

# Early Learning Update

Office of Early Learning (OEL)

June 2013

*Learn early. Learn for life.*

## *New Fiscal Year Ushers in Change*

New early learning legislation takes effect.

Much of OEL's June activity involved preparing to implement House Bill 7165, which takes effect July 1. Working groups with representatives from OEL, coalitions and other entities involved in early learning services convened in person and by phone to consider how to move the bill from words on a page into reality around the state. Some items require rulemaking.

high-quality early learning opportunities for more of Florida's children.

To help address questions about the new bill, the office developed questions-and-answers documents for early learning coalitions and for providers. Executive Director Shan Goff has also begun a biweekly email update.

*The scope of the legislation requires everyone to be involved—educators, coalitions, providers and early learning stakeholders—to ensure high-quality early learning opportunities for Florida children.*

Others require changing processes.

Clearly, the scope of the legislation requires everyone to be involved—educators, coalitions, providers and early learning stakeholders—to ensure

## *ELC EDs Connect*

Quarterly meeting in Orlando focuses on HB 7165.

The quarterly meeting of the 31 executive directors for early learning coalitions was held in Orlando. The meeting included information about the

implementation process for House Bill 7165. Other presentations included regulations proposed by the United States Health and

## *N.E.W.S. NorthEastWestSouth*



As of July 1, there are 30 early learning coalitions in Florida following the merger of the **ELC of Putnam & St. Johns Counties** with the **ELC of Clay, Nassau, Baker and Bradford Counties**. The combined early learning coalition is the **ELC of North Florida**.

The **ELCs of Orange and Osceola counties** held their third annual *First Five Years Gala* to raise awareness and funds. About 400 business and community leaders and elected officials attended the event that honored **Dave Lawrence** for his support of early learning in Florida.

The **Early Learning Coalition of the Big Bend Region** is starting the summer with a full schedule of professional development opportunities for teachers and providers.

The **Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe** moves to a new service delivery model July 1, bringing all early learning services, including school readiness and VPK, in house. OEL staff was in south Florida to help train the local team.

Human Services Department and partner updates from the Florida Department of Education and Department of Children and Families.

Following the meeting of executive directors, the Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC), which is composed of the governor-appointed chairs for

early learning coalitions, held its quarterly meeting in Orlando. The meeting included an overview of House Bill 7165 and the General Appropriations Act. Attendees discussed the impact of the new legislation on coalitions. Several committees were appointed to consider various aspects of the new bill.

New staff members joined OEL's leadership team in June. Scott Molenburg came on board as CIO leading OEL's technology initiatives. Noelle Bee now guides our policy and program efforts. David Beebe steps up to financial and accounting supervisor.

### Early Learning Programs Profile Monthly State Report May 2013

#### School Readiness (SR)

##### By Provider Type

	Private Center or School	Public Schools	Family Day Care Home	Informal	Total
Children Served in 2012-13 as of 05/2013	197,343	11,017	17,944	208	215,398
Providers Active in 2012-13 as of 05/2013	6,219	933	2,473	104	9,728

<sup>1</sup>Duplication may exist if a child receives School Readiness services from more than one provider within the limits allowed by OEL policies.

<sup>2</sup>Duplication may exist if a provider's type changed during the service period.

##### By Care Level

	By Age							Special Needs	Total
	Infant	Toddler	2 Yr	3 Yr	4 Yr	5 Yr	School Age		
Children Served in 2012-13 as of 05/2013	10,515	22,515	28,683	32,448	32,654	24,244	63,290	1,048	215,398
Providers Active in 2012-13 as of 05/2013	4,834	6,190	6,625	6,817	6,929	6,586	7,132	682	9,728

<sup>1</sup>Duplication may exist if a child receiving School Readiness services has a birthday during the service period.

#### Voluntary PreKindergarten (VPK)

##### By Provider Type

	Child Care Facility	Public Schools	Family Day Care Home	Private School	Total
Children Served in 2012-13 as of 05/2013	139,635	27,396	876	1,761	169,668
Providers Active in 2012-13 as of 05/2013	5,147	1,014	112	57	6,330

<sup>1</sup>Duplication may exist if children receiving VPK services transfer among different providers within limits allowed by OEL policies.

<sup>2</sup>Duplication may exist if a provider's type changed during the period of time being examined.

#### Current Program Year Compared to the Previous Program Year

	School Year	Summer	Program Year
Children Served in 2012-13 as of 05/2013	167,260	290	167,550
Providers Active in 2012-13 as of 05/2013	6,311	28	6,318
Children Served in 2011-12 Final Count	167,348	7,776	175,124
Providers Active in 2011-12 Final Count	6,273	560	6,387

<sup>1</sup> Duplication may exist if a provider participates in both VPK programs.