

ELCMDM Communications: Working Hard to Better Serve You

In an effort to collaborate and streamline our communication efforts and keep our providers well informed, we are combining the News Alerts for Miami-Dade and Monroe counties. The format will contain general news of interest to both counties followed by specific news for each individual county. It is important to understand what is happening in both areas to better advocate for services to our clients. Please expect these news alerts to be mailed to your centers directly, as information becomes available, until we have streamlined our database system. We will keep you informed as to any changes that may take place. Thank you for your cooperation in this effort.

Amount Paid to Providers for Fiscal Year 2006-2007

Please review the chart included highlighting payments made to providers during Fiscal Year 2006-2007 (July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007) for both Miami-Dade and Monroe counties. Please note the increase in the amount of payment to providers from \$7.6 million in July, 2006 to over \$10 million in June, 2007

CCDBG in the 110th Congress

The Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG), the primary federal funding stream for child care in the United States, provides child care assistance for families **and** funds child care quality initiatives, including training for child care providers, inspections and background checks to ensure that providers do not have a criminal record. The Senate Health, Education Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee and the House Education and Labor Committee will consider approving legislation reauthorizing CCDBG during the 110th Congress.

Anyone interested in learning more about the reauthorization, the historical funding amounts, or any other information regarding the grant can visit the following web site: <http://kohl.senate.gov/childcare2.pdf>.

DCF Training Courses Now Available Online

The Florida Department of Children and Families is pleased to announce the release of the following mandated training courses **online**:



Child Care Facility Rules and Regulations;
Health, Safety and Nutrition;
Identifying and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect;
Child Growth and Development;
Behavioral Observation and Screening

**For more information regarding these online courses, review the attachment included with this news alert.*

-more-

*****MIAMI-DADE COUNTY NEWS BRIEFS*****

Attendance News

Providers, please be reminded that attendance **must** be submitted in a **timely manner** to Miami-Dade County Child Development Services (CDS) for payment. Please provide your attendance sheets **no later** than the **third working day after the end of the month**. Miami-Dade County will not be able to reimburse you for attendance reported after the due date. In addition to monitoring the central agency (Miami-Dade County), as per our routine state mandated requirement to conduct performance and accountability monitoring, the Coalition will be visiting centers and verifying attendance logs signed by parents on an ongoing basis.

Eligibility Update

Providers are encouraged to **verify eligibility status prior to rendering care**. This is particularly important for children whose eligibility has expired and a new voucher/certificate of eligibility has not been received from Miami-Dade County (CDS). Cost for care outside of the eligibility period becomes the responsibility of the parent.

VPK News

Providers, you can submit your **certificates of eligibility (COE's)** for fall VPK by faxing them to the VPK Enrollment Department at **305-908-5782**. You can also **hand deliver** them to the Miami Lakes Office located at 15910 NW 57 Avenue in Miami Lakes.

**Important information regarding Provider Certification and VPK class schedules has been made available on the www.vpkhelp.org web site. Please visit the site for more information.*

Enroll in Direct Deposit Today!

If you have not already signed up for direct deposit (otherwise known as Electronic Funds Transfer, EFT), please contact the Provider Payments and Internal Review Division of CDS at **305-908-7324**.

*****MONROE COUNTY NEWS BRIEF*****



Upcoming Trainings for Providers

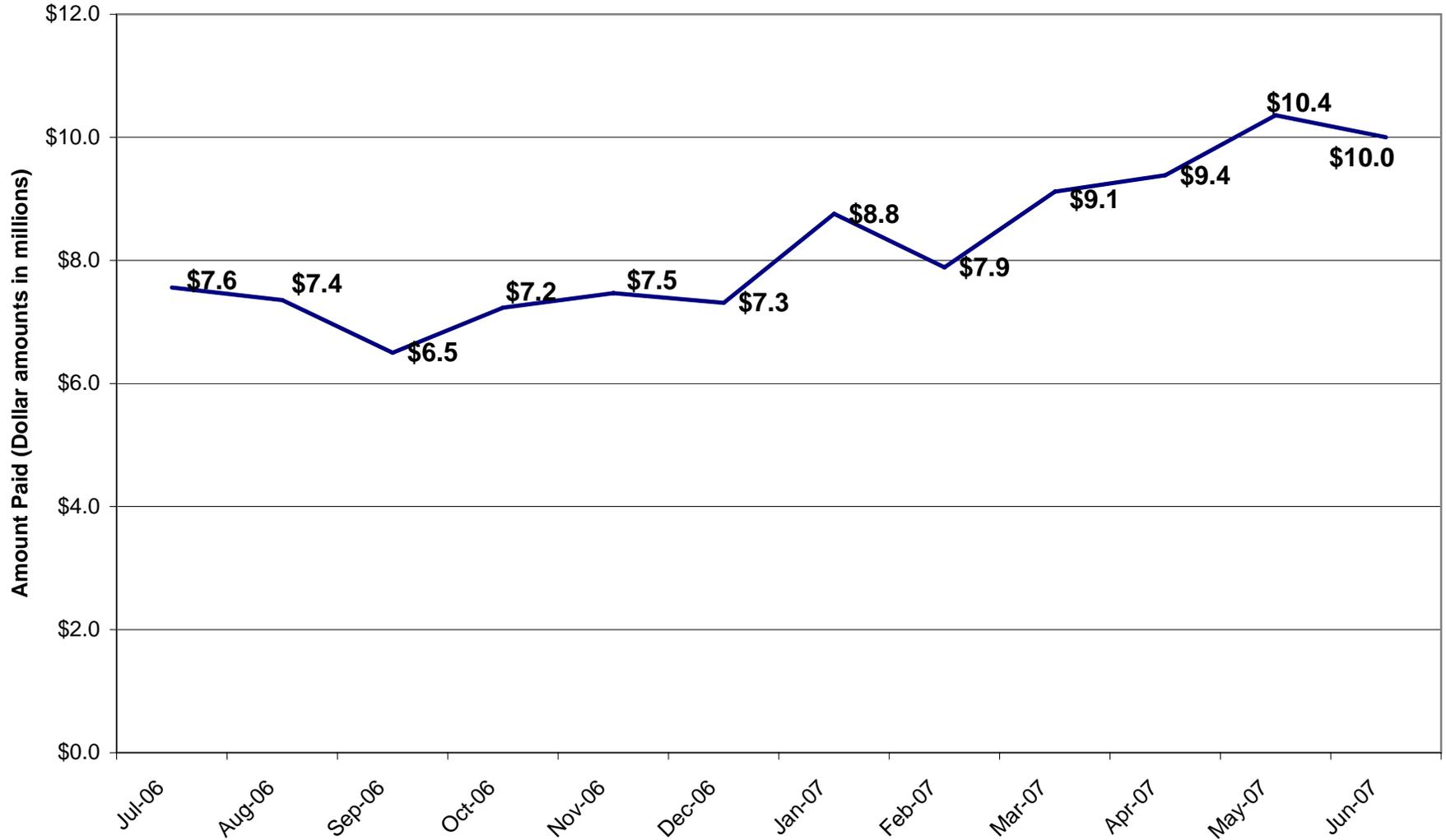
VPK Orientation and Standards Training
Saturday, August 11, 9 AM – 2:30 PM
1st Baptist Church
200 62nd St., Ocean, Marathon
RSVP to Val Taylor at 292-7150

VPK Orientation and Standards Training
Wednesday, August 15th, 9 AM – 3 PM
Marathon High School, Room 2-220
RSVP to Val Taylor at 292-7150

Montessori Teacher Education Course
Early Childhood focus (ages 2 ½ - age 6)
Alternate Weekends from Saturday, Sept. 8, 2007 – Sunday, May 25, 2008
Montessori Island School
92295 Old State Road, Tavernier
For additional information, contact Bridget Dangel at 923-9737

###

**Amount Paid per Month to Providers for School Readiness
(in Millions)**



30 Hour Introductory Training is Now Available Online!

How can I access the online training courses?

Go to www.myflorida.com/childcare
Select "Training Requirements"
Select "Click here to Register for Courses"
Select "Online Courses" and select a course.

How much will the course cost?

\$10 per course. There will be no refunds for online courses. You may pay for the courses online using a credit card or mail a payment, in the form of a cashier check or money order, to the address provided. (No personal checks)

How long will the course be available?

For each payment, you will have access for 45 days. Each course's 45-day window of availability will begin when you enter the course the first time. After 45 days, if you wish to access the course again, you will need to reregister and repay.

Can I take more than one online course at a time?

Yes. During registration, you may choose to register and pay for more than one course at a time. Once you have paid for the courses, a "Go to Course" button will appear. Although you have paid for more than one course, you may choose to view only one at a time so you are not rushed to complete all of the courses within the same 45-day window.

If I retake a course, can I earn more than one certificate?

No. A certificate will be issued based on the first completion date. All courses may be retaken for informational purposes; however, additional completion certificates will not be issued.

Do I have to take the competency exam?

Yes, to meet the licensing requirement competency exams are required to complete training. You will receive in-service credit if you complete the coursework, but do not successfully complete a competency exam.

How do I register for a competency exam?

Once you have registered and paid for a course, go to your Child Care Training Transcript at www.myflorida.com/childcare/training. At the top of your transcript, choose the "**Register for Competency Exam**" button. You must register for a competency exam at least 10 days before taking an exam at a local exam site.

NOTE: Beginning July 2007 a fee will be charged for all online courses.



Protect the Vulnerable, Promote Strong and Economically Self-Sufficient Families, and Advance Personal and Family Recovery and Resiliency.