Memorandum of Understanding: Athens-Clarke County Family Connection Inc.

Through the signing of this MOU, all partners agree to participate in the coordination of services for children and families; participate in the planning process of the WIT Initiative; provide data for evaluation of the WIT Initiative; provide financial information for tracking of matching funds; and work to secure additional resources for full implementation of the initiative.

Whatever It Takes Mission Statement: In order to ensure that all children in Athens are healthy, safe, engaged, successful, and graduate from post-secondary education, we will institute family- and neighborhood-centered initiatives based on the core principles of: using data to direct policy, engaging a critical mass of neighborhood children, coordinating comprehensive services that create a pipeline of continual support, focusing on early intervention, and creating a culture of success with the necessary support to achieve these goals.

Engagement of Community: The WIT initiative is based upon a community engagement and planning process that includes existing documentation and needs assessments provided by the school system, University of Georgia, non-profit organizations, and local government; the strategic planning processes of Athens-Clarke County Family Connection/Communities In Schools and OneAthens (with ten implementation teams), and others; planning meetings; and stakeholder interviews. Four community-wide WIT planning meetings with a diverse group of partners; five WIT committees for grant planning who met approximately 20 times; and

intensive interviews conducted with 15 different key stakeholders were critical components of community engagement. The process sought out diverse sectors of the community including youth, parents, community volunteers, law enforcement, local government, elected officials, educators (from early learning to secondary to post-secondary), social service agencies, health officials, community-based organizations, judges, public housing residents and staff, news media, child care providers, local businesses, homeless advocates, faith community members, labor/employment/training officials and civic leaders.

Governance: A majority of members of the Board are residents of the geographic area proposed to be served. The ***Whatever It Takes Board of Directors*** is that of Athens-Clarke County Family Connection, Inc./Communities In Schools of Athens *(Applicant and Fiscal Agent)* and includes leadership of Clarke County School District *(LEA)*; Advantage Behavioral Health Systems *(mental health)*; Unified Government of Athens-Clarke County *(local government)*; Clarke County Department of Family & Children Services *(child welfare and family economic support)*; Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice, Clarke County *(juvenile justice);* youth representatives *(youth)*; family representatives *(families)*; President & C.E.O. of Chamber of Commerce *(business)*; and at-large elected members. ***Committees include****:* Executive, Finance, Resource Development, Board Development, Community Relations, Early Childhood Education, K-12, Post-Secondary/Career, Family Engagement, Health and Wellness, Data Management and Evaluation.

<u>Roles and Responsibilities of Whatever It Takes Partners:</u>

Specific commitments include:

Athens-Clarke Family Connection/Communities In Schools (FC/CIS): FC/CIS will provide overall coordination and will ensure that program goals are met, services are coordinated, the

community is engaged in the implementation and evaluation of the program, and existing and new resources are effectively and efficiently maximized. FC/CIS will provide $104,099 in cash match provided through state funds and locally raised funds plus $25,000 in in-kind legal services donated by the Alston & Bird law firm, and will serve as fiscal agent for WIT. FC/CIS community and civic volunteers and partners will provide a significant amount of in-kind contributions that will be tracked throughout the year, including all meetings. FC/CIS will manage contracts, provide quarterly financial and program reporting to US DoE and local partners, hire and supervise program staff, oversee implementation of the longitudinal data system. The community, resident, and partner engagement process will be managed by FC/CIS along with publicity, dashboard reporting, meeting facilitation, and training coordination. FC/CIS will share lessons learned through its state and national partners (Ga. Family Connection, CIS of Georgia, CIS National, Clinton Global Initiative). WIT aligns with FC/CIS's vision, theory of change, and theory of action: a community working through genuine collaboration for success for all children; integrating systems; utilizing a holistic, family-centered approach; emphasizing early intervention; making decisions based on data; continuously planning/implementing/evaluating; and being accountable for outcomes.

Clarke County School District (CCSD): CCSD will serve as a member of WIT and serve on the Board of Directors. CCSD will provide a significant contribution of staff time and expertise which will be tracked and reported for in-kind match, including but not limited to: Superintendent; Deputy Superintendent; Associate Superintendent for Instruction; Executive Director of Technology Services; Director of Public Relations and Communications; Director of Student Achievement and Educational Equity; Director of Office of Grants and Research; Director of Applied Learning and School-to-Career Education; Director of Office of Early

Learning; Coordinator of Professional Learning; Director of Office of Assessment and Accountability; Director of Teaching and Learning; Director of School Nutrition; and school and program site staff. CCSD will provide all accounting functions for the grant funds including contracting, payroll for program staff, purchasing, quarterly financial reports to the initiative, and an annual audit; a half-time budget assistant will be provided by grant funds. CCSD will also provide resources in support of the initiative including office space, office furnishings, internet connection, local phone service, record keeping, coordination of local and state funds to support the proposed program, and publicity about the program to students, parents, system personnel, and the community. CCSD will work with project and national evaluators to ensure timely data collection, selection and monitoring of indicators, reporting of outcomes, and use of findings for continuous program improvement. CCSD will provide input, guidance, expertise, and data for the longitudinal data system including compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local privacy laws. The H.T. Edwards facility (upon completion of renovations) will be provided as the headquarters for the WIT initiative. CCSD programs in the initial Alps Road target area serve families from pre-natal to post-secondary preparation (Early Head Start, Head Start, Pre-Kindergarten, Family Literacy, Alps Road Elementary, Clarke Middle, Clarke Central High, Performance Learning Center, Ombudsman, Career Academy). CCSD will provide in-kind meeting space for WIT, including resident, family, and partner meetings. The in-kind value of the Clarke County School District commitments are valued at $87,311 and are provided through state and local funds. WIT aligns with CCSD's vision, theory of change, and theory of action: to prepare our students to be productive members of society by providing a challenging and meaningful education, setting high standards for ourselves and our students, continually

improving the quality of our work, cultivating creative ideas and visionary leadership, learning from our mistakes, and not making excuses.

NE Health District and Clarke County Health Department (Health District): The Health District will participate as a member of WIT and the District Director or County Manager will serve on the Board of Directors. The Health District will provide a significant contribution of staff time and expertise which will be tracked and reported for in-kind match, including but not limited to: District Director and Deputy Director; County Manager; Child and Adolescent Youth Services Director; Babies Can't Wait Director; and WIC Director. The Health District will provide input, guidance, expertise, and data for the longitudinal data system including compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local privacy laws. The Health District will conduct behavior and risk surveys of public school students. The Health District will work with the project and national evaluators to ensure timely data collection, selection and monitoring of indicators, reporting of outcomes, and use of findings for continuous program improvement. The Health District will provide meeting space and will aid in engagement of youth served through its programs. The NE Health District in-kind commitments are valued at $13,376 and provided through state and local funds. WIT aligns with Public Health's vision, theory of change, and theory of action: protecting and improving the health of communities through education, promotion of healthy lifestyles, and research for disease and injury prevention.

University of Georgia, College of Education: The UGA College of Education (CoE) supports the Whatever It Takes initiative and will participate in planning related thereto. It will continue its Partnership Initiative with the Clarke County School District on school reform and will continue the professional learning activities currently underway. Lessons learned in the current year of implementation of the Professional Development School Initiative (university faculty

working collaboratively with district personnel for exploration and implementation of high-impact practices) will be applied to other schools in the district. WIT aligns with the College of Education's vision, theory of change, and theory of action: outstanding scholarship, leadership, collaboration, contribution, excellence in education, communication, and professions fostering health and well-being in order to revitalize education and learning and promote the general health and welfare of a democratic society, to provide the highest level of leadership in furthering education, communication, life-long learning, and health and well-being for all citizens, pursued at local, state, national, and international levels and it must permeate academic preparation programs, community collaborations and partnerships, and the domains of teaching, research, and service.

Athens-Clarke County Unified Government: The Athens-Clarke County Unified Government (city/county) will participate as a member of the initiative. This will include participation on the Board of Directors, continued engagement with the OneAthens initiatives, participation by the Department of Human & Economic Development, the Police Department, and other departments, and coordination with Community Development Block Grant, HOME, and other programs administered by the Unified Government. The Unified Government will provide in-kind meeting space. WIT aligns with the Unified Government's vision, theory of change, and theory of action: "an open and responsive government, facilitating a positive environment for individuals to obtain a high quality of life and local organizations to achieve success by providing innovative, high quality services and responsible stewardship of the community's resources, to benefit current and future generations."

OneAthens: OneAthens (formerly Partners for a Prosperous Athens) will participate as a member of the initiative. The OneAthens implementation teams will continue their work on

Early Care & Learning, Health, Workforce Development, Education, Housing, Transportation, Teen Pregnancy Prevention, Economic Development, and related issues, and this information will support the Whatever It Takes planning. The in-kind value of the time spent by leaders in these teams is $46,000. WIT aligns with the OneAthens's vision, theory of change, and theory of action: to break the cycle of poverty through collaboration, transparency, inclusiveness, and above all, action; embracing change and innovation; addressing issues of race and class; demanding educational excellence; providing quality lifelong learning opportunities for all children and families; developing a skilled workforce in anticipation of future economic growth; supporting volunteerism as a community-wide responsibility; assuring the availability of affordable housing; supporting an efficient health care network that promotes wellness; supports an effective public transportation system; develops a diverse economy that promotes job growth and higher paying jobs; works with policy makers at the local, state, and federal levels to demand that policies meet the priorities of our community; and expects all organizations, institutions, and neighborhood groups to work together to address community-wide issues.

Athens Regional Mind Body Institute: The Mind Body Institute (MBI) will participate as a member of the initiative. At the Mind Body Institute in Athens, services and programs are physician-directed and evidence based. MBI staff will participate in the planning process and will ensure MBI strategies related to mindfulness and health are embedded in the WIT initiative. WIT aligns with Mind Body Institute's vision, theory of change, and theory of action: Helping individuals, families and communities achieve optimal health and vitality through the integration of education; tools for healthy living; caring, professional guidance; and research.

Athens Health Network (AHN) will participate as a member of WIT. It will work to establish a medical records system among the providers, participate in planning a longitudinal data system

with WIT, bridge resources from the University to those in need in the community, plan for a smooth local implementation of national health reform, promote wellness, and engage health partners. The total in-kind contributions of the AHN are incorporated into the OneAthens match (above) and provided through local funds. WIT aligns with AHN's vision, theory of change, and theory of action: working for a seamless system of health care and wellness promotion for all Athens.

Carl Vinson Institute of Government (CVIOG) will provide technical expertise in development of a longitudinal data system. Specifically, it will donate $9,400 worth of time of the $25,000 cost of the technical expertise. After implementation of the longitudinal data system, CVIOG will be in a position to help implement it in other communities through Georgia and elsewhere. WIT aligns with CVIOG's vision, theory of change, and theory of action: to work with public officials throughout Georgia and around the world to improve governance and people's lives by helping government leaders navigate change and forge strong directions for a better future.

Athens Area Community Foundation (AACF) will serve as a member of the WIT Initiative Team. AACF will provide staff time and expertise which will be tracked and reported for in-kind match, specifically including 17 hours/month of the President/CEO. AACF will integrate lessons learned from WIT's planning, collaboration, and implementation process in its grantmaking deliberations. WIT aligns with AACF's vision, theory of change, and theory of action: empowering residents and local organizations in their efforts to create a seamless web of services that helps each family become a "one-stop-shop" for its children's needs and goals; helps neighborhoods become "one-stop-shops" for their residents' needs and goals; and helps the entire county become a "one-stop-shop" for its neighborhoods' needs and goals. Annual value of in-kind donations: $10,200 (all local funds).

Other community partners are participating but not are included in this MoU due to the space limitation; their support and contributions are not included as match in this proposal, but will be tracked and reported. These include, but are not limited to:

Communities In Schools of Georgia; Communities In Schools National Office; Clinton Global Initiative; Georgia Family Connection Partnership; Athens Area Chamber of Commerce; Athens Technical College; Advantage Behavioral Health Systems; Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice, Northeast Georgia and Athens offices; Athens-Clarke County (ACC) Juvenile Court; Clarke County Department of Family & Children Services; Georgia Department of Labor, Northeast Georgia Office; Athens Regional Medical Center; St. Mary's Health Care System; Prevent Child Abuse Athens; Athens Tutorial; Free I.T. Athens; Hancock Corridor Community Development Corporation; Clarke County Mentor Collaborative; ACC Police Department; ACC Library; ACC Department of Leisure Services; ACC Department of Human & Economic Development; Athens Land Trust; Athens Farmers Market; PLACE (food system collaboration); Athens-Clarke Literacy Council; Athens Child Development (nonprofit child care centers); Athens Housing Authority; AthFest (music and arts organization); Athens-Clarke Heritage Foundation; R.E.M.; Building Friendship Frontiers (working with children with autism); Beautiful Godly Girls (out-of-school hour mentoring program); Rites of Passage; Alston & Bird (law firm); faith-based organizations; Boys & Girls Club; Girl Scouts; Mercy Health Clinic; N. E. Georgia Nurses Foundation Clinic; The Cottage Child Advocacy Center; Project Safe; Quality Care for Children; Goodwill; Greater Works Outreach; Young Dawgs (apprenticeship program); Athens Neighborhood Health Center; Hope for Babies; Junior League of Athens; Athens Community Council on Aging; GoodGuides; YWCO, and Habitat for Humanity.

Athens-Clarke County Family Connection, Inc. Memorandum of Understanding Signature Page

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Tim Johnson date
Executive Director
Family Connection/
Communities In Schools of Athens

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Philip D. Lanoue, Ph.D date
Superintendent
Clarke County School District

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Claude A. Burnett, M.D., MPH date
District Director
Northeast Health District

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Delene Porter
President & Chief Executive Officer
Athens Area Community Foundation

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Red Petrovs date
Chair
OneAthens

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Heidi Davison
Mayor
Athens-Clarke County Unified Government

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Arthur M. Horne, Ph.D. date
Dean
College of Education
University of Georgia

_____

John O'Looney, Ph.D. date
Public Service Associate
Carl Vinson Institute of Government

_____

Richard Panico, M.D. date
Medical Director
Athens Regional Mind Body Institute

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Paul Boumbulian, Ph.D. date
Coordinator
Athens Health Network