

THE GRAPEVINE

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Florida Family Child Care Home Association

Volume 33: Issue 2

Get into the swing of spring!!

April 2025

President's Message:

**April Brings Growth, Gratitude,
and Great Things Ahead!**

As we step into a new season, April blooms with opportunities and fresh possibilities. As the outgoing President of FFCCHA, I want to take a moment to say a heartfelt thank you for the support, encouragement, and love I have received during my 2-year term, which ends this June 30.

This journey has allowed me to connect with incredible educators across the state and meet passionate leaders who are eager to collaborate and support the mission of FFCCHA. I'm inspired by the energy and commitment of everyone working to uplift family child care.

We are gearing up for a special trip to Tallahassee for Children's Week, where we'll proudly take part in "The Hanging of the Hands." For the first time ever, FFCCHA will participate in the Storybook Village - a wonderful opportunity for our educators to engage with children, families, and community agencies from across Florida.

Excitement is also building for the upcoming FFCCHA Annual Conference! We strongly encourage all educators to register early. This event offers rich opportunities for professional development, hands-on learning, and meaningful networking. We are anticipating a strong turnout, especially as attendees look forward to learning more about FFCCHA's new association model.

FFCCHA is proud to be one of the first associations to integrate paid staff members working alongside our Executive Director and Executive Committee. This collaborative leadership model is a remarkable milestone - hats off to the board for their vision and dedication!

Mark your calendars and register now for our in-person Quarterly Meeting on April 26th in Orlando. It's always a joy to gather, learn, and grow with fellow family child care educators.

Thank you again for allowing me the honor to serve. I am so proud of what we have accomplished and incredibly hopeful for all that's to come.

Sincerely,

Arleen Lambert, FFCCHA President

Mensaje de Nuestra Presidente:

**¡Abril trae crecimiento, gratitud
y grandes cosas por venir!**

Al comenzar una nueva temporada, abril florece con oportunidades y nuevas posibilidades. Como presidenta saliente de FFCCHA, quiero tomar un momento para expresar mi más sincero agradecimiento por el apoyo, aliento y cariño que he recibido durante mi mandato, que finaliza el 30 de junio.

Este jornada me ha permitido conectarme con educadores increíbles en todo el estado y conocer a líderes apasionados que desean colaborar y apoyar la misión de FFCCHA. Me inspira la energía y el compromiso de todos los que trabajan para fortalecer el cuidado infantil familiar.

Nos estamos preparando para un viaje especial a Tallahassee para la Semana de los Niños, donde participaremos con orgullo en "La Exhibición de las Manos Colgantes." Por primera vez, FFCCHA participará en el *Storybook Village*, una oportunidad maravillosa para que nuestras educadoras interactúen con niños, familias y agencias comunitarias de todo el estado de Florida.

¡También crece la emoción para nuestra próxima Conferencia Anual de FFCCHA! Recomendamos encarecidamente a todos los educadores que se registren con anticipación. Este evento ofrece valiosas oportunidades de desarrollo profesional, aprendizaje práctico y conexiones significativas. Anticipamos una gran participación, especialmente mientras los asistentes esperan con entusiasmo conocer más sobre el nuevo modelo asociativo de FFCCHA.

FFCCHA se enorgullece de ser una de las primeras asociaciones en integrar personal remunerado que trabaja junto a nuestra Directora Ejecutiva y el Comité Ejecutivo. Este modelo de liderazgo colaborativo representa un hito extraordinario-¡felicitaciones a la junta por su visión y compromiso!

¡Marquen sus calendarios y regístrense ahora para nuestra Reunión Trimestral presencial el 26 de abril en Orlando! Siempre es un placer reunirnos, aprender y crecer junto a otros educadores del cuidado infantil familiar.

Gracias nuevamente por darme el honor de servirles. Me llena de orgullo todo lo que hemos logrado y tengo mucha esperanza en todo lo que está por venir.

Con gratitud,

Arleen Lambert, FFCCHA Presidente



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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**

Annette Eberhart - 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 - The FUTURE Project -
The Children's Movement

Angela Perla Almodovar - MDC Advisory Board, Board
Member of: Early Childhood Initiative of America; Early
Childhood Training Institution; Mariposas con Propósito

Annette Eberhart - FICCIT Florida Interagency
Coordinating Council for Infants & Toddlers

Kissha Ballard - ERIKSON Institute - Pre-K in FCC

Lynn Gibson - Pinellas County License Board FCC 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

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

Credential Scholarship News

By Abbie Bill, Scholarship Chair

**A total of 27 (\$12,840) Scholarships were awarded
January 1 - March 31, 2025**

NAFCC Self Study: Katrina Taylor

18 month Update: Lyria Allen, Cathy Belle, Gwendolyn
Carr, Maria Carrillo, Dameka Coleman, Andrea Grace,
Maria Hernandez, LaTonya Richardson, Karen Robin-
son, Amanda Wallace

NAFCC Re-Accreditation: Ollie Anderson, Rubia Arias,
Regina Butler, JoAnn Carswell, Cynthia Chipp,
Kiawanna Dennis, Annette Eberhart, Maria Hernandez, Pamela Hinson,
Lois Kendrick, Michelle Nowell, Terrie Osman, Martha Smith, Mary
Smith, Loletha Sobers, Patricia Williams, Myrna Wright

Funds are available NOW!

FFCCHA now pays the full fee of each credential scholarship! When
applying for a scholarship, make sure you thoroughly read the scholar-
ship form and send ALL requested documents, as they have changed.

Applications are available NOW! In this issue of The Grapevine or
online. Questions? Contact me at 561-445-7333 or aright933@aol.com
or CredentialChair@familychildcare.org

**February Meeting News**

Submitted by Renie Roach, Acting Secretary

Prior to the meeting of the FFCCHA Full Board
meeting held Saturday, February 1, 2025 via ZOOM,
there was a training, 'Empowering Early Educators:
Business Operations and Risk Management in Child-
care,' with Marie O'Connell. The training was thought-
provoking and informative.

The Meeting was then called to order at 12:16pm with 22 board mem-
bers in attendance. There was one first-timer present, Renee Graham, from
Tampa. The only motion made to approve prior meeting minutes. The
Meeting was adjourned at 1:33pm. The next Full Board meeting is sched-
uled for Saturday, April 26, 2025 in person in Orlando. See you there!



SAVE THE DATE!

NAFCC National Conference 2025**Bigger, Better, Bolder: A New Legacy for FCC!**

Dallas, TX July 31-Aug 2, 2025

<https://nafcc.org/conference/>

Events Calendar 2025

April 2025 - November 2025

***Start planning NOW** for FFCCHA June 2025 conference – make your hotel reservations!

Apply NOW for FFCCHA Board Positions and Odd number Area Reps to **start in July 2025**: Applications are available at www.familychildcare.org on the “Forms” page under Resources or contact: **Nomination Chair, Mayra Marquez.**
E-mail: MMLatinoliason@gmail.com: 407-452-2967

April

- 14-16 Children's Week, Tallahassee
- 26 **FFCCHA Training & Latino Training, Full Board Meeting In-person, Orlando Volunteer/Hostess Orientation**
- 30 **Deadline - Volunteer Scholarships - Early Bird Deadline**

May

- 1 Florida Legislative Season ends
- 5 **Deadline - FFCCHA Photo contest**
- 9 National Child Care Provider Appreciation Day
- 10 **Deadline for July FFCCHA Newsletter**
- 26 **Deadline - conference hotel group rate and Early Bird Deadline - Conference registration**

June

- 25-29 **FFCCHA Conference, Clearwater**
- 29 **FFCCHA Annual Meeting at conference**

July

- 16-18 One Goal Summer Conference, Tampa

July-Aug

- 31-2 NAFCC Conference, Dallas, TX

Aug

- 16 **FFCCHA Virtual ZOOM Training / Full Board Meeting**
- 17 **Deadline - October Newsletter**

September

- TBA EC Leadership Development

October

- 16-19 FLAAYC conference, Orlando, FL

November

- 8 **Leadership Summit, Kissimmee**
- 19-22 **NAEYC Conference, Orlando, FL**



Spring Membership News

Josely Santos, FFCCHA Operation Manager

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

Congratulations to our Chapter Membership Drive Winners!!

*Multicultural FCCHA of Orange County (February)
North Florida FCCHA (March)*

Important Membership Platform Update - Action Required!

We're pleased to announce that we have successfully migrated all current members to our new Join It membership system!



Update on Your Membership Access:

- Welcome emails have been sent to all members
- **ACTION REQUIRED:** Please open the email and follow the instructions to:
 - * Create your username and password
- Access your digital membership card

Payment Information: All membership transactions (renewals and new memberships) should now be processed through the Join It platform. This includes:

- Membership renewals
- New member registrations
- All applicable fees

Coming Soon: We plan to host an information session on navigating the new platform. Details will be provided in the near future.

Need Help? If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact us at: Jsantosffccha@gmail.com



Thank you for your cooperation as we enhance our membership experience!

We are up to over 1,000 followers on our Facebook page!! WOOHOOO!!

www.facebook.com/FFCCHA

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



**Find us on:
facebook®**



FFCCHA Professional Development IN PERSON TRAINING Saturday, April 26, 2025 9:00 am to 11:00 am

The Florida Hotel and Conference Center
1500 Sand Lake Road, Orlando, Florida 32809
Symposium Ballroom East on 1st Floor



Also attend after training: Conference Volunteer Hostess training; Area, Chapter or Latino Meeting; & Full Board Mtg

Training Registration Fee: \$70 (**\$35** scholarships available)
FFCCHA members **Pay only \$35** (FL licensed or registered providers / co-providers) includes 1 breakfast 7-8:30am
Questions email: training@familychildcare.org or call 813-493-0828

Online Payments are available!

<https://familychildcare.org/product-category/virtual-in-service-training/>

Or make check payable to: **FFCCHA, Inc.**

Email form to training@familychildcare.org or

Send in this completed form with payment to: **FFCCHA**

9207 Edgemont Lane
Boca Raton, FL 33434

Deadline: Must be received by April 22, 2025

NOTE: Payments received after this date will increase to \$45.

← Please check here if applying for a training scholarship! **PAY ONLY \$35!**

Please Print:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____ County: _____

Phone #: _____ Other Phone #: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Chapter that you are a member of _____

IN ORDER TO RECEIVE A CERTIFICATE, YOU MUST **SUBMIT A REGISTRATION FORM,
BE PRESENT THE **ENTIRE** TRAINING SESSION, and **SUBMIT ONLINE EVALUATION** after training.**
<https://familychildcare.org/resources/forms/workshop-evaluation/>

PLEASE NOTE: Arrive as early as 8:30 am to sign in. Training starts promptly at 9:00 am!

Get Relevant, Get Ready: Increase Strategies for Today's Family Childcare Owners

Presenter: Andrea Dickerson, AKA The Child Care Boss **2 hours**

Participants will explore how wealth and financial success are created in the child care industry, gaining a deeper understanding of revenue streams, and financial growth opportunities. They will learn strategies to increase enrollment numbers through effective marketing techniques and family engagement approaches that attract and retain clients. Additionally, participants will develop the skills to build a high-performing team and gain the tools needed to stay competitive and financially successful in today's evolving child care industry.

Note: If you need an accommodation because of a disability in order to participate in the child care training: contact Annette Eberhart at least 2 weeks prior to the training date at 813-493-0828 between 9 am-5 pm Monday - Friday.

The deadline is April 22, 2025. NO refunds after the deadline. If you do not attend this training, the fees will not be refunded or transferred to another person.

CELEBRATING OUR NATION'S CHILD CARE

PROVIDERS SINCE 1996:

Provider Appreciation Day May 9, 2025



Dear Parent,

All year long your child care provider gives to your child and family from their heart. Friday, May 9th is a day to give back.

Provider Appreciation Day is the national day of recognition for child care providers. This day was purposely selected to be celebrated annually on the Friday before Mother's Day. It is a day to give a special "thank you" to providers for their dedication to this profession.

Parents with children in child care are encouraged to take this day to show their child care provider how much they appreciate her/him. It takes a very special and dedicated person to work in this field and their contribution to the quality of family life frequently goes unnoticed. Do not let this day go by without a special thank you to this person who is so important to your child. It does not have to be an elaborate gift, nor do you have to spend a lot of time or money. A nice thank you card or a letter of appreciation from you and your child would mean the world to them.

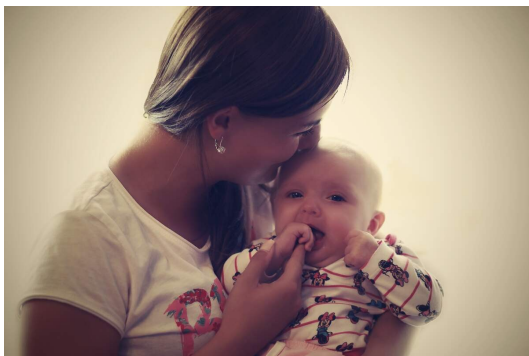


A few suggestions for a special 'thank you' are:

- Get together with other parents to create a surprise
- Send flowers or a plant for the yard
- Bring lunch for the provider and children
- Buy learning materials or equipment for the play area
- Work with your child to create a special remembrance
- Provide a gift certificate for their hobby or special interest
- Gift card for a local restaurant, movie theater, or nail salon
- Sponsor provider to attend the FFCCHA conference in June



Florida Family Child Care Home Association THANKS YOU for taking the time to select a quality family child care environment for your child.



From National Association for Family Child Care:

Provider Appreciation Day is an annual celebration on the Friday before Mother's Day that recognizes the work of child care providers, teachers and other educators of young children. Established by NAFCC in 1995 as a way to thank family child care and center-based providers, Provider Appreciation Day is now celebrated throughout the United States and around the world as a "thank you" to the people who educate, support and spend a tireless amount of time with our children.

At NAFCC, we take the lead in celebrating family child care providers and the more than 123,000 regulated family child care programs that serve children and families. It's important to

acknowledge the essential workforce family child care providers represent and honor the work of their hands. Join us in celebrating the educators who provide care, learning and lifelong success for young children in their home.

For more information from NAFCC, please go to: <https://nafcc.org/fcc-appreciation/>

Public Relations Info

Having a meeting, workshop, or training session in your area coming up soon? We have large and small display boards as well as brochures and other professional resources. FFCCHA display Boards are in Spanish and English.



You can 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 print directly from our FFCCHA website under the Publications tab <https://familychildcare.org/resources/publications/>

Do not forget to take advantage of advertising your business in our quarterly Grapevine newsletter! For more info, call or contact info@familychildcare.org

MENTOR News January 2025

Abbie Bill -- MENTOR Program Chair

Our 12-hour **Mentor Training** will be held at our June conference in Clearwater Beach, June 25-26, 2025. Wednesday hours will be 8:00-5:00 pm and Thursday 8:00-Noon. Contact me for an application and qualifications. The deadline is May 1, 2025.

On February 8th "**Mindful Mentoring for Accreditation Support**" presented by Arleen Lambert was held in Orlando. Attendees were: Abbie Bill, Lisa Dupree, Annette Eberhart, Aleta Ford, Renee Graham, Nichola Griffiths-Butts, Renee Graham, Mayra Marquez, Mary Morris, Patricia Oliver, Shannon Richardson, Karen Robinson, Tamika Rutledge, Stephanie Searles, Vivene Smith, Tammy Tener, Ortega Thomas, Amanda Wallace, Shamara Washington, Patricia Williams, Wanda Williams-Roberts, and Myrna Wright.

All family child providers: if you 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. Such as setting up your indoor/outdoor learning environment, contracts and policies, marketing, obtaining your CDA, handling difficult situations, etc.

FFCCHA Certified Provider Mentors - please make sure you send me any updates on your credentials and in service hours needed for each year.

If you have any questions about what is needed, contact me.

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



Chapter Rep News

Angela-Perla Almodovar, Chapter Rep Coordinator



Congratulations!

Kelly Patterson
Chapter Rep of the Quarter
from South Florida Home CC
Providers of
Miami-Dade County

I value the efforts everyone put into the recruitment of new members. I know each of you put in a significant amount of additional time into this undertaking.

Our association thrives because of the hard work and determination of chapter representatives like you. Thank you for your diligent work and commitment to our state association. Be proud of your efforts because the association is proud of you!

Top Ways to Increase Membership for FFCCHA Association:

- Get Help from Current Members.
- Ask Members for Recruitment Ideas.
- Include Members' Testimonial on your meetings.
- Provide Incentives for Referrals.
- Create a Recruitment Committee.

Remember, ALL Chapter Reps must now renew/join chapter members ONLINE!! Thank you!

If you have any questions, or need clarification, please contact Perla at (305)321-6735.



Area Rep News

Jennifer Richards, Area Rep Coordinator

Congratulations!

Mary Morris
Area Rep of the Quarter

Thank you for your dedication to
Family Child Care!



FFCCHA wants to thank all Area Reps for doing an excellent job in building positive relationships in their local areas. Area Reps will continue to promote FFCCHA by hosting Meet and Greets to educate nonmembers providers and community leaders about the mission and vision of our state association.

I'm asking every Area Rep who has not already signed up to serve on one of FFCCHA's committee, so step up and join a committee, because **NO one can do EVERYthing, but EVERYone can do something!**

We are currently **looking for Area Representatives** for vacant areas: **4, 6, 11, 12, 14, 15, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 30 and 31.** Area rep positions are for 2 years. If you would like more information on job duties please feel free to reach out to me anytime.

Anyone can apply at any time for any open area.

If you like working as an advocate in your local community, sharing information with peers and child care partners, this is the perfect job for you.

Please contact me (386) 846-9567 or email jjrichards23@gmail.com.

TALK OF THE TOWN AREA 22 - Pinellas County

Talisha Ghansiam



Talisha started her child care career in New York city, and ended up in St. Petersburg, in Pinellas County, FL, with her very supportive family. She originally wanted to work from home for convenience while raising her own children, considering it a blessing to work from home, then she blossomed into a professional leader who works hard to serve all children and families, and is celebrating her 20th anniversary as a child care provider.

Her FCC home is unique as her parent-clients says she has a constant welcoming demeanor and a positive attitude which sheds light on all. She always maintains her loving and welcome composure and has consistent open communication with all families

Talisha has been a member with FFCCHA for many years, always supporting and being an open-hearted mentor for new incoming providers, encouraging them to be members, and highly recommending them to follow her lead for their own benefits.

She has grown in the field of Early Childhood Education, through hours of training, professional guidance and years of experience. She earned her master's in early childhood education, specializing in leadership, management and administration, and is working on her goal to obtain a PHD in Early Childhood Education. Talisha earned her Florida Gold Seal and is Nationally Accredited by NAFCC. She believes that her enhanced education has allowed her to gain knowledge in children's development (stages), behavior, cognitive development, fine and gross motor skills, language development, inclusion, as well as patience and empathy for each family and child.

Talisha treats each child in her FCC home as a prized possession. She likes to share that everyone from deep within their hearts, every single day, must work harder and harder to achieve their goals, and to always strive to be better today than yesterday!

*Please submit a "Talk of the Town" article about someone special from Areas 18 - 23.
Submissions must be submitted by May 10, 2025 to the Newsletter Editor:
Wendy Corso-Ruud at ruud3@aol.com Thank you!*

Support FFCCHA

Danish Williams, Fundraising



To all FFCCHA members and friends!!

Just a quick hello to keep in touch with our members and to thank you all for supporting your FFCCHA members.

Please continue with your support by putting aside your CLEAN and gently used items, child care supplies and home goods. These items will be at our next in-person meeting on April 26 in Orlando. We sell these "Green Table" items to raise money for scholarships.

We also encourage our members to give back in other ways, such as donating gift cards or door prizes (with values over \$25 each).

Can't wait to see everyone on April 26, and until then, please stay safe and keep God first!

Much LOVE, D

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 Latino

Sarai Marquez, Latino Liaison

¡Saludos a todos mis compañeros proveedores latinos!

Estoy muy emocionada por conocerlos durante nuestra próxima reunión trimestral presencial. Hemos preparado una capacitación especial en español especialmente para ustedes, y no querrán perderse! Tendremos un pequeño caucus para conversar sobre sus necesidades y brindarles un espacio donde su voz pueda ser escuchada.

Mientras nos preparamos para la Conferencia anual en Clearwater, me encantaría recibir sus comentarios para asegurarme de que las capacitaciones estén adaptadas a sus necesidades como proveedores de cuidado infantil en el hogar.

Como siempre, si necesita ayuda o le gustaría involucrarse en la asociación, no dude en comunicarse conmigo.

Por favor avísame si hay alguna pregunta o si hay alguna forma en que pueda ayudarlo 407-978-2131

HOLA
amigos!





2024-2025 FFCCHA Credential Scholarship Application

Requirements: Must be a Florida Licensed Family Child Care Provider, a FFCCHA chapter provider member and NAFCC member.

Applying for: ☐ \$200 ☐ \$385 ☐ \$615 ☐ \$_____



- ☐ NAFCC Accreditation Quality Ambassador Certified Trainer
- ☐ NAFCC Accreditation Observer Training
- ☐ NAFCC New Accreditation: Self Study \$385
- ☐ NAFCC New Accreditation: Application \$615
- ☐ NAFCC Accreditation: 18-month Update \$200
- ☐ NAFCC Re-Accreditation: Application \$615

Note: \$950/person/year is the maximum awarded in time period July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025.

PLEASE PRINT:

Name: _____ Email: _____

Name on Family Child Care License: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____ County: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Cell: _____

Check all that apply: ☐ Licensed ☐ Large Licensed ☐ VPK ☐ CDA ☐ NAFCC Accredited since _____

Local FFCCHA Chapter: _____ Area # _____

Name of Chapter President: _____

How long have you been a member of your local chapter? _____

List current leadership roles or participation in your chapter: _____

List current leadership roles or participation in FFCCHA: _____

How long have you been a full time family child care provider? _____

List other child care related experience: _____

What are your future plans in family child care? _____

Briefly explain how receiving this scholarship will benefit you, the children, your parent clients, and/or other providers: _____

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? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please **submit application via email** (put your name in subject line) to: credentialchair@familychildcare.org
Include a copy of your current NAFCC Membership Card OR receipt of purchase and copy of your Child Care Home License and 1 letter of recommendation (dated within past 6 mos.) from any of the following: Child Care Agency, Early Learning Coalition, local FFCCHA Chapter, FFCCHA Certified Mentor, parent client from your FCC home, Food Program Sponsor, Training Instructor, Licensing, Community or State College.

ALL correspondence is by e-mail, so make sure your email is valid and check it often after applying.

Questions? Please call 561-445-7333, 407-234-3473, or e-mail credentialchair@familychildcare.org

Office verification:

Regulation _____ Chapter _____ Member since _____ FFCCHA _____ NAFCC _____ Application Rev 9-2024

Legislative News

Tasheba Berry

Hey FFCCHA Family!

It's your favorite Legislative Liaison popping in with some updates from the Capitol - where the coffee is strong, the debates are long, and your voices are making waves!

We've been busy making sure family child care has a seat and a mic at every policy table. Whether it's championing fair funding, pushing for educator pay that reflects your superhero status, or breaking down barriers to quality care, we're in the room, speaking up, and shining a light on the magic YOU make happen every day.

Here's what we're vibing with this session: Advocacy days full of heart and hustle

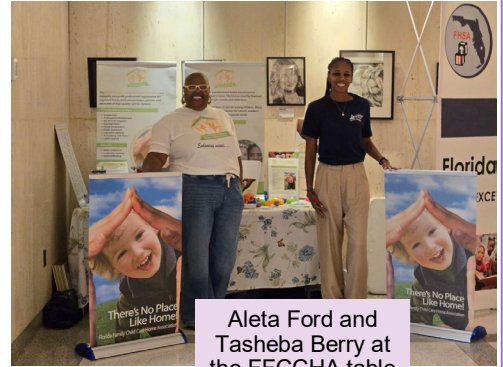
- Real talk with real legislators (yes, even the ones who talk in circles!)
- Sharing educator stories that make lawmakers pause and pay attention
- Fighting for policies that lift up our little learners and their champions - you!

The work is serious, but that doesn't mean we can't have a little fun doing it. So grab your coffee, your advocacy voice, and maybe a comfy pair of shoes - because we're just getting started!

With joy, justice, and a dash of sass,

T

Advocating in 2025: Amplifying the Voices of Early Educators



Aleta Ford and Tasheba Berry at the FFCCHA table in Tallahassee for Children's Week in April 2025.

Your voice matters - advocate today!

FFCCHA Happenings

Advocacy, Trainings and/or Conferences!

Gwen Wilson, Deserie Dickson, and Bernadette Jones of Marion County Chapter, at the Early Childhood Conference at Central Florida College In Ocala, FL, March 29, 2025.



Patricia Williams advocating for children whilst visiting legislators in Tallahassee in March, 2025.



WANT TO GO
BACK TO SCHOOL?
WE CAN HELP!



Visit us online at www.TEACH-FL.com
or give us a call at 1-877-FL-TEACH

Florida Family Child Care Home Association, Inc. — April 2025

Executive Committee of Board = 11					
	Name	City	Zip	Phone	Email
President	Arleen Lambert	Miami Gardens	33169	305-793-4011	president@familychildcare.org
Vice President	Gertrude Freeman-Ford	Cocoa	32926	321-890-8366	vicepresident@familychildcare.org
Secretary	Open - Apply Now!				secretary@familychildcare.org
Treasurer	Renie Roach	St Augustine	32092	904-392-5366	treasurer@familychildcare.org
Membership	Kissha Ballard	Orlando	32811	407-616-5082	membership@familychildcare.org
Area Rep Coordinator	Jennifer Richards	Daytona Beach	32114	386-846-9567	areacoordinator@familychildcare.org
Chapter Coordinator	Angela "Perla" Almodovar	Doral	33178	305-321-6735	chaptercoordinator@familychildcare.org
Latino Liaison	Sarai Marquez	Kissimmee	34743	407-978-2131	latinoliasion@familychildcare.org
Professional Development	Annette Eberhart	Tampa	33612	813-493-0828	training@familychildcare.org
Fundraising	Danish Williams	Miami	33147	305-495-5029	fundraiser@familychildcare.org
Legislative Liaison	Tasheba Berry	Hollywood	32201	954-464-3134	info@tashebaberry.com

Interested in serving on the Executive Committee? Contact nominations@familychildcare.org

Area #	Counties	11 Area Representatives - Full Board			
1	Escambia	Andrea Grace	Pensacola	32506	850-453-6652 andreagrace4215@att.net
5	Liberty, Gadsden, Leon, Taylor, Wakulla, Jefferson, Madison	Matline Ford	Tallahassee	32305	850-877-3885 matlinef@aol.com
7	Duval	Patricia Williams	Jacksonville	32209	904-403-8948 Pdt62@comcast.net
10	Alachua	Lula Owens		904-779-9988	Lulafrank@bellsouth.net
13	Flagler, Volusia	Cynthia Durr	Daytona Beach	32114	386-258-6603 cbrownsugarmd@aol.com
16	Brevard	Joyce Burks	Cocoa	32922	321-292-2159 JoyceBurksChildCare@gmail.com
17	Orange	Sonji Mitchell	Orlando	32808	407-936-8358 sonjip@hotmail.com
18	Osceola	Fariha Zuberi	Orlando	32837	407-361-0130 montessori.home@yahoo.com
21	Hillsborough	Renee Graham	Tampa	33619	813-621-5369 rgraham89@verizon.net
28	Lee, Hendry, Glades, Collier	Valeria Cummings	Ft Myers	33916	239-822-3235 wifey02@hotmail.com
29	Palm Beach	Mary Morris	Palm Beach	33409	561-832-0472 msmlm57@msn.com

Interested in serving as an Area Representative for your county? Contact arearepcoordinator@familychildcare.org

18 Chapter Representatives - Full Board					
Area	CHAPTER NAME	Meeting City/County	Chapter Rep.	Phone	E-Mail
5	North Florida FCC Association	Big Bend Area	Charlene Thornton	850-980-2824	LSLCKids@yahoo.com
7	Family Child Care Assoc. of Jacksonville	Duval County	Myrna Wright	904-477-2965	Jbear_226@yahoo.com
8,9,13	Putnam County FCC Provider Association	Rotates Cities	Karan Hiester	386-957-4482	educate71@gmail.com
12	Marion County FCCH Association	Marion County	Marjorie Wheeler	352-299-7203	marjoriejanae19@gmail.com
15,17,18	Central Florida Association for FCC	Osceola-Orange	Alethia Dittren	407-870-1569	dittren01@netzero.com
16	Brevard Sunshine FCH Association	Brevard County	Cheryl Guest	321-537-8751	cguest08@gmail.com
17	Multicultural FCCHA of Orange Co	Orlando	Stephanie Minus	407-373-3762	elementsofbusiness@gmail.com
21	HCCPA of NE Hillsborough County	Hillsborough County	Cynthia Brown	813-766-4682	robinsontrainingconsultant@yahoo.com
21	Quality FHCC Provider Association	Hillsborough County	Robin Dean	813-205-4432	nanaslearningpost@gmail.com
22	FLEXx Production Southside CCA	Pinellas County	Dorothy Jenkins	727-895-7101	Blueeyes33701@yahoo.com
22	Heart to Heart Child Care Assoc	Pinellas County	Michelle Pugh	727-215-0946	mrp701@aol.com
23	HCC Providers Assoc. of Manatee County	Manatee County	Tia Jackson	941-504-5017	tjackson34@aol.com
29	Palm Beach County FCC Assoc	Palm Beach County	Nichola Griffiths-Butts	561-506-4739	nicholagriffiths@yahoo.com
29	United Professional CCP of South Florida	Palm Beach County	Cynthia Bedford	561-644-8151	cbedford@bellsouth.net
30,31	APCID of Hialeah	Hialeah	Daysi Mordan	786-797-8684	Daysimordan81x@gmail.com
31	South Florida Home CC Association	Dade County	Kelly Patterson	305-986-8826	pattersonkelly91@gmail.com
31	FCCPA of Miami-Dade County	Miami/Dade County	Gladys Reyes	786-704-2012	Lalryeyes252@yahoo.com

Interested in joining a chapter near you? <https://familychildcare.org/product-category/chapter-memberships>

Florida Family Child Care Home Association, Inc. — April 2025

COMMITTEE CHAIRS (NON-BOARD POSITIONS)

Advisory	Gwen Wilson	352-351-5370	gwenlo50@hotmail.com	Newsletter Editor	Wendy Corso-Ruud	561-715-1361	ruud3@aol.com
Awards	Renie Roach	904-392-5366	renieroach@yahoo.com	Nomination	Mayra Marquez		nominations@familychildcare.org
Chaplain	Cynthia Durr	386-258-6603	cbrownsugarmd@aol.com	Social Media	Karan Hiester	386-957-4482	educate71@gmail.com
Hospitality	Sharon Singleton	407-404-3038	singsd63@gmail.com	Credential Scholarship	Abbie Bill	561-445-7333	credentialchair@familychildcare.org
M.E.N.T.O.R.	Abbie Bill	561-445-7333	FLMentorpgm@aol.com				

STAFF (NON-BOARD POSITIONS)

Executive Director	Tammy Tener	407-234-3473	info@familychildcare.org
Operations Manager	Joselly Santos		operationmanager@familychildcare.org
Finance Manager	Sande Harper	727-345-0299	sharper3601@aol.com
Hub Coordinator for Broward	Tasheba Berry	954-464-3134	info@tashbaberry.com
CONFERENCE COORDINATOR: KARAN HIESTER			
386-957-4482 conference@familychildcare.org			

FFCCHA: 9207 Edgemont Lane, Boca Raton, FL 33434

Phone: 954-581-1192

E-mail: info@familychildcare.org

*Passionate about your profession as a family child care provider? Interested in promoting our mission?***Apply NOW for Current Vacant AREA REP Positions:**Area Representatives: **1, 3, 4, 6, 11, 12, 14, 15, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 30, 31****Apply** 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 CHAIR Positions:****Committee Chairs** (non-board positions): Bylaws, Finance, Chapter Dev, Fundraiser, Historian, Parliamentarian, Latino Development, Member Development, and Translation**Apply NOW for Vacant EXECUTIVE OFFICER Positions to start immediately:** Secretary**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**2025 NAFCC Conference Hotel and Registration Scholarship from FFCCHA****Interested in going to Dallas this summer?**You must **apply on this link before April 24:****FFCCHA Scholarship Application for 2025 NAFCC Conference Registration & Hotel**\$349 Early Bird (Main dates: July 31-Aug 2) **Conference** — July 29-30 **Pre-conference** Extra Pre-Conference Fees not covered with this scholarship. EVENT Address: Hilton Anatole (\$184/night) 2201 N Stemmons Fwy, **Dallas, TX 75207****April 24 Deadline to Submit for FFCCHA Scholarships** for ONLY NAFCC Conference Registration (\$349) and Hotel nights (up to 3 nights comp) as needed (July 28 earliest check in, Aug 3 latest check out). Pre-conference attendance is not required to apply. Awardees are notified by April 29 and will be given instructions to register and FFCCHA submits the hotel nights you select on the link below (3 nights are comp for sure with this scholarship). FYI - Waiting on confirmation from NAFCC if a 4th night will be comp too. Awardees will be required to sign and submit a commitment form by May 1st.Travel costs such as gas or airfare, and Pre-Conference, is **NOT included** with the FFCCHA/NAFCC Conference scholarship; Interested in attending the NAFCC OT or QAT at NAFCC? Must submit a FFCCHA Credential Scholarship form to Abbie Bill.**Expectations for Scholarship Recipients:****At the NAFCC Conference:** Represent FFCCHA in a professional and respectful manner during all interactions throughout the NAFCC conference; Communicate any unforeseen conflicts promptly to allow for timely resolution; Agree to meet at a designated location for group photos in FFCCHA shirts. The exact time and location will be shared closer to the conference date.**After the NAFCC Conference:** Submit a brief paragraph (one paragraph) sharing your conference experience; Provide at least **three photos** from your time at the conference.

Personal testimonies are welcome (but not required).

These materials will be shared with the funder who made the scholarship possible.



Call for Exhibitors, Ads, & Donations

Florida Family Child Care Home Association, Inc.

33rd Annual Conference, June 25-29, 2025

“Enhancing Our Minds...In 2025”

Sheraton Sand Key Resort, 1160 Gulf Boulevard, Clearwater Beach, FL 33767

Pay Online: <https://familychildcare.org/product-category/ffccha-conference/>

Form is not required if you use this Link to submit info: [Call for Exhibitors, Sponsors, Ads & Donations](#)

Business Name: _____ Website: _____

Contact Person Name: _____ Title: _____

Business Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Business Phone: _____ Email: _____

Note: Unless notified otherwise, all information listed above for Exhibitors will be in the Conference Program Book.

Service/Product: _____ Signature: _____

_____ **Yes!** We would like to ENHANCE MINDS and be an **EXHIBITOR on June 26-28:**

Each space includes: ONE 6-foot bare table & one chair - **Thurs** Set-up 2-5pm & Opening 6-8:00pm,

Fri 9am-11:30 1:30-5:30pm, **Sat** 9am-3:30pm (times may change) _____ #of tables X \$ _____ = \$ _____

Plus 2 door prizes (\$25 value each) Deadlines: Early Bird: Jan 1 - April 30: \$250; if space available,

May 1: \$300; after May 25: \$350 **WiFi:** ☐ yes ☐ no **Electric** order request: ☐ yes ☐ no

_____ **Yes!** We would like to ENHANCE MINDS and **ADVERTISE in the conference program book:**

Email ads in color in **jpg** format. Deadline: **April 15, 2025**

☐ Business Card \$100 ☐ 1/4page \$175 (3 1/2"x5") ☐ 1/2page \$250 (7 1/2"x5") ☐ 3/4 page \$350 (7 1/2"x7") ☐ Full page \$500 (7 1/2"x10")

_____ **Yes!** We would like to ENHANCE MINDS and **DONATE in-kind ITEMS:** (describe)

☐ Door Prizes (\$25 minimum value) _____

☐ Grand Prizes (\$100 value or more) _____

☐ Centerpieces (30) for Luncheon Tables for prizes _____

☐ Gifts (50) to recognize Nationally Accredited (NAFCC) Providers _____

_____ **Yes!** We would like to insert **Promotional Items** (300) into Conference Bag (no flyers, catalogs)

☐ \$200 Contact us by May 15, 2024, to send to address below. Describe _____

_____ **Yes!** We would like to ENHANCE MINDS and **RESERVE SPACE on the Resource Sharing Table:**

☐ \$75 Contact us by May 15, 2024 and send to address below. Describe _____

_____ **Yes!** We would like to ENHANCE MINDS and CONTRIBUTE a **MONETARY LEVEL** of SPONSORSHIP:

_____ **Curious Minds: \$250**

_____ **Inquisitive Minds: \$1,500**

_____ **Creative Minds: \$500**

_____ **Innovative Minds: \$2,500**

_____ **Caring Minds: \$1,000**

_____ **The Ultimate Mind: \$5,000 or more**

MIND MATCH to match funds raised by parents up to a designated amount \$ _____

All MIND sponsorship levels include: Program book listing and On-site signage; \$1,000 or more includes one exhibit table, and program book advertising at various sizes according to Sponsor Level.

_____ **Yes!** We would like to ENHANCE MINDS & **SELECT A SPECIFIC REQUEST:**

☐ Keynote Speakers ☐ Award Plaques ☐ Program Book ☐ 300 Bags ☐ Provider Celebration Night

☐ Leader Recognition ☐ Audio Visual ☐ Appreciation Luncheon ☐ Name Tags ☐ Parent Choice Awards

Deadlines: Jan. 1, 2025 for listing in Conference Brochure; Feb 17 for April listing in The Grapevine Newsletter; May 1 for listing in Conference Program Book; June 1 for listing at the conference

Make check payable to: **FFCCHA** Mail to: **FFCCHA, 1859 Mango Tree Dr., Edgewater, FL 32141**

Need more information on HOW to ENHANCE Minds?

Exhibitor Chair: Rebekah Reneke (352)-278-7515 rebekahreneke@flelco.org

Other contacts: **Karan Hiester**, Conference Coordinator, 386-689-3046 conference@familychildcare.org

Tammy Tener, Executive Director, 407-234-3473 info@familychildcare.org

Revised 9-25



VOLUNTEER Application for Scholarships for 2025 Conference Registrations "Enhancing Our Minds...In 2025" June 25-29, 2025

Sheraton Sand Key Resort, 1160 Gulf Boulevard, Clearwater Beach, FL 33767



Approved applicants applying for a scholarship will be required to volunteer 3 hours.

Click on **ONE** of these links for the forms:

[2025 Conference Volunteer Scholarship Form](#) [2025 Aplicación de Voluntarios de Becas para Conferencia](#)

Volunteer Qualifications / Requirements:

1. Be a current **provider member of FFCCHA** (keep valid thru June 30, 2025) operating as a **FL registered or licensed provider** or be a current **Co-provider member of FFCCHA** (keep valid thru June 30, 2025)
2. Complete and **submit this form** along with the **\$70.00 fee**. (Note: Fee increases to **\$90 after April 30, if there are spaces left**).
3. **Attend** a virtual OR in-person volunteer **orientation before going to conference**. Details will be emailed after application has been received.
4. **Attend** the entire conference day(s) that you applied for.
5. **Wear** an Orange Apron (supplied by FFCCHA) over your attire when serving your 3 volunteer hours (no tank tops/no short shorts).
6. **Sign-in** at conference and **fulfill your 3-hour volunteer duties as assigned**, return hostess paper, and **sign-out**.
7. Turn in a **completed** conference **evaluation**.

Payment options: 1) **Online credit card payment** <https://familychildcare.org/product-category/ffccha-conference/>
 2) **Send check or money order payable to FFCCHA – NO Refunds**. Returned checks assessed a \$47 fee
Mail to: FFCCHA Volunteers c/o Karan Hiester 1859 Mango Tree Dr, Edgewater, FL 32141

Deadline: April 30, 2025 Qualifying applications will be dated as received and **selected on a first come, first serve basis** until all scholarships have been awarded. All providers will be notified when received as to their acceptance status.

All applications received by the deadline will be entered in a drawing for a prize.

Select only ONE Type of Conference Registration you are applying for (**check ONE only**):

☐ **Friday-Saturday-Sunday** ☐ **Saturday-Sunday** ☐ **Saturday Special (8am-5pm only)** ☐ **Friday Only (8am-5pm)**

PRINT CLEARLY with black or blue ink ONLY

Name: _____ Primary Language: _____ Secondary Language: _____
 Signature _____ County: _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ Cell: _____ Email: _____
 County: _____ Local Chapter: _____
 Name of FCC Home: _____ Is this your first conference? _____

Check all that apply: ☐ Registered ☐ Licensed ☐ Large Licensed ☐ VPK ☐ NAFCC Accredited ☐ NAFCC Observer
☐ CDA ☐ EHS (Early Head Start) ☐ Director Credential ☐ College Degree, Type _____

Please rate your **first 1st and 2nd preferences** in volunteering (however, no guarantees):

_____ English Workshop hostess _____ Fundraising Table Worker _____ Set-up Thur 2-5p _____ Provider Celebration Sat 7-10pm
 _____ Spanish Workshop hostess _____ Registration Table Worker _____ Clean-up Sat 5pm _____ Other _____

How will receiving a scholarship to this conference benefit your child care? Only write on the lines below:

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

- ♦ I understand that if I do not attend the type of registration applied for above or do not fulfill my three hours as a volunteer, my scholarship will be voided, and I will be responsible for the full cost of my registration.

If you need an accommodation because of a disability in order to participate in the childcare training process; contact, Tammy Tener, Executive Director at least two weeks prior to the first training date at 407-234-3473 between 8:00 am and 6:00 pm. Calls can be received Monday - Friday.

Questions? Contact Karan Hiester (386) 689-3046 or via e-mail: registration@familychildcare.org

Other contacts: conference@familychildcare.org or info@familychildcare.org

Conference scholarships go quickly, so, don't be left out! Send completed form today!

Office use only:

Online/Cash/Ck# _____ Received date: ____/____/____ Receipt# _____ Verified membership/expiration date: ____/____/____



Call for Mind Sponsors

Florida Family Child Care Home Association, Inc.

33rd Annual Conference, June 25-29, 2025

“Enhancing Our Minds...In 2025”

Sheraton Sand Key Resort, 1160 Gulf Boulevard, Clearwater Beach, FL 33767

Use this Link: [Call for Exhibitors, Sponsors, Ads & Donations](#)

Business Name: _____ **Website:** _____

Contact Person Name: _____ **Title:** _____

Business Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____

Business Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Note: Unless notified otherwise, all information listed above for Exhibitors will be in the Conference Program Book

Service/Product: _____ **Signature:** _____

_____ **Yes!** We would like to ENHANCE MINDS and CONTRIBUTE a **MONETARY LEVEL** of SPONSORSHIP:

_____ **Curious Minds: \$250** _____ **Inquisitive Minds: \$1,500**
 _____ **Creative Minds: \$500** _____ **Innovative Minds: \$2,500**
 _____ **Caring Minds: \$1,000** _____ **The Ultimate Mind: \$5,000 or more**
 _____ **MIND MATCH** to match funds raised by parents up to a designated amount \$ _____

_____ **Yes!** We would like to ENHANCE MINDS and **SELECT A SPECIFIC REQUEST:**

- | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Special Speakers | <input type="checkbox"/> Award Plaques | <input type="checkbox"/> Program Book Printing | <input type="checkbox"/> Appreciation Luncheon | <input type="checkbox"/> 350 Bags |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leader Recognition | <input type="checkbox"/> Audio Visual | <input type="checkbox"/> Keynote Speaker | <input type="checkbox"/> Brochure Printing | <input type="checkbox"/> Name Tags |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reg. Scholarships | <input type="checkbox"/> VIP Reception | <input type="checkbox"/> Provider Celebration | <input type="checkbox"/> Room scholarships | <input type="checkbox"/> Door Prizes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Table Centerpieces | <input type="checkbox"/> Decorations | <input type="checkbox"/> Parent Choice Awards | <input type="checkbox"/> Travel | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grand Prizes (\$100 or more) | | <input type="checkbox"/> Gifts for NAFCC Accredited Providers | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | |

MIND Sponsorship Levels Include:

Mind Level	\$\$ Support	Logo in Book	On-site Signage	Ad in Program Book	Insert in Bags	Table in Vendor Hall
Curious	\$250-499	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Creative	\$500-999	Yes	Yes	Business Card	No	No
Caring	\$1,000-1,499	Yes	Yes	¼ page	Yes	1 table
Mind Match	\$1,000 or more	Yes	Yes	Logo on Parent Sponsor Forms	Yes	1 table
Inquisitive	\$1,500-2,499	Yes	Yes	½ page	Yes	1 table
Innovative	\$2,500-4,999	Yes	Yes	¾ page	Yes	1 table
The Ultimate	\$5,000 or more	Yes	Yes	Full page	Yes	2 tables

Deadlines: Dec 31 for listing in Conference Brochure, Feb 17 for listing in April issue of *The Grapevine* newsletter, May 1 for listing in Conference Program Book, June 1 for listing on-site at the conference

Make check to: **FFCCHA**, Mail to: **FFCCHA, 1859 Mango Tree Dr., Edgewater, FL 32141**

Questions: **Exhibitor Chair: Rebekah Reneke**, 352-278-7515, rebekahreneke@flelco.org

Need more information on **HOW to ENHANCE Minds?**

Karan Hiester, Conference Coordinator, 386-957-4482, conference@familychildcare.org

Tammy Tener, Executive Director, 407-234-3473 tenerfcc@gmail.com

Revised 11-24



Parents! Sponsor the Florida Family Child Care Home Association 2025 Conference!

Provider Information

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____ Phone: (____) _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____ County: _____
 E-Mail: _____ Chapter Name: _____

Family Information

Child's First Name: _____ Last Name: _____ Age: _____

Donation Amount

- ☐ \$5 - Display photo at 2025 conference (must be submitted by June 1, 2025).
- ☐ \$10 - Display photo at 2025 conference AND Capitol for Children's Day (must submit two forms by April 1, 2025).
- ☐ \$15 - Enter photo contest (See photo instructions on back of this form and submit photo separately by May 5). Also includes display at both conference and Capitol (2 forms must be submitted by April 1, 2025).
- ☐ Other donation amount: \$ _____

Assembly and Submittal Instructions

1. Print out hands from our website: www.familychildcare.org in color or print in black and white on bright green, orange or yellow paper.
2. Cut out the white heart in the middle of the hands. Place a photo of your child behind the hands, tape in place and fold on the dotted center line **OR** have your child color or decorate the heart.

Photo Release

By signing this form, you, the parent/guardian of the person(s) photographed, hereby give the Children's Forum and the Florida Family Child Care Home Association permission to publish submitted photographs. You understand that photos will NOT be used in any other content without your written consent and the photos will NOT be released or sold to any third party. Your signature warrants that you are over the age of 18 and competent to contract in your name and/or sign on behalf of your minor child as listed above.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parents – Send your child to the Beach for only \$5!

FFCCHA needs assistance from parents of young children to support our annual statewide conference, “Enhancing Our Minds in 2025” in Clearwater Beach. The total \$ amount of donations from parents and what they are able to sponsor collectively will be listed in the conference program book. If your child’s photo or artwork is submitted on forms along with donations, then it will be displayed at the conference and/or Capital. Provider names from family child care homes that submit \$25 or more in parent donations will be listed in the conference program book.

and let them “Hang in Tally” with the Governor for \$-10!

For a **\$15 donation**, your child can also **enter a photo contest** for the hand-shaped heart FFCCHA Conference Logo for “Enhancing Our Minds in 2026.” Note: Parent or child(ren) name will not be printed on conference marketing materials.

Photo Contest Rules in order to be able to use the photo in print publications.

1. **E-mail entries** must contain a hi-resolution color photograph uploaded in compliance with the Contest requirements, in JPEG format with picture dimensions at least 1800 x 1200 pixels and 300 dpi. Send to: jjbrown@thechildrensforum.com.
2. Entries that contain photographs (digital) that do not comply with the specifications or any other requirements stated herein will be automatically disqualified.
3. All Entries become the property of Sponsor, and none will be acknowledged or returned. Sponsor is not responsible for lost, late, incomplete, invalid, unintelligible, or misdirected entries.
4. Entries that contain inappropriate images such as but not limited to nudity will be disqualified.
5. Entries that contain any type of advertising or logo images will be disqualified. This includes visible clothing brands.
6. Child(ren) must currently be in care at a family child care home of a provider member of FFCCHA.
7. Parent or legal guardian must sign and submit a photo release.
8. Deadline for photo submissions is May 5, 2025.

Tips for making sure your photo qualifies for the contest:

1. Make sure your camera is set on the highest pixel setting. The file size will be large, but big can be reduced by the graphic designer. Small pictures can’t be enlarged!
2. When emailing your digital photo, do NOT reduce the file size. Keep it at the original size.
3. If your computer or email system does not want to send it because the file size is too large, save the picture to a CD and mail the CD in a protective CD case.
4. Close up shots are best, zoom in on the child(rens) face. These are the priceless shots we need for the FFCCHA publications.
5. Photography from professional photographers are not acceptable and will not be acknowledged or returned.

Mail your forms and donations to: FFCCHA, Inc., 1526 W 15th St. Jacksonville, FL 32209

Call: 904-403-8948 or email: Patriciawilliamsfcch@yahoo.com if you have any questions

Spanish version available on our website: www.familychildcare.org



Florida Family Child Care Home Association

33rd Annual Conference

Enhancing Our Minds... in 2025



Pre Conference June 25-26 | Conference June 27-29

Pre-Conference Highlights

(additional fee required)

Wednesday, June 25

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

ME! M.E.N.T.O.R.ing Essentials (Part 1) by Lois Kendrick and Mayra Marquez

Passionate about guiding and empowering others? Join the first part of the 12-hour Florida peer M.E.N.T.O.R. Program! Become equipped to **Mentor, Educate, Nurture, Train, Observe and Role Model**. **Applicants must be accepted into the program prior to attending this class.** Contact Abbie Bill at 561-445-7333 or FLMentorpgm@aol.com for qualifications and an application. **Applications are due by May 1, 2025.**

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Family Child Care CEO: Changing & Defining Your Narrative by Jerletha McDonald

Join us and be empowered as family child care CEOs to control your narrative and amplify your voice in early childhood education. Learn strategies to highlight your contributions, challenge misconceptions, and advocate using effective storytelling, branding, and tools to reshape public perception and elevate the field of family child care.

Thursday, June 26

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Mentor I Certification (Part 2) by Lois Kendrick and Mayra Marquez

Author Study, Story Time, and Activities based on Mo Willems by Dawn Espinoza

Mo Willems is best known for his #1 New York Times bestselling picture books, which have been awarded three Caldecott Honors (*Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!*; *Knuffle Bunny: A Cautionary Tale* and more). Join us to read, share, and discover activities to implement in your own early learning environments.

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Strategies for Sensory, Behavioral, and Academic Success by Janis Nakagama

Caring for children with sensory, behavioral, physical, or academic challenges? This presentation is for you! Join us for valuable tools and strategies to positively impact their lives.

1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Creating a Responsive Classroom with Leo Leonni's Picture Books by Dawn Espinoza

Join us to explore how to create a responsive preschool classroom by integrating Leo Leonni's picture books into your morning circle experiences and daily lesson plans.

Keynotes & Special Guests



Jerletha McDonald
Renowned National
Family Child Care Leader



Dr. Kimberly Johnson
Children's Author,
Educator and
Faculty Member,
Clemson University



Eboni Delany
Assistant Director of
Narrative and Movement
Building, NAFCC



Courtney Smith
Director of Policy and
Programs, Office of
Licensing (DCF)



Marica Cox Mitchell
Vice President of Early
Childhood, Bainum
Family Foundation



Cari Miller
Chancellor for Early
Learning,
Department of Education

ANNUAL PROVIDER CELEBRATION



Come dressed in your best cocktail attire and mask for a night full of dancing, networking, and fun as we celebrate our family child care home providers!

(8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. children permitted)

(9:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. adults only)

Conference Hotel



Sheraton Sand Key Resort

1160 Gulf Blvd. Clearwater Beach, FL 33767

Room Rate (does not include tax or gratuity): **\$224** per room, per night (double, triple or quad occupancy). There are a limited number of rooms available at this rate.

For hotel reservations, call 727-595-1611.

Deadline is May 26, 2025

To book your room, use this link: [Book your 2025 Hotel Reservation NOW!](#)

Conference Highlights

Thursday, June 26

- 6:00 p.m. **Opening Ceremony**
- 6:30 p.m. **Registration & Exhibits Open**
- 8:00 p.m. **First-Timer Orientation**

Saturday, June 28

- 7:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. **Registration**
- 8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. **General Session / Keynote: Jerletha McDonald**
"The Becoming of Family Child Care: Through Evolution, Elevation, and Innovation"
- 10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. **Concurrent Workshops**
- 1:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. **Concilio Latino** - Expresen sus preocupaciones y compartan sus ideas
- 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. **Closing Session Keynote: Dr. Kimberly Johnson / Prizes & Evaluations**
"Educators and Advocates As Everyday C.O.A.C.H.E.S."
- 8:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. **Provider Celebration with DJ-D1**
Everyone is welcome to attend! Refreshments sponsored by Sheraton Sand Key Resort.

Sunday, June 29

- 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. **Complimentary Breakfast / Annual General Meeting / Keynote: Eboni Delany / "We are Family Child Care" Documentary with Christina and Tarris Brown / Full Board Installation / Prizes**

"Mind" Sponsors

as of 02/20/25

Wendy Corso-Ruud
Kuddles & Kisses Family Child Care

BECOME A SPONSOR TODAY!

Please contact us to make a positive difference for children by selecting one of our "Mind Enhancement" Sponsorship Levels:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| • Curious Minds: \$250 | • Creative Minds: \$500 |
| • Caring Minds: \$1,000 | • Inquisitive Minds: \$1,500 |
| • Innovative Minds: \$2,500 | • Ultimate Minds: \$5,000 |

Call for [Exhibitors, Sponsors, Ads & Donations](#) or email info@familychildcare.org

We look forward to working together!



DJ-D1

Deshunn Cummings has 25 years of experience as a disc jockey and was voted Lee County's #1 most versatile DJ in 2021 and 2022. Be prepared for a night full of wonderful memories!

Upcoming Events

State Trainings and Full Board Meetings April 26, August 16, and November 2025. All members and guests are welcome. Training and meetings may be virtual or on location. Training Scholarships are available for FCC provider and co-provider members.

National Provider Appreciation Day May 9, 2025. For more information, visit www.providerappreciationday.org

NAFCC Annual Conference "Bigger, Better, Bolder: A New Legacy for FCC" July 31 - August 2, 2025. Dallas, Texas. For more information, visit <https://nafcc.org/conference/>

One Goal Summer Conference July 16-18, 2025. Tampa, FL. For more information, visit www.onegoalsummerconference.org

FLAEYC Annual Conference October 16-19, 2025. Orlando, FL. For more information, visit www.flaeyc.org

Continuing Education Units (CEU) are available for pre-conference training and workshops for an additional fee.

Please be considerate of trainings! Children under 16 years of age are NOT allowed in Workshops, Keynotes, Friday Luncheon, and/or Sunday Annual Meeting.



FFCCHA 33rd Annual Conference

Enhancing Our Minds... in 2025

Sheraton Sand Key Resort - 1160 Gulf Blvd. Clearwater Beach, FL 33767

Pre Conference June 25-26 | Conference June 27-29



For hotel reservations, call 727-595-1611 or use this link [FFCCHA Group Rate Hotel Reservations](#) Deadline is May 26, 2025

Registration Form (Please print)

Name: _____ Primary Language: _____ Secondary Language: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____ Email: _____

Is this your first FFCCHA conference? ☐ Yes ☐ No County: _____ FFCCHA Area #: _____

Family Child Care Provider (check all that apply) ☐ Registered ☐ Licensed ☐ Large Licensed ☐ VPK ☐ NAFCC Accredited ☐ NAFCC Observer
☐ EHS (Early Head Start) ☐ Director Credential ☐ College Degree ☐ CDA

Scholarships toward conference registration are available to Florida provider and co-provider members who volunteer.

Apply for Conference Volunteer Scholarship by April 30!

Pre-Conference Training - June 25-26, 2025

Wednesday, June 25, 2025	8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> ME! Mentoring Essentials * Part 1	\$210	
	10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> Family Child Care CEO: Changing & Defining Your Own Narrative	\$215	
Thursday, June 26, 2025	8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> ME! Mentoring Essentials * Part 2	—	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Author Study, Storytime & Activities based on Mo Willems Work	\$105	
	10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> Strategies for Sensory, Behavioral & Academic Success	\$145	
	1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> Creating a Responsive Classroom with Leo Leonni's Picture Books	\$105	
* To become a Certified Mentor, you must attend both sessions and submit a pre-qualifying application.			Pre-Conference Total	

Conference - June 27-29, 2025

DESCRIPTION	FFCCHA Members	Non-Members	Purchase
<input type="checkbox"/> Three Day Conference Registration (includes Thursday Night, Exhibit Hall, all day Friday with Luncheon, all day Saturday with DJ Night, and Sunday Keynote with Continental Breakfast)	\$225	\$265	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hostess/Volunteer Scholarship Registration (must have submitted application by April 30)	\$70	—	
<input type="checkbox"/> NAFCC Individual Membership (Save \$5.00 through FFCCHA)	\$40	\$45	
FFCCHA Membership: <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	Type of Membership: <input type="checkbox"/> Individual FCC Provider (\$40) <input type="checkbox"/> Advocate (\$15) <input type="checkbox"/> Agency (\$55) <input type="checkbox"/> Parent (\$10)		
Additional Friday Luncheon Guest Ticket (must be <u>purchased</u> by June 6, 2025)	\$55 per person	\$55 per person	
Guest Name(s): _____			
Conference Total			
Total Due (Pre-Conference Total + Conference Total)			

Credit card payment available on our website: www.familychildcare.org

No refunds - Make check payable to FFCCHA.

All onsite registrations will be an additional \$30. Returned checks are assessed a \$47 fee.

For registration questions, please call 386-689-3046 or email registration@familychildcare.org

Mail completed registration to: FFCCHA - 1859 Mango Tree Dr - Edgewater, FL 32141

DEADLINE: MAY 26, 2025 (after this date, you must register online)

EARLY BIRD
DEADLINE
MAY 26!

**Florida Family Child Care
Home Association, Inc.**
9207 Edgemont Lane
Boca Raton, FL 33434



**2025 Conference
Registration &
Information
Enclosed**

www.familychildcare.org

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JACKSONVILLE, FL



Your child's photo could be
in the heart next year!
Visit our website for the
Parent Sponsor entry form!

**[https://familychildcare.org/product/
photo-contest](https://familychildcare.org/product/photo-contest)**

Enhancing Our Minds ... in 2025