



## Early Learning Coalition of Flagler & Volusia 2008-2009 Annual Report

**Mission Statement:**

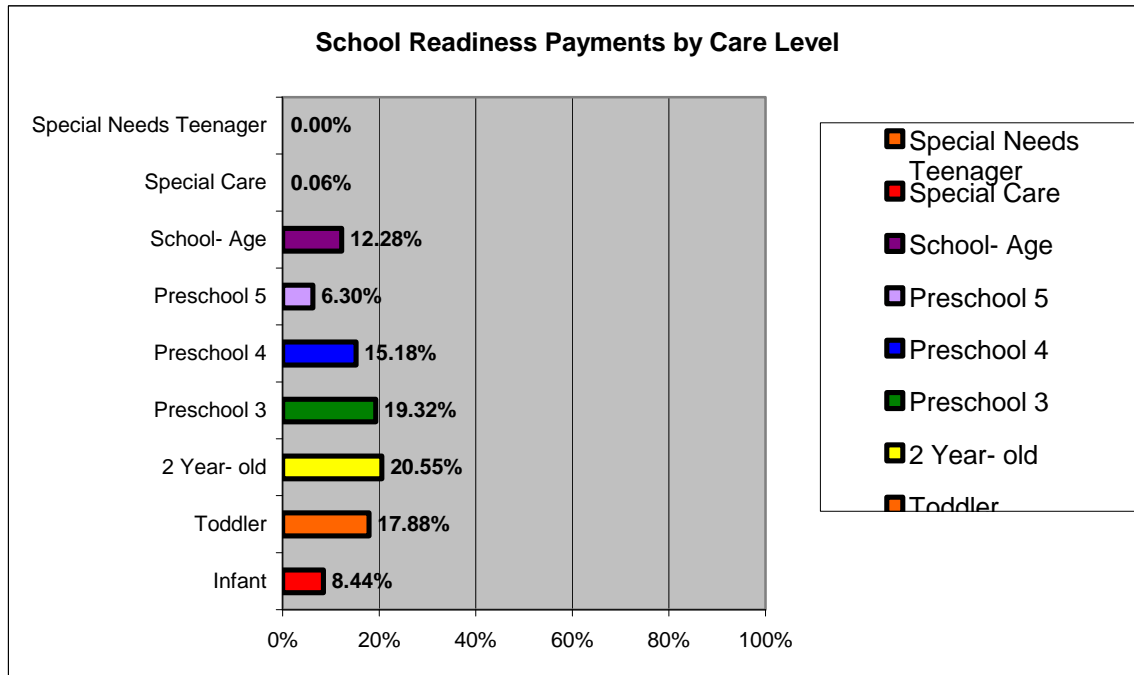
To assure a safe, early learning environment for children birth to five by facilitating and enhancing quality early learning; providing and coordinating early learning support services; and championing the enormous positive impact of early learning.

**Data Summary:** The following information is based on data collected from July 1, 2008- June 30, 2009.

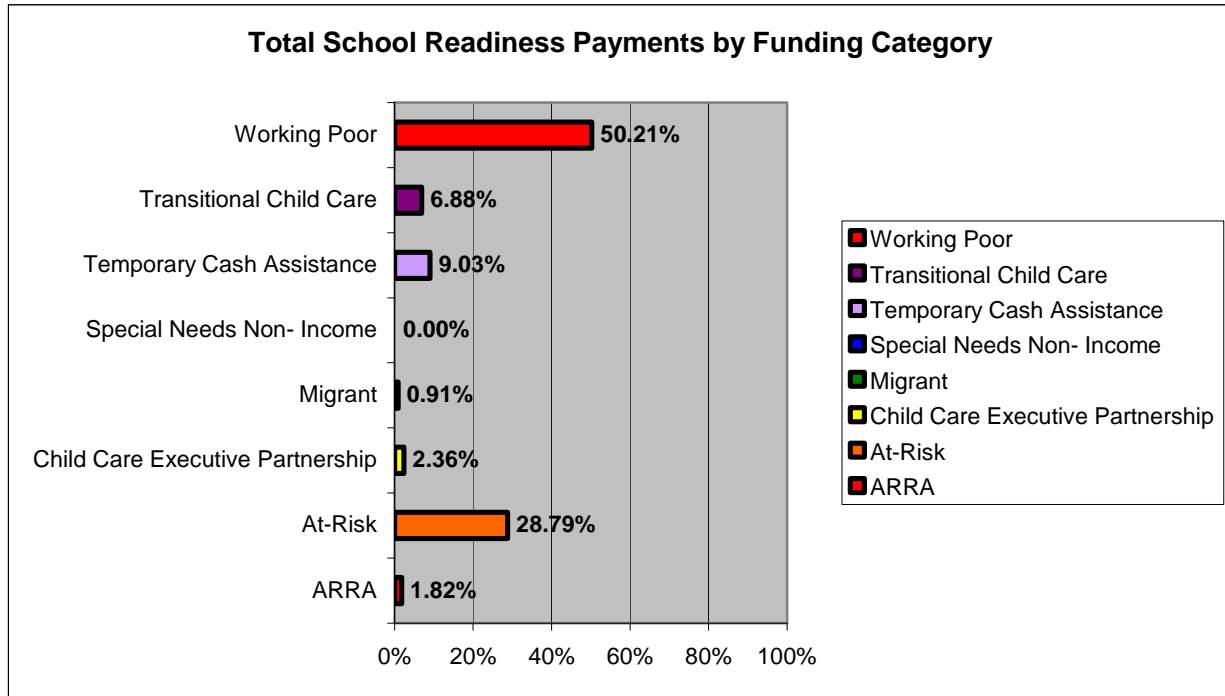
**Number of unduplicated School Readiness (SR) children and families:**

SR Children	SR Families
7307	4494

**School Readiness: Percentage of total payments (including match) by care level:**



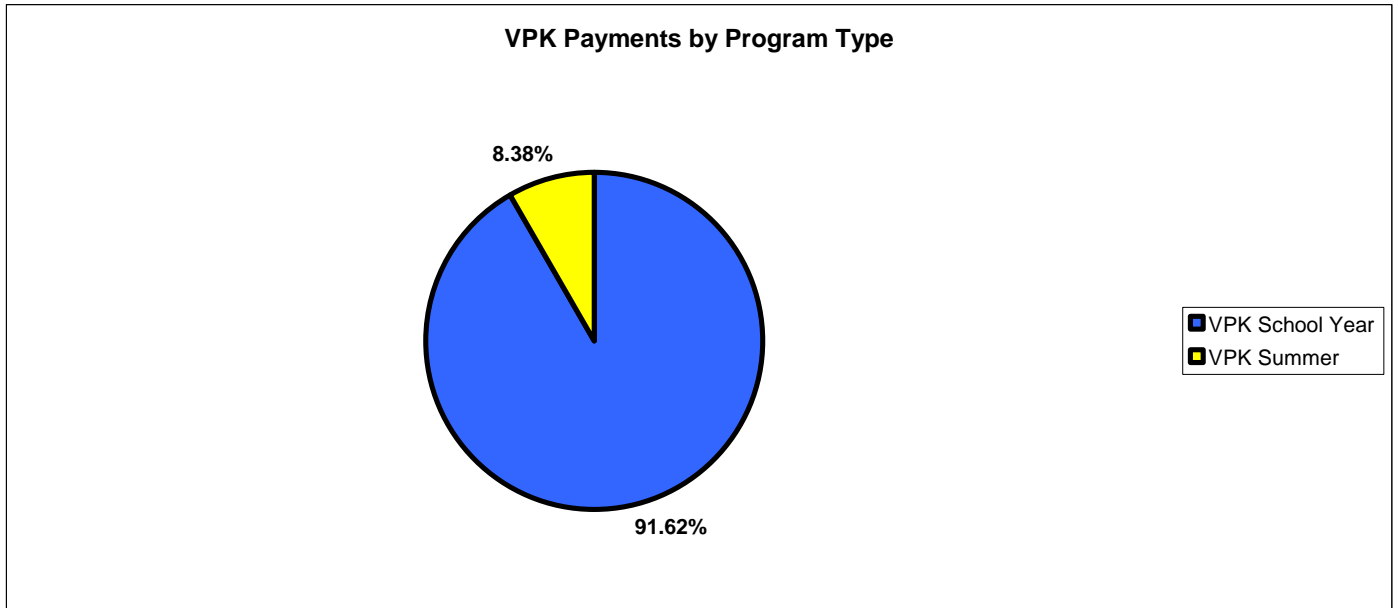
**School Readiness: Percentage of total payments (including match) by funding category:**



**Number of unduplicated Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education children and families:**

VPK Children	VPK Families
4571	4486

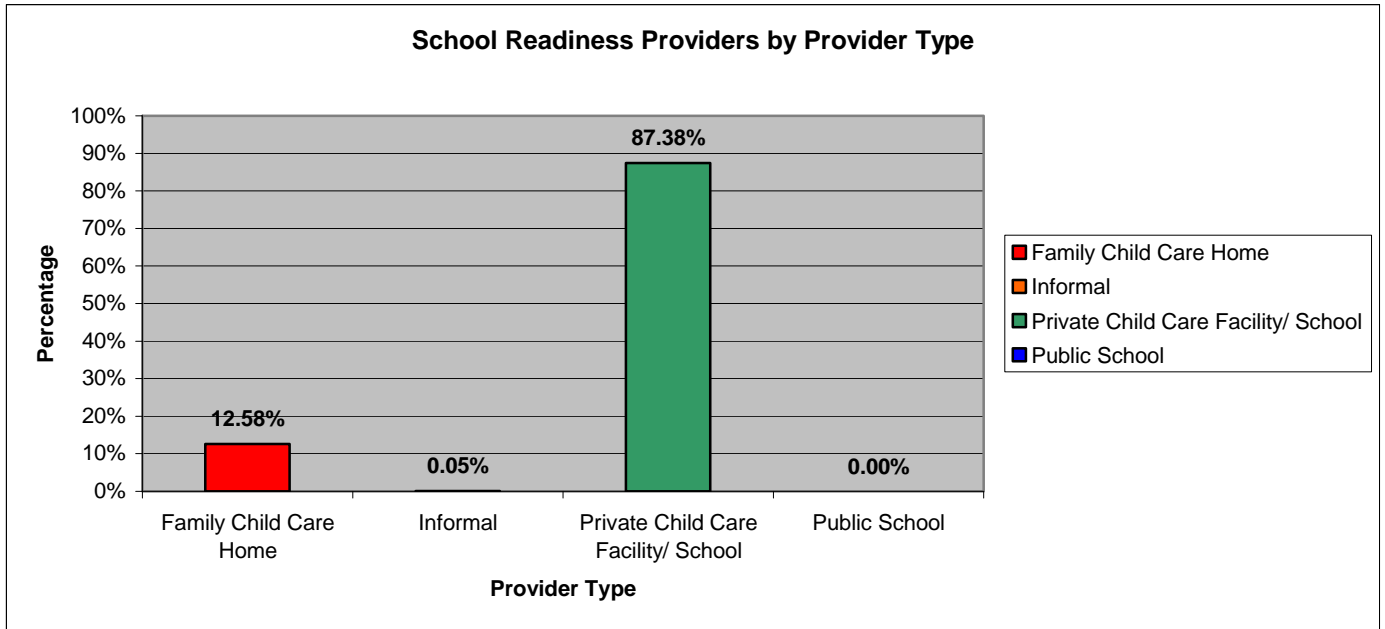
Total percentage of VPK payments by program type:



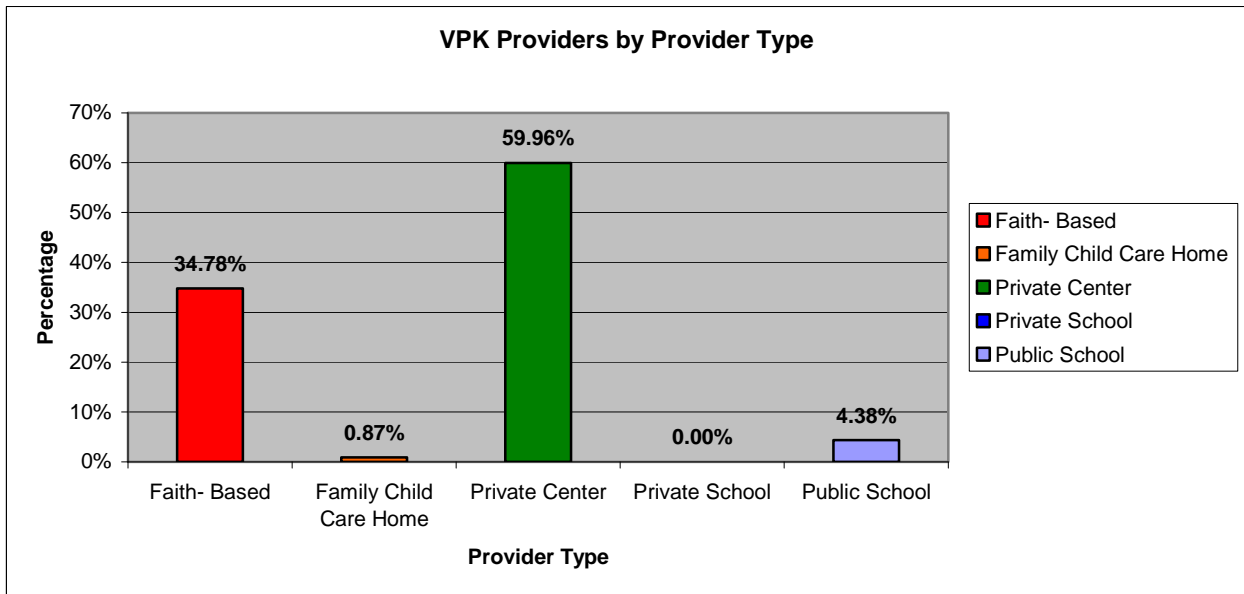
Total number of providers that participate in the coalition's early learning programs:

School Readiness Providers	Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Providers
367	163

**Participating School Readiness providers by provider type:**



**Participating VPK providers by provider type:**



## Service Delivery Summary:

### **New Grants:**

In May, 2009, the ELCFV applied for \$14,700 from the City of Deltona for 100 School Readiness child care slots, a laptop computer with wireless service, and 50% of the cost of 60 sq. ft. of rental space to allow for the creation of a new satellite location within the city limits of Deltona. We were awarded this grant.

### **Other Funding Sources:**

- \$15,428,601 AWI School Readiness
- \$9,429,349 AWI VPK
- \$10,053 Child Care Executive Partnership, Volusia businesses
- \$12,500 Child Care Executive Partnership, Flagler businesses
- \$500 from local businesses for *Discovering the Joy* provider conference
- \$12,460 from local businesses for annual Provider Appreciation gala
- \$1500 from collaborative grants
- \$2000 for underwriting of ELCFV PBS series *Child Flight*
- \$108,500 United Way of Flagler & Volusia Counties
- \$241,492 County of Volusia
- \$58,550 County of Flagler

### **New/Existing Public/Private Partnerships**

Duplication of services is avoided through *collaborative relationships* and interagency agreements between the ELCFV and the counties and cities it serves, local businesses, the educational community, other social service agencies, parents, and our network of child care providers. **We could not assist families without these collaborations.** These relationships help the ELCFV increase funding, expand knowledge, and provide quality services. They are critical to the well-being and growth of School Readiness programs. ELCFV collaborations include but are not limited to:

- ✓ *Flagler Community and Adult Education*
- ✓ *Daytona State College Early Childhood Education Department*
- ✓ *Daytona State College Small Business Development Center*
- ✓ *Daytona State College WDSC Channel 15*
- ✓ *Daytona State College Early Childhood Education Program Advisory Committee*
- ✓ *Daytona State College Child Care Access Means Parents in School Program (CCAMPIS)*
- ✓ *Child Care Education Institute*
- ✓ *Chiles Academy*
- ✓ *Lakeshore Learning Materials*
- ✓ *Star Center*

- ✓ *Teens As Parents and New Beginnings Program (Flagler County Schools)*
- ✓ *Parenting Classes (Volusia County Department of Corrections)*
- ✓ *Center for Business Excellence & One Stop Career Centers*
- ✓ *Basilica School of St. Paul in Daytona Beach*
- ✓ *The Charles and Linda Williams Children's Museum*
- ✓ *Volusia and Flagler Lions Clubs*
- ✓ *The Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FDLRS), Child Find*
- ✓ *Department of Children and Families*
- ✓ *Community Partnership for Children*
- ✓ *Healthy Start*
- ✓ *Early Steps (Department of Health & Children's Advocacy Center of Volusia and Flagler)*
- ✓ *Easter Seals*
- ✓ *Daytona Beach Housing Authority*
- ✓ *Department of Corrections-District 7*
- ✓ *Mid-Florida Head Start Services*
- ✓ *Redlands Christian Migrant Association Head Start*
- ✓ *Children's Home Society*

Private businesses actively participate through **in-kind donations totaling \$107,879 this fiscal year**. These donations are also critical to the ELCFV's ability to carry out its mission.

### **Changes in Service Delivery that Impacted the Community**

- In an effort to reach a greater number of parents, the Family Involvement team extended home visitation services to include face-to-face daily interactions with clients. A parent educator, located in the ELCFV lobby, offers resources, answers questions on child development and assists with the completion of children's screening questionnaires. Additionally, ELCFV lobbies have been equipped with developmentally appropriate material. Visiting children can explore the materials as the parent educator role models their use for parents.
- Free weekly parent trainings were implemented in January, to supplement clients' decreasing work hours so that funded child care could be maintained. 93 out of the 109 participants indicated a gain in knowledge.
- 2008-2009 marked the first year of implementation of the newly approved child assessment instrument, the Infant-Preschool Play Assessment Scale (I-PAS). The ELCFV, in partnership with early childhood educators, assessed 323 children utilizing

the I-PAS. The post assessments conducted in April reflected that 93% of the children involved in the assessment sample demonstrated growth.

- The ELCFV Book Friends Volunteer Reader program, a new quality initiative with a focus on literacy, links childcare providers with community volunteers. After meeting with coalition staff, volunteer readers are assigned to a family home or center-based childcare provider. Working with the provider, volunteers conduct story times for the children based on the current theme and curriculum objectives for the class.

These language and learning experiences enhance the efforts of the teaching staff and support the *Florida Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Emergent Literacy Standards*.

Through a partnership with the Volusia County Library, volunteers use books from the library's children's section. Books are left with the provider to continue sharing with the children until the next story time visit when they are exchanged for a new assortment of reading materials.

The ELCFV's ten volunteer readers provided 78 story times for over 750 children. Volunteer recruitment will allow the ELCFV to expand the program to serve more children and child care providers.

- In a move to assist child care providers in today's tough economy, child care directors and owners were offered an opportunity to improve their business skills through the **Director's Academy**. Academy training was offered in child screening and assessment, program assessment, marketing, inclusion, staff development, staff retention and motivation, developing and maintaining a professional portfolio, family involvement, and how to hold an effective parent meeting. This training, geared specifically to the child care industry, helps directors operate their businesses more efficiently while serving a vital role as employers within our community.
- Through a partnership with the Museum of Arts and Sciences (MOAS) the ELCFV was able to fulfill the growing need for an exhibit focused on engaging infants and toddlers. **The Early Learning Play Center** provides a bright, colorful, safe place for children ages 6 to 36 months to learn through play with a family member or caregiver. Comprised of five stations, the play area challenges infants and toddlers to engage in activities that develop motor skills, encourage early literacy, and build critical cognitive processes. Each center is accompanied by an adult-height text panel that gives adults cues on interacting with children at each station and encouraging new levels of exploration. Children can enjoy the area in a variety of ways including

playing with balls by dropping them through transparent tunnels into a large ball nest, crawling and climbing on bright foam structures, and cuddling up with a caregiver in the reading corner.

- *Child Flight*, the ELCFV's PBS series produced in partnership with WDSC TV, was introduced in January, 2009. The program offers parents of young children current information from early childhood development experts on a variety of topics including: nutrition & obesity, bonding/attachment, brain development, learning through play, learning through music, discipline, postpartum depression, and more. These shows are targeted to parents of children birth to age five to enhance their knowledge of early childhood development and their roles as their child's first teachers. Shows are replayed in ELCFV's lobbies daily and design has begun for use of the shows in child care provider training.

**Quality Activity Summary:**

Activity	Narrative
<p>What opportunities are offered by the Coalition for comprehensive consumer education?</p>	<p>Helping parents find quality child care is crucial to helping them maintain employment. To that end, the ELCFV provides parents with multiple opportunities to learn about early childhood development and choosing quality child care. In 2008-2009, these included:</p> <p><b><u>Parent training</u></b>            Recognizing the link between obtaining quality child care and the ability to maintain the employment needed to attain self-sufficiency, the ELCFV provided 42 parent trainings reaching 200 participants and conducted 271 parent visitations in 2008-2009. These activities helped parents understand early childhood development, their role as their child's primary teachers, and how to choose quality child care.</p> <p>When many Flagler/Volusia County families were dealt the blow of reduced work hours due to the struggling economy, the ELCFV upped the amount of parent training offered to help parents maintain their eligibility for School Readiness services, ultimately helping them maintain work even at reduced levels.</p>

	<p><b>ELCFV Website:</b> The ELCFV website contains a wealth of parent-specific information, links, and resources.</p> <p><b>PBS Series: <i>Child Flight</i></b> Early childhood development education was delivered to parents and child care providers via <i>Child Flight</i>, the ELCFV's new monthly PBS show. Topics covered included: Choosing Quality Child Care; Bonding, Attachment &amp; Brain Development; Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten; Loving Discipline (Discipline Part I); Implementing Effective Discipline (Discipline Part II); Unlock the Power of Blocks; Nutrition &amp; Obesity; Summer Museum Fun; and Musical Merriment. The show continues monthly through December 2009. Beginning in 2010, the show will continue quarterly.</p>
<p>Provide a list of grants or loans to providers to assist in meeting State and local standards.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All 14 child care providers participating in the ELCFV <i>Reading Makes Me Smile</i> literacy initiative received award baskets of educational materials to continue the literacy and learning activities at their centers.</li> <li>• All 57 child care providers participating in the Quality Enhancement Mentoring Program received mentoring and appropriate program materials with an average value of \$200 per child care provider.</li> </ul>
<p>Describe the process for monitoring compliance with licensing and regulatory requirements.</p>	<p>The ELCFV has a collaborative relationship with the local Department of Children and Families (DCF) to exchange information on provider complaints, provider updates and, situations which could affect the optimal operation of child care providers. There is a referral process in place to receive DCF referrals for child care assistance for a variety of programs, including but not limited to: protective service orders, relative caregiver, etc. DCF has an appointed member to the ELCFV Board of Directors and a staff member who sits on the Quality Committee. DCF is invited periodically to address providers at the ELCFV and is an active workshop presenter at the yearly Discovering the Joy Provider Conference.</p>
<p>Provide a list of available professional development</p>	<p><b><u>The Quality Enhancement Mentoring Program</u></b> The Quality Enhancement Mentoring Program is a</p>

<p>opportunities that the coalition offers, including training, education, and technical assistance</p>	<p>voluntary program offered to providers who have pre-qualified based on the score their program achieved on the Environment Rating Scale (ERS) assessment. This program is designed to assist providers through one-on-one mentoring, modeling of developmentally appropriate practices, staff development, and instructional strategies, with the goal of increasing provider knowledge of the ERS tools and improving their overall program quality.</p> <p>Provider mentors were assigned groups of 6-10 early child care providers throughout Flagler and Volusia Counties. Each provider participating in mentoring received 8 weekly onsite visits lasting 2-3, hours followed by an additional 8 week “on-call” period in which mentors followed up by phone or on-site visit weekly to ensure programs maintained the positive improvements and developments in their facilities.</p> <p>Provider mentors use the Infant/Toddler Environment Rating Scale (ITERS-R), Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale (ECERS-R), and the Family Child Care Environment Rating Scale (FCCERS-R) assessment tools, identifying a program’s strengths and modifiable issues. This information was used to create a tailored improvement plan. Together, the mentor and program staff developed action plans and goals for each classroom and followed up on these plans weekly.</p> <p>This year 57 early child care providers participated in the Quality Enhancement Mentoring Program. One hundred percent of participating providers indicated an increase in overall program quality.</p> <p><b><u>VPK Training</u></b>  The ELCFV offered 28 VPK related trainings with 517 providers attending. Trainings held included: <i>VPK Standards 2008, What’s New: VPK Standards 2008, VPK Integrating the Standards/Phonological Awareness, VPK 10 hour Emergent Literacy Course, and It’s Okay to Play in VPK</i></p>
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*Director Workshop.*

**Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance (TA) is available to all Flagler and Volusia County providers. When a provider requests TA, a provider mentor follows up on the request via phone and/or on-site visitation. Providers are encouraged to request TA if they have questions or need assistance with any area of their program including scheduling, arrangement of space and furnishings, lesson planning, curricula, or age appropriate expectations and activities. This year 55 hours of TA was provided to 26 providers.

**Professional Development & Education – Training**

The ELCFV Professional Development and Education Department offered 105 trainings to child care providers in Flagler and Volusia Counties from July 1, 2008, to June 30, 2009. A total of 1,542 participants attended. Training topics included: child screening and assessment, inclusion, Environmental Rating Scales (ERS), VPK Education Standards, health and nutrition, social and emotional development, brain research, staff retention and motivation, SIDS awareness and prevention, language and literacy, and sign language.

Training advertisement and registration was modernized and moved to an online system via the ELCFV website. Providers now have access to view and register for trainings 24 hours a day, seven days a week from the convenience of their child care facility or home computer. The ELCFV also set up computers at each of its three satellite offices in Daytona Beach, Deland, and Bunnell to assist with online registration and provide computer access to those in need.

All trainings and trainers were approved by the ELCFV before being advertised by the Coalition to our community. In collaboration with Flagler County School District, Adult and Community Education granted

	<p>Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for approved training courses. A review and approval system for trainings and presenters was followed between the ELCFV and Flagler County Adult and Community Education for all trainings offering CEUs.</p> <p><b><u>Online Training</u></b></p> <p>As an alternative to traditional training, the ELCFV utilized quality dollars to provide online training classes to child care professionals through <i>ChildCare Education Institute</i>. Providers selected from over 120 online courses offered in English and Spanish. Participants were awarded .1 CEU for each one-hour course completed. The 100 participants enrolled in this program completed 1134 hours of online training from September 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009.</p> <p><b><u>Director’s Academy Pilot Program</u></b></p> <p>The Professional Development and Education department offered early child care directors and owners an opportunity to participate in a training program designed to offer training courses specific to their individual needs. This program offered a variety of trainings on topics including: child screening and assessment, program assessment, marketing, inclusion, staff development, staff retention and motivation, developing and maintaining a professional portfolio, family involvement, and how to hold an effective parent meeting. There were a total of 11 directors and owners of both center and family-based care facilities that completed the Director’s Academy program requirements.</p> <p><b><u>ELCFV Staff Member Provides Statewide PD Input</u></b></p> <p>The ELCFV Professional Development and Educational Manager is working with the statewide Professional Development Initiative. In addition, the ELCFV has adopted the initiative’s core competencies at the local level.</p>
Describe initiatives by the	The ELCFV Board of Directors implemented Phase II of a

<p>coalition to improve salaries and other compensation for child care providers.</p>	<p>provider rate increase effective March 1, 2009. This decision was made for two reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To bring provider payment rates more in line with the community's market rates</li> <li>• To give providers a payment rate that honors them for the hard work they do with our community's most at-risk children</li> </ul>
<p>Describe activities to support a Quality Rating System.</p>	<p>The ELCFV does not yet have a local Quality Rating System. However, providers are assessed using the ERS. In addition, high level professional development training is offered to all providers.</p>
<p>Provide information on activities in support of early language, literacy, pre-reading, and early math concepts development.</p>	<p><b><u>Reading Makes Me Smile (RMMS)</u></b></p> <p>The <i>Reading Makes Me Smile</i> quality initiative involved the ELCFV working directly with childcare providers to implement literacy activities with the families and children they serve. Family involvement in the children's learning activities was promoted, as was the use of community resources such as the local library for reading materials and story time opportunities.</p> <p>RMMS is based on the literacy component of the <i>Florida Birth to Three Learning and Developmental Standards</i> (by the Florida Institute of Education and the Florida Partnership for School Readiness) and the <i>Florida Voluntary Pre-kindergarten Education Standards</i> (by the Florida Department of Education). This program includes active involvement between providers and the families they serve. Through RMMS participation, providers can truly impact the literacy habits of children and families by bringing a focus to the importance of reading activities in the early childhood years.</p> <p>Surveys from both participating families and providers participating have shown very positive feelings about this program.</p> <p>Participating providers were given literacy materials and resources to use for implementation of their RMMS</p>

literacy program, along with assistance from ELCFV staff.

RMMS had its kickoff at the ELCFV Provider Forum meeting in October, where providers were able to express their interest in becoming involved. RMMS participants, selected in a random drawing, included representation of center based and family home child care programs from all areas of Volusia and Flagler counties.

**RMMS focuses on the following:**

- Literacy training for child care provider staff
- Family literacy activities both at home and at the early child care program with their child
- Assistance for families in securing local library cards
- Ongoing dissemination of information about early literacy, including ways to make reading fun for the entire family

The 2008-09 program had 343 children from 14 participating providers.

**RMMS Program Activities**

Participating provider staff attended literacy trainings. Families were involved with reading activities to complete at home and at school, and were offered needed assistance in securing local library cards, as well as, receiving an ongoing distribution of information throughout the program about early literacy which included ideas on how to make reading fun for the entire family.

**RMMS Participants**

All 14 RMMS provider participants were successful in completing the program. Certificates were presented to these providers at the annual Provider Appreciation Gala Awards. They also received award baskets of educational materials to continue the literacy and learning activities at their centers.

### **RMMS Program Summary**

Surveys show all provider participants had favorable comments about their involvement with the RMMS program, rating the overall program from good to excellent. The materials and format of the program were found easy to implement and enjoyable for the children. Most parents participated readily in the program as their schedules permitted. The children had fun with the reading activities and especially enjoyed it when their parents and other family members or friends became involved in the classroom. Remarks on the parent surveys indicated that they, too, enjoyed the program.

Sixty percent of those able to be tracked (identified by parent/caregiver name) via pre- and post- parent assessments submitted showed positive family literacy gains. The most notable gain was in families now visiting the local library with their children and securing a library card.

Other positive outcomes include:

- Families began reading aloud to their children daily
- More parents participated in activities with their children at their children's early learning program

Based upon completion of another successful year of this program, the ELCFV again will offer Reading Makes Me Smile to providers in the Fall of 2009.

### **ELCFV Book Friends Volunteer Reader Program**

The ELCFV Book Friends Volunteer Reader program is a new quality initiative with a focus on literacy that links child care providers with community volunteers.

ELCFV staff assigned volunteer readers to a family home or center based child care provider. There, readers conducted story times working together with the provider to coordinate story activities with the current theme and curriculum objectives for the class group. These language

	<p>and learning experiences enhanced teaching staff efforts of and support the <i>Florida Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Emergent Literacy Standards</i>.</p> <p>Through a partnership with the Volusia County Library, volunteers visited child care centers and homes, bringing books to share with the children from the library's children's section. These books were left with the provider to continue sharing with the children until the next story time visit when they were replaced by a new assortment of reading materials.</p> <p>Ten volunteers provided 78 story times for over 750 children. The ELCFV will continue expanding the program through volunteer recruitment so that many more children and child care providers may be served.</p>
<p>What activities has the coalition implemented to promote inclusive child care?</p>	<p>The ELCFV Inclusion and Health Specialist coordinated a targeted technical assistance/training project involving 10 programs. Some successful outcomes included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 137 onsite technical assistance visits were conducted</li> <li>• A teacher allowing a child with cerebral palsy to explore his classroom environment freely</li> <li>• All providers participating in the project demonstrated improvement in the quality of inclusive care as measured by a pre- and post- Inclusion Checklist.</li> <li>• An early childhood educator incorporated simple sign language</li> <li>• Two children were referred and qualified for free, needed services provided by the public school</li> </ul> <p>ELCFV Inclusion Services conducted 15 trainings informing 178 early childhood educators about the American Disability Act and other inclusion topics.</p> <p>Inclusion services introduced a new social-emotional screening instrument, the Ages and Stages Questionnaire Social –Emotional (ASQSE), to assist with the</p>

	<p>identification of mental health needs in the 0-5 population. Two introductory training were offered to 44 participants. Outcomes included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The number of providers accessing the Warm Line increased by 55%</li> <li>• The number of providers receiving technical assistance for incorporating curriculum/strategies for children with special needs increased by 79%</li> </ul>
<p>How does the coalition conform to Healthy Child Care America and other health activities including those designed to promote the social and emotional development of children?</p>	<p>The ELCFV promotes Kidcare by offering information about Kidcare to parents without insurance or parents searching for new insurance. The Kidcare application and a card with Kidcare information is provided when needed. When a parent discloses their insurance information, a code in the EFS system indicates whether or not they have Kidcare as their insurance.</p> <p>One hundred percent of School Readiness eligible children were offered ASQ hearing and vision screening. Those children indicating a need for further screening received the ASQ-SE screening.</p>
<p>Please describe other quality activities that increase parental choice, and improve the quality and availability of child care. (§98.51(a)(1) and (2))</p>	<p>The ELCFV Provider Recruitment plan provided a systematic analysis of parent needs for child care and systematic provider recruitment to fill those needs. Due to ELCFV quality standards, not all providers qualify to contract with the ELCFV based on low performance. Recruiting providers on an on-going basis expands parental choice and assures that geographical and types-of-care gaps are met. Methods to achieve this include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geographical gap analysis: analysis to assess where parents are located vs. how many providers are available in those areas to serve child care needs.</li> <li>• Parent child care needs analysis: analysis, utilizing CCR&amp;R monthly reports, of the times child care is needed and the types of child care needed (24 hour, evening, school year, etc.) as well any special needs</li> </ul>

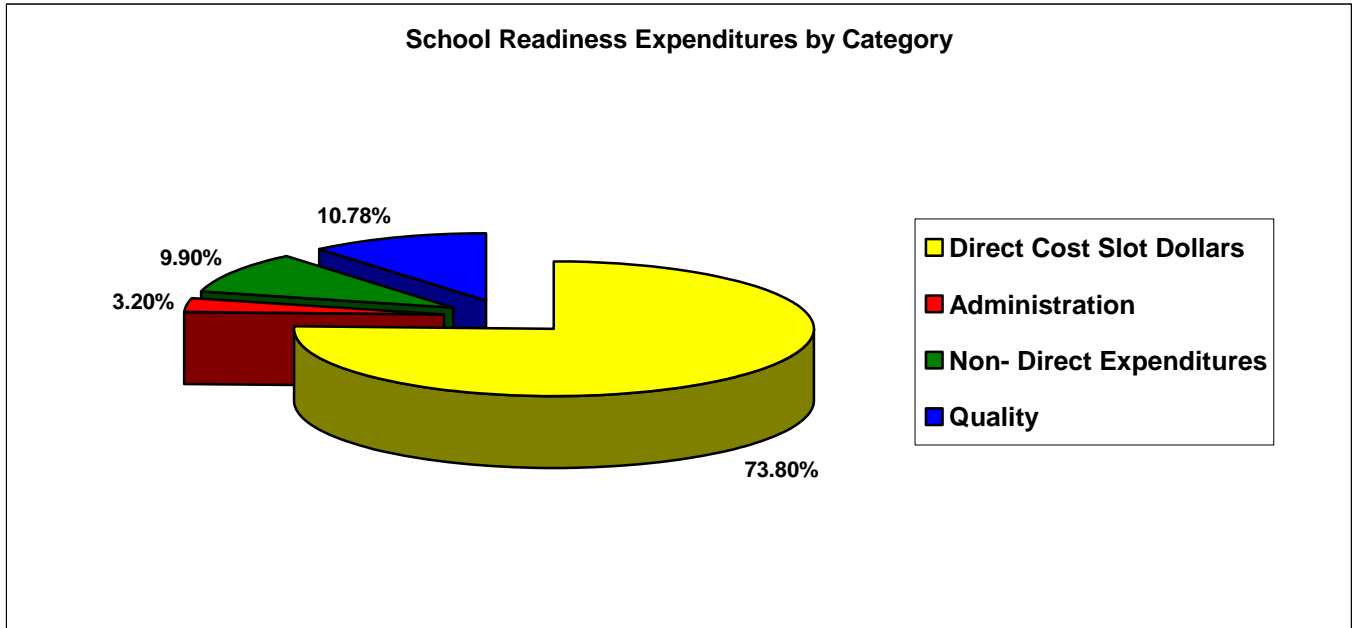
requirements (asthma, physical delay, developmental delay, mental disability or delay, speech or language delay).

- Program type-of-care gap analysis: analysis of the type of child care requested (center-based, family based, school age program, summer program or VPK) vs. availability of care.

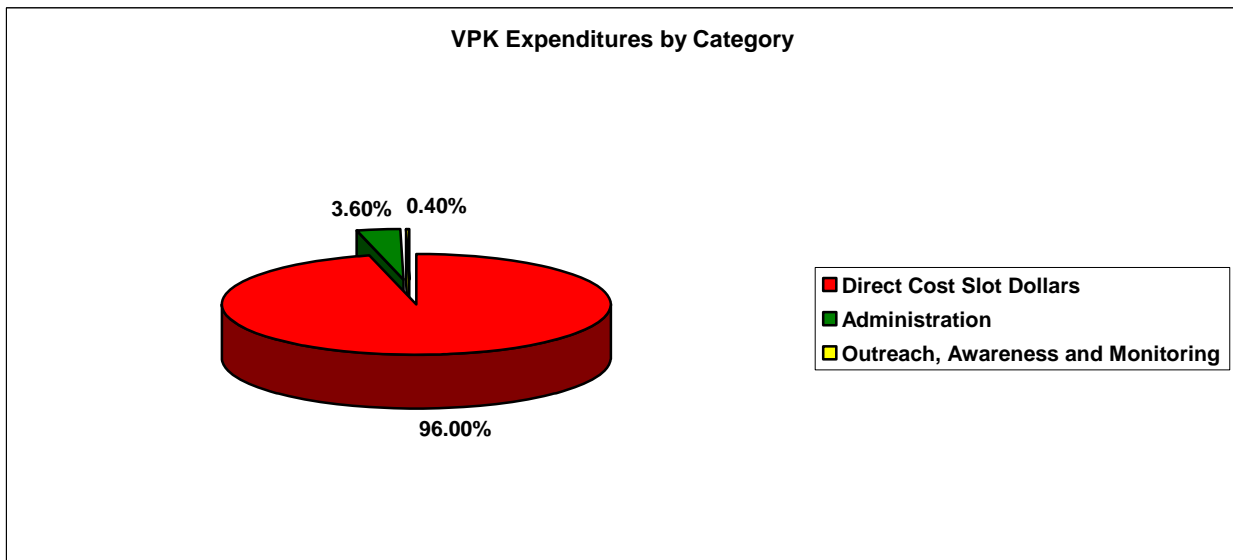
Audiences for the recruitment message include:

- School Readiness providers not offering Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten.
- Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten providers not contracted for School Readiness.
- Child care providers not yet offering VPK or School Readiness.
- Former providers of VPK or School Readiness providers not currently contracted to offer services.
- Newly licensed providers.
- Corporations/agencies having an interest in beginning a child care facility within the company or agency.

**Fiscal Summary:** During the 2008- 2009 fiscal year the coalition’s total **School Readiness Program** operating budget was \$15,428,601. Below is a breakout of expenditures by category.



During the 2008- 2009 fiscal year the coalition’s total **Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Program** operating budget was \$9,465,853. Below is a breakout of expenditures by category.



## Program Year Summary:

### ELCFV PLAN ADHERENCE— YEAR END REPORT 2008-2009

#### Child Assessments 4.2.2

**Projected Outcome:** At least 85% of children in sample group will show growth as evidenced by pre and post assessments.

*Actual Outcome - 93% or 196/210 (last year 93%)*

#### Child Screening 4.2.1

**Projected Outcome 1:** 100% of eligible SR children 4 months to 5 years old whose parents give permission for child to be screened have an age-appropriate screening performed annually.

*Actual Outcome - 100% or 4,793 (last year 100%)*

**Projected Outcome 2:** At least 85% of children able to be tracked and remaining in the system with scores outside the developmental norm and/or an indicated need will be re-screened.

*Actual Outcome - 92% or 373/404 (last year 100%)*

#### Inclusion Services 5.4.1

**Projected Outcome 1:** Increase the number of providers accessing the Warm-Line by at least 15%.

*Actual Outcome – 55% increase or 69 calls (last year 45)*

**Projected Outcome 2:** Increase the number of providers receiving technical assistance for incorporating curriculum/strategies for children with special needs by at least 10%.

*Actual Outcome – 79% increase or 186 providers (last year 104)*

#### Unique Population Groups 3.6.1

**Projected Outcome 1:** At least 50% of parents considered to be of unique populations participating in training and mentoring demonstrate an increase in knowledge as evidenced by pre/post assessments.

*Actual Outcome - 84% or 318/380 (last year 58%)*

#### Coordination of Services – Public-private partnerships 2.5.2

**Projected Outcome 1:** 100% of children indicating a need for vision screening and whose parent gives permission are offered vision screening.

*Actual Outcome - 100%*

**Projected Outcome 2:** 100% of children indicating a need for hearing screening and whose parent gives permission are offered hearing screening.

*Actual Outcome - 100%*

#### **Extended Day and Extended Year Services 1.7.1**

**Projected Outcome:** At least 85% of parents completing a CCR&R survey will report they were able to find the type of care requested including: overnight care, evening care, weekend care, summer care, and care during non-school days.

*Actual Outcome - 100%*

#### **Parent Involvement and Skill Building 3.4.1**

**Projected Outcome:** At least 85% of parents involved in the Home Visitation Program will increase their involvement and skill building as evidenced by the Born to Learn Parent Knowledge Assessment.

*Actual Outcome - 75% or 9/12 (last year 90%)*

#### **Family Literacy 3.4.2**

**Projected Outcome:** At least 85% of families will show gains in family literacy as evidenced by pre- and post-tests of parents involved in the Reading Makes Me Smile (RMMS) Initiative.

*Actual Outcome - 60.46% or 104/172 (last year 40%)*

#### **Family Support Services 3.5.1**

**Projected Outcome:** At least 1% of parents are able to become economically self-sufficient as evidenced through the re-determination process.

*Actual Outcome - .02% or Average Annual Income - \$17,654 (last year \$19,244)*

#### **Evaluation Plan 1.9.2**

**Projected Outcome:** At least 85% of providers completing the Mentorship Program will indicate an increase in their overall program quality.

*Actual Outcome - 100% or 57/57 (last year 77%)*

#### **Coordinated Staff Development and Training 2.4.1**

**Projected Outcome:** At least 85% of providers will indicate an increase in knowledge by attending training offered through the Coalition.

*Actual Outcome - 98% or 1514/1542 (last year 59%)*

#### **Developmentally Appropriate Curricula 4.3.3**

**Projected Outcome:** At least 85% of providers who fall between the ELCFV minimum ERS standard to contract and the maximum ELCFV ERS standard to

qualify for mentorship will demonstrate use of an ELCFV approved developmentally appropriate curriculum upon completion of the mentorship program.

*Actual Outcome - 81% or 46/57 providers (new measurement this year)*

### **Quality and Availability Enhancement Activities 5.1.1**

**Projected Outcome:** At least 85% of providers will indicate an increase in knowledge by attending training offered through the Coalition.

*Actual Outcome - 98% or 1514/1542 (last year 59%)*

### **CCR&R and School Age Quality Improvement Activities 5.2.1**

**Projected Outcome:** At least 85% of parents completing a CCR&R survey will report they were able to find the type of care requested including overnight care, evening care, weekend care, summer care, and non-school days.

*Actual Outcome - 100%*

### **Infant and Toddler Quality Improvement Activities 5.3.1**

**Projected Outcome:** At least 85% of providers who complete the mentoring program offering infant and toddler care will indicate an increase in their overall infant and toddler program quality as evidenced by post-mentoring evaluations.

*Actual Outcome - 100%*

### **Coordination of Services – Match 2.5.3**

**Projected Outcome 1:** Existing funding increased by 3% annually.

*Actual Outcome - 2.93% decrease (Unable to obtain additional funders, due to economy)*

**Projected Outcome 2:** At least 2 new funders secured.

*Actual Outcome - 0 new funders (last year 4 total funders secured)*

## **Child Screening and Assessment Services**

### **Screening**

The Child Development Services (CDS) Team offered developmental screenings to more children than ever. In 2008-2009, 4,158 School Readiness children birth to five served through the ELCFV received a Level 1 developmental screening.

To stay current with screening trends, the ELCFV invested in the newly revised 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the Level 1 developmental screening: *Ages and Stages Questionnaires (ASQ)*. Children identified on the Level 1 screening as needing further assistance, received a Level 2 follow-up screening and/or a Level 3 referral.

The ELCFV's dedication to customer service, parent involvement, education and early intervention resulted in the implementation of a new screening procedure. Level 1 screenings are now completed under the guidance of a Parent Educator who informs parents/guardians of the value of screening and answers their questions. Parents and child care providers received results of all screenings and assessments. In addition parents of children identified on either Level 1 or Level 2 screening as needing additional services were contacted and provided referral information.

Whenever possible, CDS Team facilitated referrals to community agencies by directly contacting the agencies for the parents. Again, **an unprecedented 355 children were identified for additional Level 3 services.**

### **Hearing and Vision Screening**

In partnership with the Lions' Club of Flagler, the ELCFV conducted a total of 742 vision screenings in South Daytona and DeLand. With the assistance of a private sector retired nurse volunteer, the **ELCFV administered 363 hearing screenings.** One hundred percent of children indicating a need for hearing and vision screening on the Level 1 screen were offered ELCFV services.

Free hearing and vision screenings are offered to all children in our community from birth to age five by appointment or during set weekly screening days in the ELCFV Daytona Beach office.

With the prior approval of AWI-OEL the ELCFV invested in additional otoacoustic emission hearing screeners and Welch Ally SureSight vision screeners.

### **Assessment**

The 2008-2009 fiscal year marked the implementation of the newly approved child assessment instrument, the *Infant-Preschool Play Assessment Scale (I-PAS)*. The ELCFV, in partnership with early childhood educators, **assessed 323 children** utilizing the I-PAS. The post-assessments conducted in April reflected that 93% of the children involved in the assessment sample demonstrated growth.

A total of 21 professional development opportunities on the I-PAS child assessment instrument were offered resulting in 281 child care educators obtaining the training.

## Screening & Assessment Data

### Child Screening

	<b>Volusia</b>	<b>Flagler</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Level 1 Screen</b>	4158	578	4,736
<b>Level 2 Screen follow-up</b>	319	54	373
<b>Level 2 Screen-enhancement activities</b>	558	95	653
<b>Level 2 Hearing screen SR children</b>	233	30	263
<b>Level 2 Hearing screen non-SR</b>	96	4	100
<b>Total number of Hearing screening</b>	329	34	363
<b>Level 2 Vision screen-SR Children</b>	322	84	406
<b>Level 2 Vision screen non-SR</b>	198	138	336
<b>Level 2 Vision screen by Lion's Club*</b>	156	125	281*
*included in SR and non-SR vision screen totals			
<b>Total Number of Vision screening</b>	520	222	742
<b>Level 3 Screen Referrals</b>	294	61	355
<b>Referral children 0-3 (Early Steps)</b>	155	30	185
<b>Referral children 3-5 (FDLRS)</b>	139	31	170

### Child Assessment

<b>Child Care Providers participating</b>	62	4	66
<b>Pre-assessment completed</b>	302	21	323
<b>Post-assessment completed</b>	196	14	210
<b>Percentage of children showing gains in readiness skills at post assessment</b>			93%

### Family Involvement Services

The Family Involvement program is comprised of certified Parent Educators providing monthly or bi-weekly home visitations to families with children birth to age 5, utilizing the Parent as Teachers (PAT) National Curriculum.

Forty families benefited from 271 home visitations. Home visitations consist of providing enriching age appropriate activities to children with a special focus on early literacy. The goal of these visits is to enhance parent knowledge as well as their involvement with their children while increasing children's school readiness skills. Offering resources to parents is an integral part of the program. The *Born to Learn*

*Parent Knowledge Assessment* indicated that **75% of families who completed the assessment demonstrated a gain in parenting knowledge.**

PAT services include monthly parent meetings offering practical information and opportunity for social interaction for both adults and children. Attendance by fathers or other males significant in the child’s life has increased.

In an effort to reach more parents, the Family Involvement team extended home visitation services to include face-to-face, daily interactions with clients. A parent educator was located in the ELCFV lobby to offer resources, answer child development questions, assist with the completion of children’s screening questionnaires, and serve as a role model for parents. Additionally, ELCFV lobbies have incorporated developmentally appropriate materials for visiting children to explore.

Free weekly parent trainings were implemented in January, to supplement clients’ decreasing work hours so School Readiness subsidies could be maintained. Results indicate 93 out of the 109 participants experienced a gain in knowledge.

Monthly presentations on topics such as Attachment, Brain Development, and Positive Discipline are offered to the Flagler Teen Parent and Adult Educations Programs. Numerous trainings at varied venues enabled the **Family Involvement team to touch the lives of 415 participants.**

**Family Involvement Services Data**

	<b>Volusia</b>	<b>Flagler</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Parent Trainings</b>	25	17	42
<b># of Participants</b>	109	91	200
<b>Training Mothers in Jail</b>	27	0	27
<b># of participants</b>	215	0	215
<b>Home Visitations</b>	213	58	271
<b>Developmentally Appropriate Activities Conducted in the lobby</b>	419	0	419

**Inclusion Services**

The purpose of Inclusion Services, as described in the Florida Warm Line Statutes, is to increase provider and community awareness of the importance of serving children of

all abilities, as well as provide technical assistance to early childhood educators concerning strategies, curriculum, and environmental adaptations to allow children with disabilities to derive optimum benefit from their child care experience.

**Inclusion Services Data**

	<b>Volusia</b>	<b>Flagler</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Warm line calls received</b>	199	18	217
<b>Providers accessing Warm Line</b>	63	6	69
<b>Parents/Community accessing the Warm Line</b>	136	12	148
<b>Providers in Inclusion Project</b>	7	3	10
<b>Providers receiving Inclusion technical assistance</b>	152	34	186
<b>Total Number of Warm Line activities*</b>	355	122	477
<b>*(including on-site visits, calls, referrals, other)</b>			
<b>Inclusion Professional development/Training</b>	8	7	15
<b># of Providers attending Inclusion training</b>	74	104	178

**Community Outreach**

**STAR Center Partnership Helps Homeless Residents**

ELCFV staff participated in United Way’s “Make a Difference Day” by hosting a shower for STAR Center residents. Practical items were collected and a reception and story time was held at the Center on Saturday, October 25, 2008.

During this event, ELCFV staff noted that while STAR Center families were happy to be together, the center itself lacked the cozy, homey feel needed to project the hope that tomorrow could be better. As a result, the ELCFV continued to support STAR Center families and children by helping establish an at-home atmosphere, furnishing their main family room, teen room, play room, and adult library with furniture, computers, and developmentally appropriate materials donated by the ELCFV and its employees.

In total, **14 special projects took place at the shelter.**

**Children’s Week**

The ELCFV partnered with Healthy Start, Community Partnership for Children, United Way of Flagler/Volusia, MFCS Head Start, Children’s Advocacy Center, and the Department of Children and Families to host the second local Children’s Week event at the Volusia County Kelly Administrative Building in DeLand. The partners received a “Celebrating Parents and Children of Volusia County” Proclamation at the March 19,

2009 County Council Meeting. Hands created by local child care centers, homes, VPK programs, and Head Start were displayed in the County Rotunda from March 12 through March 27. A "PBJ Luncheon" was held in the courtyard of the County Administration Building which also included: A tabling event of local agencies who serve children/families in Volusia Count, an inspiring message provided by ELCFV *Child Flight* host Wiley Lowe, and entertainment. The hands display was then delivered to Tallahassee for inclusion in the statewide Children's Day Celebration held March 29<sup>th</sup> through April 5<sup>th</sup>.

ELCFV Community Outreach staff also participated in agency-wide events, attending Quarterly Provider Forum meetings, *Holidays Around the World*, United Way Positive Picketing, and various community fairs. In addition, outreach staff assisted other community agencies with food distributions and attendance at city, county, and state meetings pertinent to Volusia and Flagler Counties.

### **Child Care Executive Partnership (CCEP)**

The Child Care Executive Partnership (CCEP) is a public/private partnership that helps employers meet the child care needs of working parents. CCEP matches private sector business dollars with state funding to provide School Readiness services to participating families earning under and up to 200% of the federal poverty level. **This year, \$138,268.80 in local match dollars came from the local businesses, the United Way of Flagler/Volusia, and the County of Flagler**, generating an additional \$138,232.52 in state match for a total of \$276,501.32. This reflects an 85.7% increase over FY 2008-09.

### **VPK Outreach**

A variety of outreach activities were utilized to increase parent awareness and understanding of the Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten Program. These efforts included: VPK posters, bus shelter advertising, post cards, VPK provider yard signs, VPK provider business cards, Volusia mall banner and signage, press releases, PSAs, display ads. In addition, an episode of *Child Flight* was devoted to VPK with Marge Company, DOE Northeast Regional Facilitator, as the show's guest expert.

### **Outreach Video**

In early 2008, two videos were produced to provide information to the community and child care providers about the Early Learning Coalition. A seven-minute video discussed literacy, early brain development, and the Coalition's role in early childhood development. The other video highlighted the value of achieving Gold Seal status.

## **Newsletters**

*Kite Tales*, a newsletter targeted to ELC-contracted child care providers continued as a monthly publication featuring Coalition news, training updates, reimbursement information, upcoming events, and timely early childhood development information.

## **Web Revision**

A comprehensive revision of the ELCFV website went live August 7, 2008. The new website is easier to navigate and includes information and resources for three very specific audiences: parents, child care providers, and community.

## **Outreach Events**

The ELCFV participates in several community outreach events each year. Since July 2008, these have included:

- March 2008 & 2009: Children's Week
- August 2008: Family Faire Event – Volusia Mall
- December 2008: WESH 2 Share Your Christmas Food Drive
- October 2008: United Way Make a Difference Day at the Star Center
- October 2008: Red Ribbon Day Event at Daytona State College
- November 2008: Assisted Halifax Urban Ministries with Thanksgiving Food Basket distribution
- December 2008: Assisted Halifax Urban Ministries with Christmas Food Basket distribution
- February 2009: Stetson University Volunteer Fair
- February 2009: Thank You posters for Publix in conjunction with United Way of Volusia/Flagler
- February 2009: Macy's Spring Charity Event
- April 2009: East Side Volusia County – Ability Fair
- April 2009: United Way Positive Picketing
- April 2009: Installed new ELCFV Resource Van signage
- May 2009: Provider Appreciation Gala
- June 2009: Flagler County Resource Fair
- July/August 2009: Ribbon cutting and grand opening of MOAS Early Learning Play Center (press releases distributed by MOAS).

## **Fund Development**

Several Grants were written over the course of the past year; several more were researched as possibilities. The ELCFV has become more intentional regarding seeking grant funding opportunities. Those grants written include:

- February 2009: Submitted United Way of Flagler & Volusia/Volusia County grant application to support School Readiness program.

- March 2009: Submitted Flagler County grant application to support School Readiness program in Flagler County.
- April 2009: Submitted City of Deltona grant application to support an office within the city limits of Deltona.
- May 2009: Submitted Ready Kids/Ready Schools/Ready Communities grant application to support the hiring of a part-time grant proposal writer.