C.). The project provides funding for services at auditory-oral education programs to attending Florida students who are DHH or who have dual sensory impairments. This project also seeks to provide technical assistance and trainings related to auditory-oral education to public school districts with students who are DHH or who have dual sensory impairments.

**Website:** <http://pediatrics.med.miami.edu/debbie-school>

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## CENTERS FOR AUTISM AND RELATED DISABILITIES (CARD)

In accordance with s. 1004.55, F.S., and Rule 6A-7.0335, F.A.C., the seven regional CARD centers provide nonresidential resource and training services for persons of all ages and of all levels of intellectual functioning who have autism spectrum disorder (ASD), a pervasive developmental disorder, an autistic-like disability, a dual sensory impairment, or a sensory impairment with other disabling conditions. Each center provides services within its geographical region of the state, which are consistent with the other centers. Each center is expected to coordinate services within and between state and local agencies and school districts, but may not duplicate services provided by those agencies and school districts.

**Website:** <http://florida-card.org/>

### Fiscal Agencies:

- [Florida Atlantic University](#)
- [Florida State University](#)
- [University of Central Florida](#)
- [University of Florida \(Gainesville\)](#)
- [University of Florida \(Jacksonville\)](#)
- [University of Miami](#)
- [University of South Florida](#)

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## CHILDREN'S REGISTRY AND INFORMATION SYSTEM (CHRIS)

The CHRIS is an information database and planning tool that is utilized for tracking, reporting and case management for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEA) Child Find activities. Information stored in CHRIS is used to project the needs of the service delivery system to ensure adequate capacity to meet the needs of children with disabilities entering the public school system during PreK. The CHRIS database is also used to create reports for BEES and to provide information to service providers, which include school districts and Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System Centers' staff.

**Website:** <http://www.chris.miami.edu/>

**Fiscal Agency:** University of Miami

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#### COMMUNICATION/AUTISM NAVIGATOR

Autism Navigator is a collection of web-based courses and tools to bridge the gap between science and community practice. Each component is designed to increase the capacity of health care providers, early intervention providers, educators and families to improve outcomes of young children with ASD using extensive video footage to illustrate effective evidence-based practice. The primary short-term aim is to improve early detection of ASD and communication disorders and increase access to early intervention. The long-term aim is to increase the number of students with ASD, communication disorders and language-learning problems who are ready to learn and can succeed in mastering Florida's state standards in general education.

**Websites:** <https://autismnavigator.com/>

**Fiscal Agency:** Florida State University

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#### CRITICAL INITIATIVES IN VISUAL IMPAIRMENT (CIVI)

The CIVI project provides teacher preparation courses for teachers of the visually impaired (TVIs) and orientation and mobility specialists, through Florida State University, the sole provider in the state. The project is comprised of the Personnel Preparation Initiative (PPI) and the Low Vision Initiative (LVI). The PPI addresses the statewide critical shortage of TVIs and by increasing course accessibility to individuals who are not able to enroll at the main campus. The LVI provides clinical low vision evaluations for eligible students with visual impairments and training in the use of low vision devices for the students and their teachers and parents.

**Website:** N/A

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FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

#### EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS FOR CHILDREN OF MANATEE AND SARASOTA COUNTIES

The project expands an inclusion model from PreK to kindergarten–first grade, including a second and third grade classroom specifically designed to meet the needs of the ASD population, which is growing exponentially. In Manatee County, there are no other inclusion programs even in public schools and only one public school option in Sarasota County.

Easter Seals Southwest Florida utilizes its expertise, which was developed over 70 years ago, to make their spaces more ASD and sensory processing disorder friendly, and to provide an array of therapeutic services and professional staff trainings to our partners' staff.

**Website:** N/A

**Fiscal Agency:** Easter Seals Southwest Florida, Inc.

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#### EDUCATIONAL INTERPRETERS PROJECT (EIP)

The EIP is a state-funded initiative to improve the skills and quality of interpreters working with students who are DHH or who have dual sensory impairments. The project provides technical assistance to school district personnel regarding educational interpreting in an effort to increase the competency level of these individuals. The EIP plans and implements statewide trainings specific to educational interpreting and sign language proficiency, which includes a statewide meeting of school district lead interpreters and a summer training institute. The project also provides tuition stipends to educational interpreters who are taking courses in interpreting, linguistics, American Sign Language or content area, with the intent of improving interpreting skills and general knowledge. These stipends cover a portion of the cost of national certification testing (e.g., Educational Interpreters Performance Assessment and National Interpreter Certification).

**Website:** [www.pasco.k12.fl.us/interpreterproject](http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/interpreterproject)

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#### ELECTRONIC MEDICAID ADMINISTRATIVE CLAIMING SYSTEM (EMACS) DATA MANAGEMENT

The FDOE EMACS Data Management project provides for a sole data management school district that performs functions surrounding the random moment sampling methodology Florida school districts are required to use to participate in the Florida School District Medicaid Administrative Claiming program. Any Florida school district may utilize EMACS at no cost to the district. The Seminole County School District and participating school districts use EMACS to generate and manage required quarterly random-moment samples. The data management school district performs the following:

- Collects school calendars and schedules work hours for relevant staff positions in each participating school district;
- Collects quarterly personnel rosters;
- Generates the quarterly random-moment sample;
- Packages and mails forms to school districts as required;
- Calculates all required data and returns statistics to the FDOE, the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) and school districts; and
- Conducts quarterly reviews on all completed random-moment descriptions (currently 1,000 moments) for the purpose of quality control and advising school districts of possible errors in coding the sample moments in accordance with AHCA requirements.

**Website:** N/A

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#### EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION (ESE) PARENT SURVEY

The ESE Parent Survey project supports the collection of data for Indicator 8 of Florida's State Performance Plan (SPP); the percentage of parents with a child receiving special education services who report that schools facilitated parent involvement as a means of improving services and results for students with disabilities. Florida uses the National Center for Special Education Accountability and Monitoring survey instrument to measure the parent's perception of the schools' efforts to facilitate their involvement. The ESE Parent Survey is conducted each year from February 1 to May 31. The survey is available to parents in three languages: English,



Spanish and Haitian Creole. Parents are provided with a paper survey but also have the option to complete the web-based survey. Once the survey window closes, the collected data are analyzed and the ESE Parent Survey results (i.e., number and percentage of parents responding to the survey and number and percentage of respondents who met Indicator 8) are reported to BEESS for inclusion in the Annual Performance Report. Using these data, the project seeks to gain further insight into factors that may lead to improving or impeding schools' efforts to facilitate parent involvement by examining the relationship of various district-level activities, which may impact performance on Indicator 8 of the SPP. Further analysis of these data provides the basis for developing strategies that encourage parental involvement and strengthen parent and family relationships with schools in their communities.

**Website:** N/A

**Fiscal Agency:** University of Miami

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#### ESE TUITION SUPPORT

The ESE Tuition Support project provides financial support to paraprofessionals enrolled in special education preservice training programs; to ESE teachers earning an endorsement in ASD, PreK disabilities, or severe or profound disabilities; and to speech-language therapists earning a master's degree in speech or language pathology.

**Website:** [www.florida-ese.org/tuition-support](http://www.florida-ese.org/tuition-support)

**Fiscal Agencies:**

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- Florida State University
- University of West Florida

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#### FAMILY CAFÉ (COOPERATION, ADVOCACY, FRIENDSHIP AND EMPOWERMENT)

The purpose of this project is to support Family C.A.F.E, Incorporated (Inc.), as an organization, by providing funding for materials, speakers, travel and per diem for the staff of this program to host an annual statewide conference for persons with disabilities, or other health care needs, and their families.

The purpose of the annual conference is to:

- Promote effective family involvement with their children's education as a way to improve student achievement from kindergarten through grade 12 and increase successful transition from public school to postsecondary education, community living and employment;
- Increase awareness of families, teachers and typical peers of the abilities of students with disabilities and special health care needs; and
- Increase abilities of families and students to effectively problem solve and self-advocate concerning educational issues at the local level.

**Website:** [www.familycafe.net](http://www.familycafe.net)

**Fiscal Agency:** Family C.A.F.E., Inc.

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#### FIRST TEE COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH AND MENTORING PROGRAM (CHAMP)

The First Tee CHAMP project provides educational, tutoring, college preparatory, and health and wellness programming for at risk and developmentally disabled students and young adults.

**Website:** [www.thefirstteemiami.org](http://www.thefirstteemiami.org)

**Fiscal Agency:** First Tee Foundation of Miami

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#### FLORIDA ADVANCING WELLNESS AND RESILIENCE IN EDUCATION (FL AWARE)

FL AWARE is committed to assisting school districts in developing safer schools; improving school climate; increasing awareness of mental health issues; and developing a continuum of social, emotional and behavioral supports that ensure improved outcomes for all students. FL AWARE facilitates the development, implementation and evaluation of the FL AWARE Coordination and Integration Plan developed by the Project AWARE State Management Team and three FL AWARE school districts (i.e., Pinellas, Polk and Duval). The project coordinates technical assistance to support the Florida AWARE State Management Team and the three FL AWARE school districts in developing and sustaining integrated, multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) that promote the mental health of, and advance wellness and resilience of, students within family, educational and community settings. The project also implements the Youth Mental Health First Aid training component of the “Now is the Time” Project AWARE state education agency grant by coordinating mental health literacy and response training for adults serving youth within the three FL AWARE school districts. FL AWARE coordinates with the state education agency Florida School Climate Transformation and expands current BEES’ initiatives focused on integrating social and emotional supports within an MTSS.

**Website:** [www.samhsa.gov/nitt-ta/project-aware-grant-information](http://www.samhsa.gov/nitt-ta/project-aware-grant-information)

**Fiscal Agencies:**

- Duval County School District
- Pinellas County School District
- Polk County School District
- University of South Florida



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The FDLRS ACs is a network of 19 regions that provides the following programs and services for individuals working with ESE students, families and support agencies:

- Assist in the location, identification, evaluation and initiation of appropriate education or other needed services for children and youth, birth through 21 years of age who have, or who are at risk of developing, special or unique needs and are not enrolled in public school.
- Plan collaboratively with school districts, ESE departments, staff development offices, and other professional development entities to provide information, professional development, and technical assistance and follow-up related to effective instructional strategies and service delivery models for the education of children and youth who are exceptional or have unique needs.
- Assist school districts and families who have children who are exceptional or have special or unique needs to develop effective partnerships allowing shared responsibility to improve the education of all children and youth.
- Assist and support school district professional staff and families of students with disabilities in the appropriate use of assistive and instructional technology, assistive technology-related services, universal design principles, and technology that enhances learning and communication.
- Assist schools and school districts in the implementation of inclusive educational practices through a partnership with the Florida Inclusion Network.

**Website:** [www.fdlrs.org](http://www.fdlrs.org)

**Fiscal Agencies:**

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brevard County School District</li> <li>• Broward County School District</li> <li>• Miami-Dade County School District</li> <li>• Duval County School District</li> <li>• Escambia County School District</li> <li>• Hamilton County School District</li> <li>• Highlands County School District</li> <li>• Hillsborough County School District</li> <li>• Lee County School District</li> <li>• Leon County School District</li> </ul> |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marion County School District</li> <li>• Orange County School District</li> <li>• Palm Beach County School District</li> <li>• Pinellas County School District</li> <li>• Polk County School District</li> <li>• Putnam County School District</li> <li>• Sarasota County School District</li> <li>• St. Lucie County School District</li> <li>• Washington County School District</li> </ul> |
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**Discretionary Project Contacts:** <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1VV6vBij4DT9om5yNYg0Y5uIzNHixyW3qhICYipWy7AQ/edit#heading=h.a2maaw1zIqwo>

**FDLRS ADMINISTRATION**

The FDLRS Administration/Human Resources Development (HRD) Project provides overall management of, technical support and professional development for the 19 FDLRS AC managers. Project personnel also provide technical assistance, regional and statewide professional development, and coordination related to the HRD project priorities that are implemented by the HRD specialists that make up the statewide FDLRS HRD network. Through support and leadership provided by the FDLRS Administration/HRD Project, the objectives of the FDLRS ACs are implemented and professional developers are provided with opportunities to maintain and enhance their skills. The FDLRS Administration/HRD Project aligns its activities with BEES' initiatives. In addition, this project coordinates the statewide professional development alternatives online training program, which currently includes 14 modules. Work is done in collaboration with the 19 FDLRS ACs to ensure local implementation. The project also coordinates the statewide Middle Grade 5-9 Online Content Review Module and the Elementary K-6 Online Content Review Module. The project is responsible for statewide coordination of Florida's Strategic Instruction Model.

**Website:** [www2.nefec.org/fdlrs](http://www2.nefec.org/fdlrs)

**Fiscal Agency:** Putnam County School District

**BEES Project Liaison:** April Katine, [April.Katine@fldoe.org](mailto:April.Katine@fldoe.org)

**DOE Office of Grants Management Contact:** Tresa McCloud, [Tresa.McCloud@fldoe.org](mailto:Tresa.McCloud@fldoe.org)

**Discretionary Project Contact:** Mary Ann Ahearn, [ahearnm@nefec.org](mailto:ahearnm@nefec.org)



#### FDLRS MULTIDISCIPLINARY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTERS (FDLRS MDCS)

The FDLRS MDCs are a network of six centers established around the state to provide diagnostic evaluation services for children and youth identified as having complex medical, educational, emotional or behavioral problems. The MDCs also provide consultation, technical assistance, and preservice and in-service trainings for families, teachers and school district personnel concerning children and youth with complex medical, emotional or behavioral problems.

#### Websites:

- Florida State University – <http://mdc.fsu.edu>
- Keiser University – <http://kumc.keiseruniversity.edu>
- University of Florida (Gainesville) – <http://mdtp.pediatrics.med.ufl.edu>
- University of Florida (Jacksonville) – [www.hscj.ufl.edu/pediatrics/diagnostic-and-learning-resources](http://www.hscj.ufl.edu/pediatrics/diagnostic-and-learning-resources)
- University of Miami – [www.fdlrs-um.miami.edu](http://www.fdlrs-um.miami.edu)
- University of South Florida – <http://cfs.cbcs.usf.edu/news-events/detail.cfm?id=637>

**Fiscal Agencies:** Florida State University

- Keiser University
- University of Florida (Gainesville)
- University of Florida (Jacksonville)
- University of Miami
- University of South Florida

**BEES Project Liaison:** Diana McLendon, [Diana.McLendon@fldoe.org](mailto:Diana.McLendon@fldoe.org)

**FDOE Office of Grants Management Contact:** Tresa McCloud, [Tresa.McCloud@fldoe.org](mailto:Tresa.McCloud@fldoe.org)

#### Discretionary Project Contacts:

- Florida State University – Anne Selvey, [aselvey@fsu.edu](mailto:aselvey@fsu.edu)
- Keiser University – Ilene Miller, [imiller@keiseruniversity.edu](mailto:imiller@keiseruniversity.edu)
- University of Florida (Gainesville) – Anne-Marie Slinger, [slingam@peds.ufl.edu](mailto:slingam@peds.ufl.edu)
- University of Florida (Jacksonville) – Jeannie Bowles, [bowles@jax.ufl.edu](mailto:bowles@jax.ufl.edu)
- University of Miami – Lynne Sue Katz, [lkatz@miami.edu](mailto:lkatz@miami.edu)
- University of South Florida – Rose Iovannone, [iovannone@usf.edu](mailto:iovannone@usf.edu)

#### FLORIDA INCLUSION NETWORK (FIN) ADMINISTRATION

FIN provides learning opportunities, consultation, information and support to educators, families and community members resulting in the inclusion of all students.

**Website:** [www.floridainclusionnetwork.com](http://www.floridainclusionnetwork.com)

**Fiscal Agency:** Florida State University

**BEES Project Liaison:** April Katine, [April.Katine@fldoe.org](mailto:April.Katine@fldoe.org)

**DOE Office of Grants Management Contact:** Sue Wilkinson, [Sue.Wilkinson@fldoe.org](mailto:Sue.Wilkinson@fldoe.org)

**Discretionary Project Contact:** Meghan Everett, [meverett@lsi.fsu.edu](mailto:meverett@lsi.fsu.edu)



## FLORIDA INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS CENTER FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED (FIMC VI)

FIMC-VI provides instructional materials, including assessments, as appropriate, for eligible students throughout Florida, administers Federal Quota Funds (for students who are legally blind), maintains a professional loan library for teachers and families of students who have visual impairments or dual sensory impairments, provides statewide and regional trainings, and provides proofreading and transcription services for the statewide assessment program. FIMC-VI also collaborates with statewide and national projects and agencies on a variety of issues, including, but not limited to, statewide assessment, effective and promising practices in braille literacy, and the implementation of the National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard as outlined in IDEA.

**Website:** [www.fimcvi.org](http://www.fimcvi.org)

**Fiscal Agency:** Hillsborough County School District

**BEES Project Liaison:** Judith White, [Judith.White@fldoe.org](mailto:Judith.White@fldoe.org)

**FDOE Office of Grants Management Contact:** Tywana Jones, [Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org](mailto:Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org)

**Discretionary Project Contact:** Kay Ratzlaff, [kratzlaff@fimcvi.org](mailto:kratzlaff@fimcvi.org)



The Florida Instructional Materials Center for the Visually Impaired

## FLORIDA POSITIVE BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORT: MULTI TIERED SYSTEMS OF SUPPORT (FLPBIS:MTSS)

The FLPBIS:MTSS Project is committed to building the capacity of school districts to address significant behavior problems that contribute to unsafe school environments and reductions in student performance. The capacity built helps those school districts assist schools to develop effective discipline, social skills teaching and behavior support strategies for all students.

**Website:** [flpbs.fmhi.usf.edu](http://flpbs.fmhi.usf.edu)

**Fiscal Agency:** University of South Florida

**BEES Project Liaison:** Erin Sampson, [Erin.Sampson@fldoe.org](mailto:Erin.Sampson@fldoe.org)

**FDOE Office of Grants Management Contact:** Tywana Jones, [Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org](mailto:Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org)

**Discretionary Project Contact:** Donald Kincaid, [kincaid@fmhi.usf.edu](mailto:kincaid@fmhi.usf.edu)



## FLORIDA SCHOOL CLIMATE TRANSFORMATION (SCT)

The Florida SCT state education agency grant significantly expands Florida's statewide system of behavioral support by providing training and technical assistance to school districts in implementing an evidence-based, multi-tiered behavior framework for improving behavioral outcomes and learning conditions for all students.

**Website:** [cfs.cbcs.usf.edu/projects-research/detail.cfm?id=492](http://cfs.cbcs.usf.edu/projects-research/detail.cfm?id=492)

**Fiscal Agency:** University of South Florida

**BEES Project Liaison:** Erin Sampson, [Erin.Sampson@fldoe.org](mailto:Erin.Sampson@fldoe.org)

**FDOE Office of Grants Management Contact:** Sue Wilkinson, [Sue.Wilkinson@fldoe.org](mailto:Sue.Wilkinson@fldoe.org)

**Discretionary Project Contact:** Heather George, [hgeorge@usf.edu](mailto:hgeorge@usf.edu)

## INSTITUTE FOR SMALL AND RURAL DISTRICTS (ISRD)

ISRD provides a forum for school district staff from small and rural school districts to keep abreast of changing state and federal legislative requirements and a wide array of topics impacting the delivery of services to students with disabilities and their families, such as curriculum and instructional practices; educational policies, procedures and practices; behavior support; and transition. ISRD's primary purpose is to provide staff development, training and technical support to a network of 48 small and rural school districts, lab schools, the Florida Virtual School, and the Department of Corrections. ISRD's goal is to ensure that service to students with disabilities and their families is enhanced and that positive outcomes for students with disabilities is achieved through increased student performance.

**Website:** [www.isrd.nefec.org](http://www.isrd.nefec.org)

**Fiscal Agency:** Putnam County School District (North East Florida Educational Consortium)

**BEES Project Liaison:** April Katine, [April.Katine@fldoe.org](mailto:April.Katine@fldoe.org)

**FDOE Office of Grants Management Contact:** Tywana Jones, [Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org](mailto:Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org)

**Discretionary Project Contact:** Alice Schmitges, [schmitges@nefec.org](mailto:schmitges@nefec.org)



#### LAUREN'S KIDS

Lauren's Kids provides awareness and education related to the prevention of childhood sexual abuse through the development of resources and the promotion of these resources to school districts and the public. The project distributes curriculum modules for PreK through grade 12 to Florida educators and schools and creates resources to help children and parents cope with the trauma that is associated with child sexual abuse.

**Website:** [www.laurenkids.org](http://www.laurenkids.org)

**Fiscal Agency:** Lauren's Kids, Inc.

**BEES Project Liaison:** Anne Glass, [Anne.Glass@fldoe.org](mailto:Anne.Glass@fldoe.org)

**FDOE Office of Grants Management Contact:** Tywana Jones, [Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org](mailto:Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org)

**Discretionary Project Contact:** Lauren Book, [lauren@laurenkids.org](mailto:lauren@laurenkids.org)



#### LEARNING THROUGH LISTENING (LtL)

The LtL project facilitates support services and training to administrators, teachers, parents and students on the use of digital audio books provided by Learning Ally. Learning Ally is an accessible media producer and is registered with the National Instructional Materials Access Center. The project coordinates with Florida's appointed National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standards authorized user to provide digital audio textbooks and equipment to eligible students with print disabilities. Equipment and software is provided at no cost to students or school districts.

**Websites:**

- [www.learningally.org/Educators/school-grants/Florida](http://www.learningally.org/Educators/school-grants/Florida)
- [www.learningally.org](http://www.learningally.org)



**Fiscal Agency:** Learning Ally

**BEES Project Liaison:** Karrie Musgrove, [Karrie.Musgrove@fldoe.org](mailto:Karrie.Musgrove@fldoe.org)

**FDOE Office of Grants Management Contact:** Tywana Jones, [Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org](mailto:Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org)

**Discretionary Project Contact:** Ed Bray, [ebray@learningally.org](mailto:ebray@learningally.org)

#### MULTIAGENCY NETWORK FOR STUDENTS WITH EMOTIONAL OR BEHAVIORAL DISABILITIES (SEDNET)

SEDNET regional projects provide an intensive integrated educational program to include a continuum of mental health treatment services to enable students with or at risk of emotional and/or behavioral disabilities (EBD) to develop appropriate behaviors and demonstrate academic and career education skills. SEDNET is a network of 19 regional projects that are comprised of the major child-serving agencies, community-based service providers, and students and their families. Local school districts serve as fiscal agents for each local regional project. Within this framework, SEDNET focuses on developing interagency collaboration and sustaining partnerships among professionals and families in the education, mental health, substance abuse, child welfare and juvenile justice systems serving children and youth with and at risk of EBD.

**Website:** [www.sednetfl.info](http://www.sednetfl.info)



**Fiscal Agencies:**

- Brevard County School District
- Broward County School District
- Clay County School District
- Columbia County School District
- Miami-Dade County School District
- Escambia County School District
- Hendry County School District
- Hernando County School District
- Hillsborough County School District
- Levy County School District
- Liberty County School District
- Manatee County School District
- Orange County School District
- Palm Beach County School District
- Pinellas County School District
- Polk County School District
- St. Lucie County School District
- Volusia County School District
- Washington County School District

**BEES Project Liaison:** Anne Bozik, [Anne.Bozik@fldoe.org](mailto:Anne.Bozik@fldoe.org)

**FDOE Office of Grants Management Contact:** Tywana Jones, [Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org](mailto:Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org)

**Discretionary Project Contacts:** <http://www.sednetfl.info/Regions.aspx>

### SEDNET ADMINISTRATION

The SEDNET Administration project provides overall management of and technical support and professional development for the 19 local SEDNET projects. Through support and leadership provided by the SEDNET Administration project, the local SEDNET projects, school districts and other stakeholders are better postured to provide intensive, integrated educational programs to include a continuum of mental health treatment services to enable students with or at risk of EBD to develop appropriate behaviors and demonstrate academic and career education skills.

The SEDNET Administration project is responsible for the following:

- Building capacity of local SEDNET projects;
- Providing a more unified structure, including evaluation and monitoring of SEDNET, to ensure accountability;
- Ensuring comprehensive technical assistance and training;
- Ensuring local SEDNET projects solicit school district input related to school district needs in order to address these needs;
- Increasing collaboration with related discretionary project initiatives and maximizing resources and the delivery of technical assistance;
- Building capacity of collaboration with system of care agencies at local and state levels; and
- Increasing parent involvement, support and education for families of children with and at risk of EBD.

**Website:** [www.sednetfl.info](http://www.sednetfl.info)

**Fiscal Agency:** University of South Florida (St. Petersburg)

**BEES Project Liaison:** Anne Bozik, [Anne.Bozik@fldoe.org](mailto:Anne.Bozik@fldoe.org)

**FDOE Office of Grants Management Contact:** Tywana Jones, [Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org](mailto:Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org)

**Discretionary Project Contact:** Nickie Zenn, [nzenn@usfsp.edu](mailto:nzenn@usfsp.edu)

### PARTNERSHIP FOR EFFECTIVE PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS WITH AUTISM (PEPSA)

Under PEPSA, the statewide CARD staff partners with Florida educators to provide training and technical assistance in developing a plan for implementing innovative and effective practices in the school environment.

**Website:** [www.doepartnership.fmhi.usf.edu](http://www.doepartnership.fmhi.usf.edu)

**Fiscal Agency:** University of South Florida

**BEES Project Liaison:** Diana McLendon, [Diana.McLendon@fldoe.org](mailto:Diana.McLendon@fldoe.org)

**FDOE Office of Grants Management Contact:** Tywana Jones, [Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org](mailto:Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org)

**Discretionary Project Contact:** Katy Fostier, [kfostier@usf.edu](mailto:kfostier@usf.edu)



## PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT PROJECT (PDSP)

The PDSP project develops and provides technical support for multimedia products, including databases, websites, online courses, and other electronic and print materials that support the implementation of BEESS' initiatives. Additionally, the project provides support to BEESS in the areas of specific learning disabilities, secondary transition, speech and language, occupational therapy, and physical therapy.

**Website:** [www.florida-ese.org](http://www.florida-ese.org)

**Fiscal Agency:** Florida State University

**BEESS Project Liaison:** Judith White, [Judith.White@fldoe.org](mailto:Judith.White@fldoe.org)

**FDOE Office of Grants Management Contact:** Tywana Jones, [Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org](mailto:Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org)

**Discretionary Project Contact:** Lezlie Cline, [lezlie@fcim.org](mailto:lezlie@fcim.org)

## PROBLEM SOLVING AND RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION (PS/RtI)

The PS/RtI project results in the high-quality implementation of statewide training, technical assistance and building sustainable capacity for the problem-solving and response to instruction and intervention framework in Florida school districts. The project provides training and support to professionals in Florida, provides technical assistance and service support to professionals, and delivers products to project stakeholders. Each year, the project conducts a comprehensive needs assessment with each of the school districts in Florida to determine district-driven priorities for the project. The project conducts program evaluations to inform policies and practices at the district and state levels.

The project collaborates with the FLPBIS:MTSS project to provide direct support to districts to implement an MTSS. The project facilitates regional professional learning communities for the MTSS contacts in every school district and provides intensive supports to districts to accelerate the performance of struggling students.

The project provides training and technical assistance to discretionary projects, school districts and the FDOE to implement the Small-Group Planning and Problem-Solving Process (Eight-Step Problem-Solving Process), which is a required component of school and district improvement plans. The project collaborates with the Florida Center for Reading Research; Just Read, Florida!; and the Florida Center for Research-Science, Technology, Engineering and Math to support evidence-based instructional practices in an MTSS.

The project provides resources, staff support, training and technical assistance to all school districts to ensure the effective integration of specially designed instruction for students with disabilities throughout an MTSS, and provides focused staff support, training and technical assistance to districts identified by BEESS to improve outcomes of students with disabilities.

The project provides regional technology coordinators and technology specialists to support the effective implementation of accessible instructional materials, assistive technologies, learning technologies and universal design for learning principles within all tiers of instruction. The project also manages, coordinates and supports the regional assistive technology loan libraries.

**Website:** [www.floridarti.usf.edu/](http://www.floridarti.usf.edu/)

**Fiscal Agency:** University of South Florida

**BEESS Project Liaison:** Karrie Musgrove, [Karrie.Musgrove@fldoe.org](mailto:Karrie.Musgrove@fldoe.org)

**FDOE Office of Grants Management Contact:** Tywana Jones, [Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org](mailto:Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org)

**Discretionary Project Contact:** Jose Castillo, [jmcastil@usf.edu](mailto:jmcastil@usf.edu)



## PS/RtI TECHNOLOGY AND LEARNING CONNECTIONS (TLC)

The TLC team is a part of Florida's MTSS through the PS/RtI project at the University of South Florida. The TLC services support the local development of highly effective classrooms for all students based on the Florida Standards through an MTSS in a universal education system.

The TLC team provides guidelines and resources to support the implementation of:

- The Florida Standards
- Assistive and Instructional Technology



- Accessible Educational Materials
- Universal Design for Learning

The TLC staff includes five regional technology coordinators and regional technology specialists housed at the Regional Assistive Technology and Universal Design for Learning Centers. The team also supports the regional local assistive technology specialists and their activities.

**Website:** [www.tlc-mtss.com/](http://www.tlc-mtss.com/)

**Fiscal Agency:** University of South Florida

**BEES Project Liaison:** Karrie Musgrove, [Karrie.Musgrove@fldoe.org](mailto:Karrie.Musgrove@fldoe.org)

**FDOE Office of Grants Management Contact:** Tywana Jones, [Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org](mailto:Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org)

**Discretionary Project Contact:** David Davis, [david@tlc-mtss.com](mailto:david@tlc-mtss.com)

#### PROJECT SEAHORSE (HEALING OPPORTUNITIES AND RESOURCES IN SECONDARY EDUCATION)

Project SeaHORSE is a recently developed, school-based peer counseling and mental health prevention and intervention program. It expands intensive mental health services to students in Hernando County School District identified with moderate to serious mental health concerns in two high schools and an alternative school demonstrating the greatest needs. The project also provides nonclinical prevention services to these students in the areas of communication, meeting human needs, conflict resolution, mentorship and natural supports, and self-determination. Project SeaHORSE collaborates with BayCare, Inc., a local mental health provider, to provide the clinical counseling services to the Hernando County School District. The schools served are selected based on a review of suicide assessments, homicide assessments, the hospitalization of a student pursuant to the Baker Act, school attendance and office discipline referrals. School staff recommends identified at-risk students to take an elective peer counseling course provided for course credit, which includes individual counseling, group counseling, life coaching and the development of a life management person-centered plan. Students may take the course multiple times if a need exists. Qualified professionals teach the course.

**Website:** N/A

**Fiscal Agency:** Hernando County School District

**BEES Project Liaison:** Anne Glass, [Anne.Glass@fldoe.org](mailto:Anne.Glass@fldoe.org)

**FDOE Office of Grants Management Contact:** Sue Wilkinson, [Sue.Wilkinson@fldoe.org](mailto:Sue.Wilkinson@fldoe.org)

**Discretionary Project Contact:** Kelly Downey, [downey\\_k@hcsb.k12.fl.us](mailto:downey_k@hcsb.k12.fl.us)

#### PROJECT 10: TRANSITION EDUCATION NETWORK (PROJECT 10)

Project 10 assists school districts and other stakeholders in building capacity to provide secondary transition services to students with disabilities in order to improve postschool outcomes. Project 10 addresses the following major initiatives: statewide capacity building, interagency collaboration, transition legislation and policy, and student development and outcomes, and Indicators 1: Graduation Rate, 2: Dropout Rate, 13: Secondary Transition Individual Educational Plan Components, and 14: Postschool Outcomes of Florida's State Performance Plan.

**Website:** [www.project10.info](http://www.project10.info)

**Fiscal Agency:** University of South Florida (St. Petersburg)

**BEES Project Liaison:** Wendy Metty, [Wendy.Metty@fldoe.org](mailto:Wendy.Metty@fldoe.org)

**FDOE Office of Grants Management Contact:** Tywana Jones, [Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org](mailto:Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org)

**Discretionary Project Contacts:**

- Jordan Knab, [jknab@usfsp.edu](mailto:jknab@usfsp.edu)
- Danielle Roberts-Dahm, [i.roberts@usfsp.edu](mailto:i.roberts@usfsp.edu)



#### RESOURCE MATERIALS AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER FOR THE DEAF/HARD OF HEARING (RMTC D/HH)

RMTC-D/HH provides statewide coordination for the delivery of specialized technology and instructional materials to students who are D/HH or who have dual sensory impairments, as well as training and technical assistance to educators and parents of students who are D/HH or who have dual sensory impairments.

The project provides specialized technology, technical assistance, information referral and training, and facilitates the provision of appropriate services for students who meet eligibility for programs for students who are D/HH (Rule 6A-6.03013, F.A.C.) or programs for students who have dual sensory impairments (Rule 6A-6.03022, F.A.C.). To this end, the project staff performs limited direct services for students residing in small and rural school districts (e.g., evaluations) as necessary. This project provides technical assistance and services to Florida school districts, with a priority given to the 33 small and rural districts. Services include, but are not limited to, evaluations, parent training, in-service education for personnel, and referral to other statewide agencies or resources. The project also provides staff and resources for the coordination, cataloging, standardizing, producing, procuring, storing and distributing of captioned media, and other specialized educational materials needed by qualifying students.

**Website:** [www.rmtcdhh.org](http://www.rmtcdhh.org)



**Fiscal Agency:** Florida School for the Deaf and Blind

**BEES Project Liaison:** Judith White, [Judith.White@fldoe.org](mailto:Judith.White@fldoe.org)

**FDOE Office of Grants Management Contact:** Sue Wilkinson, [Sue.Wilkinson@fldoe.org](mailto:Sue.Wilkinson@fldoe.org)

**Discretionary Project Contact:** Carmelina Hollingsworth, [c.hollingsworth@rmtcosbd.org](mailto:c.hollingsworth@rmtcosbd.org)

#### SPECIAL OLYMPICS, FLORIDA

The goal of Special Olympics Florida is to implement the Unified Champion Schools Program in schools within Florida each year. Unified Champion Schools Program is a school-based project that uses sports and education programs to activate young people to develop school communities where all youth are agents of change. A Unified Champion School has three distinct, but intertwining, components to promote inclusion, which include the following:

- Unified Sports, which combines individuals with and without intellectual disabilities on sports teams for training, competition and skill development;
- Inclusive Youth Leadership, a unified club for individuals with and without intellectual disabilities to develop meaningful relationships, enhance leadership skills, and take responsibility spreading acceptance and ensuring that everyone feels included and welcome in their school; and
- Whole-School Engagement, an activity, event or rally that offers the entire student body the opportunity to participate in or be a part of Project UNIFY, including the utilization of education and community resources.

**Website:** [www.specialolympicsflorida.org](http://www.specialolympicsflorida.org)



**Fiscal Agency:** Special Olympics, Florida, Inc.

**BEES Project Liaison:** Heidi Metcalf, [Heidi.Metcalf@fldoe.org](mailto:Heidi.Metcalf@fldoe.org)

**FDOE Office of Grants Management Contact:** Sue Wilkinson, [Sue.Wilkinson@fldoe.org](mailto:Sue.Wilkinson@fldoe.org)

**Discretionary Project Contact:** Sherry Wheelock, [sherrywheelock@sofl.org](mailto:sherrywheelock@sofl.org)

#### STATE PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENT GRANT (SPDG)

The SPDG project builds capacity in districts to increase school completion rates of students with disabilities, through the provision of professional development to support and scale up existing research-based practices, develop capacity for use of evidence-based dropout prevention strategies and enlist parental support of these research-based practices.

Those practices include Check & Connect and the Strategic Instruction Model™ (SIM). Check & Connect is a Tier 2 and Tier 3 intervention used with secondary school students who show warning signs of disengagement with school and who are at risk of dropping out. At the core of Check & Connect is a trusting relationship between the student and a trained mentor, who advocates and challenges the student to keep education salient. SIM is a literacy program centered on promoting effective teaching and learning of critical content in schools. Focusing

on the Learning Strategies Curriculum and Content Enhancement Routines, SIM strives to help teachers make decisions about what is of greatest importance, what can be taught to help students become more effective learners, and how to teach so that all students, including students with disabilities, increase their proficiency in the Florida standards.

**Website:** N/A

**Fiscal Agencies:**

- Florida Gulf Coast University
- Putnam County School District
- University of South Florida (St. Petersburg)

**BEESS Project Liaisons:**

- Florida Gulf Coast University– Judith White, [Judith.White@fldoe.org](mailto:Judith.White@fldoe.org)
- Putnam County School District – Karrie Musgrove, [Karrie.Musgrove@fldoe.org](mailto:Karrie.Musgrove@fldoe.org)
- University of South Florida (St. Petersburg) – Wendy Metty, [Wendy.Metty@fldoe.org](mailto:Wendy.Metty@fldoe.org)

**FDOE Office of Grants Management Contact:** Lucinda Coverston, [Lucinda.Coverston@fldoe.org](mailto:Lucinda.Coverston@fldoe.org)

**Discretionary Project Contacts:**

- Florida Gulf Coast University – Peg Sullivan, [msulliva@fgcu.edu](mailto:msulliva@fgcu.edu)
- Putnam County School District – Mary Ann Ahearn, [ahearnm@nefec.org](mailto:ahearnm@nefec.org)
- University of South Florida (St. Petersburg) – Elaine Miller, [elainemiller@mail.usf.edu](mailto:elainemiller@mail.usf.edu)

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES (SSS) PROJECT

The SSS Project mission is to provide expertise and leadership for supporting the academic, social, emotional, physical and behavioral development of all students. This is accomplished through the provision of resources and policy development with a topical emphasis on the integration of school psychology, school counseling, school social work and school nursing for maximized impact on student outcomes. The project is committed to the ultimate vision of a comprehensive, fully integrated MTSS that meets the needs of the full range of learners in every school.

**Website:** [www.sss.usf.edu](http://www.sss.usf.edu)

**Fiscal Agency:** University of South Florida

**BEESS Project Liaison:** Heidi Metcalf, [Heidi.Metcalf@fldoe.org](mailto:Heidi.Metcalf@fldoe.org)

**FDOE Office of Grants Management Contact:** Tywana Jones, [Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org](mailto:Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org)

**Discretionary Project Contact:** Jose Castillo, [jmcastil@usf.edu](mailto:jmcastil@usf.edu)



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING SYSTEM FOR PROGRAMS SERVING PREKINDERGARTEN WITH CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES (TATS)

TATS is a statewide system of technical assistance and training that promotes high-quality programs that lead to and support positive outcomes for PreK children with disabilities and their families.

**Website:** [www.tats.ucf.edu](http://www.tats.ucf.edu)

**Fiscal Agency:** University of Central Florida

**BEESS Project Liaison:** LeNita Winkler, [LeNita.Winkler@fldoe.org](mailto:LeNita.Winkler@fldoe.org)

**FDOE Office of Grants Management Contact:** Tywana Jones, [Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org](mailto:Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org)

**Discretionary Project Contact:** Sandy Smith, [sandy.smith@ucf.edu](mailto:sandy.smith@ucf.edu)



## WORKING WITH THE EXPERTS (WWE)

The WWE project provides financial support for professional development activities for speech-language pathologists (SLPs), occupational therapists (OTs) and physical therapists (PTs). In addition, this project facilitates professional development activities for faculty at institutions of higher education (IHEs) that support the preparation of teachers, SLPs, OTs and PTs working with students with disabilities; including a Summer Institute, IHE newsletters and periodic webinars.

**Website:** <http://www.flwwe.net>

### Fiscal Agencies:

- Florida Gulf Coast University
- University of Florida (Gainesville)

**BEES Project Liaison:** Mary Walsh, [Mary.Walsh@fldoe.org](mailto:Mary.Walsh@fldoe.org)

**FDOE Office of Grants Management Contact:** Tywana Jones, [Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org](mailto:Tywana.Jones@fldoe.org)

### Discretionary Project Contacts:

- Florida Gulf Coast University – Peg Sullivan, [msulliva@fgcu.edu](mailto:msulliva@fgcu.edu)
- University of Florida (Gainesville) – Alice Kaye Emery, [aemery@coe.ufl.edu](mailto:aemery@coe.ufl.edu)



## YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS AND TRAINING (YMHAT)

YMHAT is a new discretionary project, whose regions are based on the existing SEDNET discretionary project, which was developed as a result of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act, s. 1012.584, F.S.

The FDOE has selected a national authority on youth mental health awareness and assistance to facilitate providing youth mental health awareness and assistance training, using a trainer certification model, to all school personnel in elementary, middle, and high schools. Each required district school safety specialist shall earn, or designate one or more individuals to earn, certification as a youth mental health awareness and assistance trainer. The school safety specialist shall ensure that all school personnel within his or her school district receive youth mental health awareness and assistance training. The SEDNET regional projects are to collaborate with school districts and school safety specialists in the facilitation of youth mental health first aid training.

**Website:** N/A

### Fiscal Agencies:

- Brevard County School District
- Broward County School District
- Clay County School District
- Columbia County School District
- Miami-Dade County School District
- Escambia County School District
- Hendry County School District
- Hernando County School District
- Hillsborough County School District
- Levy County School District
- Liberty County School District
- Manatee County School District
- Orange County School District
- Palm Beach County School District
- Pinellas County School District
- Polk County School District
- St. Lucie County School District
- Volusia County School District
- Washington County School District

**BEES Project Liaison:** Curtis Williams, [Curtis.Williams@fldoe.org](mailto:Curtis.Williams@fldoe.org)

**FDOE Office of Grants Management Contact:** Sue Wilkinson, [Sue.Wilkinson@fldoe.org](mailto:Sue.Wilkinson@fldoe.org)

**Discretionary Project Contact:** Nickie Zenn, [nzenn@usfsp.edu](mailto:nzenn@usfsp.edu)

YMHAT Administration is a new discretionary project, whose statewide oversight is based on the existing SEDNET discretionary project regions, that was developed as a result of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act, s. 1012.584, F.S. Beginning with the 2018-19 school year, the FDOE shall establish an evidence-based youth mental health awareness and assistance training program to help school personnel identify and understand the signs of emotional disturbance, mental illness and substance use disorders. This training program will also provide such personnel with the skills to help a person who is developing or experiencing an emotional disturbance, mental health or substance use problem.

**Website:** N/A

**Fiscal Agency:** University of South Florida

**BEES Project Liaison:** Curtis Williams, [Curtis.Williams@fldoe.org](mailto:Curtis.Williams@fldoe.org)

**FDOE Office of Grants Management Contact:** Sue Wilkinson, [Sue.Wilkinson@fldoe.org](mailto:Sue.Wilkinson@fldoe.org)

**Discretionary Project Contact:** Nickie Zenn, [nzenn@usfsp.edu](mailto:nzenn@usfsp.edu)