

THE GRAPEVINE

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Florida Family Child Care Home Association

Volume 33: Issue 3

Splish, Splash... Promote Good Health!

Summer 2025

President's Message:

For those of you who do not know me, allow me to introduce myself! I am Gertrude Freeman Ford, the newest president of FFCCHA, and it is my true honor to serve this Association that I have been a part of for over 10 years. I am so very grateful for the legacy we have built together. As the president, I hope to build upon the existing work of those who have gone before us, while setting and establishing new exciting visions for the future. The previous leaders worked hard to bring our association to its current state, and now we will move forward to build upon and grow their foundation.



Let me emphasize something that I feel is extremely important for this growth. The act of us working in collaboration and cooperation is the key as we, the board, staff and members of this Association, strive TOGETHER to achieve shared goals while we amplify our impact statewide.

We must take pride in all that we have achieved and focus on goals for future successes. Your ideas and input are very valuable to us, so please feel free to let us know what programs or goals that you would like to implement within the Association that would benefit your local association and the community you serve. Although this is still early, as I take over, I challenge you to start looking for your future leaders, prospects who will follow through with intentionality and commitment.

I congratulate all the newest officers on the state and local associations. Your commitment to yourself and others is much appreciated... WE SEE YOU and how hard you're working. Keep it up! Contact us for whatever you need, as we are here for YOU!

Sincerely,

Gertrude Freeman-Ford
FFCCHA President

Mensaje de Nuestra Presidente:

Saludos.. ¡Para quienes no me conocen, permítanme presentarme! Mi nombre es Gertrude Freeman Ford, la nueva presidenta de FFCCHA, y es un verdadero honor para mí servir a esta Asociación de la que he sido parte durante más de 10 años. Estoy profundamente agradecida por el legado que hemos construido juntos. Como presidenta, espero poder continuar y fortalecer el trabajo ya realizado por quienes nos precedieron, al mismo tiempo que establezco nuevas y emocionantes visiones para el futuro.



Los líderes anteriores trabajaron arduamente para llevar nuestra asociación al lugar en el que se encuentra hoy, y ahora nos corresponde avanzar, construir y hacer crecer esa base sólida.

Permítanme enfatizar algo que considero sumamente importante para este crecimiento: la colaboración y cooperación entre nosotros es la clave. Como junta directiva, personal y miembros de esta Asociación, debemos esforzarnos JUNTOS para alcanzar metas compartidas y ampliar nuestro impacto a nivel estatal.

Debemos sentirnos orgullosos de todo lo que hemos logrado y mantenernos enfocados en los objetivos que nos llevarán a futuros éxitos. Sus ideas y aportes son muy valiosos para nosotros, así que no duden en hacernos saber qué programas u objetivos les gustaría implementar dentro de la Asociación que beneficien tanto a su asociación local como a la comunidad a la que sirven. Aunque aún estamos en una etapa inicial de esta nueva etapa, los animo a comenzar a identificar a sus futuros líderes, personas con el compromiso y la intención de continuar este importante trabajo.

Felicitó a todos los nuevos funcionarios de las asociaciones estatales y locales. Su compromiso con ustedes mismos y con los demás es muy apreciado... VEMOS y reconocemos el gran esfuerzo que están realizando. ¡Sigán así! No duden en contactarnos para lo que necesiten, estamos aquí para USTEDES!

Con gratitud,
Gertrude Freeman-Ford, 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**

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 18 (\$10,535) Scholarships were awarded April 1 - June 30, 2025

NAFCC Self Study: Carolyn McElfresh, Latarsha Richardson, Charmaine Scott-Lewis, Veronica Streets, Lakisheia Womble

New Accreditation: Valeria Cummings

NAFCC Re-Accreditation: Rubia Arias, Maria Carrillo, Robin Dean, Andrea Frith, Dell Ann Jamieson, Mary Morris, Rhonda Noel, Gladys Reyes, Carol Ryder, Lisa Williams, Elizabeth Stamp, Neomi Thompson

New requirement for Self-Study scholarships: Family Child Care Educators in Self Study will be required to work with one of our Certified Mentors or staff. They will help you through the Self Study phase so you will be successful.

New funds will be available July 1st.

FFCCHA now pays the full fee of each credential scholarship!

When applying for a scholarship, make sure you thoroughly read the scholarship 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

**June Meeting News**

Submitted by Wendy Corso-Ruud, Secretary

Sunday, June 30, on the final day of our conference, we welcomed a wonderful guest panel of speakers with Christina and Quiana Brown, and Eboni Delaney.

Afterwards, we held our FFCCHA General meeting.

All committees gave reports and first-timers to our conference were recognized. Professional Development and the plans to bring this association to a new level were discussed. The following motions were made: to add an Expulsion Clause to the Bylaws; and to accept the Board's recommendation for Lisa Dupree as Area Rep to Palm Beach County. After discussions, all Motions carried. We welcomed Mary Morris as Area Rep Coordinator.

Volunteers were thanked immensely, our next conference is in Orlando, The Bainum Family Foundation is sending 20 delegates to the National Conference in Dallas. **HUGE THANKS!!** The New Board Installation was held, and those who paved the way over the years were recognized with Service Awards.



NAFCC Conference in CHICAGO, IL
 July 16th - July 18th, 2026
www.nafcc.org



NAFCC is coming to Jacksonville, FL !
 July 14 - July 17, 2027

Events Calendar 2025

September 2025 - July 2026

September

TBA FFCCHA Virtual training

October

16-19 FLAEEYC conference, Omni Hotel, Orlando, FL
 17 Hotel Deadline for group rate for FFCCHA Leadership Summit on Nov 8
 24-26 EC Leadership Training, Location TBA

November

8 FFCCHA Leadership Summit & Full Board Mtg, Kissimmee
 17 Deadline for January FFCCHA newsletter
 19-22 NAEYC Conference, Orlando, FL

December

Apply NOW for FFCCHA Board Positions and Even number Area Reps to start in July 2026: Chapter Rep Coordinator, Fundraising, etc.

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**January 2026**

13 Florida Legislative Session starts
 25 Deadline for Conference workshop proposals
 TBA FFCCHA Virtual training / Training

February

TBA FFCCHA Virtual training
 17 Deadline for April FFCCHA newsletter
 22-27 Children's Week, Tallahassee

March

TBA FFCCHA Virtual training
 13 Florida Legislative Session ends

April

TBA FFCCHA Training and Full Board Meeting
 30 Deadline for Volunteer Scholarships

May

5 Deadline for Conference 2027 Photo contest
 8 National Child Care Provider Appreciation Day
 17 Deadline for July FFCCHA newsletter
 24 Early Bird Deadline for conference registration

June

1 Deadline for conference hotel group rate
 24-28 FFCCHA Conference, Kissimmee

July

8-10 One Goal Summer Conference, Tampa
 16-18 NAFCC Conference, Chicago, IL

**Summer Membership News**

Kissha Ballard, Membership / Joselly 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!!**

Palm Beach County FCC Association (April)

Heart to Heart Child Care Association (May)

Central Florida Association of FCC (June)

Multicultural FCCH Association of Orange County (July)

We hope you are enjoying the **Joint platform** and finding it useful! We encourage you to take some time to log into your membership account and explore all of its features. Please take a moment to review and update your profile, ensuring that your phone number, address, and date of birth are current and accurate. Keeping this information up-to-date helps us stay connected with you and provide the best possible service.

Since late March 2025, FFCCHA has been sending members (from our new **Joint platform**) information via emails using Constant Contact.

Please check your inbox for colorful emails from info@familychildcare.org. **IF** you are not finding them, check your spam mail to see if it went there. Also, let us know if you are not getting them, maybe your email is not listed correctly.

This month, we will be sending you an anonymous survey to help us evaluate our services and gather your valuable feedback. Your participation is greatly appreciated and will help us continue to serve you better.

Thank you for your continued membership and support. We're grateful to have you as part of our community! Contact me for technical issues.

Joselly, Operations Manager
operationmanager@familychildcare.org

And if you have any other membership questions, you can contact me at (407) 616-5082 or membership@familychildcare.org.
 Kissha Ballard
 Membership Chair



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®

TALK OF THE TOWN

AREA 21 - Tampa

Renee Graham



Renee is the mother of two; a daughter who is a 35 year old Registered Nurse for 10 years, and a son who at 33 is a Military Recruiting Officer for the National Guard for 14 years. She has one granddaughter who is 10 years old, and the love of Renee's life.

Renee loves working with children and from early on, had always done babysitting jobs. She says being able to teach the little ones brings joy to her life as she watches them grow and learn.

She has been a licensed Family Child Care Provider for 27 years, who considers herself someone who loves learning and teaching while working with all types of children. She takes classes to be able to work with different children, and she helps their parents work on issues at home when they have them.

Renee doesn't just focus on one thing she likes, she helps where and when needed. Her hobbies included working in her yard planting flowers and watching them grow up beautifully.

She is the FFCCHA Area Rep for Hillsborough County in Area 21 and has earned her CDA, as well as being Nationally Accredited with her Gold Seal. She is an Observer for Accreditation, as well as a Mentor.

Renee loves what she does, not only working with children, but also with providers when they need help. All in all, she really, really loves to help people.

Please submit a "Talk of the Town" article about someone special from Areas 24 - 31. Submissions must be submitted by August 17, 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!!

Sending out a great big thank you to all who contributed items for raffle prizes as well as items to sell for the Green Table at our Conference this past June. T-Shirt sales brought in \$120, door prizes \$385, Green Table sales \$285, and the 50/50, for a total of nearly \$1,000! That's amazing and so are YOU!!



Remember to always put aside your CLEAN and gently used items, child care supplies and home goods as these goodies will be at our next in-person meeting. These "Green Table" items help raise money for scholarships.

If you can, please give back in other ways, such as donating gift cards or door prizes (with values over \$25 each).

Until we see each other again, 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! Fue un placer conocerlos durante la Conferencia Anual de este año. ¡Tuvimos el honor de recibir a cuatro proveedoras latinas que asistieron por primera vez!

Durante el Concilio Latino, creamos un grupo de WhatsApp para mantenemos conectadas, compartir recursos y apoyarnos mutuamente. Pueden unirse escaneando el código QR a continuación.

Aunque ya no soy el Latino Liaison oficial, sigo aquí para apoyarlas en todo lo que necesiten. Disfruto mucho tomarme el tiempo para visitar sus hogares y conocerlas a un nivel más personal. Por favor, no duden en enviarme un mensaje de texto al (407) 978-2131.

Además, estamos buscando a alguien apasionada por nuestra industria y con interés en apoyar a las proveedoras latino/as en todo el estado. Si estás interesado o conoces a alguien que pueda estarlo, ¡contáctanos!

FFCCHA Proveedores Latinos
WhatsApp group



BIG THANKS TO OUR 2025 FFCCHA CONFERENCE VOLUNTEERS

Lyria Allen
Dr. A. Perla Almodovar
Adria Atkins
Alybe Aurioles
Kissha Ballard
Rendy Bethel-Avila
Abbie Bill
Rosha Bryant
Alberto Carrillo
Ariel Carrillo
Maria Carrillo
Jo Ann Carswell
Charlie Mae Cason
Milani Chadwick
Cynthia Chipp
Wendy Corso-Ruud
Valeria Cummings
Deborah Danzy
Mildred Davis
Lisa Dupree
Cynthia Durr
Morgan Durr
Yolanda Evans
Aleta Ford
Andrea Frith
Alba Gomez
Shirley "Lynn" Gibson

Renee Graham
Nichola Griffiths-Butts
Kristi J Hatfield-Day
Karan Hiester
Constance M Hutchinson
Teliska Jackson-Wolliston
William Richards
Kathy Jones
Renee Jones
Sheretta Joseph
Monique Joy
Alphonso "Al" Kendrick
Lois Kendrick
Syreeta Kerse
Terrica Lashley
Magdelyn Liranzo
Yieshia Logan
Yolanda Marentes
Tara McClinton
Winglade McHayle
Nilza Melecio
Shajunia Miller
Stephanie Minus
Sonji Mitchell
Shamika Moore
Nicole Moreno
Alybe Moreno Aurioles

Geraldo Moreno Calles
Gerardo Moreno Taborda
Mary Morris
Zipporah Morris
Aniaya Motley-Harris
Rhonda Noel
Lula Owens
Jessica Pardo Moreno-Aurioles
Maria Papallo
Linabel Pennyfeather
Marcia Pinnock
Luz Quiroz
Gladys Reyes
Jennifer Richards
William Richards
Latarsha Richardson
Shannon Richardson
Dorene "Renie" Roach
Dairelis Rodriquez
Tamika Rutledge
Stephanie Searles
Beth Sickles
Kiuwana Shipman
Sharon Singleton
Vivene Smith
Sherrl D Stewart
Liseth Taborda

Eddie Taylor
Olga Teran
Tammy Tener
Ortega Thomas
Jacqueline Volcy
Amanda Wallace
Linabel Warner
Shandra Warner
Shamara Washington
Margorie Wheeler
Nicola Wheeler
Corine Williams
Danish Williams
Patricia Williams
Wanda Williams-Roberts
Gwen Wilson
Myrna Wright
Michael Wright
Sylvia Wright-Castillo



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

Legislative News

We are excited to announce that **Children's Week Florida** will be held February 22-27, 2026, in Tallahassee, FL!

Mark your calendars now for a special week of educational events, networking activities, and advocacy opportunities that you won't want to miss. This year's theme, **Building Blocks for Every Child**, reflects a shared commitment to creating strong

foundations for all of Florida's children. We hope you will join us in #BuildingTheFuture for Florida's young children and teens.

Stay tuned for event details, upcoming announcements, and ways to get involved during Children's Week including, Celebration of the Hands, our annual Chiles, Impact, and Youth Advocacy Awards, and Partnership Opportunities. We encourage you to share this message with your friends, colleagues, and other interested children's advocates. You can help spread the word about Children's Week Florida and the important message that ...

#EveryChildMatters.

SAVE THE DATE

FEBRUARY 22-27, 2026



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 Summer 2025

Abbie Bill -- MENTOR Program Chair

Congratulations to the following providers who attended the **ME! Mentoring Essentials and Certification** at our June conference: Wanda Williams-Roberts, Karen Robinson, Tamika Rutledge, Stephanie Searles, Renee Graham, Ortega Thomas, Lisa Dupree, and Valeria Cummings. Thanks to Lisa Dupree who has already turned in her mentoring paperwork!

All family child educators: 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 Educator 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.

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



Chapter Rep News

Angela-Perla Almodovar, Chapter Rep Coordinator



Congratulations!

Charlene Thornton
Chapter Rep of the Quarter
from North Florida FCC

The Importance of Following the Chapter Bylaws

Following the Family Child Care Association/Chapter Bylaws is essential to ensure the organization operates with fairness, transparency, and integrity.

The Bylaws serve as the official framework that guides decision-making, leadership responsibilities, and member participation, helping to prevent misunderstandings and conflicts. By adhering to these rules, the association maintains consistency in its operations, protects the rights of all members, and upholds the credibility of its leadership.

Compliance with the Bylaws also fosters trust among members, strengthens teamwork, and ensures the association remains focused on its mission to support and advocate for family childcare educators.

Remember to renew your membership online.

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



Area Rep News

Jennifer Richards, Area Rep Coordinator

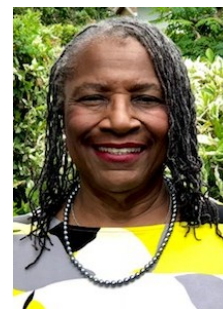
Congratulations!



Cynthia Durr
Area Rep of the YEAR
from Putnam County FCC Association

Thank you for your dedication to Family Child Care!

I would love to ask all of you to send out a **BIG WELCOME** to your new FFCCHA Area Rep Coordinator, **Mary Morris, from Palm Beach County**. She has been very busy with meetings, phone calls, emails, and introducing herself to all the Area Reps.



We'd like to thank all Area Reps for doing an excellent job in building positive relationships in their local areas. Area Reps promote FFCCHA by hosting Meet and Greets to educate non-members providers and community leaders about the mission and vision of our state association. All Area Reps should sign up to serve on FFCCHA committees, so please join one.

We are currently **looking for Area Reps** for areas: **1, 3, 4, 6, 11, 12, 14, 15, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 30, 31**. Area rep positions are for 2 years. 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 Mary at (561)832-0472 or email areacoordinator@familychildcare.org.



FFCCHA Credential Scholarship Application

July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026



Requirements: Must be a Florida Licensed Family Child Care Home,

FFCCHA Educator or Chapter Member, and NAFCC Member (included with FFCCHA Premium Membership).

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

- ☐ NAFCC Accreditation Quality Ambassador Certified Trainer
☐ NAFCC Accreditation Observer Training ☐ NAFCC Re-Accreditation: Application
☐ NAFCC New Accreditation: Self Study (*includes Mentoring sessions assigned by FFCCHA*)
☐ NAFCC New Accreditation: Application ☐ NAFCC Accreditation: 18-month Update

Note: \$950/person/year is the maximum awarded in time period July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026.

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 7-2025



Hurricane Season is officially underway, and the Department of Children and Families is encouraging you to stay 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 look over 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 keep you and your family safe!

HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT THIS ONLINE COURSE!?

Want to avoid the most common violations?

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

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



FL Child-to-Adult Ratios for Child Care

Florida Family Child Care Home Association | www.familychildcare.org



Registered and Licensed FCC Homes* – Effective 1/1/97

Ratio clarification chart is on left. The Florida law (Chapter 402) in boxes on right for **both** registered and licensed FCC homes. Provider's own children are included in the count (0-12yrs).

*Licensing Required in 15 Counties: Brevard, Broward, Clay, Duval, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Miami-Dade, Nassau, Palm Beach, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Sarasota, and St. John's. (*Palm Beach and Pinellas counties each have their own separate ratio rules*).

INFANT (0-11 MOS.)	PRESCHOOL (12 MOS.-5 YRS+)	SCHOOL AGE (IN K & OLDER)	TOTAL
4	0	0	4
3	3	0	6
3	2	1	6
3	1	2	6
3	0	3	6
2	4	0	6
1	5	0	6
0	6	0	6
2	3	5	10
2	2	6	10
2	1	7	10
2	0	8	10
1	4	5	10
1	3	6	10
1	2	7	10
1	1	8	10
1	0	9	10
0	5	5	10
0	4	6	10
0	3	7	10
0	2	8	10
0	1	9	10
0	0	10	10

a) A maximum of four children from birth to 12 months of age

b) A maximum of three children from birth to 12 months of age, and other children, for a maximum total of six children

c) A maximum of six preschool children if all are older than 12 months of age

d) A maximum of 10 children if no more than five are preschool age and, of those five, no more than two are under 12 months

A provider can meet only one category (a, b, c, or d) at a time. However, he/she is not limited to one category on the registration or license and may change to a different category at various times throughout the day or week.

VPK Ratio in FCC Homes – Effective Fall 2005

VPK 1:6 (minimum of 4 children 4yrs old by Sept.1)

VPK Programs in FCC homes must be licensed and be approved by their local Early Learning Coalition. Providers must meet VPK instructor requirements and hold an active VPK Director Credential.

Large Family Child Care Homes – Effective 1/1/00

Ratios are for licensed large FCC homes with 2 providers present (one must have a staff credential - CDA or FCCPC) caring for the children. The providers own children are included in the count (0-12 years).

INFANTS & TODDLERS (0-23 MONTHS)	PRESCHOOL & SCHOOL-AGE (24 MONTHS AND OLDER)	TOTAL
8	0	8
7	1	8
6	2	8
5	3	8
4	8	12
3	9	12
2	10	12
1	11	12
0	12	12

a) A maximum of 8 children from birth to 24 months of age

b) A maximum of 12 children, with no more than 4 children under 24 months of age

VPK ratio in Large FCC Homes 2:12
(minimum of 4 children 4yrs old by Sept.1)

Child Care Centers - Staff to Child Ratio

0-11 mos. 1:4 **3 years 1:15** **VPK 1:11 or 2:20**
1 year 1:6 **4 years 1:20** (effective fall 2011)
2 years 1:11 **5 years & older 1:25**

402.305 (4)(a)(7) When children 2 years of age and older are in care, the staff-to-child ratio shall be based on the age group with the largest number of children within the group.

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

Executive Committee of Board = 9	Name	City	Zip	Phone	Email
President	Gertrude Freeman-Ford	Cocoa	32926	321-890-8366	president@familychildcare.org
Vice President	Jennifer Richards	Daytona Beach	32114	386-846-9567	vicepresident@familychildcare.org
Secretary	Wendy Corso-Ruud	Boca Raton	33431	561-715-1361	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	Mary Morris	W Palm Beach	33409	561-832-0472	areacoordinator@familychildcare.org
Chapter Coordinator	Angela "Perla" Almodovar	Doral	33178	305-321-6735	chaptercoordinator@familychildcare.org
Latino Liaison	Open - Apply Now!				latinoliason@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

Interested in serving on the Executive Committee? Contact nominations@familychildcare.org OR 407-452-2967

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	Lisa Dupree	Riviera Beach	33404	561-574-0154 ladyd0316@yahoo.com

Interested in serving as an Area Representative for your county? Contact arearepcoordinator@familychildcare.org OR 305-321-6735

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	Lalyreyes252@yahoo.com

Interested in joining a chapter near you? <https://familychildcare.org/join-us>

Florida Family Child Care Home Association, Inc. — July 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

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Apply NOW for Current Vacant AREA REP Positions:

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Submit Area Rep applications to: areacoordinator@familychildcare.org

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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

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2025 Award Honorees

Provider Hall of Fame: **Renie Roach**

Advocate Hall of Fame: **Maryann "Mar." Harman** (Music with Mar.)

Outstanding NAFCC Accredited Home: **Stephanie Searles**

Heart Award: **Mary Morris**

Volunteer of the Year: **Jennifer Richards**

Officer of the Year: **Arleen Lambert-Simons**

Advocate of the Year: **Tasheba Berry**

Outstanding Teamwork: **Angela-Perla Almodovar**

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

Parent Choice Awards: **Gwen Wilson** (Monroe), Parent Choice: **Mary Morris** (Palm Beach)
and **Wendy Corso-Ruud** (Palm Beach)

Parent Choice Honorable Mention: **Yolanda Evans, Talisha Ghansiam, Sheretta Joseph, Lois Kendrick, Winglade McHyle, Maria Papallo, LaTonya Richardson, Tamika Rutledge, Stephanie Searles, Joyce Wilson, Patricia Williams**

Outstanding FFCCHA Chapter: **Multicultural Family Child Care Association of Orange County** (Orange)

Chapter Rep of the Year: **Stephanie Minus**

Area Rep of the Year: **Cynthia Durr**

Agency Helping Associations Prosper: **The Children's Movement of Florida**

Ultimate Provider Sponsor: **ELC of Orange County**

Top Provider Sponsor: **ELC of Duval**

Outstanding Provider Sponsor: **ELC of the Big Bend Region**

Service Awards

Vice President 2023 - 2025 **Gertrude Freeman Ford**

Area Rep Coordinator 2023-2025 **Jennifer Richards**

SPECIAL THANKS to our KEYNOTES

Jerletha McDonald, Courtney Smith, Dr Kimberly P Johnson, Eboni Delaney, Cari Miller, Christina Brown, Quiara Brown, Marica Cox Mitchell

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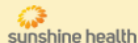
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Tameka Harris
(407) 446-9379
tgale@alwaystruthincorporated.com

Avaden LLC (Splash20)

David Ertur
(954) 649-6116
david.ertur@avadenproducts.com

Children's Forum TEACH/WAGES

Kiki Peters
(888) FL-CHILD
kpeters@TheChildrensForum.com
www.TheChildrensForum.com

Citizens Commission on Human Rights

Dakota Egloff
(727) 244-5114
exedir@cchrflorida.org

Early Education Link

Aleen Lambert-Simons
(305) 793-4011
aleenlambert@gmail.com
www.earlyeducationlink.org

Eckerd Early Head Start

Carlita Miller
(813) 225-1105
cmiller@eckerd.org

FDCl - Florida Day Care Insurance

Matt Ostrander, President
(407) 496-0053
matt@OstranderRisk.com
www.FDClNS.com

FFCCHA - Fundraising

Danish Williams
danishwilliams@hotmail.com
www.familychildcare.org

FFCCHA - Certified M.E.N.T.O.R Program

Lois Kendrick
(561) 445-7333
info@familychildcare.org
www.familychildcare.org

Flamingo Early Learning, Lastinger Center, University of Florida

Rebecca Gonzalez
(787) 547-4011
rebecca.gonzalez@coe.ufl.edu
<https://lastinger.center.ufl.edu/>

Florida Alliance of Children's Councils & Trusts / Florida Grade-Level Reading Campaign

Jenn Faber
(239) 565-6217
jfaber@faccct.com
FACCCT.com / FloridaGLR.net

Florida Association for the Education of Young Children (FLAEYC)

Wendy Occhipinti
(609) 306-3004
wendyo@flaeyc.org

Jennifer Latterel, Member Engagement Specialist
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jenniferl@flaeyc.org
www.flaeYC.org

Fun Science

Andrea Alexander
(404) 579-8030
funscience@mindspring.com

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Kenricia Mercer
(813) 414-6623
kenricia.mercer@gtefinancial.org

Miracle Renew LLC

Ekaterina Chalyuk
(352) 614-2830
miraclerenewllc@gmail.com

Music with Mar.

Maryann "Mar." Harman
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mar@musicwithmar.com
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www.childrensmovementflorida.org

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- ♦ Wendy Corso-Ruud - OSDIA Bonanno Lodge, Grand Lodge of Florida

Thank you ❤️

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Registration & Volunteer Intake, Registration Help Desk: **Wendy Corso-Ruud**

Pre-Conference: **Jennifer Richards**

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Provider Celebration/Decorations: **Gertrude Freeman Ford**

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Latino Assistants: **Sarai and Mayra Marquez**

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Parent Sponsors: **Patricia Williams**

Sunday Meeting: **Arleen Lambert**

Hostess Volunteers: **Angela-Perla Almodovar**



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| ◆ Miriam Aguilar - miriamaguilar@sbcglobal.net | ◆ Keshia Jenkins - kj21h@fsu.edu | ◆ La Tonya Richardson - connect2successconsulting@gmail.com |
| ◆ Keri Anderson - keri.anderson@branaghgroup.com | ◆ Dr. Kimberly Johnson - everydaycoaches@gmail.com | ◆ Ana Roa - Ana.Roa@del.fldoe.org |
| ◆ Bisa Batten Lewis - bisal@cdacouncil.org | ◆ Cedric Joseph - alirasolutions@gmail.com | ◆ Cynthia Robinson-Brown - robinsontrainingconsultant@yahoo.com |
| ◆ Tasheba Berry - info@tashebaberry.com | ◆ Aimee Kowalczyk - aimee.kowalczyk@del.fldoe.org | ◆ Dairelis Rodriguez - daireilslacubana@aol.com |
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FFCCHA Annual Conference 2025 in Pictures



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Wednesday-Thursday Pre-Conference

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Friday Luncheon Keynote

with FFCCHA Awards and Workshops

2 Saturday Keynotes

Concilio Latino y Talleres en Español

Sunday Keynote

with FFCCHA General Meeting

Visit www.familychildcare.org for more conference updates!





Florida Family Child Care Home Association, Inc.

9207 Edgemont Lane, Boca Raton, FL 33434
info@familychildcare.org
954-581-1192



Future Conferences



NAFCC Conference *is coming to Florida in 2027!*

July 14 -17, 2027
Jacksonville, FL
www.nafcc.org



FFCCHA: Enhancing Our Minds...in 2028

June 21-25, 2028
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FFCCHA: Enhancing Our Minds...in 2029

June 20-24, 2029
TBA, FL

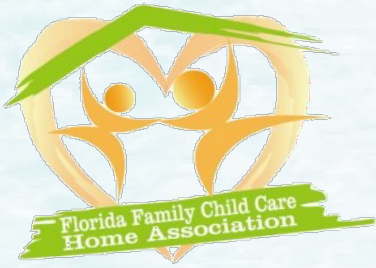
Need more information on HOW to ENHANCE Minds?

Karan Hiester, Conference Coordinator via email: conference@familychildcare.org or call 386-689-3046
Tammy Tener, FFCCHA Executive Director via e-mail: tenerfcc@gmail.com or call 407-234-3473

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