



Florida Head Start Association

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December 2018

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Calendar of Events

December 2018

Letter From FHSA Executive Director

What a year! As we begin to reflect upon 2018 rehashing our challenges and triumphs of the year let us not forget the true meaning of the holiday. I would like to share with you a 20-item Emotional Gift Guide a colleague, [Jack Levine, Founder, 4Generations Institute](#) shared with me. It really resonated with me as it epitomizes the true meaning of the holiday spirit. We could all use a little reminding that the greatest present this holiday is being present. Put down the electronic devices and be present with you family, friends, colleagues, neighbors and community. It requires no wrapping paper, bow or ribbons but simply being there for the people in your life.

1. *To yourself.... respect, confidence, faith and fortitude.*
2. *To a family member.... communication and understanding, even if there have been relationship challenges.*
3. *To a friend.... a heartfelt, caring spirit and appreciation.*
4. *To our natural world, animal and plant life.... admiration, protection and preservation.*
5. *To a good cause.... generosity of time and treasure and ardent advocacy.*
6. *To a traveler....an open door of hospitality.*
7. *To our military forces, first responders and their loved ones.... honor and support to heal the wounds.*
8. *To the ill and hurting.... conscientious concern and comfort.*
9. *To the hungry and homeless.... compassion, emergency services and creative community solutions. To the abused, neglected and abandoned.... safety, security, representation and hope.*

7- RIVHSA Board of Directors Meeting

11- Get Ready for Seasonal & Pandemic Flu: Strategies for Head Start & Child Care

11 - Home Visitor Series: Supporting Positive Parenting

13 Cost Allocations Techniques and Practices - Webinar

13 - Connecting Parents with Apprenticeship Programs

14 - Implementing Infant and Toddler Curriculum with Fidelity

17-20 NHSA Parent and Family Engagement Conference

24- 25 FHSA Office will be closed in Observance of the Christmas Holiday

January 2019

01 - FHSA Office closed in Observance of the New Year

07 - FHSA Executive Committee Call

15 - FHSA Board of Directors Meeting

21 - FHSA Office Closed in Observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day

23- HSSCO/FHSA Quarterly HS/EHS Director's Call

28 - 31- NHSA 2019 Winter Leadership Institute

31- Florida Mental Health Counselors Association Annual Conference

- 10. *To someone with a special challenge.... recognition, acceptance and a path to independence.*
- 11. *To the addicted and troubled.... open arms, forgiveness and a positive path to recovery.*
- 12. *To an infant and toddler.... attention, attachment, safety and learning opportunities.*
- 13. *To a child or teen.... patience, guidance and a positive example through mentoring.*
- 14. *To a parent in need.... access to needed services, a helping hand and positive guidance.*
- 15. *To an elder.... reverence, gratitude and dignified care.*
- 16. *To a customer or client.... excellent service and lasting value.*
- 17. *To everyone you see, friends and strangers alike.... a warm smile, acts of kindness and positive energy.*
- 18. *To people of every age.... unconditional love and sincere gratitude.*
- 19. *To all the peoples of the world.... justice and peace.*

Wishing you all the very best holiday season and a Happy New Year!

See you in 2019!

Wanda Minick, FHSA Executive Director

Updates from the Office of Head Start

Planning for the Holidays in Head Start

The holiday season can be a very exciting time but also a very trying time for children in Head Start programs. It is important that educators be aware of the challenges many families will face this time of year and practice ways to be helpful. In Dr. Bergeron's November blog, she outlines five key ways to help adjust this season.

- 1. Maintain Structure
- 2. Connect with High School Service Clubs
- 3. Pay Attention to Children's Responses
- 4. Be Mindful of Staff
- 5. Plan Transitions Back Into the Classroom

You can find the full vlog and links to valuable resources to help implement the above [here](#).

Head Start Announces Cost of Living Funding Increase

Eligible Head Start programs may see a 1.77% cost of living adjustment (COLA). Programs may apply through a grant application and will be provided a Funding Guidance Letter from their regional office. Applications must be submitted to the Head Start Enterprise System (HSES).

More information can be found [here](#).

Supporting Families Impacted by Opioid Use and Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Health Resources and Services Administration, [Maternal and Child Health Bureau](#) recently released a new resource for their home visiting programs: [Supporting Families Impacted by Opioid Use and Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome](#). This resource provides useful information on how the opioid crisis is impacting young children and the comprehensive approach that will be needed to meet their needs and those of their mothers.

Hot Topic Webinars and New Communities of Practice

HHS's Office of Child Care and the Child Care State Capacity Building Center Infant/Toddler Specialist Network are pleased to announce a series of Infant/Toddler [Hot Topic Webinars and three new Infant/Toddler Communities of Practice](#) for professionals working with infants and toddlers. Details about each opportunity and registration links can be found [here](#).

These efforts are designed to raise awareness about important topics; provide relevant resources; and inspire continued conversation, topic exploration, and further action toward increasing the supply and quality of infant/toddler care.

FHSA Gearing up for its 20th Anniversary Celebration



As the Florida Head Start Association prepares for our 20th anniversary, we are requesting presenters for educational sessions across our annual conference. The application process has changed slightly from that of previous years. We have added a call for posters to better showcase what our programs are accomplishing.

On top of this, the application process has now been automated.

The **deadline to submit papers/posters is Monday, December 31, 2018**. We can't wait to see what you come up with! The application and additional information can be [found here](#).

Call for Papers

[Exhibitor registration](#) is currently open. Come and showcase your company's product and services to Florida leaders from Head Start, Early Head Start, Migrant and Seasonal Head Start and Early Head Start - Child Care Partnerships Grantee Agencies'. [FHSA Conference & Expo](#) has a limited number of [sponsorships](#) and [exhibitor](#) spaces available which increases your access to conference participants. **Deadline is Friday, February 15, 2019.**

Exhibitor Details

News from Florida Head Start State Collaboration Office

On **December 13, 2018**, HSSCO and FHSA will host a **FREE** webinar on ***Cost Allocation Techniques and Practices***. This webinar will provide support to Head Start and Early Head Start grantees in navigating multiple funding streams. This webinar target audience is for Directors, Executive Directors, Fiscal Management and Staff. The **webinar is scheduled from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. EST.**

[Download flyer](#) for more details. [Registration is open!](#)

New OEL Course: (SRBK) Implementing the Florida Standards in Early Learning Classrooms: Birth to Kindergarten

The Office of Early Learning is proud to announce the release of the online Implementing the Florida Standards in Early Learning Classrooms: Birth to Kindergarten (SRBK) course. Based on the newly revised Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards, the course provides an overview of the standards used in early learning classrooms serving children birth to kindergarten. It includes examples of developmentally appropriate instructional strategies for infants, toddlers and preschoolers throughout the training, along with information about purposeful planning, reflective practice and qualities of an effective educator.



The course is a five-hour course with an embedded assessment. CEUs are available once the embedded assessment is successfully completed. This information will be documented on the Department of Children and Families Child Care Training System – Florida Early Care and Education Professional Development Registry training transcript. The cost is \$10 and participants register through the [Florida Early Care and Education Professional Development Registry](#).

What's Happening Around the State

Denton Johnson Head Start Emphasizes the Importance of Voting



Denton Johnson Head Start in Eatonville, Florida showed its students what an election day is like. This November 6th, students lined up to cast their ballots. Teaching children valuable lessons like this at such a young age can really make an impact.

Florida Children’s Council Announces Matt Guse as New Chief Executive Officer

Tallahassee, FL – The Florida Children’s Council’s Board of Directors has appointed Matt Guse as Chief Executive Officer effective November 13, 2018. “Matt is a proven executive who brings both significant expertise in advocating for Florida’s children and familiarity with partners across the state. Matt’s history and experience at the state and local level position him to successfully lead the Florida Children’s Council as we continue to grow and serve Florida’s children, youth and families,” stated Florida Children’s Council Board Chair, Cindy Arenberg Selt. [Click to download](#) Press Release.

ELC Awarded \$5,000 Grant from PNC Foundation for Support of Second STEAM Machine

Early Learning Coalition of Manatee County – December 3, 2018

The ELC’s STEAM Machine exploratory curriculum engages early learners in real projects within authentic environments and lays the academic groundwork for math and science. The \$5,000 grant from the PNC Foundation will help support the creation of a second STEAM Machine early learning program. [Read More.](#)

Early-learning advocates hoping for a new Florida VPK assessment

Sarasota Herald-Tribune – December 1, 2018

The number of voluntary prekindergarten providers not meeting the state’s minimum threshold has spiked. Early learning advocates believe the problem lies with the test, not the

providers, and they are hopeful lawmakers will address the issue in 2019. [Read More.](#)

Preventing Suspension and Expulsion in Disabled Students

Expulsions and suspension can cause harm to a student's educational experience and interrupt their learning processes. Therefore, Head Start programs have a policy that states educators should "severely limit or prohibit suspension and prohibit expulsion of all enrolled children." The National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching and Learning has provided a wealth of resources on implementing better policies and supporting children with challenging behaviors.

More information on this can be found [here](#).

Updates from NHSA



A new Congress will head to Washington in January 2019, bringing new opportunities, new priorities, and new leadership. Join Head Start leaders in Washington, D.C. at the start of this new Congress to discuss what this environment means for Head Start and help forge a new path forward. WLI will take place January 28-31, 2019 at the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill.

[Click](#) to view conference registration and hotel details.

NHSA Launches Head Start Language Playbook

Part of NHSA's mission is to coalesce the Head Start community to raise public awareness and understanding about the Head Start Advantage. In that spirit, NHSA has launched an exciting new resource during their Fall Leadership Institute: the Head Start Language Playbook!

The Head Start Language Playbook was created with support from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, and is intended to help you and other Head Start advocates have better, more effective conversations about Head Start's mission with the public. Whether you're talking with a member of Congress, a school superintendent, or a parent, we hope the tips in this Playbook help you better communicate the power of Head Start with them.

[Download a digital copy.](#)

Employment Opportunities

[Director of Health Program Services](#) | Lutheran Services
Florida, *Tampa, FL*

Behavior Specialist | Mid-Florida Community Services, Inc.
Hernando/Sumter County

Facilities Operations Manager | Episcopal Children's Services
Dixie/Gilchrist County

Program Nurse | Lutheran Services Florida Children and Head
Start Services, *Pinellas County*

>>> [See More Job Openings](#)

FHSA Thanks our 2019 Corporate Partners & Sponsors

Platinum Level



Silver Level

Nemours. Children's Health System

Interested in learning how you can help support FHSA through its 2019 Corporate Partners & Sponsorship program? [Click here.](#)

Help a Head Start Program by donating to the Florida Early Learning Disaster Relief Fund.



DONATE TODAY!

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