

*****IMPORTANT UPDATE*****

Breaking News: Quality Rating Improvement System (QRIS)

An important milestone was recently reached in The Children's Trust and the Early Learning Coalition's effort to design a Quality Rating Improvement System (QRIS) for Miami-Dade County. We are pleased to share the news that the Trust Board, at the meeting on July 9, 2007, selected the Early Learning Coalition, and our partners, to implement QRIS activities. This system seeks to establish a set of voluntary quality standards above minimum licensing regulations with 5 incremental levels of benchmarks. "Stars" will be awarded for achievement of quality levels by participating child care programs serving children age birth to 5.

QRIS is designed to provide a range of support services to help programs achieve higher quality, including mini-grants for material support, scholarships for teacher education, and training/technical assistance. Eventually the Star quality designations will help parents be informed consumers, able to identify high quality child care by Stars awarded. We will continue to bring you the most updated information and would appreciate your involvement and support as we plan and implement our QRIS system.

Important Reminder: Reporting Absences to CDS

The Assessment and Technical Assistance Division of Child Development Services (under Miami-Dade County Department of Human Services) wants to relay this important message to providers:

You are required to report any absence of any child in the At-Risk funding category who is absent from your program for ONE DAY. Absences **must** be reported to Our Kids Incident Reporting Unit at **305-455-2888**.

Important Update on Registration Sites

Please refer to the information below regarding a change in CDS registration site locations.

- **Effective July 23, 2007**, families originally served at the **Opa-Locka Center at 16405 NW 25 Avenue** will now be served at the **Miami Lakes Center at 15910 NW 57 Avenue, Miami Lakes, 305-908-7300**.
- **Effective July 27, 2007**, families originally served at the **Main CAA Office at 395 NW 1 Street, Miami**, will now be served at the **Culmer Center at 1600 NW 3 Avenue, Miami**.
- **Effective July 27**, families originally served at the **Florida City Office** will now be served at the **South Dade Government Center located at 10710 SW 211 Street, Miami**.

Re-Determination Package Information

Please be aware that CDS will be sending all providers copies of the re-determination packages as a means to better assist parents.

Center Directors' Meetings: 2007-2008 Schedule Now Available

The 2007-2008 Center Directors' Meeting schedule is now available. You can view it in its entirety on the www.elcmdm.org web site. The next series of meetings will be held:

- September 25, 2007, South Dade Government Center (10 AM – 12 PM, English, 2 – 4 PM, Spanish)
- September 26, 2007, MLK Building, Miami Lakes (10 AM – 12 PM, English, 2 – 4 PM, Spanish)

- more -

Emergency Preparedness Update

Don't forget...after an emergency please remember to call the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe's emergency phone number at **305-646-7220** to inform us of your Center's status. Please leave us a message with the following information: Center's name and address, Director's contact information, report of any injuries to staff and/or damage to your facility.



Tune in to ELC VPK on TV and radio!

Starting July 23, 2007 and running through August 24, 2007, you can catch the new ELC VPK commercials on the following TV and radio stations:

Univision 23
Despierta America
4 – 6 PM
11 PM News
Free Weekend Rotators

Lite FM
3 – 7 PM
Discounted Rotators 6 AM – 12 PM
Discounted Rotators 12M – 12M

CBS
Morning Show
Soaps
Evening News
Insider

Hot 105
2 – 8 PM
Free Rotators 6 AM - Mid

WPLG (Channel 10)
Good Morning America
Free Daytime Rotators
Judge Judy
Dr. Phil
Free 6 PM News
Wheel of Fortune
Jeopardy
Free Primetime
Free 11 PM News
Free WNBA

AMOR
6 – 10 AM
3 – 7 PM

Telemundo 51
Morning Show
3 – 6 PM
11 PM News and Free 11 PM News
Free Primetime
Free Billboards

Comcast Cable (6 PM – Mid)
A&E
Hallmark
BET
Food Network
Family Channel

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commercials” links.**

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