

**SEMINOLE COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

**SUBJECT:** Utilization of Children's Village Property

**DEPARTMENT:** Community Services      **DIVISION:** Community Assistance  
Phillip C. Stalvey, Director                      David Medley, Manager

**AUTHORIZED BY:** Phillip C. Stalvey      **CONTACT:** David Medley      **EXT.** 3363

**Agenda Date** 4/26/05      **Regular**       **Consent**       **Work Session**       **Briefing**   
**Public Hearing - 1:30**       **Public Hearing - 7:00**

**MOTION/RECOMMENDATION:**

**Staff is requesting direction from the Board of County Commissioners in utilization of the "Children's Village" property and development of an RFP.**

**BACKGROUND:**

On 12/14/04 the Board of County Commissioners directed staff to work with the Seminole County Community Alliance to identify an appropriate usage of the property generally referred to as the "Children's Village", located on the corner of Dike and Dodd. Following that meeting, the Community Alliance established a "Children's Village Task Force" comprised of members of the Alliance and other members of the child welfare community to study the needs of the community regarding children's services, identify most pressing "gaps in service", and solicit interest and capacity from service providers in addressing these gaps. The Task Force worked under two guiding principles: (1) services recommended would focus on children, and (2) any interested agency must have the financial capacity to expand their services and provide for any renovations necessary to restore the buildings to acceptable condition.

The priority need identified by the Task Force as a whole is the implementation of an "Independent Living" type program to provide transitional housing and independent living skills training, to a target population of young men and women (ages 16-21) facing pending homelessness, with a focus on those who are aging out of the dependency system. The statutory voting members of the Community Alliance support this usage and request the BCC to consider approval. This proposal also has the support of SC3 (Sharing Concern for Seminole County Shelter Children) which led in the initial construction of the homes.

Reviewed by:  
Co Atty: \_\_\_\_\_  
DFS: \_\_\_\_\_  
Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
DCM: \_\_\_\_\_  
CM: [Signature]  
File No. BCS01

Attachment: Letter of recommendation from Community Alliance.



# Seminole County Alliance for Children and Families

Seminole County Sheriff's Office - 100 Bush Boulevard, Sanford, Florida 32773

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City of Altamonte Springs

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March 30, 2005

Carlton D. Henley, Chairman  
Seminole Board of County Commissioners  
1101 East First Street  
Sanford, FL 32771

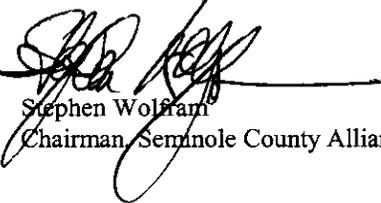
Dear Chairman Henley,

The Board of County Commissioners recently requested the Seminole County Alliance offer a recommendation for the use of the vacant Children's Village building located at the corner of Dike Road and Dodd Road, Winter Park. The Alliance Board tasked its Children's Services Committee to meet and identify the priority need within the child welfare system. The committee unanimously agreed with majority approval by the Alliance Board to proffer the following recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners for the future use of the Children's Village building.

The priority identified and recommended is the development of an "Independent Living" program to provide transitional housing and independent living skills training to a target population of young men and women (ages 16-21) facing pending homelessness with a focus on those aging out of the dependency system. Furthermore, the committee identified various funding streams that could be pursued for the initiation and continued operation of the program. These funding sources include, but are not limited to, HUD, Community Based Care of Seminole, Inc., Federal Grant funding, and a number of private groups focused on children's services.

The Seminole County Alliance thanks you for the opportunity to present our findings, and based on any decision by the Board of County Commissioners stand ready to take action or provide additional information to the BCC as it sees fit.

Respectfully Submitted,



Stephen Wolfram  
Chairman, Seminole County Alliance

cc: J. Kevin Grace, County Manager  
David Medley

**RECEIVED**

APR 01 2005

COMMUNITY  
ASSISTANCE