



LAUNCHING A CHILD'S FUTURE

Early Learning Coalition of Brevard 2016 -2017 Annual Report

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide leadership and support for School Readiness and Voluntary Pre-kindergarten programs so that children have the opportunity to benefit from the highest quality early learning environments.

EVALUATION OF DIRECT ENHANCEMENT SERVICES

Comprehensive Consumer Education:

Describe how the Coalition coordinated resource and referral programs specifically related to the provision of comprehensive consumer education to parents and the public regarding participation in the school readiness program and parental choice.

During fiscal year 2016 – 2017, the Early Learning Coalition of Brevard continued its expansion of “blended” eligibility and child care resource and referral positions in order to provide a more seamless, comprehensive service delivery model for families. This effort led to eleven staff who historically solely focused on eligibility services to become CCR&R certified. The Coalition continued to highlight CCR&R services through its website, emails and community events. A sample of community outreach events attended include:

- Barnes and Noble Book Fair
- March for Babies 5K
- Healthy Kids Day at YMCA
- Brevard Zoo Family Day
- World’s Greatest Baby Shower
- Autism Conference and Resource Fair
- Kid-A-Palooza
- Back to School Bash

Provider Financial Supports:

Provide a list of grants, awards, or bonuses offered to school readiness program providers to assist them in meeting applicable state requirements for child care performance standards, implementing developmentally appropriate curricula and related classroom resources that support curricula, providing literacy supports, and providing professional development.

Include the qualifying criteria to receive financial supports and related monitoring activities to verify appropriate use of support.

During FY 16.17, the Coalition continued to support participation and payments related to the Performance Funding Project. In addition, all professional development activities, including the annual provider conference, are offered at no cost to providers. Also, the Coalition implemented the Accreditation Support Grant program that offered financial supports as well as technical assistance to three providers who were interested in becoming accredited but had not been able to on their own. An application process was created and the responses were vetted through the Quality Committee of the ELC Board of Directors, as well as staff. Coalition staff will be monitoring the effectiveness of the Accreditation Support Grants during the remainder of the current fiscal year.

Training and Technical Assistance:

Provide a list and description of the trainings and/or technical assistance activities the coalition offered to school readiness program providers, staff, and parents in the following areas:

- Early Learning Standards
- Child Screenings and Assessments
- Developmentally Appropriate Curricula and Character Development
- Teacher-Child Interactions
- Age-Appropriate Discipline Practices
- Health and Safety
- Nutrition
- First Aid
- Recognition of Communicable Diseases
- Child Abuse Detection and Prevention

A listing and description of professional development opportunities is attached to the Annual Report.

Quality Activities for Infant & Toddler Care:

Provide a description of the quality activities and services the coalition provided to enhance infant and toddler care.

The Early Learning Coalition of Brevard continued funding for the local Florida First Start program offered through Brevard Public Schools. The Florida First Start program provider home visiting services, with an early literacy focus, to students participating in the Teenage Parent Program. Many of those services are geared towards supporting infant and toddler care and information. In addition, there was information on infant and toddler care offered at the 7th Annual Child Care Provider Conference – *It’s Never Too Early: Preparing Early Learners for Future Success*. In addition, the Coalition’s Quality Committee of its Board of Directors continued to meet bimonthly to engage in discussions related quality. Discussions centered around the Performance Funding Project, the implementation of the Accreditation Support Grants, professional development and other related topics.

Monitoring:

Describe the process for monitoring of compliance with, and enforcement of, applicable state and local requirements.

The Coalition continued to support providers through the required monitoring events during the fiscal year. School Readiness and VPK providers were monitored utilizing the required tools and in compliance with the established requirements. Coalition supported providers by offering two trainings that were designed to provide a positive monitoring experience for all involved. *School Readiness Monitoring: Heads Up! Triumph or Tragedy?* and *How to Become a VPK Monitoring Success Story!* were well attended and the partnership approach was appreciated by providers.

The Coalition also continued a positive working relationship with the local DCF licensing staff. Communication occurs regularly regarding potential licensing violations, program questions and other areas where sharing information leads to greater compliance.

Inclusion:

Describe the activities the coalition has implemented to promote inclusive child care including responding to Warm-Line requests by providers and parents and providing developmental and health screenings to school readiness program children.

The Coalition continued to offer inclusion and development screening services to the Brevard community. Inclusion staff responded to Warm-Line requests and implemented a team approach for providers and families that benefited from additional supports. Meetings with parents were scheduled together with the teacher/director and inclusion/screening staff in order to ensure that there was agreement on the plan put in place to address the concerns observed in the classroom. The Inclusion Specialist also conducted trainings at provider locations related to inclusion services and specific topic requests, such as managing challenging behaviors.

Developmental screenings were also provided to all enrolled School Readiness children utilizing the ASQ-3 and ASQ-SE, when deemed appropriate. During FY 16.17, the Coalition began a piloting ASQ Enterprise, an online parent access option for completion of the required ASQ. The pilot has proven successful and the Coalition is awaiting information as to how developmental screenings will be implemented in the EFS Modernization project before bringing the project to scale. In addition to ASQs, Coalition screening and assessment staff also conduct vision and hearing screenings on children who visit Coalition offices for their initial eligibility appointments.

DATA SUMMARY

The following information is based on data collected from July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017.

Number of children served in the school readiness program, by provider type, enumerated by age and eligibility priority category, reported as the number of children served during the month, the average participation throughout the month

For these data, see Appendix, Tab D.

Total number of children disenrolled during the year and the reasons for disenrollment

Reason for Disenrollment	Number of Children Disenrolled
Child care provider dismissed child due to child's behavior.	1
Child care provider has closed for economic or other business reasons.	6
Child completed the VPK program that he/she was attending or child completed the full 540/300 hours, whichever comes first.	1
Child has exceeded the age-limit for services.	98
Child is no longer residing with the guardian who completed the initial application. New paperwork must be completed by new guardian.	59
Child is not eligible for current priority groups.	200
Child was determined eligible for services but never enrolled with a child care provider.	27
Client does not show up for redetermination.	162
Client failed to comply with program requirements.	21
Client failed to provide required documentation to maintain eligibility.	23
Client is eligible for services under a different funder (i.e., non funder 1).	22
Client is no longer eligible for services because the family income exceeds the allowable amount for eligibility.	40
Client moved out of the county in which funding is currently provided.	69
Client no longer has a valid purpose for care.	156
Client's contact information is no longer valid and fails to provide updated information by a specified date.	34
Custodian is involved in seasonal work (such as migrant or school district employees) and the child's enrollment is temporarily suspended while custodian is not working.	44
Parent/guardian withdrew child from the program.	316
Physical limitations of child care provider.	1
Provider dismissed child for noncompliance with the provider's attendance policy.	55
Provider dropped child from the provider's program.	20
Provider is under investigation for suspected fraud.	27
Provider no longer receiving SR or VPK funds due to noncompliance or low performance.	35
Provider remains open, but no longer provides VPK or SR services.	3
Referral from referring agency has expired.	146
Referring agency has terminated the referral.	57
Transfer from one SR funding source to another (i.e., BG3 to BG8).	1
Transfer to another provider record (even if the second record is owned by the same provider).	2
Total	1,626

Total number of providers by provider type

Provider Type	Total Providers	Offered SR Only	Offered VPK Only	Both
1. Licensed Private Centers	161	15	50	96
2. License-Exempt Centers	12	0	10	2
3. Large Family Child Care Home	2	1	1	0
4. Licensed Family Child Care Home	8	8	0	0
7. Public School	83	48	35	0

List of any school readiness program provider, by type, whose eligibility to deliver the school readiness program is revoked, including a brief description of the state or federal violation that resulted in the revocation

Leonard Large Family Day Care Home (1713 N. Eden Circle, Titusville) experienced a license revocation by the Department of Children and Families for inadequate supervision. The Coalition communicated with the provider and DCF about the circumstances and quickly followed with contract cancellation notice on November 9, 2015. The termination occurred during FY 15.16.

List of any voluntary prekindergarten program (VPK) provider, by type, whose eligibility to deliver the VPK program is revoked, including a brief description of the state or federal violation that resulted in the revocation

No VPK providers had eligibility revoked during FY 16.17.

The total number of children served in each provider facility

For these data, see Appendix, Tab I.

FISCAL SUMMARY

During the 2016 - 2017 fiscal year, the coalition’s total operating budget was \$31,491,341.

Segregation of School Readiness Program funds, Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program funds, Child Care Executive Partnership Program funds, and other local revenues available to the coalition

Program Funds	Amount
School Readiness funds	\$ 19,402,368
Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program funds	11,483,428
Child Care Executive Partnership Program funds	73,208
Other Local Revenues	532,337
Total	\$ 31,491,341

Details of expenditures by fund source, including total expenditures for administrative activities, quality activities, nondirect services, and direct services for children

Details of Expenditures by Fund Source	School Readiness	VPK	CCEP	Other Local Revenues	Dollars
Administrative Activities	\$ 836,481	\$ 462,597		\$ 25,617	\$ 1,324,695
Quality Services	1,568,764			138,294	1,707,058
Nondirect Services	1,244,657			7,903	1,252,560
Direct Services for Children	15,752,466	\$11,020,831	\$ 73,208	319,011	27,165,516
Total	\$19,402,368	\$11,483,428	\$ 73,208	\$ 490,825	\$31,449,829

Total number of coalition staff and the related expenditures for salaries and benefits. For any subcontracts, the total number of contracted staff and the related expenditures for salaries and benefits

	Number of Staff	Expenditures for Salary and Benefits
Early Learning Coalition Staff	57	\$ 2,832,684
Subrecipient Staff	4	225,847
Total	61	\$ 3,058,531

Please direct questions and comments to the Office of Early Learning at (850) 717-8550 or email oel.questions@oel.myflorida.com

Training and Technical Assistance

Early Learning Standards

Standards for Four-Year-Olds - This training provides an overview of the Standards for Four-Year-Olds, approved for use in VPK programs. The standards describe skills four-year-old children should know and be able to do by the end of their VPK experience and examples of developmentally appropriate instructional techniques for four-year-old children.

Integrating the Standards: Phonological Awareness - Participants have an opportunity to create a developmentally appropriate activity, related to a benchmark in phonological awareness, to be implemented in the classroom. Emphasis is on planning, implementation, teacher self-reflection, and documentation of the activity.

Child Screenings and Assessments

How to Administer the VPK Assessment – The Florida Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) Assessment provides valuable information regarding the monitoring and assessing children's academic progress and how this information can be used to meet the instructional needs of each child. Includes how to administer, record and score each assessment measure.

VPK Assessment Instructional Implications – Provides information regarding the utilization of VPK Assessment results to inform classroom instruction.

Developmentally Appropriate Curricula and Character Development

Ready, Aim, LIT – Literacy for Infants and Toddlers - What is early literacy? What comprises early literacy instruction? How can educators encourage effectual dispositions of early literacy instruction? In this workshop we will examine early literacy development and the early literacy supports available to infants and toddlers. Participants will identify interactive approaches for promoting language and literacy learning. Participants will also design a high quality engaging learning experience reflective of child's age and developmental level that focuses on early language and literacy.

Building Readers and Writers in Preschool - This training is designed to help Pre-K teachers learn how to establish a strong foundation for reading and writing through auditory, visual, and motor preparatory experiences.

How to Teach Grace and Courtesy to Preschoolers - This training is designed to help Pre-K teachers teach grace and courtesy skills to preschoolers beyond the basic "please and thank you." Teachers will learn how to explain and demonstrate everyday grace and courtesy skills such as opening and closing a door quietly, how to sit in a chair, and to blow a nose. This training includes a make and take segment.

Sanford Harmony: Social Emotional Learning Program - Participants will gain knowledge of the following topics and learn new strategies to further enhance the early child care experience for the children in their care: 1)Teacher led instruction and activities, 2)Class meeting to discuss goals, problem-solving skills, speaking, listening, questioning and responding and 3) 1 on 1 interactions between students to create positive relationships.

Back to Basics I and II: This series provides opportunities to renew your practices and refuel your passion for serving children. A variety of topics are covered including addressing challenging behaviors, tray tasking, identifying work styles, child development basics, preschool math ideas and exploring attendees connection to the larger early childhood education field.

Teacher-Child Interactions

Rock a Bye Baby: Strengthening Attunement and Attachment Through Social Play with Infants and Toddlers - Teachers of infants and toddlers will learn how to offer their little ones the best beginnings in brain development through attunement and social play while reducing stress of out of home care for children without increasing demands on staff.

Conscious Discipline: Preventing Power Struggles - By definition, a power struggle involves two people, each of whom is equally committed to winning. Discover the secrets of preventing a power struggle, what to do when you are in the middle of one, and how to heal after one occurs.

Age-Appropriate Discipline Practices

Imagine the Possibilities! Creative Solutions for Classroom Management - Equip yourself with strategies to handle any discipline you encounter with confidence. Empower yourself with practical tools that you can add to your lesson plans and implement the right way. Come and discover a discipline philosophy that reignites your enthusiasm at work and positively impacts every relationship in your life.

Health and Safety – None offered

Nutrition

P.R.E.V.E.N.T. Obesity – Empowering Providers and Families – The Florida Department of Children and Families Child Care Regulation Program Office is committed to empowering both child care providers and families in the fight against obesity in our children. By providing resources, education and training, DCF aims to stop the trend of increasing childhood obesity through prevention.

P.R.E.V.E.N.T. Obesity – Put Some Latitude in Your Attitude - Empowering providers to take a little time to care for themselves! The Florida Department of Children and Families, Office of Child Care Regulation is committed to empowering child care providers in the fight against

obesity. By accessing resources, education and training, you can make simple changes and help yourself to model mindful prevention and healthy behavior.

First Aid – None offered

Recognition of Communicable Diseases – None offered

Child Abuse Detection and Prevention – None offered

In addition:

7th Annual Child Care Provider Conference – *It's Never Too Early: Preparing Early Learners for Future Success*

How to Become a VPK Monitoring Success Story - Providers will learn about the monitoring components of VPK and participate in an interactive training session that will help them evaluate current programmatic practices and make improvements prior to the 2017-18 monitoring season.

School Readiness Monitoring: Heads Up! Triumph or Tragedy - This training will provide insight for directors and owners through the exciting, in-depth School Readiness Monitoring process for upcoming contract year. We will explore the monitoring tool and take a look at what the State of Florida is requiring concerning SR contract compliance. This training is for directors, owners, and assistant directors.

Directors Level Community of Practice - What is Community of Practice and what's in it for me? Community of Practice is a group of people who share a concern or a passion for something they do, and learn how to do it better as they interact. Please join in this Director level open forum meeting to connect through engaging, meaningful activities to share experiences and collectively learn from each other.

Say or Not to Say: A Guide to Parent/Teacher Conferences - Come and learn how to have successful parent/ teacher conferences! We will explore content and documentation to support the information you share with parents.