

ESSO WEEKLY MEMO

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Early Steps Champions



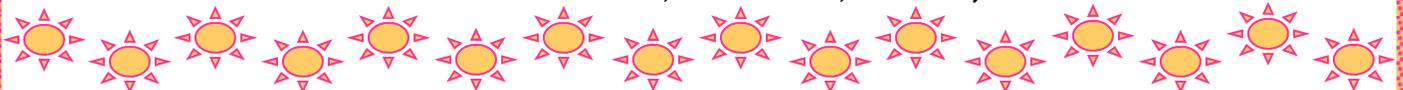
The Florida Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers (FICCIT) would like to recognize the nominees they have chosen for the ITCA National and Regional Parent Leadership Awards. The ITCA awards are given annually to acknowledge outstanding state/regional and/or national parent leadership on behalf of the Part C program for infants and toddlers with developmental delays or disabilities and their families. FICCIT will officially submit the following nominations on behalf of Florida on May 24, 2013.

ITCA National Parent Leadership Award Nominee - Sharon Paul: Sharon is a Florida Licensed Mental Health Counselor and National Board Certified Counselor. She has over 20 years of professional experience working with infants, children, teens and their families coping with emotional, behavioral and relationship difficulties. Sharon serves on FICCIT and is involved in community planning, advisory boards, and parent support groups. She has presented on topics related to anxiety, grief, substance abuse, and talking to children about difficult subjects. Sharon has a daughter, Brogan, who was born in November 2007 and has Down syndrome. She and her family are involved with their local Early Steps, Down Syndrome Association of Central Florida, Down Syndrome Association of Polk County, Gymboree and Kindermusic.

Other Parent Leaders Who Were Nominated: Katie Dagenais, FICCIT Member

ITCA Regional Parent Leadership Award Nominee - Rose Mary Lumm: Rose Mary Lumm is a Family Resource Specialist with the Central Florida Early Steps and the proud mother of a 9 year old son and 7 year old boy/girl twins. Her youngest son was born with Spina Bifida, Hydrocephalus, clubfeet and scoliosis. Because of her own life experiences, she empathizes with and has compassion for the challenges that families of children with special needs face. Rose is a Resource Queen who always knows about trainings, information and ways to find free stuff for families of children with special needs. She is well connected in the community with many different associations and groups, and is loved by all. Families immediately connect with her, because she is so caring, passionate and understands what they are going through. In this way, Rose is like a mom to all of the families of children with special needs that are served by The Developmental Center for Infants & Children/Central Florida Early Steps program.

Other Parent Leaders Who Were Nominated: Nicole Torres, Janet Atkinson, and Sue Loftis



Family Resource Specialist in Early Steps Named All Children's Hospital's Employee of the Month

Paula Keyser was recognized as the May 2013 Employee of the Month for her Service Excellence by a mother who said, "I would like to take this opportunity to recognize an employee whose dedication, compassion, and knowledge has been priceless to my family. I first met Paula Keyser when my son was barely two years old and was referred to Early Steps due to apraxia. The support we received from Early Steps changed our lives...As the parent of a child with a disability, it is difficult to find people who understand how to get things done. Someone like Paula Keyser who's knowledge spans not only her own job, but beyond, is rare. Please accept my deepest appreciation for providing the resources and training that put this dedicated and caring individual into the lives of families in need. My experience with Early Steps demonstrates that there is a great deal of good being done and Paula is an employee who reflects the goodness of the entire organization." Paula's Department Director added, "Paula is committed to helping anyone who needs assistance...Leaving no stone unturned, she researches, networks, and lobbies for special needs children. Paula is an expert in finding the answers to make families lives better. Paula is a goodwill ambassador to Early Steps and All Children's Hospital."

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

1. Early Steps Early Wishes - June 7th at Family Café

Early Steps Early Wishes is a huge playgroup for Early Steps families attending the Family Café. All Family Resource Specialists participate in this event. This event includes activities for families, such as face painting, adaptive books and toys, family photo shoot, story times, parachute activities, and free play. Early Steps partners that participate by providing an activity for families include: Florida's Central Directory, Florida Outreach Project for Children and Young Adults Who are Deaf Blind, and the Florida Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers (FICCIT).

This special event will be held on **Friday, June 7, 2013 between 1:30 PM and 4:00 PM at the Hilton Orlando**, during the first day of the Family Café. Family Involvement Funds are supporting many Early Steps families to attend the entire conference, including the *Early Steps Early Wishes* event.

[Early Steps Early Wishes Flyer - English](#)

[Early Steps Early Wishes Flyer - Spanish](#)

2. Save the Date: System of Family Involvement Webinar

A webinar has been scheduled for **July 10, 2013 from 10:00 am – 11:30 am (EST)** to provide information and technical assistance on the roles and responsibilities of Family Resource Specialists and the System of Family Involvement Plan. Participation is mandatory for Family Resource Specialists and encouraged for Local Early Steps staff and other interested parties. Please look for additional information in future weekly memos. If you have any questions, you may contact

Kelly_Rogers@doh.state.fl.us

3. Free Webinar: Evidence-Based Approach for Treating Depressed Mothers

Date/Time (ET): June 11, 2013 - 3:00pm - 4:00pm

Led By: Pew Home Visiting Campaign

This Webinar focuses on how to identify and successfully treat depression in mothers participating in home visiting programs. The event presents an innovative treatment for depression developed by Every Child Succeeds specifically for mothers in home visiting programs. Panelists discuss the scientific evidence for the approach and how the treatment program is disseminated to other home visiting programs.

Registration Link: <https://www4.gotomeeting.com/register/817815631>

4. Save the Date: Partnering for Success 2013

The 2013 Partnering for Success Conference is scheduled for November 13-15, 2013 in Orlando.

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MEDICAID UPDATES:

5. Medicaid Alerts and Questions

The Florida Medicaid program has created an e-mail alert system to supplement the present method of receiving Provider Alerts information and to alert registered subscribers of "late-breaking" health care information. An e-mail will be delivered to your mailbox when Medicaid policy clarifications or other health care information is available that is appropriate for your selected area and provider type. Visit the [Florida Medicaid's Health Care Alerts](#) page to subscribe now, or to unsubscribe or update your subscription at any time. Please direct questions about Medicaid policies to your local Medicaid area office. The Medicaid area offices' addresses and phone numbers are available on the [Area Offices](#) web page.

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES:

6. Act Early Forum Webinar Is Now Archived

The Act Early Forum Webinar, Benchmarks for Monitoring Early Identification and Linkage to Services, has now been archived. You can find the archived webinar and slides at http://www.aucd.org/template/event.cfm?event_id=3897. Please visit www.aucd.org/webinars to view past Act Early webinars.

LES SPOTLIGHT:

7. Reminder to the LES:

This section of the ESSO Weekly Memo is for recognition of major accomplishments and milestones in the local programs. All entries must be emailed to Katie Williams and Patricia Herring by 5:00 EST on Tuesdays. The subject line should read 'ESSO Weekly Memo Entry.'

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PROGRAM MANAGER INFORMATION

8. List of Program Managers and their Contact Information

The assigned program manager at ESSO is the primary contact person for the LES to submit questions, issues or concerns to. The program manager will be responsible for responding to the LES and prior to responding, will inform and involve others in the ESSO, when necessary, to assist in clarifying or resolving the issue.

Early Steps State Office Telephone Number - (850) 245-4444

LES	Program Manager	PI Lead
Bay Area	Haylie Mistrot (ext. 2267) Haylie_Mistrot@doh.state.fl.us	Angela Marcus (ext. 3278) Angela_Marcus@doh.state.fl.us
Big Bend	Dawn Lynch (ext. 2270) Dawn_Lynch@doh.state.fl.us	Susan Barrows (ext. 2231) Susan_Barrows@doh.state.fl.us
Central Florida	Arnetta Givens (ext. 3904) Arnetta_Givens@doh.state.fl.us	Susan Barrows (ext. 2231) Susan_Barrows@doh.state.fl.us
Gold Coast	Arnetta Givens (ext. 3904) Arnetta_Givens@doh.state.fl.us	Susan Barrows (ext. 2231) Susan_Barrows@doh.state.fl.us
Gulf Central	Mary Sandler (ext. 2240) Mary_Sandler@doh.state.fl.us	Angela Marcus (ext. 3278) Angela_Marcus@doh.state.fl.us
North Beaches	Carol Burch (ext. 2224) Carol_Burch@doh.state.fl.us	Angela Marcus (ext. 3278) Angela_Marcus@doh.state.fl.us
North Central	Dawn Lynch (ext. 2270) Dawn_Lynch@doh.state.fl.us	Susan Barrows (ext. 2231) Susan_Barrows@doh.state.fl.us
North Dade	Janice Miller (ext. 3910) Janice_Miller2@doh.state.fl.us	Angela Marcus (ext. 3278) Angela_Marcus@doh.state.fl.us
Northeastern	Janice Miller (ext. 3910) Janice_Miller2@doh.state.fl.us	Angela Marcus (ext. 3278) Angela_Marcus@doh.state.fl.us
Southernmost Coast	Janice Miller (ext. 3910) Janice_Miller2@doh.state.fl.us	Susan Barrows (ext. 2231) Susan_Barrows@doh.state.fl.us
Southwest	Mary Sandler (ext. 2240) Mary_Sandler@doh.state.fl.us	Angela Marcus (ext. 3278) Angela_Marcus@doh.state.fl.us
Space Coast	Susan Barrows (ext. 2231) Susan_Barrows@doh.state.fl.us	Susan Barrows (ext. 2231) Susan_Barrows@doh.state.fl.us
Treasure Coast	Mary Sandler (ext. 2240) Mary_Sandler@doh.state.fl.us	Susan Barrows (ext. 2231) Susan_Barrows@doh.state.fl.us
West Central	Angela Marcus (ext. 3278) Angela_Marcus@doh.state.fl.us	Angela Marcus (ext. 3278) Angela_Marcus@doh.state.fl.us
Western Panhandle	Carol Burch (ext. 2224) Carol_Burch@doh.state.fl.us	Susan Barrows (ext. 2231) Susan_Barrows@doh.state.fl.us

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You're Invited!



Early Steps, Early Wishes



If your child is currently enrolled in Early Steps or has recently graduated (within the last year), please join us for "**Early Steps – Early Wishes**" a two hour family fun time that focuses on bringing Early Steps families together, to celebrate your child's success in Early Steps.

**Friday, June 7th, 2013
1:30 to 4:00 pm
At Hilton Orlando**

Some of the activities include: Puppet Making and Puppet Play, adaptive toys, face painting, free play, crafts, bubbles and snacks.

Join us for a fun, interactive start to the Family Café. We will provide you with lots of tools to help you get the most out of your experience at the Family Café, so be sure to stop by with your children.



Please RSVP To Your FRS

Esta invitado!



Pasos Tempranos, Ilusiones Tempranas



En el



Si su niño forma parte de Pasos Tempranos o se ha graduado recientemente (durante el transcurso del pasado año), porfavor únase a nosotros para “Pasos Tempranos, Ilusiones Tempranas – Una reunión para las familias de Pasos Tempranos” para celebrar el suceso de sus hijos en Pasos Tempranos”

Viernes, Junio 7 del 2013

1.30 a 4.00 pm

En el Hilton Orlando

Habrán actividades adecuadas a cada infante y niño pequeño incluyendo : Arte y Manualidades, Una oportunidad memorable para tomarse una fotografía, Caritas Pintadas, cuentos, Festival de títeres y mas. Tendrá la oportunidad de hacer un libro adaptativo para llevar a casa. Tendremos algunos refrigerios livianos, así que traiga a toda su familia y únase a la diversión.

Porfavor RSVP con su FRS