

JWB's Five Funding Principles align with our Guiding Values, and help drive our investments and competitive procurements:

- **We value every child.** There are cross-cutting factors that present risk to every Pinellas County child, such as domestic violence, physical and mental health issues, child safety, and more. In addition, JWB recognizes that children living in marginalized communities, communities of color, families of lower socio-economic means, and geographic areas that are devoid of opportunities for them to thrive and succeed are at greatest risk. JWB's investments are designed to give children equitable opportunity to fulfill their potential and achieve meaningful and purposeful lives.
- **We embrace collaboration.** JWB considers itself a partner in its funding relationships, and encourages and embraces collaborations and partnerships among those it funds. The benefits of collaboration and partnership include, but are not limited to: shared expertise and problem-solving; leveraging of existing community resources and facilities; greater innovation, accountability, and economies of scale; and enhanced quality and access to services for program participants. These all lead to greater returns on investment in meeting the unique needs of Pinellas County children and families.
- **We are accountable and results-driven.** As a countywide special taxing district, JWB is accountable to Pinellas County citizens and responsibly directs tax payers' investments to give children the best opportunities to succeed. JWB fully expects accountability and measurable results from its funded programs and services. All JWB funded programs receive ongoing monitoring and newly funded or expanded programs will report quarterly updates to JWB on initial year or two of implementation. In addition, [JWB's Board Policy](#) calls for funded agencies to demonstrate financial and operational stability, and to show efforts to diversify financial support.
- **We pursue innovation.** [JWB's Board Policy](#) is to fund programs that are evidence-based and evidence-informed, which includes emerging or promising practices. Competent and high-fidelity models of practices that have undergone rigorous scientific evaluation demonstrating the reliability of the model design and validity of realized results are considered *evidence-based*. Such models typically come with structured and rigorous protocols for design and implementation of the practice, staffing requirements as to skill level and ratios, staff training protocols, participant assessments tools, and program evaluation instruments. The expectation is that the model will be implemented in its entirety, as it has been designed and tested through research (i.e. "fidelity" to the model). A practice or program approach that incorporates some elements of best available research of evidence or evidenced-based models are considered *evidence-informed*. These do not typically require that all aspects of the model be adopted, implemented, or evaluated. Under these considerations, the rationale for selected program-specific components and elements should be explained by referencing relevant research literature. JWB believes in striking a balance between funding evidence-based and

evidence-informed programs and remains open to investing in promising practices and innovative interventions.

- **We value equity, diversity, and inclusion.** JWB seeks to advance and sustain diversity, equity, and inclusion in its investments and encourages the agencies and programs it funds to be culturally competent. Cultural competence is defined as a set of congruent behaviors, attitudes, and policies that come together in a system, agency, or program, enabling it to work effectively in cross-cultural situations. The word culture is used because it implies the integrated pattern of human behavior that includes thoughts, communications, actions, customs, beliefs, values, and institutions of a racial, ethnic, religious, or social group. The word competence is used because it implies having the capacity to function effectively.

Five essential elements of an agency's cultural competence include: (1) Valuing diversity; (2) Having the capacity for cultural self-assessment; (3) Being conscious of the dynamics inherent when cultures interact; (4) Having institutionalized culture knowledge; and (5) Having developed adaptations to service delivery reflecting an understanding of cultural diversity that leads to equitable access and delivery of services to all participants. These five elements should be manifested at every level of an organization, including policy-making, administrative, and practice, and should be reflected in the attitudes, structures, policies, and services of the organization.