

Early Learning Update

SUMMER 2019

Office of Early Learning



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Around the State
One Goal Summer Conference

Summer in the Sunshine State

Information and news about early learning in Florida.

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Summer Events

Bringing Together Early Childhood Professionals - The One Goal Summer Conference

Collaboration and rejuvenation while building the professional knowledge of early childhood professionals takes place every July in Tampa, Florida at the One Goal Summer Conference. Each summer over 900 early childhood professionals have the opportunity to share information on best practices in the field and to build common frameworks of knowledge and understanding to assist collaborative planning and support for young children and their families. The One Goal conference began in 1987 when Nancy Thompson, Director of the Office of Early Intervention, envisioned the collaboration of all agencies and organizations to share knowledge, best practices and new research. This summer, the conference, Building the Future Together by “Putting Families and Children First”, allowed early childhood educators, policy makers, state agencies’ staff, non-profit organizations’ staff, health professionals and others to focus on issues affecting Florida’s children and their families and learn about new resources, information, research and legislation that may affect their work with families. Participants



learned and discussed the most current information on best practices and techniques to engage and nurture children, policy and practice resources and materials and information from national, state, and local experts and leaders in the field. In the year 2000, the One Goal Summer Conference planning committee established the Nancy D. Thomas Collaboration Award to recognize Nancy Thomas for her many collaborative achievements. This award is presented to individuals for their statewide efforts in fostering



and maintaining collaboration among programs and services for all children and families in the state. This year Ted Granger of the United Way was the recipient of the award in recognition of his many years of dedication and commitment to collaboration for all children and families in our state.

Sponsors of the 2019 One Goal Summer Conference included:

Association of Early Learning Coalitions
Child Development & Education Alliance
Children’s Forum
Creative Center for Childhood Research & Training
Florida Association for Child Care Management
Florida Association for the Education of Young Children
Florida Children’s Service Council
Florida Department of Children & Families
Florida Department of Education
Florida Department of Health
Florida Family Child Care Home Association
Florida Head Start Association
Florida Head Start State Collaboration Office
Florida Institute of Education at University of North Florida
Florida’s Office of Early Learning
Nemours Brightstart!
The Early Childhood Initiative Foundation
Training & Technical Assistance Services at Western Kentucky University
United Way of Florida



ELC of Duval

Summer Reading Program begins at the ELC of Duval. Employees sign up to read to children in our lobbies. Attached are photos of our President and CEO, Denise Marzullo reading a couple of books including “Chicka Chicka Boom Boom.”



The ELC of Duval and the Children’s Movement Florida went along with Rep. Tracie Davis as she toured a couple of childcare centers in her district. We learned a lot about her views on early learning and now she can help support us in Tallahassee.



ELC of Marion County

Child Care Provider Appreciation

On June 22 Early Learning Coalition of Marion County (ELCMC) hosted its yearly Provider Appreciation event. ELCMC's contracted partners were treated to local catering from Mojo's Grill, countless new educational items for their classrooms and lastly, a keynote address from education and child-entertainment experts Shawn and Sheryl Brown.

Providers showed up at 8:00 a.m. for the first session. With coffee in hand the child care providers were met with smiles from ELCMC staff. Each provider in the morning session was served eggs, croissants, and bacon from Mojo's. As providers devoured their breakfast and enjoyed the lessons of Shawn and Sheryl Brown, they were each taken aside to deliver their new teaching materials to their cars. Each child care provider received a set of materials specifically designed for the age group of their class.



For the afternoon session ELCMC staff, Mojo's, and Shawn and Sheryl Brown finished the second half of the day with more food, giveaways, and another amazing show that rivaled the energy of the first. Mojo's even provided food for staff as a surprise, and at no additional cost. It was a fun and fulfilling day that left all providers and staff with smiles on their faces.

ELC of North Florida

Ocean Themed Literacy Program Makes a Big Splash with Local Children

Over the summer the Early Learning Coalition of North Florida's (ELCNF) outreach team is holding a series of Ocean themed literacy programs in local preschool centers. The programs consist of an interactive story time featuring ocean-themed books, songs and rhymes followed by an activity time. During the activity time the children get to make their own ocean in the bottle, paint sea shells, make sand necklaces and ocean-themed hats. Children learn about ocean creatures as well and life in the coral reefs as they feel real



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ELC of North Florida Cont'd.



pieces of coral and touch different types of shells. Each child receives a free ocean-themed book to take home. The ocean program is just one of many themed literacy programs that the ELCNF outreach staff and team of volunteers put on.

Other programs include:

Space, Meet the Masters, Dinosaurs, Dance and Movement, Mother Goose “Rhymers are Readers” and Eric Carle’s World of Colors program. The goal of these literacy programs is to expose children to quality literature and to teach important topics that children need to learn. Another goal of the program is to model and provide for the teachers a quality program, which they then in turn can duplicate. Each classroom with a program receives a large resource bag filled with books and teaching materials relating to that theme.

ELC of Northwest Florida



The Office of Early Learning and the Florida Institute for Child Welfare hosted the first Equity Learning Exchange on July 22-23, 2019 in Chipley, Florida. The content included the learning of definitions and concepts that helped participants build individual and organizational capacity to understand the intersections of race, poverty and equity. The trainings introduced concepts about racial identity formation that helped participants identify their personal and professional points of racial identity development and how it impacts their understanding and behaviors regarding issues of race and ethnicity. The training facilitated an interactive experience through the use of dyads and small groups where participants safely practiced talking about the intersections of race, poverty, equity and the need for early childhood education and child welfare reform.

ELC of Palm Beach County



Congratulations to our CEO, Warren Eldridge, who was the recipient of this year's "Advocate Hall of Fame" Award at the 2019 Conference of the National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC). The annual conference was titled "Quest for Quality" this year and was hosted by the Florida Family Child Care Home Association (FFCCHA) in Orlando, Florida, from June 19-22, 2019. The Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County, Inc. provided sponsorships along with hotel accommodations, for the fourth year in a row, to 15 of our local Family Child Care Homes' staff to attend this special event.

ELC of Pasco and Hernando Counties



Registration will be \$30, Sunshine Star Providers \$25, and \$50 at the door. International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET). Continuing Education Units (CEU) will be an additional \$15.

For More Information Contact:
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ELC of Polk County

If you were in Lakeland this past July 22 you would have heard the roar of several motorcycles rolling in to the RP Funding Center. The occasion for the thunderous gathering was the Early Learning Coalition of Polk County's (ELC) first annual Central Florida Wheels of Steel Custom Indoor Motorcycle Show. With Geico as the presenting sponsor, it was an event that was well-supported along with a number of other sponsors, volunteers, and other members of the community that joined to help raise funds. The show featured some amazing custom motorcycle designs and a special Kids Zone where Lakeland Regional Health paired up with Polk County Sheriff to emphasize safety with a "Ride the Right Way" message. Children who attended were fitted with a free bicycle helmet and received a complimentary book from the ELC along with some other goody bag items to take home. The exciting conclusion to the day was the announcement of the winner of a 2019 customized Harley Davidson motorcycle. Chance to win tickets had previously been sold to add to the event's fundraising dollars. Lakeland Mayor Bill Mutz pulled the winning ticket with ELC CEO Dr. Marc Hutek, Geico Assistant Vice President Heather McIntyre, and the Geico gecko at his side.



OEL Resources

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Monthly Motivation

Spend time with your children, listen to them and learn about their interests. It will show your children that you care.

PARENTS' PAGES

[Click to read copies of the July & August Parents' Page](#)

<http://www.floridaearlylearning.com/parents/parents-pages>



JULY 2018 VOL. 1, ISSUE 7
EARLY LEARNING PARENTS' PAGES
The official newsletter of the Office of Early Learning

Sunshine + Standards = Surprising Fun

Summer Learning is Easy!

A TAKE-HOME THIS SUMMER:

- FRODO BAGGINS
- BACK-TO-SCHOOL
- BELL'S TAX HOLIDAY
- BIRTH MONTH



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Saying Goodbye to Home and Hello to School



OFFICE OF
Early Learning
LEARN EARLY. LEARN FOR LIFE.

Florida
School Readiness

Florida **VPK**