



## Florida Association of Healthy Start Coalitions, Inc.

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[Register now!](#)

## First 1000 Days FL Summit Features Science, Skill-building

Early childhood professionals in home visiting, infant mental health, early learning, and maternal and child health will convene September 26-28 in Palm Beach for cutting-edge, cross sector learning at the **2018 First 1000 Days Florida Summit**. Register by August 24 to take advantage of hotel conference rates.



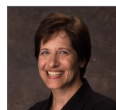
Plenary sessions include:

- **Neurobiologic Change in Parents & Children in the First 1000 Days**—Sara Enos Watamura, director of the Child Health & Development Lab and co-director of the Stress, Early Experience and Development Research Center at the University of Denver;
- **The Science of the First 1000 Days: Why It Matters**—Ellen Galinsky, President and Co-Founder of Families and Work Institute, and Chief Science Officer and Executive Director of Mind in the Making at the Bezos Family Foundation;
- **Service Delivery Through the Eyes of Families: What Works & What Doesn't**—Talethia Edwards, FL ECCS Impact Parent Partner and parent panel;
- **From Zero to Thrive: Promoting**



**Relational Health & The Social Brain**—Kate Rosenblum, director of the Women and Infants Mental Health Program at the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Michigan; and,

• **High Quality Language Creates High Quality Child Care**—Kathryn Hirsh-Pasek, the Stanley and Debra Lefkowitz Faculty Fellow in the Department of Psychology at Temple University and a Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution.



The summit will feature nearly 50 workshops, as well as a Showcase of Best Practices highlighting innovative community initiatives.

**Marquee sponsors** for the **2018 First 1000 Days Florida Summit** are [FL MIECHV](#) and the [Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County](#). **Gold sponsors** include the [FL Department of Health](#) - Family Health Services, Early Steps and Newborn Screening; the [Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe](#), [FL Association of Healthy Start Coalitions](#), and [Florida Campaign for Grade Level Reading](#). **Silver sponsors** include the [Charles & Mary Barancik Foundation—First 1000 Days Sarasota](#); [Helios Education Fund](#); [Children's Services Council of Broward County](#), and the [Quantum Foundation](#).

**Bronze sponsors** for the event include [United Healthcare](#); the [Healthy Start Coalition of Miami-Dade](#), [Kaplan Early Learning](#), the [Center for Child Counseling](#), the [Florida Association for Infant Mental Health](#); and the [Parent Infant Program—FL School for the Deaf & Blind](#). **Summit supporters and workshop sponsors** include the [Association of Early Learning Coalitions](#) and the [Ounce of Prevention Fund of FL](#). Nearly 30 vendors and non-profits will also exhibit at the event. Advance registration only. Space is limited!

## FL ECCS Impact Sites, Partners Attend Grantee Meet

FL ECCS Impact community representatives, state staff, evaluators and partners joined 11 other state grantees and their improvement teams in Arlington, VA in July for their fourth learning session.



Talethia Edwards leads a call to action at the closing of the national grantee meeting.

This was the second in-person meeting since the start of the grant and teams were excited to learn from one another and share all of the amazing work that is happening at the state and local levels to promote child developmental health. The learning session offered some amazing workshops and plenary sessions that focused on topics such as systems transformation, health equity, family partnership, policy change, and data collection. In addition to these informative sessions, the teams also participated in team time huddles, focus

groups, and a storyboard and resources fair.

Florida's parent leader extraordinaire, Talethia Edwards, closed out the learning session with a riveting call to action where she encouraged ECCS teams to move forward with PASSION, ADVOCACY, and CONSISTENCY!

## Performance Measure 1: Preterm Birth

September is [National Infant Mortality Awareness Month](#). Preterm birth— before 37 weeks gestation— is the leading cause of infant death in the first month of life. Babies born prematurely are at higher risk of mortality and morbidity, as well as developmental delay. FL MIECHV sites that provide services to mothers prenatally annually report the number of babies born preterm. Preterm birth rate is considered a system measure since it is influenced by a myriad of social and community factors beyond home visiting.

Home visiting programs funded by MIECHV address preterm birth by focusing on [key risk factors](#) associated with prematurity and other poor birth outcomes. These risk factors include **perinatal depression, intimate partner violence (IPV) and tobacco use during pregnancy**. Performance on these measures by

**Performance Measure 1:**  
Percent of infants (among mothers who enrolled in home visiting prenatally before 37 weeks) who are born preterm following program enrollment.



sites implementing one of three FL MIECHV-funded evidence-based home visiting models (NFP, HFF or PAT) is tracked annually and reported to HRSA.

Home visitors working with families during pregnancy record delivery information at the first postpartum home visit to determine preterm birth rates.

In 2017, FL MIECHV sites, which serve high-risk families, reported a preterm birth rate of 12%, compared to a statewide rate of 10.9% during the same period.

### National Breastfeeding Month

## Home Visiting Supports Breastfeeding Mothers

August is National Breastfeeding Month! The U.S. Breastfeeding Committee (USBC) is coordinating a social media advocacy and outreach campaign to build support for the policy and practice changes needed to create a "landscape of breastfeeding support."

These activities build on the observance of World Breastfeeding Week (WBW), celebrated every year during the first week of August to encourage breastfeeding and improve the health of babies around the world. It commemorates the [Innocenti Declaration](#) signed in August 1990 by government policymakers, WHO, UNICEF and other organizations to protect, promote and support breastfeeding. This year's theme is Breastfeeding: Foundation of Life, highlighting breastfeeding as a universal strategy that levels the playing field, giving everyone a fair start in life.

Breastfeeding has been a performance measure for MIECHV since the inception of the initiative. Performance Measure 2 tracks the success of home visiting programs in supporting mothers—who enroll as participants during pregnancy—in breastfeeding their infants during the first six months following birth.

In 2017, nearly 90% of new mothers participating in FL MIECHV-supported home visiting programs initiated breastfeeding after delivery, and 34% continued for six months or more.



*Recent graduates from the Alachua Parents as Teachers program, the Vahnins share their experience successfully breastfeeding triplets and the support they received from home visiting. (Pictured left to right) Mom Amy, triplets Avi, Ari & Ava; big sister Skylar, and Dad David. Read their story [here](#).*

## Training Offered for Fiscal Staff at Local Sites

Florida MIECHV collaborated with the CPA firm [James Moore](#) to create “**Developing and Reviewing Your Cost Allocation Plan**,” a new webinar for fiscal staff at local sites.

The July webinar walked listeners through the following questions and steps for developing a cost allocation plan (CAP). Webinar materials include applicable federal regulations and a sample cost allocation planning tool.

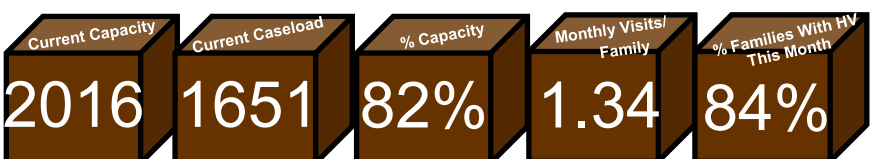


- ⇒ What is a CAP and why is a plan needed?
- ⇒ What are the steps to developing a CAP?
- ⇒ What information should you have on-hand as you develop your CAP?
- ⇒ What questions should you be prepared to answer?

⇒ Does a CAP have to be complicated? Is there a standard format/required elements for a CAP?

The recorded webinar and planning tool are available in the [FL MIECHV LMS](#).

## MIECHV DASHBOARD



Source: Based on July, 2018 reports from four LIA cohorts (April, 2013, October 2013, October, 2015 and April, 2017).

## Scale-Up of Coordinated Intake & Referral Begins

It is here! Coordinated Intake and Referral (CI&R) officially started July 1, 2018. All Healthy Start Coalitions had a year to work in their local communities to prepare for the launch of CI&R. Their critical work included engaging home visitation partners and developing foundational tools, such as program service inventories and decision trees.



The Florida Department of Health developed a new chapter of the Healthy Start Standards and Guidelines focusing specifically on CI&R and included important suggestions from the MIECHV team, such as the creation of and support for a local Home Visitation Advisory Committee. At the same time, the [Florida Association of Healthy Start Coalitions](#) worked on creating the CI&R tab in its Well Family System. This critical activity was needed to ensure that CI&R could achieve scale, would use universal prenatal and infant screens to identify families for home visitation services, and establish a feedback loop on referral disposition.

A new state Home Visiting Advisory Council met in Tallahassee last month to learn more about CI&R and committed to working collaboratively to troubleshoot challenges at both the state and community level.

The Healthy Start Coalitions and their home visiting partners are getting ready to start looking at the first 30 days of referral data and will continue to review that data to improve the local system of care. This is an exciting time for communities and for those families who need, want, and will benefit from home visitation services.

## Welcome New FL MIECHV Staff

[Jelisa Brown](#) recently joined the state MIECHV team as a contract manager. Jelisa brings a wealth of experience to the position, including work in managing contracts and budgets for the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. She will work with Monya Newmyer and Marline Guerrero in overseeing agreements with local sites to provide home visiting services. Welcome, Jelisa!



## New Health Equity Resources in FL MIECHV LMS

A new three-part online training on health equity and social justice is now available on the [FL MIECHV Learning Management System \(LMS\)](#). Produced by the [National Association of County & City Health Officers \(NACCHO\)](#), the goal of the *Politics of Health Equity* is to increase knowledge and inform public health and other community practitioners about principles, key concepts, and applications related to this critical topic.



The self-learning modules are offered in collaboration with the [FL Department of Health](#) which is participating in a national [Infant Mortality Collaborative Improvement & Innovation Network \(CollIN\)](#) initiative addressing the social determinants of health (SDOH).

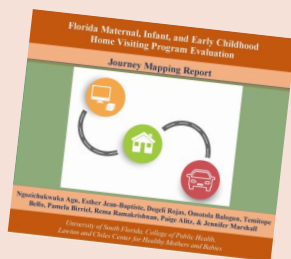
The training complements a multi-part webinar series produced by [Jacksonville Area Legal Aid, Inc.](#) on strategies for addressing issues related to housing, education, cash supports, health care benefits and other social determinants of health impacting families served by home visiting programs. Both series are available on the public portal of [FL MIECHV LMS](#).

## Family Experience Highlighted in New Reports

Two new reports from the [FL MIECHV Evaluation Team at the USF Lawton & Rhea Chiles Center](#) highlight the experience of families participating in home visiting programs through two unique information gathering methods.

In the [2017 FL MIECHV Evaluation Photovoice Report](#), program participants were asked to take pictures that represented their experiences as a parent, meaningful adults in their child's lives, and experiences with their home visitor. The goal of the report was to gain a unique insight into participants' perceptions of engagement and retention.

[Journey mapping](#) was used to explore perceptions of engagement and retention by having research team members shadow home visitors for a typical work day. Validated tools and interviews were used to measure home visitor and participant engagement during visits.



## FL MIECHV Process Featured in Manual

FL MIECHV's processes for oversight of local site contracts and annual site visits are highlighted in the new [Subrecipient Monitoring Manual for Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting \(MIECHV\) Award Recipients](#) recently released by HRSA's HV-ImpACT. The manual offers useful tips and guidance for ensuring contract and program accountability.

## PAT+ Showcased in Trauma Compendium

The Pinellas Parents As Teachers Plus program was featured in [Creating a Trauma-Informed State: A Showcase of Florida's Cutting Edge Trauma Initiatives](#) published for a recent state Think Tank featuring Dr. Vincent Felitti, co-lead investigator of the landmark study on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). PAT+ focuses on substance-involved families.





### ECCS Impact: National Grantee Meeting, Arlington VA

(Above, left) The FL ECCS Impact team! (Right) FL ECCS Parent Educator Talethia Edwards with NICHQ CEO Dr. Scott Bern. (Bottom, left) FL ECCS Impact Coordinator Ghia Kelly with FL MIECHV Assistant Director Allison Parish. (Center) ECCS state grantees network during break. (Left) Talethia Edwards closes July meeting with an inspiring call to action.



### Supervisors Gather for Workshop

Home visiting supervisors from FL MIECHV local implementation sites gathered in Madeira Beach recently for a workshop led by Dr. Sherry Heller of Tulane University.

The group has been holding monthly conference calls with Dr. Heller for advice and support around reflective supervision and practice. Home visiting supervisors will have an opportunity to participate in a pre-conference workshop with

Dr. Heller prior to the First 1000 Days Florida Summit September 26-28 in Palm Beach.



### Bay PAT Bounces Back to School

Bay PAT families enjoyed a donated bounce house & pizza at a recent Group Connection. Learning about child development is exhausting!

### Finding the Gold Within

Home visitors gathered in Orlando recently to nurture their inner capacity for resiliency & self-care. Dr. Mimi Graham leads the popular workshop based on the [self-esteem book](#) for caregivers & families.



## ABOUT FLORIDA MIECHV

Florida is implementing the federal Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Initiative through a public-private partnership. Led by the Florida Association of Healthy Start Coalitions, Inc., the goal of the initiative is to improve health & developmental outcomes for at-risk children through evidence-based home visiting programs. State implementation partners include the Ounce of Prevention Fund of Florida, FSU Center for Prevention & Early Intervention Policy, and USF Lawton & Rhea Chiles Center.

For more information contact Carol Brady, Project Director, [cbrady@fahsc.org](mailto:cbrady@fahsc.org) or visit [www.FLMIECHV.com](http://www.FLMIECHV.com).



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