



Early
Learning
Coalition of Duval

2019 - 2020 Annual Report



Our Mission

To lead and support the early learning community in building the best foundation for children birth to five.

Our Vision

We are Jacksonville's first stop for early learning through collaborative leadership that ensures all children receive high-quality care and learning, all families have the support they need for their children to succeed, and all children are ready for their academic and lifelong success.

Our Values

Quality . Integrity . Respect . Education . Service . Teamwork

www.elcduval.org



The 2019 – 2020 year was an extraordinary time for the ELC of Duval. There was a lot of momentum generated between July 2019 through March 2020. ELC served as a leader for various early learning initiatives, including the launch of the "I COUNT" campaign to encourage all families to complete the 2020 Census and the "Zero in on Safety" initiative that honored an elite group of providers for their outstanding DCF health and safety record. ELC also made significant progress in obtaining additional funding for childcare slots and quality-focused programs.

While all of this great work continues, the 2020 year will forever be remembered as the year of the COVID-19 pandemic. The highlights of this time include the struggles of early learning professionals to maintain or reopen while facing the threat of virus transmission, the uncertainties of working families, and the spotlight on the necessity of childcare to inspire and support our area's economy.

The COVID-19 pandemic created the need for our entire workforce to transition to a remote work from home environment. ELC staff worked with families of first responders, healthcare professionals, and essential workers to enroll their children in free quality child care so they could continue to serve our community. All school readiness parent copayments were waived, and payments to providers were based on enrollment versus attendance to help support all families and providers during this challenging time.

Overall, the pandemic spotlights what many of us in the early learning community already knew; quality child care is critical to the success of families, the community, and the economy.

The Board of Directors and the staff at ELC are committed to ensuring that positive changes will result from the devastating toll the pandemic has had on Duval County. We are incredibly grateful to our early learning directors and teachers for their hard work and dedication to our local children and families. Together we will continue to lead the early learning community providing the highest care and education.

Denise Marzullo

Denise Marzullo
President/CEO

Marcus Rowe

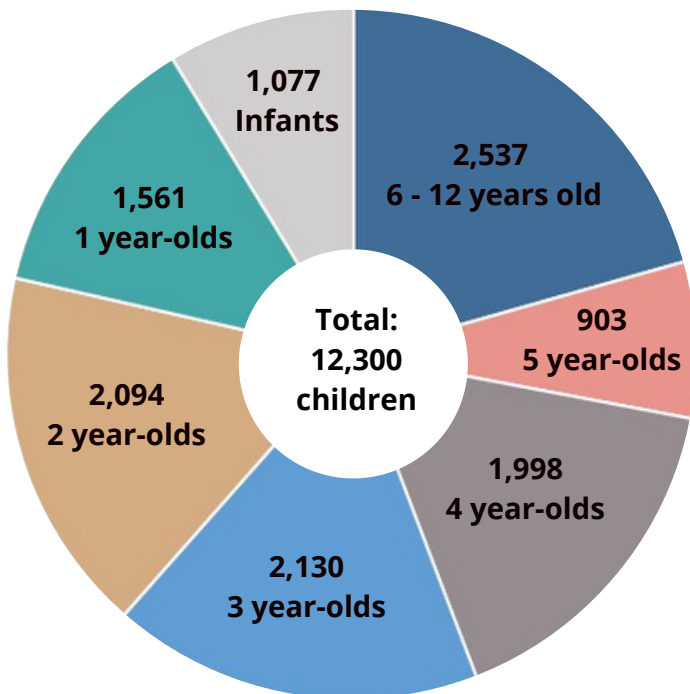
Marcus Rowe
Board Chair

Financial Distribution

2019 - 2020 Fiscal Year	
Child Care:	\$59,361,645
Quality Initiatives:	\$6,007,358
Family Services:	\$2,219,771
Administration:	\$2,013,401
Provider Services:	\$925,725
Total:	\$70,527,900

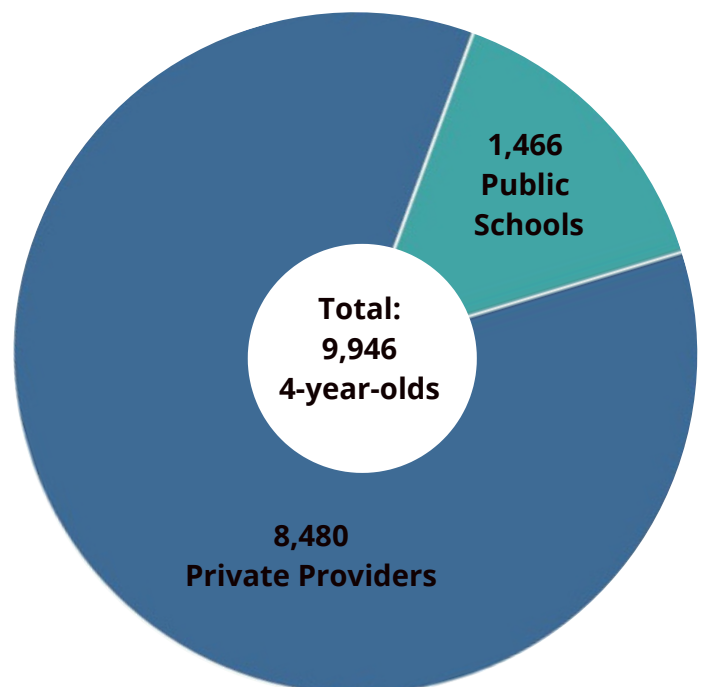
School Readiness Level by Age

The School Readiness (SR) Program enables income-eligible families to work or attend school while ensuring their children are in safe, high-quality child care programs.



VPK Students Enrolled by Provider Type

In 2020, the Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) program celebrates its 15th anniversary. Since its inception, more than 140,000 4-year-olds have attended Duval VPK programs.



DELDN's Summer Conference sets a record with 337 educators in attendance.

Voluntary Prekindergarten begins its 15th year since being signed into law in January 2005.

Family Engagement hosts 49 **Raising a Reader** events throughout the year.

An elite group of child care providers are honored during **Zero In On Safety** month for their 5-year violation-free DCF record.

As part of the **Workforce Development Program**, ELC leads a multi-agency early learning team to ensure best teaching practices are being used.

President/CEO Marzullo **visits 25 providers** throughout the year.



July

August

September

October

November

December



Nine Clothing Closet events are held this year. Diapers, clothing, backpacks, and shoes are provided to more than 275 families in need.



Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) Assessments begin which are designed to increase quality and accountability in the SR programs.



The **Director Mentorship Program** is created.



ELC staff volunteer more than 360 hours during the **2nd Annual Day of Service in the Community**.



President/CEO Marzullo receives the **2019 Impact Award** for her contributions to the early learning community.



ELC and PNC staff donate toys to 175 children at the **Snowflake Spectacular Celebration**.



The **1st Annual Book-Themed Pumpkin Decorating Contest** is a successful event!



The Employee Staff Survey reveals **96% of ELC staff are proud to be part of the organization**.

Year In Review

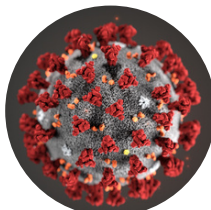
Dozens of ELC and PNC Bank volunteers read to children at child care centers in honor of **Celebrate Literacy Week.**



ELC launches the **2020 Census "I COUNT"** campaign to reach the traditionally undercounted population of birth through 4 years old.



Governor DeSantis declares a **State of Emergency in response to COVID-19.**



SR parent copayments are waived and providers are reimbursed based on enrollment.



ELC distributes \$820,025 in **Mini Grants** to providers and teachers to meet infrastructure, cleaning and supply needs, and teacher training stipends.



ELC's **Northside Office relocates** to 2255 Dunn Ave. Bldg. 100



January



A delegation of Duval educators, parents, and ELC staff advocate for early learning in Tallahassee during **Children's Week.**

February



Child Assessment Pilot Program distributes 185 iPad tablets to providers for online child assessments.

March



Books, Balls & Blocks Screening Event held for families with children birth to 8 years old.

April



ELC staff transition to **working remotely** with minimal disruption to families and providers.

May



Child care is prioritized for **First Responders and Healthcare Workers.** More than 1,400 children receive care.

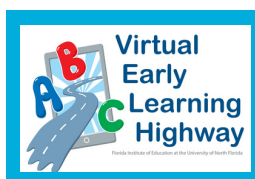
June



ELC distributes \$1,755,770 to Guiding Stars of Duval teachers via the **Wage Incentive Program.**



President/CEO Marzullo serves as a panelist at the **Urban Education Symposium**, "Reclaiming Young Black Males for Jacksonville."



As child care facilities close due to COVID-19, ELC collaborates with the Florida Institute of Education, Duval County Public Schools, and the Schultz Center to create a **free, on-line early learning resource for families.**

Resources for Families

Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)

CCR&R is a free and confidential service that helps families identify affordable child care programs based on their individual needs. It connects families with local and state resources and assists parents with the School Readiness and VPK application process.



12,511 Visitors  **30 Outreach Events**



42,831 assisted by phone

School Readiness (SR)

The SR program provides financial assistance to families for early education and child care.

While helping children prepare for school, the program provides childcare so a parent can work or attend a training or education program.

Children Served: 12,300
SR Providers: 532

VPK Voluntary Prekindergarten

Voluntary Prekindergarten is a free program available to all 4 year-olds in Florida. It is designed to build upon what children learned in preschool and prepare children for kindergarten and beyond. Research shows that children who complete a quality VPK program are more prepared for school, perform better on standardized tests, have better attendance rates, and are less likely to drop out of school.

Children Served: 9,946
VPK Providers: 395



Family Engagement

The best predictor of a child's success in school is the extent to which families engage in simple activities such as reading together or talking about everyday events. The Family Engagement team works with families to provide resources that help build a solid foundation for our children.

Parent Empowerment Workshops: 31
Parent Cafes: 43
Raising A Reader: 49
Families Served: 665

Grow Up Great Clothing Closet

In partnership with PNC Grow Up Great, the Clothing Closet provided clothing, diapers, backpacks, shoes, and toys to families in need.

Families Impacted: 276
Children Served: 771
Volunteers: 97
Volunteer Hours: 249

Developmental Health and Inclusion

It's estimated that one in seven children are affected by developmental delays, learning disorders, and/or behavioral and social-emotional problems. All SR children receive a developmental health screening to identify any issues, and staff connect families with resources to address concerns about the child's health and development.

Screenings: 12,471
Inclusion Contacts: 3,886
Child Observations: 161
Children Referred for Services: 166



Exceptional Family Member (EFM)

When a military family has a child with special needs, the U.S. Navy provides 40 hours of free respite care each month.

Respite Hours: 118,440 hours
Military Families Served: 155
Providers: 95

Teaming with Providers



Guiding Stars of Duval

Providers who exceed basic requirements for licensing participate in the Guiding Stars of Duval, a voluntary Quality Rating Improvement System (QRIS).

Providers are evaluated based on:

- Learning environments and classroom interactions;
- Screenings, assessments, and curriculum; and
- Professional development and staff qualifications.

Providers Receiving Star Ratings: 149

5 Star: 67
4 Star: 48
3 Star: 23
2 Star: 10
1 Star: 1



School Readiness Program Assessment (SRPA)

The SRPA is designed to increase quality and accountability of school readiness providers using the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) tool. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, not all providers were assessed. Scores can range from 1.0 to 7.0.

5.00 - 5.99: 14 Providers
4.00 - 4.99: 123 Providers
3.00 - 3.99: 61 Providers
2.00 - 2.99: 1 Provider



Duval Early Learning Directors Network

The mission of Duval Early Learning Directors Network (DELDN) is to empower the directors of early learning facilities through connecting, advocating and educating. DELDN hosts workshops and trainings throughout the year.

Membership: 120
Conference Attendees: 337



Professional Development

The Professional Development team works collaboratively with providers to cultivate exceptional child care teachers and directors through high quality trainings based on the state's core competencies. The ELC of Duval is one of only a handful of coalitions in Florida with IACET accreditation.

Training Sessions: 55
Educators Reached: 1,321
Training Hours: 339

2019 - 2020 Board of Directors

Executive Committee

Marcus Rowe, Chair
Bank of America/Merrill Lynch

Curtis Hart, Vice Chair
Hart Resources, LLC

Sandy Ramsey, Finance Chair
Acosta Inc.

Theresa Little, Secretary
Diocese of St. Augustine

Sunny Gettinger, Member At-Large
Google

Amanda Baggett, Member At-Large
Baggett Law

Michelle Braun
United Way of NE Florida

Amy Buggle
DLC Nurse & Learn

Thomas Connolly, M.D.
The Carithers Pediatric Group

Carlos Esquivia-Lee
Punkin Place Child Dev. of Jax

Karen Feagins
PNC Bank

Bruce Ferguson
CareerSource of NE Florida

Dana Ferrel-Birchfield
Nemours

Dr. Saralyn Grass
Kids Hope Alliance

Jackie Green
Florida Department of Children and Families

Dr. Tara Haley, LMFT
Florida State College at Jacksonville

Amber Holley
Jacksonville Public Library

Pauline J. Rolle, M.D.
Department of Health - Duval

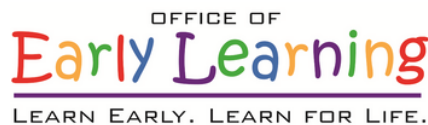
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TECO Energy

Marian Wilcher
All Saints Early Learning Center

Dr. Diana Greene
Duval County Public Schools

LaTanya Wynn Hall
Lutheran Services FL - Head Start

Funding Partners



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