



WEEKLY UPDATE – JUNE 4, 2008

***INFORMATION AND RESOURCES:***

***EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES***

The Early Steps State Office is recruiting a Training Coordinator to fill the position recently relocated to Tallahassee beginning June 30, 2008. It is a contracted position through the University of Florida and the successful candidate will become a member of the Training Unit. See below links for additional information.

Link to the position. <https://jobs.ufl.edu/applicants/jsp/shared/frameset/frameset.jsp?time=1212511346762> and use Requisition Number: 0705627 for more details.

**FSU to share \$7 million grant to study  
autism in toddlers**

With a \$7 million grant from the National Institutes of Mental Health, FSU and University of Michigan researchers aim to find out how effective early intervention is for children diagnosed with ASD by the time they are 18 months old. The study is one of the largest of its kind and one of the first to explore intervention in children that young. ([more](#)) -- back to [www.fsu.com](http://www.fsu.com)

**FLORIDA DOH RECEIVES FEDERAL FUNDING TO  
IMPROVE FLORIDA'S PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS  
AND RESPONSE**

State Surgeon General Ana M. Viamonte Ros M.D., MPH announced today that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has made available over \$55 million to continue assisting Florida's public health departments, hospitals and other healthcare organizations. These funds will strengthen response efforts to public health and medical emergencies as a result of a terrorism attack or naturally

occurring event.

"In Florida, local communities are the first to respond in a health emergency," said Dr. Viamonte Ros. "These funds will continue to enhance Florida's readiness by increasing the capabilities of county health departments, hospitals and healthcare delivery systems to respond to any public health emergency."

The HHS funding is awarded via two separate but interrelated cooperative agreements. HHS' Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is providing a total of \$32.9 million in funding to Florida through the Public Health Emergency Preparedness cooperative agreement. The HHS Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response is also awarding \$22.4 million to Florida through the Hospital Preparedness Program.

The CDC-provided funds are intended to upgrade Florida's public health departments' preparedness and response to all hazards and public health emergencies including terrorism, as well as pandemic influenza and other naturally occurring emergencies. These funds will be used to meet goals that include:

- Integrating public health and public and private medical capabilities with other first responder systems
- Addressing the public health and medical needs of at-risk individuals (such as children or people with chronic medical disorders) in the event of a public health emergency
- Assuring coordination among state, local and tribal planning, preparedness and response activities

The funds awarded by the HHS Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response will be used to improve the readiness of hospitals and other healthcare organizations in their jurisdictions. The goal is to strengthen medical surge capability in Florida. Recipients will use the funds to finalize development or improve:

- Interoperable communication systems
- Systems to track available hospital beds
- Advance registration of volunteer health professionals
- Processes for hospital evacuations or sheltering-in-place
- Processes for fatality management
- Strengthening healthcare partnerships at the community level

DOH promotes, protects and improves the health of all people in Florida. For more information about DOH programs, visit [www.doh.state.fl.us](http://www.doh.state.fl.us). For more information on the Hospital Preparedness Grants, visit [www.hhs.gov/aspr/opeo/hpp/](http://www.hhs.gov/aspr/opeo/hpp/). To learn more about the Public Health Emergency Preparedness grants, visit [www.bt.cdc.gov/planning/coopagreement/](http://www.bt.cdc.gov/planning/coopagreement/).

## ***NECTAC NEWS***

Current issues of NECTAC eNotes can be viewed at <http://www.nectac.org/enotes/enotes.asp>.

## *Upcoming Training Opportunities & Conferences*

### **2008 Training Institute on Autism**

The 2008 Institute on Autism will be held June 16-20, 2008 at The Retreat at Bradley's Pond located at 9002 Bradley Road, Tallahassee, Florida. For more information, please refer to the attached brochure.

### **10th Annual Family Cafe Conference**

The 10th Annual Family Cafe Conference is scheduled for June 13-15, 2008 at [Disney's Coronado Springs Resort](#) in Orlando, FL. Registration is currently open, and can be completed online at <http://www.familycafe.net/> . To contact the conference hotel, please call 407/939-1020.