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Appropriation Projects by Representative Yvonne Hinson Added to the 2021 State Budget

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Yesterday, the Florida state budget for the 2021 legislative session was released and 3 of 5 projects, totaling over \$1,000,000, was filed by **Representative Yvonne Hayes Hinson (D-Gainesville)**. The Gainesville Regional Transit Eastside Transfer Station (**[HB 3309](#)**), City of Gainesville Community Resource Paramedic Program (**[HB 3619](#)**) and Kids in Positive Places (**[HB 3311](#)**).

HB 3309 aims to increase the frequency of routes and increase access to transportation in an underserved area. A transit priority analysis was conducted in 2013, identifying a need for a new transfer station in the area. The project will also spur immediate job opportunities in design, construction and operation. This initial appropriation provides the funds needed to purchase the property. **HB 3619** provides additional funding for an expansion of the City of Gainesville Community Resource Paramedic Program. This appropriation will contribute to the purchasing of much needed medical equipment which will help bolster the current telehealth program, allowing physicians to reach vulnerable patients remotely. These programs have already proven to reduce 911 usage and hospital readmission rates. Increased funding will hopefully improve health literacy, mental health services, quality of care, and access. This program removes transportation as a barrier to receiving health services.

The third project, **HB 3311**, The Kids in Positive Places program, focuses on personal growth and development, life-skills training and career development. It will benefit hundreds of economically disadvantaged students of all ages. The program will increase physical activity, increase exposure to cultural experiences, and overwhelmingly increase academic achievement.

“I am proud to have been able to help secure much needed resources and funding for House District 20,” said **Representative Hinson**. “This took hard work, vigilant collaboration, and relentless persistence in this legislative environment. I also thank **Senator Perry** for his partnership. I am committed to continuing to support the constituents of the district and of the great state of Florida.”

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