

Office of Early Learning Community Resource Flyer



Child Support and Housing Resources

Child support information is available at the Department of Revenue at 1-800-622-5437 (Miami-Dade residents call 305-530-2600).

Department of Children and Families Office of Homelessness designated lead agencies provide supportive services and information to address the varying needs of people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. To locate your designated lead agency visit <http://www.myflfamilies.com/service-programs/homelessness> or call 1-866-762-2237.

A public housing agency or Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program offers rental housing for eligible low-income families, the elderly and persons with disabilities. Visit https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/pha/contacts or call the Office of Public Housing at 1-800-955-2232 to obtain your local office contact information.

Child Care Programs

Early Head Start and Head Start Programs are free, federally funded early learning programs for children birth to 5 years old. Eligibility for both programs is based on a family's income. For your local agency contact information and more details visit <http://www.floridaheadstart.org/program%20directory.html>.

Early learning coalitions are non-profit organizations located throughout Florida that locally administer the School Readiness Program (subsidized child care), Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Program, a free program for Florida's 4-year-old children, and the Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) Program. For information on child care or to locate a local coalition, call the Office of Early Learning toll-free at 1-866-FL-Ready (357-3239) or visit <http://www.floridaearlylearning.com/>.

Child Care Programs (cont.)

Military child care assistance is available to assist military families with the cost of child care. To learn more, call Child Care Aware of America at 1-800-424-2246 or go to <http://www.naccrra.org/military-families>.

The now called Gardiner Scholarship is a program administered by state-approved nonprofit scholarship funding organizations that is designed to provide the option for a parent to better meet the individual educational needs of his or her eligible child. The program provides eligible students a scholarship that can be used to purchase approved services or products. To participate, parents must apply to one of the nonprofit [scholarship funding organizations](#) that are administering the program.

Food Resources

The Temporary Cash Assistance Program and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Programs (SNAP formerly known as the Food Stamp Program) information is available at the Department of Children and Families Access Florida hotline at 1-866-762-2237 or visit <http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/programs/access/>.

Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC) is a federally funded nutrition program for women, infants, and children. WIC provides healthy foods, nutrition education and counseling, breastfeeding support, and referrals for health care at no cost. For your local WIC number, visit http://www.doh.state.fl.us/family/wic/pages/program_info/contact.htm or call 1-800-342-3556.

Medical and Special Needs Resources

Early Steps and Children's Medical Services offer intervention services to families and children, ages birth to 3 with disabilities or who are developmentally delayed. For more information call 1-800-218-0001 or visit www.earlystepsdirectory.com.

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Medical and Special Needs Resources (cont.)

Exceptional Student Education, required under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, is offered for students ages 3 - 21 who have disabilities and students who are gifted. For details, visit <http://www.fldoe.org/academics/exceptional-student-edu/index.stml>.

Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System provides diagnostic, instructional and technology support services to district exceptional education programs and families of students with disabilities over 3 years of age. For more information call 850-245-0478 or visit <http://www.fdlrs.org/>.

Florida KidCare offers low-cost health insurance for children. To learn more about eligibility and program options, call 1-888-540-5437 or visit <http://www.floridakidcare.org/>.

Medicaid offers free medical coverage and benefits to children. Information is available at the DCF Access Florida hotline at 1-866-762-2237 or visit <http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/programs/access/>.

The Social Security Administration can offer disability, Supplemental Security Income, survivors benefits, and more call 1-800-772-1213 or visit www.socialsecurity.gov.

Workforce Resources

Employ Florida provides access to statewide and local workforce resources, assistance in searching for jobs, and building and posting resumes. For more information, call toll-free 1-866-352-2345 or visit <https://www.employflorida.com/>.

Reemployment assistance is available to Florida residents or individuals working in the state of Florida and to those who are unemployed or partially unemployed. For more information call 1-800-204-2418 or visit <http://floridajobs.org/job-seekers-community-services>.

Additional Resources

2-1-1 is an information and referral service for local services such as crisis intervention services, housing, support groups, counseling, financial assistance, transportation and more. Dial 2-1-1 or visit <http://www.211.org/>.

Domestic violence crisis intervention and support services to victims of domestic violence and their children are provided by certified domestic violence centers throughout Florida. For the center nearest you and information about safety planning, resources and referrals as well as emotional support call the Florida (available 24/7) Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-500-1119 or visit <http://www.fcadv.org/centers/local-centers>.



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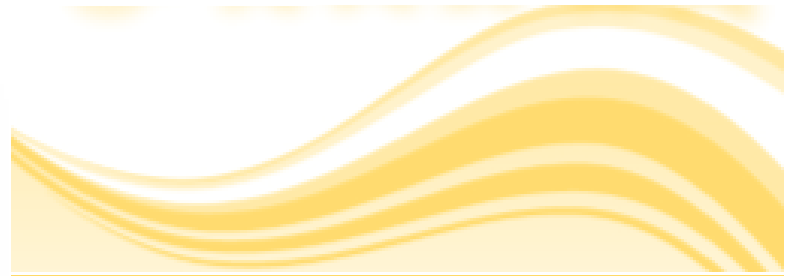
Additional Resources (cont.)

Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is a benefit for people who work and have earned income or are self-employed. EITC reduces the amount of tax you owe or may allow you a refund. For details, visit <http://www.irs.gov/Credits-&-Deductions/Individuals/Earned-Income-Tax-Credit> or call toll-free 1-800-829-1040.

Financial aid (for college students) may include student loans and grants through the financial aid department. These funds may help with the cost of child care. On-site child care services may be available for students and faculty. To explore options visit <http://www.studentaid.ed.gov/>.

Healthy Families Florida is a nationally accredited home visiting program for expectant parents and parents of newborns experiencing stressful life situations. For more information visit <http://www.healthyfamiliesfla.org/index.asp> or call 850-488-1752.

The Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) program offers free, home-based early childhood education for 3, 4 and 5-year-old children. Home visitors work to support parent(s) to become their child's first teacher. To learn more, visit <http://floridahippy.fmhi.usf.edu/> or call 813-974-2177.



Additional Resources (cont.)

Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) helps low-income families with home heating and cooling costs. For more information and local contact information, visit <http://www.floridajobs.org/community-planning-and-development/community-services/low-income-home-energy-assistance-program>.

SafeLink Wireless provides a free cell phone and airtime each month for income-eligible customers. To learn more and apply, call 1-800-SAFELINK (1-800-723-3546) or visit <https://www.safelinkwireless.com>.

School Choice options are available to Florida families through three scholarship programs. These programs allow parents choice among public and private schools.

[Florida Tax Credit Scholarship](#)

[McKay Scholarship](#)

[Opportunity Scholarship](#)



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