# THE GRAPEVINE

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Florida Family Child Care Home Association

Volume 31: Issue 3

SUM-SUM-SUMMER TIME!

**Summer 2023** 

#### President's Message:

It's an honor to be the new FFCCHA President on the heels of such a phenomenal conference! This year was exceptional, with many international, national, and state, early childhood leaders in attendance. I would like to give special thanks to Alejandra Orozco and Claudia Sosa, Representatives of the First Lady of the Republic of El Salvador, and Rocio Castillo, Representative of Costa Rica University; Erica Phillips, the ED of the National Association for Family Child Care; Hue Reynolds, FL DCF Director of Licensing, and FL DOE Division of Early Learning Chancellor Cari Miller.

As the landscape of early care and education is changing, we would like to thank our FFCCHA members for their continued support. Your family child care voice matters; YOU matter. Let's continue to work on providing high-quality services in our local communities. I encourage you to join our leadership team by applying for a Committee chair, Area Rep or Executive Committee (officer) position. Please utilize membership benefits such as scholarships for professional development training and NAFCC accreditation.

My goal as the president is to help foster opportunities for growth and development for all our current and future members.

We value your experience and commitment to the field of early childhood.

Let's continue to raise our voices and fulfill FFCCHA's mission statement, to "Represent a united voice on behalf of all children to promote and encourage quality professional Family Child care through education, legislation, advocacy, mentoring, caring, and love."

## We are family child care!

Sincerely,

Arleen Lambert

**FFCCHA President** 

#### **Mensaje de Nuestra Presidente:**

Es un honor ser el nuevo Presidente de FFCCHA jinmediatamente después de una conferencia tan fenomenal! Éste año fue excepcional, asistieron muchos lideres internacionales, nacionales y estatales de la primera infancia. Me gustaría dar un agradecimiento especial a Alejandra Orozco y Claudia Sosa, representantes de la Primera Dama de la República de El Salvador, y Rocío Castillo, representante de la Universidad de Costa Rica; Erica Phillips, la ED de la Asociación Nacional de Cuidado Infantil Familiar; Hue Reynolds, Directora de FL DCF Licencias, y FL DOE División de Aprendizaje Temprana Canciller Cari Miller.

El panorama de la educación en la primera infancia está cambiando, nos gustaría agradecer a nuestro miembros por su continuo apoyo. Su voz en los cuidados familiares de ninos cuenta; TÚ importas. Sigamos trabajando en una prestación de servicios de alta calidad en nuestras comunidades locales. Les animo a unirse a nuestro equipo de liderazgo aplicando a ser parte de nuestro comité, representante de área o Posición del Comité Ejecutivo (Oficial). Utilice beneficios de membresía tales como becas para la formación profesional para el desarrollo y reconocimiento de acreditación NAFCC.

Mi objetivo como presidente es ayudar a fomentar oportunidades para el crecimiento y desarrollo de todos nuestros actuales y futuros miembros. Valoramos su experiencia y compromiso en el campo de la primera infancia. Sigamos alzando nuestras voces y cumpliéndo la declaración de la misión de FFCCHA, para "Representar una voz unida en el nombre de todos los niños para promover y apoyar profesionalmente la calidad del cuidado infantil familiar a través de la educación, la legislación, la promoción, la mentoria. el cuidado y amor".

### ¡Somos un cuidado infantil familiar!

Sinceramente,

Arleen Lambert, FFCCHA Presidente



#### THE GRAPEVINE

Published Quarterly: January, April, July, and October Submit Ads / Articles / Questions to Newsletter Editor Wendy Corso-Ruud email: ruud3@aol.com



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Members of FFCCHA who serve on Early Learning Coalitions

Cynthia Chipp - ELC of Hillsborough
Nichola Griffiths/Butts - ELC of Palm Beach
Naomi Helligar - ELC of Osceola County
Cecil Wilson - ELC of Marion County

Members of FFCCHA who serve on other Boards / Councils

Tammy Tener, Kissha Ballard, and Arleen Lambert -The FUTURE Project - The Children's Movement

Kissha Ballard - ERiKSON Institute - Pre-K in Family Child Care Project

**Lynn Gibson -** Pinellas County License Board Family Child Care Rep

Kathy Jones - Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners Family Child Care Home Advisory Board

Arleen Lambert - Miami Dade College Early Childhood Education Advisory Committee, and Early Childhood Policy Works Advocacy Fellow

Karen Robinson - Palm Beach County Health Department Child Care Advisory Council and Palm Beach State College Advisory Council

Patricia Williams - North Florida Chapter of FLAEYC representing Family Child Care

#### Credential Scholarship News

By Abbie Bill, Scholarship Chair

3 Scholarships were awarded this quarter (April 1 - June 30, 2023) \$1155

**NAFCC Self Study** \$315: Juliette Harrell, Tonia Hammond **NAFCC Reaccreditation** \$525: Ora Byrden

WE HAVE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE NOW!!

When applying for a scholarship, make sure you thoroughly read the scholarship form and send ALL requested documents.

Applications are available NOW! In this issue of The Grapevine or online.

Questions? Contact me at 561-445-7333 or aright933@aol.com.



#### **April & June Meeting News**

Submitted by Renie Roach, Acting Secretary

On **Saturday**, **April 29**, **2023**, FFCCHA held a very informative training and General Meeting in Ocala. "Introduction to Autism and Primitive Reflexes in Early Childhood Settings" was presented by Janis Nakagama, M.A.Ed., and it was engaging as well as informative. Ms. Nakagama was asked to return for a second session to have further discussions on the subject.

The FFCCHA Quarterly General Meeting was called to order at 2:35pm, with one First-timer, Rosha Bryant, Orlando Area #17. Several motions carried, including Approvals of:

- Executive Board recommendation of Comped Rooms at our Conference hotel, the Sheraton Sand Key in Clearwater;
- Mentors for a project with Wonderschool;
- Strategic Planning Project with ECE Experts;
- Attendees for NAFCC July conference in Atlanta, preconference and flights for thirteen plus ED;
- Expenses for April 29, 2023 meeting; and
- Nomination of Area 7 Rep Patricia Williams, Area Rep Coordinator, Jennifer Richards, and Area 17 Rep Sonji Mitchell.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45pm.

On Sunday, June 25, 2023, on the last day of the FFCCHA Confer-

ence in Clearwater Beach, our brilliant guest speaker **Rachel Giannini** spoke on Every Moment Matters, presenting the documentary film, "No Small Matters." The FFCCHA Annual General Meeting was called to order at 9:57am by President Lois Kendrick.

A record attendance of 168 was counted which is the most ever to attend a General Meeting.

New and current officers were installed and they all reaffirmed their commitment to the FFCCHA association and members. The General Meeting was adjourned at 10:57am.



#### **Events Calendar 2023-24**

September - July

\*Start planning for FFCCHA June 2024 conference – make your hotel reservations now before we sell out!

\*Apply for FFCCHA current OPEN Board Applications to start now: Secretary, Latino Liaison, Legislative Liaison and OPEN Area Reps and Chair positions

#### September

9 Executive Committee Leadership Training

#### October

- 11-12 NAFCC Observer Training, Omni Hotel, Orlando
- 11-15 FLAEYC conference, Omni Hotel, Orlando

#### November

- 4 FFCCHA in-person Leadership Summit and Full Board Meeting
- 15-17 NAEYC Conference, Nashville, TN
- 17 Deadline for January newsletter

#### December

Apply NOW for FFCCHA Board Positions and Even number Area Reps to start in July 2024: Membership, Treasurer, Professional Development, Chapter Coordinator, Secretary, Public Relations

#### January 2024

- 14-19 Children's Week, Tallahassee; Visit: childrensweek.org
- 14 Hanging of the Hands, Capitol, Tallahassee
- 15 Advocacy Dinner and Ceremony
- 16 Children's Day, Tallahassee

#### **February**

- TBA Full Board Meeting
- 17 Deadline for April newsletter

April

TBA Full Board Meeting

May

17 Deadline for July newsletter

#### <u>June</u>

- 26-30 FFCCHA Enhancing Our Minds 2024 Conference, Clearwater Beach
- 30 FFCCHA General Meeting, Clearwater Beach

<u>July</u>

17-19 One Goal Summer Conference, Hilton, Tampa, FL

24-27 NAFCC Conference, St. Louis, MO



#### **Summer Membership News**

Membership Officer – Wendy Corso-Ruud

## Congratulations to our SUMMER Chapter Membership-Drive Winners!!

Heart to Heart FCCA (April)
Palm Beach FCCA (May)
Multicultural FCCA and Central Florida FCCA (June)

Recognition of the **Chapter** that submits the most <u>new</u> members, <u>renewals</u>, or <u>advocate</u>-members is given monthly.

#### **IMPORTANT:**

Please renew your membership <u>before</u> it expires to avoid a lapse in your membership! Expiration date is located just above your name on the back of this FFCCHA newsletter, *The Grapevine*.

Remember, you can renew your **CHAPTER membership** online by going to our Chapter Membership link: <a href="https://familychildcare.org/product-category/chapter-memberships/">https://familychildcare.org/product-category/chapter-memberships/</a> If your Chapter is not listed, go to FFCCHA memberships <a href="https://familychildcare.org/product/ffccha-membership/">https://familychildcare.org/product/ffccha-membership/</a> and select CHAPTER PROVIDER, then write in your Chapter in the NOTE box. Please. please do not join as an INDIVIDUAL provider if you are a member of a Local Association (Chapter). You must renew thru your Chapter. PLEASE call me if you need any help (561)715-1361.

So far, these 11 CHAPTERS are online! Brevard Sunshine FCCA, Central Florida FCCA, FCCA of Jacksonville, Heart to Heart FCCA, HCCPA of Manatee, Marion County FCCHA, Multicultural FCCHA of Orange County, North Florida CCA, Putnam County FCCPA, Quality FCCHPA, and South Florida HCCA!!

And remember, as an added benefit, all FFCCHA Members can join NAFCC at a discounted rate (\$5 off).

Our numbers keep growing!! Membership breakdown as of 7/31/2023:

Chapter/Full Providers: 423
Advocates: 30

Individual Members: 53

Lifetime & Honorary Members: 10

Agencies: 1

Total: 620

And again, when joining or renewing, remember to PLEASE use the <u>correct</u> and <u>updated</u> individual/parent/chapter membership forms available on website.

If you have questions or need anything, please give me a shout!! **HUGS!** 



Chapters: 17

Co-Providers: 65

Parent Members: 21

We are up to 915 likes on our Facebook page!! WOOHOOO!!

## www.facebook.com/FFCCHA

Share and Like us NOW!:) Click on our link below:



# TALK OF THE TOWN AREA 21 - Hillsborough County

## Neomi Thompson

Neomi Thompson was born in Jamaica, W.I., and relocated to the United States in 1980. She has two adult sons, five grandchildren, and a set of twin grandchildren on the way. Her motivation to start a family childcare home came from a supervisor writing her up unfairly, causing her to take a closer look at her career accomplishments. She knows her worth and wanted to contribute more to society. She remembers going to a friend's family child care home one day, sitting and watching how she worked with the children, and Neomi wanted to know all there was to operating a childcare like hers.

She remembers procrastinating about what she promised herself she would do, and in the meantime, she had transitioned from the job where she was unfairly written up, to being a Community Service Officer (CSO) 9046 with the Florida Highway Patrol. After two years of school and finally working, she remembered working a crash on I-4 in January 2000, when another vehicle crashed into her patrol car, sending her to the hospital. She quickly realized that she needed to wake up and follow her dream of being a Licensed Child Care Provider. Within seven months, she was licensed and passionate about working with children; she returned to school, earned an Associate's Degree in Early Childhood Management, then graduated in

December 2022 with her bachelor's degree in Educational Studies & Community Leadership. Neomi is passionate about the future generation of heroes and wants them to achieve their potential by embracing knowledge early. Helping children to never giving up on their dreams is what motivates her the most.

Currently she is living in Tampa, has been licensed for 23 years, and has been NAFCC Accredited for 21 years straight. She served her local FFCCHA chapter child care association (HCCPA of NE Hillsborough County) by being a coordinator. She loves relaxing, shopping, gardening, and worshipping her Heavenly Father in her spare time. Graduating from the Business Leadership Institute has also been a great accomplishment. She plans to open and operate an extended-hour childcare facility soon, and thanks us for allowing her to share her passion.

Please submit a "Talk of the Town" article about someone special from **Areas 24 - 31.**Submissions must be submitted **by August 17, 2023** to the Newsletter Editor: Wendy Corso-Ruud at ruud3@aol.com Thank you!



Gertrude Freeman-Ford, Fundraising

#### THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU,

from your fundraising team.

Teamwork certainly makes the dream work!



There were so many wonderful individuals who made our time at the conference a time to remember, that I cannot list everyone. Please know that FFCCHA appreciates your support. We had a great time at conference and were able to raise an amazing \$1,306.00 from all your donations.

Please continue to support FFCCHA by setting aside your CLEAN and gently used items (such as childcare toys, supplies, and home-goods) along with the donation of gift cards for future in-person events and meetings.

And now, please help me welcome our new Fundraising Officer, **Ms. Danish Williams**. If you should have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call Danish at 305-495-5029 or email her at fundraiser@familychildcare.org

### Noticias Del Concilio Látino

Alma Diaz, Latino Liaison

#### **Hola Proveedoras!**

Quiero informarles al grupo Latino de FFCCHA que nuestra conferencia FFCHA 2023 fue todo un triunfo. Tuvimos una buena asistencia, llegaron proveedoras de diferentes lugares, el ambiente fue muy divertido y unido, mil gracias por tu apoyo. A nuestras presentadoras hispanas quiero darles las gracias por esas presentaciones que estuvieron muy informativas.

Por primera vez en la historia de FFCCHA, asistieron presentadoras internacionales como Alejandra Orozco y Claudia Sosa, representes de la Primera dama de la Republica de El Salvador, y la Doctora Rocio Castillo representante de la Universidad de Costa Rica.

Como todas uds. saben, he sido la represente de Latino Liaison por 4 anos, en los cuales concluyeron en Junio 2023. Fue para mi un viaje de muchos lindos recuerdos que llevaré conmigo por el resto de mi vida. Muchas gracias por la oportunidad que me dieron de haberles servido, siempre estaré a sus ordenes. No les digo un adiós si no hasta pronto.

Necesitamos que una líder como tu, con buenas capacidades de liderazgo que aplique para esta posición, yo estaré dispuesta para capacitar y ayudar. Nuestra asociación FFCCHA necesita de ti y nuestras proveedoras latinas también.

Que Dios las bendiga muchísimo, que sus negocios florezcan cada día más, y que nuestros ninos cuando crezcan pongan en alto a los cuidados infantiles en casa.

Muchos abrazos,  $\mathcal{Alm}$  a



#### **Public Relations News**

Rendy Bethel-Avila, Public Relations

Having a meeting, workshop, or training session coming up soon? Create an amazing DISPLAY TABLE! You can even use any of our PR materials for virtual meetings and presentations with your ELC, Food Program and your own Chapter Association meeting.



No time to wait?? You can always print directly from our FFCCHA website under the Publications tab https:// familychildcare.org/resources/publications/

Our many items include pull-up stand-up banners, display boards, and brochures and flyers in both English and Spanish. You can also advertise your business in our Grapevine Newsletter! For more info, contact Rendy at publicrelations@familychildcare.org or call 407-354-0840.

#### **Chapter Rep News**

Dr. Angela-Perla Almodovar, Chapter Rep Coordinator

I genuinely want to take a moment to thank the FFCCHA Chapter Representatives for all the support they have provided me in my new role as a Chapter Coordina-

**Congratulations to the Chapter Rep of the Quarter** from Quality FCCA Chapter **Robin Dean** 

Welcome to the newest Chapter Reps: **Stephanie Minus** Multicultural FCCHA of Orange County Marjorie Wheeler of Marion County FCCHA Myrna Wright of Duval County

#### **Chapters Representatives** and Community Involvement

Community involvement is meaningful, constant participation in activities that support and improve upon social wellbeing. Community involvement examples include engaging with, volunteering for, or donating to local schools, neighborhood associations, government, and/or nonprofit organizations.

Congratulations to North Florida Family Child Care **Association** for conducting a "Back to School Drive" on August 11. This Local Chapter provided a backpack full

of school supplies for children, bags of cleaning supplies for teachers, as well as extra snacks for the students.



#### **MENTOR News July 2023**

Abbie Bill - Mentor Program Chair

Congratulations to the following Family Child Care Providers who attended the Mentor training at our June conference! Adrienne Burke-Richardson, Renee Jones, Dietra Sherman, Neomi Thompson, and Myrna Wright.

Congratulations to Renee Jones and Myrna Wright who have completed their initial 5 hours of mentoring and are now Certified Mentor I.

Mentors, please make sure you are sending me any updates on your credentials and in-service hours needed for each year. If you have any questions on what is needed, contact me.

If you are not a mentor but would like help from a mentor or have questions or concerns about accreditation, please contact me. Mentors are trained to help in many other areas, not just accreditation.

Questions? Abbie Bill 561-445-7333 aright933@aol.com





#### **Area Rep News**

Jennifer Richards, Area Rep Coordinator

Congratulations to the Area Rep of the Quarter, from Area 20 Polk County Fariha Zuberi

> Welcome to our two newest Area Reps Cynthia Durr of Area 13, and Sonji Mitchell of Area 17

Your stepping up to the plate is so appreciated, ladies.

There are still 20 openings on our board! If you are interested in becoming an Area Rep for the Florida Family Child Care Home Association, please complete the application and all supporting documenta-

tion and submit them to me at jirichards23@gmail.com

If you have any questions, or need more information, please feel free to call at 386-846-9567.

"It always seems impossible until it's done." Nelson Mandela



#### **FFCCHA** in the News **Danish Williams**

On Saturday, May 6, 2023, Danish V. Williams, received the 2022-2023 Program of the Year Award for Family Child Care, from the Early Learning Coalition of

Williams, and some of her current students, who were all there to celebrate this special occasion.

Danish is the current Vice President of her local association South Florida Family Home Child Care Association, as well as the Area 31 Representative of the FFCCHA, representing Miami-Dade County. Ms. Williams worked diligently to build great relationships with many local childcare agencies, such as the ELC, DCF, and

her career in early childhood in 1983 when she worked at a childcare facility for over twenty years. In 2006 she began working as a substitute for her mother, until she took over the business. She continues to provide a high-quality childcare service in her community. On July 1st, 2023, Danish Williams stepped into the new role as the Fundraising Officer of FFCCHA. Danish Williams, we celebrate your success.



#### **FFCCHA** in the News Robin Dean

Just before our own FFCCHA 31st Annual Conference, Robin Dean was asked to be on a "teacher" panel in June representing Family Child Care during an all-inclusive PreK Least

Restrictive Environment Collaborative Meeting.

She learned of resources to support children with differing needs. When it was the "teacher" panel time, she realized she was the only one still actively teaching. The audience was all administrators, coaches, and social services people that support inclusion. The attendees were thankful that a FCC provider was invited to speak.



Robin was able to share what implementing inclusion looks like in a family child care home and anywhere. Including reading social stories or stories that address the struggles, using visual supports, teaching skills needed, and teaching before an event occurs, not during an event. The panel spoke about turning teaching off at 3:00pm to be balanced, and Robin explained that FCC homes do not have that option. She shared the typical hours FCC homes are open, (some are 24 hours), most of us are still in professional development, and then they clean until late. She also shared that she begins and ends her day with Bible study, that is how she makes it through

Here are some helpful websites: https://www.floridainclusionnetwork.com/ and https:// www.floridainclusionnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Tats-and-FIN-Magazine-Final.pdf If you need me to clarify anything, please contact me at NanasLearningPost@gmail.com

**FFCCHA** in the News Arleen Lambert and Angela-Perla Almodovar

The Children's Trust Champions for Children Awards Ceremony is a special event honoring individuals who support and advocate for child care and families across Miami-Dade County to celebrate their exceptional work and commitment. The 17th Annual ceremony celebrated on

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2023 was emotionally inspiring. As family child care professionals, we are proud to recognize

and honor all our local and state leaders who have made a lasting impact on our children and families. and this day, we celebrated Mr. Evelio Torres, President and CEO of the Early Learning Coalition of Miami Dade/Monroe. Mr. Torres' dedication has been an incredible example of leadership and advocacy for the well-being of the children in our community. His work has helped to ensure that all children have access to quality early education and family support services.

We salute Mr. Torres for his achievements and for being a Champion for Children.

We are grateful to Mr. Lawrence for his tireless efforts in supporting the interests of our

children and families. The David Lawrence Jr. Award is a testament to his commitment to making a positive difference in the lives of our children and families.









**Message from the President, Arleen:** Our FFCCHA 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference was AWESOME!!! A big Shout out to Tammy Tener, Conference Coordinator, and to Karan Heister, Conference Assistant, and our awesome conference team. The conference was well-attended with beautiful décor throughout, we had some wonderful key note speakers, presenters, trainers, along with incredible exhibitors, hotel staff. We celebrate ALL those who received well-deserved awards, with many thanks to DCF, ELCs in FL, EHS, and other agencies that participated in sponsoring scholarships to Family Child Care providers to attend workshops and preconference trainings. THANK YOU!! THANK YOU!! Now start planning for next year's conference at the same time, same location, June 26-30, 2024! We look forward to seeing you there!



#### **▼** Wonderschool



#### **What's Wonderschool?**

Sign up for the child care management platform that allows providers to manage business tasks and grow revenue.

Through our licensing support, peer and expert coaching, website and marketing tools, and enrollment & business software, all providers get the support they need to run high-quality, sustainable childcare programs.

#### **Benefits**

Providers save time on many of the day-to-day administrative tasks needed to run their program. The platform also supports providers with growing new enrollments and getting paid on time through listings on our popular child care finder marketplace and automated invoicing.

#### Join today for free!

Visit https://accounts.wonderschool.com/signup

#### **Growth opportunities for providers**



#### **Streamlined Record Keeping**

Online enrollment and attendance tracking eliminates paperwork and ensures compliance with licensing.



#### Website & Marketing

Easy-to-build, beautiful website - connect with new families and build your online presence.



#### 24/7 Support

24/7 expert training & support for you and your unique program.



#### **Financial Tools**

Digitally monitor your financial stability and track your expenses.



#### Parent Engagement & Communication

Communicate instantly with interested families and share daily updates with enrolled families.



#### **Community of Practice**

Connect with other child care providers & leaders - we are stronger as one!





Hurricane Season is officially underway, and the Department of Children and Families is encouraging you to be prepared. The season began June 1 and continues through November 30. All providers are encouraged to take the time to prepare their families and homes for the season. Additionally, now is a good time to review your program's emergency preparedness plan and ensure all necessary supplies are available.

When reviewing your plan, think about activities that occur before/after a storm. Below are some examples.

#### Before the Storm:

- Coordinate with your licensing counselor to ensure that your contact information is update to date
- Make sure child care personnel (substitutes and employees for Large Family Child Care Home) know your program's Emergency Preparedness policies and procedures
- Have a plan in place for communicating with parents/guardians
- Ensure you have hurricane supplies
- Secure buildings and any outdoor items that are not anchored down

#### After the Storm:

- Contact your licensing counselor within 24 hours to update them on the operational status of your program
- If your program is without power you may not operate, unless powered by an alternate power source, such as a generator, that is permanently installed and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and comply with the Florida Building Code and the Florida Fire Prevention Code 69A-60, F.A.C. The alternate power source and fuel supply shall be located in an area that is not subject to flooding or damage from storm surge
- Childcare programs may re-open/remain open if there is no structural damage, the site has full electrical service, and the water and sewage/septic tank are working properly

Visit www.myflfamilies.com/childcare to view Emergency Preparedness information in the "Providers" section.

Take every precaution to be safe!



#### **ANNOUNCING A NEW ONLINE COURSE!**

#### Want to avoid the most common violations?

In July, the Department of Children and Families launched the "Stay Compliant with the Top Ten Violations (SCTT)" online course.

This new course will help you identify the most common violations and how to avoid them. Visit <a href="www.myflfamilies.com/">www.myflfamilies.com/</a>
<a href="mailto:childcaretraining">childcaretraining</a> for training information. Or log into your Child Care Training Account to view online courses.



Florida Family Child Care Home Association, Inc. — August 2023								
Executive Committee - Officers	Nam	ne	City	Zip	Pho	ne	Email	
President	Arle	en Lambert	Miami Gardens	33169	305	5-793-4011	president@familychildcare.org	
Vice President	Gert	rude Freeman-Ford	Cocoa	32926	321-890-8366		vicepresident@familychildcare.org	
Secretary	Ope	n - Apply Now!					secretary@familychildcare.org	
Treasurer	Kissh	na Ballard	Orlando	Orlando 32811 407-616-5082		7-616-5082	treasurer@familychildcare.org	
Membership	Wen	ndy Corso-Ruud	Boca Raton 33431 561-715-1361		l-715-1361	membership@familychildcare.org		
Area Rep Coordinator	Jenn	ifer Richards	Daytona Beach 32114 386-846-		6-846-9567	areacoordinator@familychildcare.org		
Chapter Rep Coordinator	Ange	ela "Perla" Almodovar	Doral 33178 305-321-6735			chaptercoordinator@familychildcare.org		
Public Relations		dy Bethel Avila	Orlando	Orlando 32819 407-354-0840			publicrelations@familychildcare.org	
Latino Liaison		n - Apply Now!		305-467-2560			latinoliaison@familychildcare.org	
Professional Development		ette Eberhart	Tampa	33612	-	3-493-0828	training@familychildcare.org	
Fundraising	_	ish Williams	Miami	33147	_	5-495-5029	fundraiser@familychildcare.org	
Legislative Liaison		n - Apply Now!			727	7-397-6982	LynnGibson childcarelaws@aol.com	
Executive Director, Asst.		-BOARD POSITIONS	0 115	24422		407.004.5	. ( )	
Conference & Contracts	Tam	my Tener	Crystal River	34428	4	407-234-3473	info@familychildcare.org	
Finance Manager	Sano	de Harper	St Petersburg	33710	7	727-345-0299	sharper3601@aol.com	
Area # Counties		Area	Representatives	– Full Boa	rd			
1 Escambia		Open	Temporary: M Espinosa-Cope			850-458-2486	mcella1821@aol.com	
2 Santa Rosa		Eva Anderson	Navarre	32566		850-936-0348	myladyava@gmail.com	
3 Okaloosa, Walton		Open	Temporary: E	Temporary: Eva Anderson 850-936-0348		850-936-0348	myladyava@gmail.com	
4 Holmes, Jackson, Franklin, Bay, Calh Washington, Gulf	oun,	Open	Temporary: E	Temporary: Eva Anderson 850-936-034		850-936-0348	myladyava@gmail.com	
5 Liberty, Gadsden, Leon, Taylor, Wak Jefferson, Madison	ulla,	Matline Ford	Tallahassee	3230	05	850-877-3885	area5rep@familychildcare.org	
<b>6</b> Hamilton, Suwannee, Lafayette, Colbia, Union	um-	Open						
<b>7</b> Duval		Patricia Williams	Jacksonville	Jacksonville 32209 904-403-8948		904-403-8948	Pdt62@comcast.net	
<b>8,9</b> Nassau, Baker, Clay, Bradford, Putm St. Johns	ian,	Renie Roach	St Augustine	St Augustine 32092 904-392-5366		904-392-5366	renieroach@yahoo.com	
10 Alach1ua		Open	Temporary: L	yria Allen		352-339-2188	lyrialloving@bellsouth.net	
11 Citrus, Dixie, Levy, Gilchrist, Sur	nter	Open	Temporary: T	Temporary: Tammy Tener 407-234-347		407-234-3473	tenerfcc@gmail.com	
12 Marion		Open	Temporary:	Gwen Wilso	on	352-351-5370	gwenlo50@hotmail.com	
13 Flagler, Volusia		Cynthia Durr	Daytona Beacl			386-258-6600	cbrownsugarmd@aol.com	
14 Lake		Open						
<b>15</b> Seminole		Open						
16 Brevard		Joyce Burks	Cocoa	3292	22	321-292-2159	JoyceBurksChildCare@gmail.com	
17 Orange		Sonji Mitchell	Orlando	3280	18	407-936-8358	sonjip@hotmail.com	
18 Osceola		Open		Mayra Marq		407-350-4239	mmlatinoliason@gmail.com	
19 Pasco, Hernando		Open	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	,			20 1 11	
20 Polk		Fariha Zuberi	Orlando	3283	7	407-361-0130	montessori.home@yahoo.com	
21 Hillsborough		Open	ì					
22 Pinellas		Open	Temporary:	Lynn Gibso	n	727-397-982	childcarelaws@aol.com	
23 Manatee		Open						
24 Sarasota	Open							
25 Hardee, Highlands, DeSoto, Char	lotte	Open	Ì					
26 Okeechobee, Indian River, Mar		Open	1			1		
27 St Lucie		Open	1			1		
28 Lee, Hendry, Glades, Collier		Mary Morris	Palm Beach	3340	9	561-832-0472	msmlm57@msn.com	
29 Palm Beach		Kelisha Buchanan Webb	Palm Beach	3341		561-805-4304	neicykelistlcc@gmail.com	
30 Broward		Open			•		,	
31 Miami-Dade, Monroe		Open	+			1	+	
Ja Iviiaiiii-Dauc, Ivioiii 0e		Ohen	1			1	I	

Interested in serving as an Area Representative?
Contact Jennifer Richards areacoordinator@familychildcare.org OR call: 386-846-9567

	Florida Family Child Care Home Association, Inc. — August 2023							
Area CHAPTER NAME		FULL BOARD Phone Chapter Rep.		E-Mail	Meeting City			
5	North Florida FCC Assoc. (11 members)	Charlene Thornton	850-980-2824	LSLCKids@yahoo.com	Big Bend Area			
7	Family Child Care Assoc. of Jacksonville (27)	Myrna Wright	904-477-2965	Jbear_226@yahoo.com	Jacksonville			
8,9	Putnam County FCC Provider Association (11)	Karan Hiester  Marjorie Wheeler  Alethia Dittren	386-957-4482	educate71@gmail.com	Rotates cities Ocala Orlando			
12	Marion County FCCH Association (27)		352-299-7203	marjoriejanae19@gmail.com				
15,17,18	Central Florida Association for FCC (61)		407-870-1569	dittren01@netzero.com				
16	Brevard Sunshine FCH Association (8)	Cheryl Guest	321-537-8751	cguest08@gmail.com	Cocoa			
17	Multicultural FCCHA of Orange Co (41)	Stephanie Minus Gretchen Murphy	407-373-5090 813-340-0445	elementzofbusiness@gmail.com	Orlando Temple Terrace			
21	HCCPA of NE Hillsborough County (43)			gretchenm3@verizon.net				
21	Quality FHCC Provider Association (28)	Robin Dean	813-205-4432	nanaslearningpost@gmail.com	Riverview			
22	FLEXx Production Southside CCA (8)	Dorothy Jenkins	727-895-7101 Bluee	Blueeyes33701@yahoo.com	St. Petersburg			
22	Heart to Heart Child Care Assoc (66)	Michelle Pugh	727-215-0946	mrp701@aol.com	Pinellas Park			
23	HCC Providers Assoc. of Manatee County (19)	Victoria Morgan	941-251-6431	mslilvick@aol.com	Bradenton			
29	Palm Beach County FCC Assoc (69)	Nichola Griffiths-Butts	561-506-4739	nicholagriffiths@yahoo.com	Royal Palm Beach			
30	Broward County FCC Association (8)	Phyllis Grant	954-873-2747	grant589@bellsouth.net	Lauderhill			
30,31	APCID of Hialeah (79)	Sisi Molina	786-444-7853	sisi.molina@yahoo.com	Hialeah			
31	South Florida Home CC Association (37)	Kelly Patterson	305-986-8826	kklbbabyinn@aol.com	Miami			
31	FCCPA of Miami–Dade County (27)	Gladys Reyes	786-704-2012	Lalyreyes252@yahoo.com	Kendall			

COMMITTEE CHAIRS (NON-BOARD POSITIONS)							
Advisory	Gwen Wilson 352-351-5370 gwenlo50@hotmail.com	Latino Development	Open - Apply now!				
Awards	Renie Roach 904-392-5366 renieroach@yahoo.com	Member Development	Open - Apply now!				
Bylaws	ws Open - Apply now! M.E.N.T.O.R. Abbie Bill 561-445-7333 FLMentor						
Chaplain	Cynthia Durr 386-258-6600 cbrownsugarmd@aol.com	Newsletter Editor	Wendy Corso-Ruud 561-715-1361 ruud3@aol.com				
Chapter Dev	Charlene Thorton 850-980-2824 LSLCKids@yahoo.com	Nomination	Mayra Marquez nominations@familychildcare.org				
Finance	Open - Apply now!	Parliamentarian	Open - Apply now!				
Fundraiser	Open - Apply now!	Credential Scholarship	Abbie Bill 561-445-7333 credentialchair@familychildcare.org				
Historian	Open - Apply now!	Social Media	Karan Hiester 386-957-4482 educate71@gmail.com				
Hospitality	Lula Owens 904-779-9988 lulafrank@bellsouth.net	Translation	Open - Apply now!				
ASSISTANT CONFERENCE COORDINATOR: KARAN HIESTER 386-957-4482 conference@familychildcare.org							
Contact a Chair if you would like to serve as a member of any of the above committees!							

Phone: 954-581-1192

Passionate about your profession as a family child care provider? Interested in promoting our mission?

#### **Apply NOW for Current Vacant Positions for Area Reps:**

Area Representatives: 1, 3, 4, 6, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 30, 31

**Apply by Jan. 15** for open positions and all odd number Areas for a 2 year term.

Submit Area Rep applications to: areacoordinator@familychildcare.org

#### **Apply NOW for Current Vacant Positions for Chairs:**

Committee Chairs (non-board positions): see Committee Chair list above in chart

Apply NOW for Vacant Executive Committee Officer Positions to start immediately:

Secretary, Latino Liaison, Legislative Liaison

FFCCHA: 9207 Edgemont Lane, Boca Raton, FL 33434

#### Apply by January 5 for Executive Committee Board: 2 year terms

Membership, Treasurer, Secretary, Chapter Coordinator, Professional Development, Public Relations

Applications are available at www.familychildcare.org on the "Forms" page under Resources or contact:

**Nomination Chair, Mayra Marquez**. Applications can be submitted via e-mail, mail, fax or hand delivery. Questions? E-mail: nominations@familychildcare.org OR call: 407-452-2967

E-mail: info@familychildcare.org

APPLY TODAY!

#### FFCCHA Hits Atlanta for the 2023 NAFCC Annual Conference

Florida was represented in person at the NAFCC conference on July 12-15, 2023, at the Renaissance Atlanta Waverly Hotel & Convention Center in Atlanta, GA, with a total of 34 FFCCHA provider members.

Several FFCCHA members arrived early to attend Wednesday Pre-Conference Trainings, while FFCCHA Executive Director, **Tammy Tener**, attended the Gathering of FCC Networks by The Office of Child Care's (OCC's) National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance (NCECQA). 7 attended the "Ignite" Leadership Training: **Kissha Ballard, Cynthia Chipp, Wendy Corso-Ruud, Alma Diaz, Gertrude Ford, Arleen Lambert,** and **Mary Morris**. Also, **Annette Eberhart** was a pre-conference Co-presenter for the NAFCC Observer Training (2-days W-TH, along with trainees: **Eva Anderson** and **Perla Almodovar**. On Wednesday night, several members attended the offsite President's Reception/Dinner sponsored by Beyond Paper, FCC Experts, and Lakeshore.

Three of the attendees are also volunteer NAFCC Reps for Florida, **Eva Anderson**, Region A (NE and NW), **Cynthia Chipp**, Region C (Suncoast & SE) and **Arleen Lambert**, Region D (South), who attended the NAFCC Rep meeting. Several members attended the Latino Caucus and Black Caucus sessions during the conference.

On Friday morning, at the Plenary session with Katie Hamm, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Early Childhood Development, Office of Early Childhood Development (ECD), Arleen Lambert (new President of Florida Family Child Care Home Association- FFCCHA) was one of the panelists along with Mary Curry (Executive Director of Yes! for Early Success) and Amber Bilby, (President of Colorado Association of Family Child Care).

On Friday evening, 16 members attended the Bainum Family Foundation reception and then headed to the NAFCC Reception & Accreditation "Toast to Quality" where 14 FFCCHA members that are FL Gold Seal Providers were recognized for being NAFCC accredited. They were from Duval County: Patricia Williams, Lucinda Hightower, Hillsborough County: Latonya Campbell, Cynthia Chipp, Dayna Curry, Robin Dean, Annette Eberhart, Marion County: Bernadette Jones, Gwen Wilson, Orange County: Rosemary Hartage, Palm Beach County: Mary Morris, Vivene Smith, Kelisha Buchanan-Webb, Patricia Oliver, Nichola Butts, LaConia Butter. Annette Eberhart was also honored and recognized as new Accreditation Council Chair. FFCCHA was honored with the NAFCC Accreditation Project of the Year.

Eleven others attending NAFCC conference from Florida were: Kwaneshia Griffin, Veronica Hudson, Ezziola Jones, Anna Kinchens (from Lift Orlando), Lula Owens, Zipporah Morris, Jennifer Richards, Aniya Simmons, Jessica Thurmond, Marjorie Wheeler, and Nicola Wheeler. Everyone had a wonderful time and it was great to learn from all of the keynotes and workshop session presenters and to meet all the Exhibitors, Sponsors, NAFCC Staff, Board members, old and new acquaintances, providers and attendees from all over the nation! Future NAFCC conferences were announced: St. Louis, Missouri on July 24-27, 2024, and Dallas, Texas in 2025.



## Music and Movement Time / Making Castanets

Christina Brown - CFAFCC Provider member in Orlando 32826

Summer is coming to an end, kids are returning to school, and it's time to look forward to the holiday fall season. It's always an exciting time of the year to decorate homes and lead the children into creating holiday crafts. As we get into the later months, one of the first holidays that we like to celebrate in our home child care is Hispanic Heritage month (September 15 through October 15). National Hispanic Heritage Month is also celebrated annually during the same time in the United States for recognizing the contributions and influence of Hispanic Americans to the history, culture, and achievements for the United States.

Teaching the children about the Hispanic community includes delicious food, meaningful story times, and uplifting music played with a variety of instruments. To get the children in your classroom excited about this holiday, create a fun lesson on Spain's famous Flamenco dancing and to add to it by making castanets together. This is a simple teacher lead art activity which can also be used in other areas of your daily lesson and classroom activities. You can use them to count numbers, count syllables in words, glue different colored buttons on them, recreate a real flamenco dance, or allow the children to freely dance by using their own creative expressions.

Castanets may be the national instrument of Spain, but they were actually invented over 3000 years ago by the Phoenicians for religious ceremonies. Today castanets are commonly used and well known in Flamenco dancing. Flamenco dancing is the most famous Spanish traditional dance. Castanets are a percussion instrument of the clapper family. They consist of two hollowed-out pear-shaped pieces of hardwood, ivory, or other substance hinged together by a cord. Castanets are usually held in the hand and struck together. They are played in differently pitched pairs by dancers primarily in Spain, The Balearic Islands, and in Italy. Castanets are also called bones, clappers, and finger cymbals.



For more information, click on <u>Flamenco Dance Studio | Virtual Field Trip | KidVision Pre-K - YouTube</u> and <u>How to Make Kids Castanets - YouTube</u>

# WANT TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL? WE CAN HELP!



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## 2023 NAFCC Observer Training in Florida

October 11 - 12, 2023 Omni Orlando Resort - Championsgate, Florida

Join a network of professional leaders who are committed to moving the Power of Family Child Care forward!

You will have the opportunity to participate in a full 2-day Observer Training and network with like-minded professionals from across the field to assist in the career journey of Family Child Care providers!

If you are passionate about helping people reach their highest potential in the field of Family Child Care, we encourage you to apply today.

Applications are required for training attendance. Seating is limited to 30 eligible applicants on a first-come, first-serve basis. Submission Deadline: **September 15**, 2023, for Registration on FLAEYC conference link-https://

pheedloop.com/FLAEYC2023Conference/site/home/

Hotel Deadline: **September 19**, 2023, for hotel sleeping room block at \$169/night.

Click this link for the NAFCC Observer Trainer Pre-Qualification Eligibility Assessment: <a href="https://www.emailmeform.com/builder/form/Vlai0gfpc2cHN">https://www.emailmeform.com/builder/form/Vlai0gfpc2cHN</a>

## 2023 CONFERENCE TEAM Members: A BIG THANK YOU ALL for being an **Amazing Part of our Success!!** Thank, you



Conference Coordinator, Presenters, Marketing: Tammy Tener Assistant Conference Coordinator: Karan Hiester Brochure & Program Layout: Sarai Marquez

Registration & Volunteer Intake: Abbie Bill Registration Help Desk: Wendy Corso-Ruud Pre-Conference: Jennifer Richards Floaters: Lynn Gibson, Mayra Marquez Sponsors, Exhibitors, Ads: Arleen Lambert, Annette Eberhart, Rebekah Reneke Fundraising Tables, Donations: Gertrude Freeman-Ford, Danish Williams Hostesses/Volunteers: Angela-Perla Almodovar, Karan Hiester

Finance/Budget: Kissha Ballard, Sande Harper

Awards: Renie Roach Sat. Night Celebration: Gretchen Murphy

Latino Assistant/Decor: Alma Diaz Sunday Meeting: Lois Kendrick Display Boards: Rendy Bethel-Avila **Evaluations: Eva Anderson** 

## BIG Thanks to our 70 AMAZING Presenters for the 7 Pre-Conference Workshops, 55 Workshops, and 4 Keynote Sessions at our FFCCHA 31st Annual Conference!

#### **PRESENTERS**

Anderson, Eva Arnette, Josefa Arnold, Anna Bennett, Chris Brown, Francesca Byrne, Kate Campagnola, Claudia Castillo, Rocío Chamberlain, Kaitlin Colle, Hope Collins, Krystal Corrales, Antonia Craig, Kristen Davis, Akia Davis, Dinah Dean, Robin Delaney, Annie Diaz, Alma Jeanette Duque, Karen

Eberhart, Annette Espinoza, Dawn Fields, Elizabeth Flores, Maria Freeman Ford, Gertrude Gibson, Lynn Giannini, Rachel Gonzalez, Linda Grant, Martha Grasso, Lucianna

Hairston, Cecile Harman, Maryann Harmon, Jamie Humphrey, Shermaine Jaime, Simon Jefferson, Jenel Kendrick, Lois Krosky, Cynthia Lambert, Arleen Lengell, Barbara Mackie, Lydia Malawong, Nicole Marquez, Sarai Martin, Jenna Mays, Debbie McGlothlin, Hannah Miller, Cari

Nakagama, Janis Nakagama, Nikki Orozco Castillo, Alejandra Ostrander, Matt Parker, Rosangela Perez, Raquel Peters, Kiki Phelps, Pamela Phillips, Erica Reynolds, Hue Rivera, Joel Roa, Ana Sargent, Heather

Scudder, Elizabeth Serra, Maria Sheffield, Danyelle Singer, Kimberly Sabrena Smith Sosa Campos, Claudia Suarez, Maria de Jesus

Torres, Shayna Turner, Kavina Wilson, Gwen Zuberi, Fariha

#### **EXHIBITORS**

Association of ELCs Bertelsen Education **BFF Kidz Training Brain Body Learning Building Brains through** Early Talk Children's Forum TEACH/ **WAGES** Central Florida Institute of ture **Training** Early Education Link Florida to Flamingo Early Learning/Literacy Micro-Credential **ELC of Hillsborough** FDCI - Florida Day Care Ins Teacher Advisors, LLC FFCCHA Fundraising, FFCCHA – Certified M.E.N.T.O.R Program First Response CPR & First of Florida Aid Training Center Florida's Healthy Environ- VVS Nails LLC ments for Reducing Obesity (FL Florida Association for the **Education of Young Chil**dren (FLAEYC)

Happy Feet Soccer

Kidd's R Us Best Practices Learning Beyond Paper Inc. Mary Kay Cosmetics and **Color Cosmetics** Music with Mar. Papa Joe's Handcrafted Children's Furniture Precious Kids of the Furayz kidz LLC Second Helping: Child Care Training Reach for the Stars, LLC Sunshine Health - Medicaid Insurance The Business Leadership Institute The Children's Movement The Kid Menus, LLC Wonderschool

Hidow



## 2023 Award Honorees

Provider Hall of Fame: **Eva Anderson** (Santa Rosa) Advocate Hall of Fame: Alma Diaz (Miami-Dade)

Outstanding NAFCC Accredited Home: Talisha Ghansiam (Pinellas)

Heart Award: Lois Kendrick Volunteer of the Year: Al Kendrick Officer of the Year: Wendy Corso-Ruud Advocate of the Year: Lynn Gibson Outstanding Teamwork: Gertrude Freeman-Ford

Child in Heart Photo Contest Winner from the home of Wendy Corso-Ruud

1<sup>st</sup> Parent Choice: **Patricia Williams** (Duval)

2<sup>nd</sup> Parent Choice: **Neomi Thompson** (Hillsborough) 3<sup>rd</sup> Parent Choice: **Annette Anderson** (Collier)

Parent Choice Honorable Mention: Tonia Hammond, Lois Kendrick, Peggy La Fuente, Mary Morris

Outstanding FFCCHA Chapter: Heart to Heart Association (Pinellas)

Chapter Rep of the Year: Michelle Pugh (Pinellas) Area Rep of the Year: Danish Williams (Miami-Dade)

Agency Helping Associations Prosper: **ELC of Palm Beach County** (Palm Beach County)

Ultimate Provider Sponsor: ELC of Orange County Top Provider Sponsor: ELC of Big Bend

Outstanding Provider Sponsors: ELC of Pinellas, 4C Early Head Start

**Outgoing Board Service Awards** 

Lois Kendrick President Arleen Lambert Vice President
Gertrude Freeman-Ford Fundraising Officer Danish Williams A Danish Williams Area 31 Rep

**SPECIAL THANKS to our KEYNOTES** 

Cari Miller, Erica Phillips, Hue Reynolds, Chris Bennett, Rachel Giannini, Debbie Mays, Elizabeth Scudder



#### THANK YOU to our MIND SPONSORS

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Central Florida Association for Family Child Care The Children's Movement of Florida Kendrick Large Family Child Care / Preschool **Marion County FCC Association** Wendy Corso-Ruud: Think Goodness Brands / Origami Owl rayz kidz

BIG thanks for donations from: Florida Dairy Farmers for the insulated bags for the Accredited Provider Recognition, books, and other goodies, Kaplan for 32 \$50 Luncheon Gift Cards, Lakeshore for door prizes, and Discount School Supply for gift certificates.

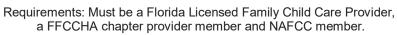








# 2023-2024 FFCCHA Credential Scholarship Application





Trop 1	a FF	CCHA chapter provide	member and	NAFCC member.	Florida Family Child Care Home Association			
MYFLFAMI	LIES.COM Applyii	ng for: 🛭 \$160 🗖	\$315 🗆 \$	325 <b>□</b> \$	Home Association			
	NAFCC New Accredit							
	NAFCC New Accredit							
	NAFCC Accreditation NAFCC Re-accreditat	•						
_		• •	ded in time pe	riod July 1, 2023 – Ji	une 30, 2024.			
Note: \$600/person/year is the maximum awarded in time period July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024.  PLEASE PRINT: Name: Email:								
	Family Child Care Licens							
	ldress:							
					C Accredited since			
		_			 Area #			
	· · ·							
List currer	it leadership roles or par	ticipation in FFCCHA:						
How long	have you been a full time	e family child care pro	vider?					
List other	child care related experie	ence:						
What are	your future plans in famil	y child care?						
Briefly explain how receiving this scholarship will benefit you, the children, your parent clients, and/or other providers:								
Do you ac								
Do you agree to sign a contract to return the awarded money, if you fail to meet the scholarship purpose within an agreed upon deadline?   No								
Please submit this application along with 2 letters of recommendation (dated within past 6 mos.) from any of the following: Child Care Agency, Early Learning Coalition, local FFCCHA Chapter, FFCCHA Certified Mentor, current parent/client from your FCC home, Food Program sponsor, Training Instructor, Licensing, Community or State College.  Also include a copy of your current NAFCC Membership Card OR receipt of purchase.								
	FFCCHA Scholarships, 9207 Edgemont Lane, Boca Raton, FL 33434							
ALL correspondence is by e-mail, so make sure your email is valid and check it often after applying.  Questions? Please call Abbie Bill at 561-445-7333 or e-mail aright933@aol.com								
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Regulation	Chapter	_ Member since	_ FFCCHA	NAFCC	Application Rev 7-2023			







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