

# Kite tales

Early Learning Coalition  
of Flagler & Volusia

March 2010

A Publication of the Early Learning Coalition of Flagler & Volusia

● 230 North Beach Street, Daytona Beach, Florida 32114 ● Phone: (386) 323-2400 ● Web: [www.elcfv.org](http://www.elcfv.org)

## Helping Young Children Develop to their Fullest Potential

Improved health and development of young children are a benefit of hearing screening. If hearing loss goes undetected, it may profoundly impact a child's development in speech and language, literacy, social-emotional, cognition, general success in school and future vocation. Some hearing loss can develop later in early childhood; it is recommended that children's hearing continues to be checked.

While working with children each day, please be on the lookout for the following red flags:

- 🚩 **Newborns:** Does not react to unexpected loud noises, does not freely imitate sounds or does not turn head in direction of a voice.
- 🚩 **6 to 12 months:** Does not point to familiar persons, objects or pictures in books when asked, does not babble, or babbling has stopped; babies with severe hearing loss will stop babbling completely by 5-6 months. Does not understand simple verbal requests by 12 months.
- 🚩 **13 to 24 months:** Language delays noted, does not follow simple directions, asks people to repeat what has been said, talks in a loud voice and turns up the TV or CD Player.

**Who to Call:** To assist with early detection and intervention, ELCFV offers hearing screening for children under age 5 by appointment at the Daytona Beach office, and at School Readiness provider sites, if conditions allow for accurate screening. For more information, please contact Early Intervention Specialists at ext. 173 or 188.

Source: "Guide to Health, Hearing and Vision Screening" Parent as Teachers national center

# Follow Us...

## on Facebook & Twitter!

The ELCFV is on Facebook and Twitter! We have created a Facebook page and a Twitter page to have an additional way to stay connected with providers and the community. Find out about meetings and trainings at ELCFV or about events and happenings in the community. By becoming a fan of our page, you will also be able to network with providers in your community and other early childhood organizations. Twitter will be an easy and quick way for you to receive valuable updates and information from ELCFV.

**Signing up is easy!** Go to [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com) to create accounts. Follow the easy steps to set up your account. When your account is set up, search for Early Learning Coalition of Flagler and Volusia on Facebook and on Twitter search for us as ELCFV.

**Become a fan today!!!**

# Library News

## Attention ELCFV Contracted Providers!

Plan to visit the ELCFV Resource Library located at the Daytona Beach office. Make use of a variety of resources to:

- ♦ **Enhance your early childhood knowledge**
- ♦ **Find needed information**
- ♦ **Explore curriculum**
- ♦ **Work on your lesson plans**
- ♦ **Borrow resource materials including children's books, puppets, etc.**

The Resource Library is available **by appointment only**. Providers must use an ELCFV check out form for all library resources borrowed. Materials are also available for delivery through the *Traveling Story Time Van* program upon provider request. (Hours: 8am - 4pm daily) **Please call the coalition office and ask for Floridene Thompson at 386-323-2400, Ext. 136 to schedule an appointment convenient for you.**

# News & Updates

## Community Educational Opportunities

Information about Community Educational Opportunities offered by Flagler Technical Institute Adult Education and Daytona State College are listed on our website at [www.elcfv.org/trainingcalendar.asp](http://www.elcfv.org/trainingcalendar.asp)

## Quarterly Provider Forum: *Be in the know!*

**Be in the know! Plan to attend the next Quarterly Provider Forum on Thursday, April 22, 2010. Light supper at 5:30; forum from 6:30 - 8:30.** Come and share comments, questions and concerns. Learn ways to improve your program and network with other providers in the Flagler/Volusia area! Help us be well prepared for the evening by emailing your R.S.V.P. to Gina Mannocchi: [gmannocchi@elcfv.org](mailto:gmannocchi@elcfv.org) or call 386-323-2400 x132 and also *please* let us know if you need to cancel your RSVP. **See you then!**



Lara Glaser,  
Executive Director, ELCFV



Kathi Gray & Amber Trevino,  
Boston Ave. Charter School



Michele Lowe,  
Parent Educator Coordinator, ELCFV

# Department News

## ELCFV Board of Directors

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Patricia Northey  
Patrick Johnson  
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Sandra Upchurch  
Heidi Rand

## Reimbursement: *Mandatory Reimbursement Workshops!*

### Attention all NEW School Readiness and VPK Providers:

You will soon be contacted by our Reimbursement Services to attend a **mandatory** Reimbursement Workshop. Workshops will be held at our Daytona Beach office. **Please contact Julie Koslik to RSVP at 386-323-2400, ext. 148.**

Current School Readiness and VPK contracted Providers are also welcome to attend. See schedule below:

<b>March 25th</b>	<b>2:00-4:00 p.m.</b>
<b>April 29th</b>	<b>6:00-8:00 p.m.</b>
<b>May 27th</b>	<b>2:00-4:00 p.m.</b>
<b>June 24th</b>	<b>6:00-8:00 p.m.</b>

## Eligibility: *VPK Certificate of Eligibility (COE)*

The issuing of VPK COE's for Fall 2010 will begin March 2010.

Children eligible for the Fall program must be 4 years old by September 1, 2010.

## VPK News: *VPK Provider Readiness Rates*



The final 2008-2009 VPK Provider Readiness Rates were released at the end of February 2010, following a review period to dispute preliminary scores. VPK Readiness Rates can be viewed on the Department of Education (DOE) website <https://vpk.fldoe.org>. If your program fell below the cut-off score, you will be required to complete an improvement plan through DOE, in order to stay within VPK compliance. DOE assistance is available by calling 1-866-447-1159. ELCFV assistance is available by calling Provider Contracts Coordinator, Alecia Coitroni at 386-323-2400 x 186.

There are no charges/fees associated with a provider listing in the Resource & Referral Database or for parent referrals to your program. If you are asked to provide a payment for a referral or for a listing in the CCR&R database, please contact the AWI-OEL R&R Network 1-866-357-3239 or [www.flready.com](http://www.flready.com).

# Department News (cont.)

## Professional Development & Education: *Training Opportunities*

**Professional Development & Education:** There are a variety of trainings being offered in March such as:

**NEW!**

**Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards for Children Age Birth to 3 years** Training on these revised standards is being offered through ELCFV and is especially appropriate for providers working with Infants and Toddlers.

**Reaching Out, Getting your Message to Parents** is a training that can help you market your program. This training is facilitated by **ELCFV Community Outreach Representative, Maureen Lenzion**. Come learn about marketing strategies that can help you increase your enrollment!

**To view our complete calendar and register for these and other trainings, please visit our website at:**

[www.elcfv.org/trainingcalendar.asp](http://www.elcfv.org/trainingcalendar.asp)

**VPK Standards Training** is scheduled for **Thursday, March 11, 2010**. Register at:

[www.myflorida.com/childcare/training](http://www.myflorida.com/childcare/training)

## Inclusion & Behavior Services: *Tip of the Month!*

Personality and learning style matters! To increase the effectiveness of your teaching, present everything in as many modes as possible. Children generally do not learn well by simply listening, they must DO! As Benjamin Franklin said, "Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn."

## Family Services: *Interesting Information from Family Services!*

Providers – have you heard of the **PIRC**? This is a great resource for your program and provides a wide range of developmentally appropriate materials for you to share with parents of children birth through school age. The **Florida Parental Information and Resource Center** at the **University of South Florida (USF)** is a federally funded project of the US Department of Education, and began as our state leader in October 2006.

The **Florida PIRC at USF** provides training and technical assistance to schools and districts on ways to effectively involve parents in their children's education in order for all students to achieve at the highest academic level. The **Florida PIRC at USF** especially seeks to support families of children who may be educationally disadvantaged because of economic factors, differences in language, or learning challenges. Significant emphasis is also given to supporting early childhood parent education, recognizing that a solid foundation for learning is best established in the early years.

The main website is <http://www.floridapartnership.usf.edu/>

You can click on Programs/Services for downloadable workshops, tip sheets, newsletters, activity calendars and more to share with your staff and parents. If you use any of these materials, we'd love some feedback. Please send your thoughts to Marie Allard, Family Services Director at [mallard@elcfv.org](mailto:mallard@elcfv.org).

## Quality Assurance: *ERS Tip of the Month, "Provisions for Children with Disabilities"*

When a program has a child with a diagnosed disability enrolled, this item requires the direct classroom staff/home provider to have information from the child's formal assessment. There should also be direct communication between the child's parent and the classroom staff/home provider about creating goals for the child and how the goals will be met.

## Special Projects: *2010 Children's Week, Plans are Set!*

**Flagler County: Monday, March 15, 2010 - 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

Flagler County Government Services Building, 1769 E. Moody Boulevard, Building 2, Bunnell  
Proclamation for Parents and Children's Day - County Council Meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Community Fair and PBJ Dinner - Third Floor; children's activities, storytelling and entertainment

**Volusia County: Thursday, April 1, 2010 - 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**

Volusia County Kelly Administration Center, 123 West Indiana Avenue, DeLand, FL.

Proclamation for Parents and Children's Day - County Council Meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Community Fair and PBJ Luncheon - Courtyard; children's activities, storytelling and entertainment

Call Debbie Brown, Special Projects Manager at 323-2400, ext. 142 or visit [www.elcfv.org](http://www.elcfv.org) for details.





230 N. Beach St.  
Daytona Beach, Florida 32114

**Non-Profit  
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**Provider  
Appreciation**  
**THURSDAY, MAY 6, 2010**  
**DAYTONA INTERNATIONAL  
SPEEDWAY 500 CLUB**

RSVP EARLY BY CONTACTING  
FLORIDENE THOMPSON:

386-323-2400, EXT. 136

OR

[FTHOMPSON@ELCFV.ORG](mailto:FTHOMPSON@ELCFV.ORG)



**March Meetings**

**Quality Committee Meeting**  
**Thursday, March 11, 9:00 a.m.**  
ELCFV, 230 N. Beach St., Daytona Beach

**Executive Meeting**  
**Wednesday, March 17, 8:30 a.m.**  
ELCFV, 230 N. Beach St., Daytona Beach

**2010 Children's Week Events**  
**Flagler County – March 15, 2010**  
**Volusia County – April 1, 2010**  
*See page 3 for more information.*





**County Chair**  
**Frank T. Bruno, Jr.**

**FRANK T. BRUNO JR.**  
COUNTY CHAIR

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DISTRICT 5

**JAMES T. DINNEEN**  
COUNTY MANAGER

February 10, 2010

Dear Daycare Owner:

Did you know you can help your community receive more money for schools, roads, medical care and housing assistance? It's as easy as encouraging the parents of the children of your daycare facility to complete and return their 2010 U.S. Census form by April 1.

"Get Out the Census Count Week" is March 14-20, which coincides with the mailing of census forms to individual homes in Volusia County. We need your help to promote an awareness of the census and its importance to your parents. Included in this mailing are samples of census information that can be shared with your parents and employees of your daycare facility.

Why is the census so important? It helps to fund community services. Governments use census data to allocate funding for education, public safety, housing, roads, public transportation, and social services. We're talking millions of dollars! Census data also is used to distribute Congressional seats to states and to make decisions about what community services to provide.

The census is simply a count of everyone living in the United States. It is required by the U.S. Constitution and must be conducted every ten years. And it's easy! The 2010 form is the shortest in history, asking only 10 questions and taking about ten minutes to complete. There's no need to worry about privacy either -- by law, census information is completely confidential.

"Get out the Count Week" is sponsored by the Volusia County Complete Count Committee, an intergovernmental group that represents Volusia County government and 16 Volusia municipalities. Its goal is to promote the importance of the census and boost participation above 67 percent, Volusia County's response rate to the 2000 census.

Thank you for your assistance in helping to get the word out about the importance of the 2010 census. If you have any questions, please call Betty Holness, Volusia County's Community Outreach Manager, at (386) 736-5920 or email her at [bjholness@co.volusia.fl.us](mailto:bjholness@co.volusia.fl.us)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Frank T. Bruno, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Frank T. Bruno, Jr., Chair  
Volusia County

United States®  
**Census  
2010**

**KIDS COUNT**

**VOLUSIA COUNTS. EVERYBODY COUNTS.**



## Top 10 reasons to complete your census form

- 1. It's easy.** The 2010 census form contains 10 simple questions and takes about 10 minutes to complete. It's the shortest census questionnaire in history!
- 2. It's important.** Census data will be used to establish state legislative districts and determine the number of seats Florida has in the U.S. House of Representatives.
- 3. It's confidential.** By law, the U.S. Census Bureau cannot share your responses with anyone, including welfare and immigration agencies.
- 4. We all benefit financially.** The data will determine how more than \$400 billion in federal funds will be distributed to local and state governments each year.
- 5. It can help us recruit new businesses.** Local officials will use census data to attract new businesses – and jobs – to Volusia County.
- 6. It helps us plan for future needs.** Data will be used to forecast transportation and housing needs, draw school districts, and develop community assistance programs.
- 7. It can help us during disasters.** The higher our census numbers, the more federal and state assistance Volusia County will be qualified to receive following declared disasters.
- 8. It provides a snapshot of your community.** Each community is different, with different profiles. An accurate census count will help provide for your community's specific needs.
- 9. No one will knock on your door.** If you return your census form by April 1, a Census Bureau employee will not need to visit your home.
- 10. It's the law.** All people living in Volusia County at least six months of the year are required to complete and return their census forms.



IT'S IN OUR HANDS

[www.VolusiaCounts.org](http://www.VolusiaCounts.org)



[www.VolusiaCuenta.org](http://www.VolusiaCuenta.org)

*Parents: Don't forget to include your children on your census form!*