



For Immediate Release

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THE EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF MIAMI-DADE/MONROE WILL HOST A BOOK DISTRIBUTION WITH GUEST READER KEY WEST MAYOR MORGAN MCPHERSON

28,000 BOOKS TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO CHILDREN IN MIAMI-DADE AND MONROE COUNTIES

WHAT: The Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe will host a series of book distribution events for children in Miami-Dade and Monroe counties.

WHEN: Official Kick-Off Date: Tuesday, September 1, 2009
9:00 a.m.

WHERE: The Learning Center
241 Trumbo Road
Key West, FL

WHY: The Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe, a non-profit organization dedicated to ensuring children in Miami-Dade and Monroe counties receive high-quality early care and education, has been awarded a \$125,000 grant from Reading Is Fundamental, Inc. (RIF), the nation's largest literacy organization. 385 early care and education centers were selected by ELC to participate in distributing a total of 28,000 books to the children of our community so they can build their own personal libraries. Of this total, 41 early care and education centers and family child care homes in Monroe County will be participating in the distribution of books to 1,292 children.

WHO: Key West Mayor Morgan McPherson will participate as a special guest reader at The Learning Center book distribution event.

Book distribution dates are during the weeks of August 31, October 5 and November 5.

ABOUT THE EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF MIAMI-DADE/MONROE: The Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe is a non-profit organization dedicated to ensuring children in Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties receive high-quality early care and education. Through a variety of affordable and innovative early education and voluntary prekindergarten programs, the Coalition serves more than 50,000 children ages birth to 12-years-old and their families. For additional information, visit our website at www.elcmdm.org.