

THE GRAPEVINE

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Florida Family Child Care Home Association

Volume 34: Issue 2

Spring a ding-ding!!

April 2026

President's Message:

Attitude of Gratitude

As we continue to move forward in 2026, let us carry with us three powerful words: **Attitude of Gratitude**. Our words have power. When we intentionally choose gratitude, we shift our mindset to recognize, appreciate, and express thankfulness for the positive moments and meaningful experiences in our lives.

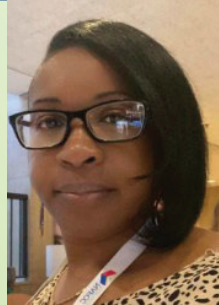
As Educators in your Family Child Care businesses, you play a crucial role in the early development and education of young children. You are the foundation of early childhood education—nurturing, guiding, teaching, and inspiring every single day. Please remember to pause and clap for yourself. The dedication, patience, and love you pour into your work matter more than you know. The work you do does not go unnoticed.

FFCCHA has many resources available to support you in this important work. We encourage you to read the newsletter for key updates, visit the website for helpful tools and information, and reach out to any member of our team. We are here to assist you, uplift you, and stand beside you every step of the way.

Let us move forward together—with purpose, passion, and always with an ...

Attitude of Gratitude.

Sincerely,
Gertrude Freeman Ford
FFCCHA President



Mensaje de Nuestra Presidente:

Actitud de Gratiud

Continuando a movernos adelante en el 2026, vamos a cargar con nosotros estas tres palabras poderosas: **Actitud de Gratiud**. Nuestras palabras tienen poder. Cuando nosotros intencionalmente elegimos gratitud, cambiamos nuestra mentalidad a reconocer, apreciar, y expresar gratitud para los momentos positivos y experiencias que generan mucho sentimiento en nuestras vidas.

Como Educadoras en su negocio de cuidado infantil familiar, ustedes juegan un papel crucial en el desarrollo temprano y educación de niños infantiles. Usted es la fundación de educación de temprana edad - cuidando, guiando, enseñando, e inspirando todos los días. Por favor, recuerde tomar una pausa y aplaudirse a usted mismo/a. La dedicación, paciencia, y amor usted pone en su trabajo importa más de lo que te imaginas. El trabajo que usted hace no pasa desapercibido.

FFCCHA tiene varios recursos disponibles para apoyarte en este trabajo importante. Los animamos a leer la hoja informativa para actualizaciones, visite la página de web para herramientas e información útil, y comuníquese con cualquier miembro de nuestro equipo. Estamos aquí para asistirle, animarle, y acompañarte en cada paso del camino.

Sigamos adelante juntos con propósito, pasión, y siempre con un...

Actitud de Gratiud.

Atentamente,
Gertrude Freeman Ford
FFCCHA Presidente

Save the Date!
Enhancing Our Minds... in 2026
FFCCHA Annual Conference
June 24-28, 2026



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



In this Issue...

Page Contents

| | |
|-------|--|
| 1 | Cover Page - President's Message / Mensaje de la Presidente |
| 2 | Credential News / Meeting News / Members of Boards/Councils |
| 3 | Calendar / Membership News / FB |
| 4 | FFCCHA Training - April 25 Ocala, FL |
| 5 | Talk of the Town / Fundraising / NAFCC Prof Development |
| 6 | FFCCHA Members at Events - Multicultural FCC Association |
| 7 | Public Relations News / Mentor News Chapter Rep / Area Rep News |
| 8 | FFCCHA Credential Scholarship Application |
| 9 | Trainings Coming Up / Parent Sponsor Contest / NAFCC Save the Date |
| 10 | Executive Board List / Area Reps |
| 11 | Committee Chairs / Open Positions / Staff / 2026 Conference Hotel Link |
| 12 | TEACH Ad / Advocacy & Policy Update / Children's Week Photos |
| 13 | FFCCHA Training - Zoom May 6 |
| 14 | FFCCHA Conference 2026 Call for Exhibitors / Ads / Sponsors |
| 15 | Call for FFCCHA Volunteers (English) |
| 16 | Call for FFCCHA Volunteers (Español) |
| 17-20 | FFCCHA 2026 Conference Brochure |



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, Arleen Lambert - 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
- Zipporah Morris Scott- Children's Services Council Resident Advisory Committee; Council of Professional Recognition CDA Subject Matter Expert

Credential Scholarship Spring News

By Abbie Bill, Scholarship Coordinator

A Total of 22 (\$9,980) Scholarships were Awarded Jan 1, 2026 - Mar 31, 2026

SELF STUDY @\$385: Cynesia Boykins.
NAFCC New Accreditation @\$615: Diane Calero, Veronica Streets.
NAFCC 18 Month Update @\$200: Cathy Curry, Tonia Hammond, Sandra Mathews, Maria Papallo, LaTonya Richardson, Leanette Simmons, Vivene Smith, Angela Thompson.
NAFCC Reaccreditation: @\$615: Lorraine Abrahams, Lyria Allen. Karla Bell, Gwen Carr, Lisa Christoph, Cathy Curry, Tamara Castellanos, Andrea Grace, Jonette Lewis, Judy Morris, Mary Morris, and Karen Robinson.
 FFCCHA awarded Scholarships from our Bainum Family Foundation funds.

New! NAFCC has accredited providers with the map of the US listed on their accreditation page. There is also a listing by state and county. On the NAFCC website go to Accreditation > find an accredited provider.

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.

Funds are available NOW!

FFCCHA 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! On page 8 of this issue of The Grapevine or online. Questions? Contact me at 561-445-7333 or

aright933@aol.com or CredentialChair@familychildcare.org



January Meeting/Training News

The **AI (Artificial Intelligence) Basics for Family Child Care (FCC) Educators** training was held virtually on January 31, 2026, from 9am til 11am, and was presented by Bill Hudson, Director and co-founder of the Family Child Care Alliance of Maryland.

This beginner-friendly workshop introduced FCC educators to AI (artificial intelligence) in plain language and showed how it can support day-to-day work—without replacing the relationships and professional expertise that make FCC programs special. Participants learned about what AI can and can't do, explored common tools for text, images, and video, and got a simple walkthrough of using ChatGPT for planning, communication, and problem-solving. Also covered was how to write effective prompts, demonstration of real FCC use cases (lesson ideas, documentation, newsletters, and policies). Safety, privacy, and ethical considerations was also discussed. The session closed with easy ways to stay current with AI without feeling overwhelmed. There were 44 attendees.

The training was followed by a virtual Full Board meeting at noon. Past minutes and reports were approved. New reports were presented by the board members and staff. Everyone was encouraged to attend the next training and meeting on April 25 in Ocala, as well as the Annual State Conference on June 24-28 in Kissimmee.

Meeting adjourned at 2:23pm



Events Calendar 2026

April 2026 - December 2026

***PLAN NOW** for the FFCCHA June 2026 conference –
 Make your hotel reservations!
 Hotel LINK is available on Page 11!

Apply NOW for FFCCHA Board Positions and Even number Area Reps to start in July 2026: Applications are available at www.familychildcare.org on the “Forms” page under Resources or contact:
Nomination Chair, Mayra Marquez
E-mail: MMlatinoliason@gmail.com
Or call 407-452-2967

April

- 11-17 *Week of the Young Child (WOYC)*
- 15 **FFCCHA Advocacy Power Hour 12:30**
- 25 **FFCCHA Training and Full Board Meeting**
 Staybridge Suites, Ocala, FL
 Hostess Orientation
- 30 **Deadline** - Conference Volunteer Scholarships

May

- 5 **Deadline** - Conference 2028 Photo Contest
- 6 **FFCCHA Virtual Training** (Wellness Wednesday)
- 8 *National Child Care Provider Appreciation Day*
- TBA *FFCCHA Conference Hostess / Volunteer Orientation*
- 17 **Deadline** - July FFCCHA Newsletter
- 20 **FFCCHA Advocacy Power Hour 12:30pm**
- 29 **Early Bird Deadline** for Conference Registration

June

- 1 **FINAL Deadline** - Conference Hotel group rate
- 17 **FFCCHA Advocacy Power Hour 12:30pm**
- 24-28 **FFCCHA Conference, Kissimmee**

July

- 8-10 *One Goal Summer Conference, Tampa*
- 15 **FFCCHA Advocacy Power Hour 12:30pm**
- 16-18 *NAFCC Conference, Chicago, IL*

August

- TBA *FFCCHA Full Board Meeting, Location*

September

- TBA *FFCCHA Full Board Leadership Training*

October

- 16-18 *FLAEYC Conference, Jacksonville, FL*

October or November

- TBA *FFCCHA Fall Leadership Summit*



Spring Membership News

Kissha Ballard, Membership / Joselly Santos

Congratulations to our Chapter Membership Drive Winners!

- Palm Beach County FCCA** (Jan)
- FCCPA of Miami-Dade County** (Feb)
- HCCPA of NE Hillsborough County** (Mar)

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

We're pleased to announce that it has been 1 year since 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, and 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

We value your voice and want to hear from you! Within the next couple of weeks, you'll receive a brief membership survey designed to help us better serve the FFCCHA community.

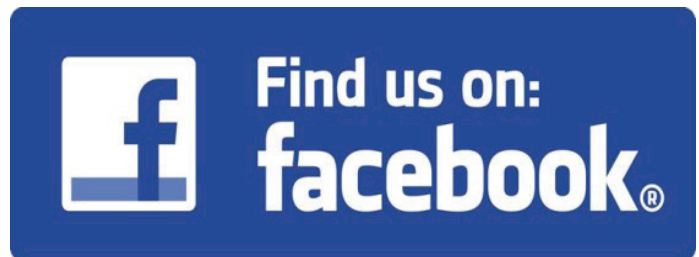


This is your opportunity to share how you're enjoying your association membership, what services or initiatives you'd like to see us offer, and give suggestions for how we can better support you and your business. The survey is completely anonymous, so please feel free to share your honest feedback and ideas. Your input is essential as we continue to grow and enhance the value we provide to our members. Keep an eye on your inbox—the survey link will arrive soon! Thank you for being part of our community. Questions? Call Kissha at (407) 616-5082 or membership@familychildcare.org.

We are up to 1100 Followers on our Facebook page!! WOOHOOO!!

www.facebook.com/FFCCHA

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





FFCCHA Professional Development
In-Person Training - Scholarship Application
Saturday, April 25, 2026
9:00 am to 11:00 am



Staybridge Suites
4627 NW Blitchton Road
Ocala, Florida 34482

Training Registration Fee: \$40 (\$30 scholarships available). LUNCH is included in the fee.
FFCCHA members Pay only \$10 (for FL licensed or registered providers or co-providers)

Sonny's BBQ options: Choose ONE MEAT: [] Smoked chicken [] Smoked turkey [] Pulled pork [] Sliced pork
Choose THREE sides: [] BBQ beans [] Coleslaw [] Mac n cheese [] Baked sweet potato [] Tossed Salad
OR [] Vegetarian option (select 4 sides)
Choose ONE bread: [] Cornbread [] Sandwich bread
Select ONE beverage: [] Lemonade [] Unsweetened tea [] Sweet tea

Questions email: training@familychildcare.org call 813-493-0828
Online payment available: https://familychildcare.org/product-category/quarterly-meeting-training-
hotel-registration/

Online Form Link for April 25 Finance Foundations Training in Ocala
OR Email form to: scholarship@familychildcare.org

Make check payable to: FFCCHA, Inc. (MUST be received by April 18)
Please submit this completed form with payment to: FFCCHA
9207 Edgemont Lane
Boca Raton, FL 33434

Please Print:
Name: _____
Signature: _____
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!

Financial Foundations for FCC Business Owners

Presenters: Kenricia Mercer, Yasias Young, Darius Harrison, Michael Haupt, GTE Financial Team

Join us to learn about the additional products, services, and resources available to support your financial goals.
This engaging workshop will highlight business banking, commercial insurance, and financial advising tailored to
meet your business needs. Explore topics including the differences between personal and business banking, busi-
ness lending opportunities, strategies for improving personal credit, and planning for retirement. The session will
also address options and resources available if your homeowner's insurance coverage is canceled.

Note: If you need 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 9am - 5pm Monday - Friday. The deadline is April 18, 2026, NO refunds after
this deadline. If you do not attend this training, the fees will not be refunded or transferred to another person.

TALK OF THE TOWN
AREA 17 - Orange County

Alba Gomez



Alba Patricia Gomez has been married for 33 years, and has two children who proudly serve in the United States Armed Forces. She and her husband moved to the U.S. in 2005 for safety reasons, and she worked as a Human Resources Director at a clinic, while her husband was an engineer for a nonprofit organization. They never imagined their future would be here, but she believes God guided them here to begin a new life.

She has always loved working with children, and over time that passion became her calling in early childhood education. She worked for some years at an elementary school in Miami as a para-professional supporting children with special needs. That experience sparked her passion for teaching. During summers, she worked as a preschool teacher in a Family Child Care program, and fell in love with teaching in that environment. She also worked as a VPK teacher for several years. In 2015 when they moved to Orlando, they purchased a home and Winners Christian Academy was born.

WCA is a Large Family Child Care licensed by DCF, accredited by NAFCC, with the Gold Seal of Quality, serving their community. The DNA of their mission is what makes Alba's program unique. They focus on character development through Christian values, creative learning through intentional play and STEM projects, and preparing children for elementary school. The staff are graduates in early childhood education, they provide extra healthy meals, and promote physical activity through weekly fitness routines.

They are members of FFCCHA, NAFCC, and the Multicultural Family Child Care Association of Orange County. They work with Orange/Osceola Counties through the School Readiness program as well as the 4c Child Care Food Program. They also enjoy learning and connecting with other providers during the FFCCHA conference and professional development opportunities.

Alba has a Bachelor's degree in Psychology, a Staff Credential in Early Childhood Education, and is a VPK Endorsement Director. Her program recently completed a second Micro-credential in Early Literacy through the Lastinger Learning Institute with the University of Florida. Alba was recognized by FLAEYC as the Family Child Care Educator of the Year Award. They have received awards from the Orange County ELC, including the Academic Excellence award, Educator of the Month, as well as recognition of the FLAEYC award.

Their motto is: **"WCA: Where Faith Forms and Education Transforms,"** and truly believe that when the genuine priority is to serve and bless families, everything else falls into place. Personally, Alba enjoys hiking, and she and her husband serve in a marriage support program called "2=1 Marriage for Life", where they help strengthen families. They are deeply grateful for organizations like FFCCHA, which works hard to support and strengthen early childhood providers.

Please submit a "Talk of the Town" article about someone special from Areas 18 - 23 for the July Newsletter! Submissions must be submitted by May 17, 2026 to the Newsletter Editor: Wendy Corso-Ruud at ruud3@aol.com Thank you!

Support FFCCHA
 Danish Williams, Fundraising



Hello to all our FFCCHA members and board! We'll see you in person soon at the April meeting. We'll have the GREEN Table set up for you to shop from.. Please donate and bring your gently used/new items that you'd

like to clean out of your place.

Thank you for your continued and positive support. Stay safe and again, can't wait to see you all!

For more info, call Danish at 305-495-5029 or email fundraiser@familychildcare.org

NAFCC Professional Development Academy Academia de desarrollo profesional

Buenos dias! Vamos a empezar la serie de negocios de AOK en NAFCC y necesitamos mas participantes hispano hablantes. La serie es completamente gratis y va desde Abril hasta Junio Por favor pueden compartir:

[National Association for Family Child Care: ¡Educadores de Cuidado Infantil Familiar, esta oportunidad es para ustedes! \(CEU Approved\)](#)

English: We are about to begin the AOK business series at NAFCC, and we need more Spanish-speaking participants. The series is completely free and runs from April through June.

[National Association for Family Child Care: ¡Educadores de Cuidado Infantil Familiar, esta oportunidad es para ustedes! \(CEU Approved\)](#)



**FFCCHA MEMBERS
in the COMMUNITY**

Multicultural Family Child Care
of Orange County

**Multicultural FCC
of Orange County
Provider Appreciation Dinner**

Multicultural Chapter celebrated the educators of Orange County with an “Appreciation Dinner” and encouraging words from guest speaker Tasheba Berry (Advocacy and Policy Manager of FFCCHA) and recognized Rendy Bethel-Avila with an Legacy award introduced by Arlene Lambert (immediate past president of FFCCHA).

Rendy is one of the founders of the “Multicultural” Chapter. Educators received love, roses, and educational gifts to take back to their FCC homes. Multicultural would like to thank the sponsors and the Early Learning Coalition of Orange County for their continued support.



Stephanie Minus, Kissha Ballard, Arlene Lambert and Tasheba Berry.



Stephanie Minus, Rendi Bethel-Avila, Arlene Lambert and Kissha Ballard



Multicultural FCC Association also walked in the Martin Luther King parade. Way to GO!!



Public Relations News

Tasheba Berry, Advocacy & Policy Manager

Having a meeting, workshop, or training session in your area coming up soon?

We now 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 meetings.

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

AND... don't forget to take advantage of advertising your business in our quarterly Grapevine newsletter!

For more info, please contact Tasheba Berry, FFCCHA Advocacy & Policy Manager, at info@tashebaberry.com or info@familychildcare.org



MENTOR News - Spring 2026

Abbie Bill, MENTOR Program Chair

Our 12-hour Mentor Training will be held at our June conference at Embassy Suites by Hilton in Kissimmee, June 24-25, 2026. 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 10, 2026.

Apply now if you are interested in becoming NAFCC accredited. We have scholarships available. All providers with scholarships will also have a Certified FFCCHA mentor assigned to them to help with the accreditation process.

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!

Myrna Wright
Chapter Rep of the Quarter
from Duval County

Equity in Action & Honoring Black History Month

As FFCCHA Chapter Representatives, our leadership must reflect a clear commitment to equity. This means ensuring every member of the Chapter regardless of the background, program setting, or experience has fair access to information, opportunities, and a voice within our association. Equity is not optional: it is essential to strengthen family childcare.

During Black History Month, we honor the legacy and contributions of Black and African American educators whose leadership and resilience have shaped early childhood education. May this month remind us to lead with inclusion, respect and intentional action as we continue building a stronger FFCCHA for Providers and Co-providers as members.

With appreciation for your continued leadership and commitment.

Please contact Dr. Perla at (305)321-6735 or email: aperla3541@aol.com



Area Rep News

Mary Morris, Area Rep Coordinator



Congratulations!

Lisa Dupree
Area Rep of the Quarter from Palm Beach

Keep up the great work of attending different meetings and for supporting FFCCHA as an Area Rep.

To all the Area Reps, Thank you for your hard work and dedication and continued commitment to the FCC field and to the FFCCHA. A Big thank You to Area Reps Matline Ford, Cynthia Durr, Patricia Williams, Renee Graham, Lula Owens Fariha Zuberi, Sonia Mitchell, Valeria Cumming, Lisa Dupree and Joyce Burks, for sending in your Area Reps reports on time. You are greatly appreciated in your area for building positive relationships in your area and promoting FFCCHA. We are still strong in numbers. Keep up the work you all are gifted to do for others even though we all have busy schedules, families and other engagements we are obligated to do. Thank you again.

The Areas Reps have been very busy attending ELC meetings, hosting meetings and greetings to educate non-members providers and community leaders about the mission and vision of our state association. 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 Reps serve for two years. If you like working as an advocate in your local community, sharing information with peers and childcare partners, this is the perfect job for you. Please contact Mary Morris 561-832-0472 areacoordinator@familychildcare.org or morris-mary8846@gmail.com



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

Wednesday, May 6, 2026 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM

WELLNESS WEDNESDAY

Pouring Back into You - FCC Educators

PRESENTED BY:
FFCCHA ADVOCACY AMBASSADORS

Family Child Care educators give so much of themselves each day, caring for children, supporting families, and running their programs. Wellness Wednesday: Pouring Back Into You creates a space to pause, reflect, and focus on your own mental health and well-being.

This session will highlight the importance of self-care, stress management, and maintaining balance while doing the important work of early childhood education. Join us as we pour back into the educators who give so much to children, families, and their communities.



LaMora Pace, LCSW, CAP
Founder/Chief Healing Officer,
The Healing Crest® Counseling Services



Corey Jackson (Panda)
Trauma-informed somatic breathwork
to restore the body & nervous system

Pause. Reflect and Focus
Pause gives you space to breathe and reset. Reflecting and focusing help you move forward with clarity, purpose and balance.

Stress Management
Stress management helps you handle daily challenges in a healthier way without feeling overwhelmed.

Breathe & Reset
Breathwork practices help calm the mind, relax the body, and support the nervous system during stressful moments.

REGISTER NOW

Training Registration Fee:
\$40 (\$30 scholarships available)
FFCCHA members pay only \$10 (for FL licensed or registered Educators/providers or co-providers)



Scan to Register & Pay



PROVIDERS!!
Renie Roach, Awards Chair



Win a Free HOTEL Night in Kissimmee, FL, for our June 2026 Conference!!
and Get YOUR Name and Family Child Care Home listed in the conference program book!

Here's how: Encourage your parent/clients to participate as a Parent Sponsor of the **FFCCHA conference**. For every \$25 collected, your name (Provider) will be entered in a drawing for a chance for the free night. The winner will be announced at the end of the Full Board Meeting on April 25. There could be more than one winner depending on the amount of funds raised.

Fill out **PARENT Sponsor** forms from the January (pg 17-18) issue of the Grapevine newsletter or print forms from the Conference Page on the website

<https://familychildcare.org/product/photo-contest/>

Give the forms to parents and collect the payments. FFCCHA **MUST** receive payments **POSTMARKED** by **April 22nd** to be received by the Full Board Meeting to be eligible for the drawing.

For parents entering the photo contest, the deadline to EMAIL photo to jibrown@thechildrensforum.com at the Children's Forum is **MAY 5, 2026**, and payment must be sent separately to be received by May 5, 2026, as well.

Here are some ideas that providers can use to get parents to participate: the provider takes a photo of each child and displays it on a wall at the FCC home and asks parents to make a donation. If the parent makes a \$15 donation or more, then the provider emails the child's photo to the photo contest for the parent. You can also mail the form to all past and current parent clients with a handwritten note asking for a "generous" donation. If you have questions or want ideas on how to get your chapter members and parents to participate, contact Patricia Williams or email:

Patriciawilliamsfcch@yahoo.com

2026 NAFCC National Annual Conference

BUILDING BRIDGES, RAISING VOICES, SHAPING FUTURES

SAVE THE DATE
JULY 16-18, 2026
CHICAGO, IL

[CLICK FOR CONFERENCE LINK](#)



Florida Family Child Care Home Association, Inc. - April 2026

| | Name | City | Zip | Phone | Email |
|--|--------------------------|---------------|-------|--------------|--|
| Executive Committee of Board = 10 | | | | | |
| President | Gertrude Freeman-Ford | Cocoa | 32926 | 321-890-8366 | fordgertrude746@gmail.com |
| Vice President | Jennifer Richards | Daytona Beach | 32114 | 386-846-9567 | 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 | Mary Morris | W Palm Beach | 33401 | 561-386-3567 | areacoordinator@familychildcare.org |
| Chapter Coordinator | Angela "Perla" Almodovar | Doral | 33178 | 305-321-6735 | chaptercoordinator@familychildcare.org |
| Latino Liaison | Open - Apply Now! | | | | latinoliasion@familychildcare.org |
| Professional Development | Annette Eberhart | Tampa | 33612 | 813-493-0828 | training@familychildcare.org |
| Fundraising | Danish Williams | Miami | 33 | 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 | Jacksonville | | 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

| 17 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 | elementzofbusiness@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 | Shandra Warner | 813-495-0985 | warnfamilydaycare@gmail.com |
| 22 | Heart to Heart Child Care Assoc | Pinellas County | Amber Easterday | 937-248-4175 | CreateLearnersFL@gmail.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 | Karen Robinson | 561-574-8512 | davis7769@yahoo.com |
| 30 | Broward County FCCA | Broward County | Lakisha Womble | 305-528-3127 | youngachievers21@yahoo.com |
| 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. - April 2026

| COMMITTEE CHAIRS (NON-BOARD POSITIONS) | | | |
|---|-------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Advisory | Gwen Wilson | 352-351-5370 | gwenlo50@hotmail.com |
| Newsletters Editor | Wendy Corso-Ruud | 561-715-1361 | ruud3@aol.com |
| Awards | Renie Roach | 904-392-5366 | renieroach@yahoo.com |
| Nominations | Mayra Marquez | | nominations@familychildcare.org |
| Chaplain | Cynthia Durr | 386-258-6603 | cbrownsugarmd@aol.com |
| M.E.N.T.O.R. | Abbie Bill | 561-445-7333 | FLMentorpgm@aol.com |
| Hospitality | Sharon Singleton | 407-404-3038 | singsd63@gmail.com |
| STAFF (NON-BOARD POSITIONS) | | | |
| Executive Director | Tammy Tener | 407-234-3473 | info@familychildcare.org |
| Finance Manager | Sande Harper | 727-345-0299 | sharper3601@aol.com |
| Operations Manager | Joselly Santos | | jsantosffccha@gmail.com |
| Advocacy & Policy Manager | Tasheba Berry | 954-464-3134 | info@tashebaberry.com |
| Scholarship Coordinator | Abbie Bill | 561-445-7333 | scholarship@familychildcare.org |
| Conference Coordinator | Karan Hiester | 386-957-4482 | conference@familychildcare.org |
| HUB COORDINATORS (NON-BOARD POSITIONS) | | | |
| Broward County | Tasheba Berry | 954-464-3134 | info@tashebaberry.com |
| Pasco/Hernando County | Terrica Lashley | 813-380-5138 | terricalashleyffccha@gmail.com |
| Polk County | Valorie Wilkerson | 407-350-0821 | PolkHubCoord@familychildcare.org |
| Santa Rosa/Okaloosa/Walton | Eva Anderson | 850-943-0178 | NwHubCoord@familychildcare.org |
| Bay, Calhoun, Gulf, Franklin, Holmes, Washington, Jackson | | | |
| 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 Positions for Area Reps:

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 **even** number Areas for a 2-year term.

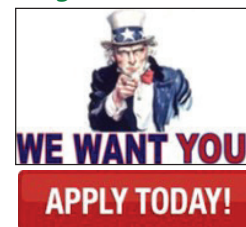
Submit Area Rep applications to: areacoordinator@familychildcare.org

Apply NOW for Current Vacant Positions for Chairs:

Committee Chairs (non-board positions): Bylaws, Finance, Chapter Dev, Fundraiser, Historian, Parliamentarian, Latino Development, Member Development, and Translation

Apply NOW for Vacant Executive Officer Positions to start immediately: Secretary, Latino Liaison, Fundraising

Applications are available at www.familychildcare.org on the **"Forms"** page under **Resources**, [click here](#) or contact **Nominations 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

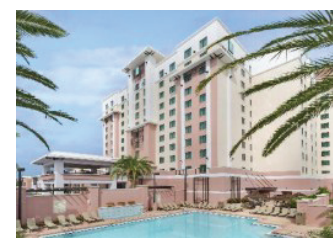
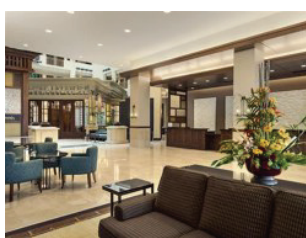
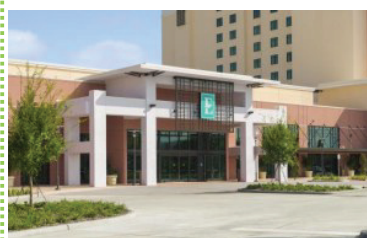


FFCCHA JUNE 2026 Annual Conference Hotel Link is LIVE now!

Embassy Suites by Hilton Orlando Lake Buena Vista South

Remember, **rooms sell out quickly**, so to avoid missing out, please use this link:

Click here: [Book Group Rate for FFCCHA June 2026 Conference](https://book.passkey.com/event/51073002/owner/10810031/home?utm_campaign=297896691) OR copy and paste: https://book.passkey.com/event/51073002/owner/10810031/home?utm_campaign=297896691



Children's Week RECAP

Tasheba Berry, Advocacy & Policy Manager

We had an incredible experience in Tallahassee at Children's Week, February 22-27, 2026, where 10 FFCCHA members came together, with even more joining us throughout our time there.

We had the opportunity to visit key agencies, including the Children's Forum, DCF, and DEL, strengthening our connections and advocacy efforts for family child care. One of the highlights was presenting Representative McFarland with a special recognition for her continued support and hard work for family child care across South Florida.

We also had a meaningful conversation with Senator Alexis Calatayud, discussing opportunities to collaborate and deepen engagement on Senate Bill 1690 and its potential impact.

We hope you'll join us next year as we continue to push forward for family child care across the state of Florida!



CHILDREN'S WEEK FEBRUARY 2026

WANT TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL? WE CAN HELP!



T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood®
FLORIDA
A Project of The Children's Forum Inc.

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



**FFCCHA Professional Development
VIRTUAL ZOOM Training - Scholarship Application
Wednesday, May 6, 2026
6:30 pm to 8:00 pm**



Training Registration Fee: **\$40** (\$30 scholarships available).
FFCCHA members **pay only \$10** (for FL licensed or registered providers or co-providers)

Questions email: training@familychildcare.org call 813-493-0828
Online payment available: <https://familychildcare.org/product/wellness-wednesday-pouring-back-into-you-the-fcc-educator/>
Online Form Link for May 6 Training

OR Email form to: scholarship@familychildcare.org

Make check payable to: **FFCCHA, Inc. (MUST be received by April 30)**
Please submit this completed form with payment to: **FFCCHA**
9207 Edgemont Lane
Boca Raton, FL 33434

Questions? Email training@familychildcare.org or call 813-493-0828
Deadline: April 30, 2026 or Email Form to: scholarship@familychildcare.org

Please Print:

Name: _____

Signature: _____

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 6:15 pm to sign in. Training starts promptly at 6:30 pm!

Wellness Wednesday: Pouring Back into YOU – the FCC Educator 1.5 hours

Presenters: LaMora Pace, LCSW, CAP and Corey Jackson (Panda)

Family Child Care educators give so much of themselves each day, caring for children, supporting families, and running their programs. *Wellness Wednesday: Pouring Back into You* creates a space to pause, reflect, and focus on your own mental health and well-being.

This session will highlight the importance of self-care, stress management, and maintaining balance while doing the important work of early childhood education. Join us as we pour back into the educators who give so much to children, families, and their communities.

*Note: If you need 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 9am - 5pm Monday - Friday. **NO refunds after the deadline. If you do not attend this training, the fees will not be refunded or transferred to another person.***



Call for Exhibitors, Ads, & Donations
Florida Family Child Care Home Association, Inc.

“Enhancing Our Minds...In 2026”
 34th Annual Conference, June 24-28, 2026

Embassy Suites by Hilton Orlando Lake Buena Vista South
 4955 Kyngs Heath Rd, Kissimmee, FL 34746



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

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 25-27:**
 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, 2026
 Business Card \$100 ¼page \$175 (3½"x5") ½page \$250 (7½"x5") ¾ page \$350 (7½"x7") Full page \$500 (7½"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, 2026, 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, 2026 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

Pay ONLINE or Make check payable to: FFCCHA and Mail to:
 FFCCHA, 1859 Mango Tree Dr. Edgewater, FL 32141
 Need more information on **HOW to ENHANCE Minds?**

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 2026 Conference Registrations “Enhancing Our Minds...In 2026”

June 24-28, 2026

Embassy Suites by Hilton Orlando Lake Buena Vista South
4955 Kyngs Heath Rd, Kissimmee, FL 34746



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

Volunteer Qualifications/Requirements:

1. Be a current **provider member of FFCCHA** (keep valid thru June 30,2026) operating as a **FL registered or licensed provider** or be a current **Co-provider member of FFCCHA** (keep valid thru June 30, 2026)
2. Complete and **submit this scholarship form** along with the **\$70.00 fee**. ****Scholarship Rates increase May 1, 2026 (\$90).****
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 and turn in a **completed conference evaluation**.
5. **Wear** an Orange Apron (supplied by FFCCHA) over your attire when serving your 3 volunteer hours. (no tank tops or 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: Online credit card payment <https://familychildcare.org/product-category/ffccha-conference/>
check or money order **payable to FFCCHA – NO Refunds**. Returned checks assessed a \$47 fee
Mail to: FFCCHA Volunteers, Sheretta Joseph, 1189 West 29 St, Jacksonville, FL 32209

***Early Bird Deadline: April 30, 2026** 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. ****Scholarship Rates increase May 1, 2026 (\$90).****

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 with black or blue ink ONLY

Name: _____ **Primary Language:** _____

Signature: _____ **Secondary Language:** _____

Address: _____ **County:** _____

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

Local Chapter: _____ **Cell:** _____

Name of FCC Home: _____ **Phone:** _____

E-Mail: _____ **Is this your first conference?** _____

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

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

_____ English workshop hostess _____ Fundraising Table _____ Set-up Thur 2-5p _____ Provider Celebration Sat 7-10pm
_____ Spanish workshop hostess _____ Registration Table _____ 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.

Questions? Contact Karan Hiester at (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!

If you need an accommodation because of a disability in order to participate in the childcare training process; contact, Karan Hiester, Conference Assistant at least two weeks prior to the first training date at 386-689-3046 between 8:00 am and 6:00 pm. Calls can be received Monday - Friday.

Office use only:
Online/Cash/Ck# _____ Received date _____ Receipt# _____ Verified membership/expiration date: _____



Aplicación de Beca para VOLUNTARIOS Conferencia 2026 "Mejorando Nuestras Mentes ... En 2026"

24-28 de junio del 2026

Embassy Suites by Hilton Orlando Lake Buena Vista South,
4955 Kynghs Heath Rd, Kissimmee, FL 34746



Los solicitantes aprobados que soliciten una beca deberán ser voluntarios de 3 horas

Cualificaciones/Requisitos de los Voluntarios:

1. Ser un actual miembro proveedor de **FFCCHA** (estar válido hasta el 30 de junio de 2026) operando como **proveedor registrado o con licencia de FL** o ser un miembro como **co-proveedor actual de FFCCHA** (estar válido hasta el 30 de junio de 2026)
2. Completar y **enviar este formulario de beca junto** con la tarifa de **\$ 70.00**. ****Becas aumentan el 1 de mayo a \$90.00.****
3. **Asistir** a una orientación virtual o en persona **antes de ir a la conferencia**. Los detalles se enviarán por correo electrónico después que la aplicación haya sido recibida.
4. **Asistir** a todos los días de la conferencia que solicitó y entregar una evaluación de la conferencia **completa**.
5. **Usar** un delantal naranja (suministrado por FFCCHA) sobre su vestuario cuando sirva sus 3 horas de voluntariado. (no camisetas sin mangas ni pantalones cortos)
6. **Registrarse** en la conferencia y **cumplir con sus** deberes de voluntario de 3 horas **según lo asignado**, devolver los documentos de anfitriona y **cerrar la sesión**.
7. Entregar la **evaluación completa de la** conferencia.

Opciones de pago: pago con tarjeta de credito en linea <https://familychildcare.org/product-category/ffccha-conference/> cheque o giro **pagadero a FFCCHA - NO hay reembolsos**. Por los cheques retornados habrá un cobro de \$47.

Enviar a: FFCCHA Volunteers, Sheretta Joseph, 1189 West 29 St, Jacksonville, FL 32209

Fecha límite: 30 de abril del 2026 Las solicitudes que califiquen se les pondrá la fecha como recibidas y **seleccionadas por orden de llegada** hasta que se hayan otorgado todas las becas. Todos los proveedores serán notificados cuando se reciban y será notificado cuando esta sea aceptada. **Todas las solicitudes recibidas antes de la fecha límite** entrarán en un sorteo de un premio. ****Becas aumentan el 1 de mayo a \$90.00.****

Seleccione solo un tipo de registro:

- Viernes-Sábado-Domingo** **Sábado y Domingo** **Sábado Especial (8am-5pm)** **Viernes (8am-5pm)**

Imprima con tinta negra o azul solamente

Nombre: _____ Idioma Principal: _____

Firma: _____ Idioma Secundario: _____

Dirección: _____ Condado: _____

Ciudad: _____ Código postal: _____ Estado: _____

Celular: _____ Capítulo local: _____

Nombre de FCC Home: _____

Correo electrónico: _____ ¿Es esta tu primera conferencia? _____

Marque todo lo que corresponda: Registrado Licencia Licencia Grande VPK Accreditado por NAFCC
 NAFCC Observador CDA EHS (Early Head Start) Credencial de Director Título Universitario, Tipo _____

Por favor **marque sus preferencia**^{1ª} y ^{2ª} en voluntariar (sin embargo, no hay garantías)
 _____ Anfitriona taller de inglés _____ Mesa de recaudación _____ Organizar Jueves 2 -5pm _____ Anfitriona taller en español
 _____ Mesa de registro _____ Limpieza Sábado 5pm _____ Celebración del proveedor Sábado 7-10pm _____ Otro _____

¿Cómo beneficiará recibir una beca para esta conferencia a su cuidado infantil? Escribir en las líneas de abajo

POR FAVOR, LEA LA SIGUIENTE DECLARACIÓN:

*Entiendo que si no asisto a la conferencia completa o **no cumplo mis** tres horas como voluntario, mi beca será anulada y **seré responsable del costo total de mi inscripción**.*

Preguntas? Comuníquese con Wendy Corso-Ruud Otros contactos: conference@familychildcare.org

Las becas de la conferencia se van rápidamente. ¡Así que, no te quedes afuera! ¡Enviar el formulario completo hoy!

Si necesita una adaptación debido a una discapacidad para participar en el proceso de capacitación para el cuidado infantil, comuníquese con Wendy Corso-Ruud, 561-715-1361, al menos dos semanas antes de la primera fecha de capacitación al entre las 8:00 am y las 6:00pm, delunes a viernes.

Office use only:
 Online/Cash/Ck# _____ Received date _____ Receipt# _____ Verified membership/expiration date: _____ Update: 2025-10-01

Florida Family Child Care Home Association

Enhancing Our Minds... in 2026

34th Annual Conference

Pre-Conference June 24-25 | Conference June 26-28



Keynotes & Special Guests



**Holly Elissa Bruno,
MA, JD**

Former Assistant General
Attorney of Maine and Award
winning author



Dawn Espinoza, M.Ed

Education Support Supervisor,
Early Learning Coalition of
Pasco and Hernando Counties



Lillian Hubler Tobin

President and Founder of
Time to Sign



Cari Miller

Chancellor for Early Learning,
Department of Education



Courtney Smith

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



Ron Shuali, M. Ed

Creator of Behavior Mastery
and YOGARATE

Conference Hotel



Embassy Suites by Hilton

4955 Kyngs Heath Rd, Kissimmee, FL 34746

For hotel reservations, call 407-597-4000 - Group Code: CHA

Deadline is June 1, 2026 for Group Rate

To book your room online, use this link: [Book your 2026 Hotel Reservation NOW!](#)

Room Rate (does not include tax or gratuity): **\$175** per room, per night (double, triple or quad occupancy). There are a limited number of rooms available at this rate.

\$12 Per Night for Parking - Complimentary Breakfast and Evening Reception

“Mind” Sponsors & Upcoming Events

Become a “Mind” Sponsor today!

Ultimate Mind

DCF

Bainum Family Foundation

Curious Mind

Kendrick’s Large Family Child Care
Marion County FFCCHA

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

Call for Exhibitors, Sponsors, Ads & Donations or email

conference@familychildcare.org

Upcoming Events

State Training and Full Board Meeting April 25 in Ocala, Florida. 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 8, 2026. For more information, visit www.providerappreciationday.org

One Goal Summer Conference July 8-10, 2026. Tampa, FL. For more information, visit www.onegoalsummerconference.org

NAFCC Annual Conference “Building Bridges, Raising Voices, Shaping Futures” July 16-18, 2026. Chicago, Illinois. For more information, visit <https://nafcc.org/conference/>

FLAEYC Annual Conference October 14-18, 2026. Jacksonville, FL. For more information, visit www.flaeyc.org

Pre-Conference Highlights

Wednesday, June 24

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

ME! M.E.N.T.O.R.ing Essentials (Part 1)

Lois Kendrick

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 **M**entor, **E**ducate, **N**urture, **T**rain, **O**bserve and **R**ole 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, 2026.

Thursday, June 25

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

Author Study: The Whimsical World of Laura Numeroff

Dawn Espinoza, M. Ed

Explore the playful, cause-and-effect world of Laura Numeroff. Students examine her circular plots, lively characters, and humorous patterns through read-alouds and discussion. They identify themes, analyze illustrations, and write their own "If You Give..." stories to build sequencing and cause-and-effect skills.

Mentor I Certification (Part 2)

Lois Kendrick

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Behavior Mastery (Heart-Centered Classroom Management)

Ron Shuali, M. Ed

Behavior Mastery is a research-informed, brain-based social-emotional system that helps adults master themselves first to create Win-Win environments for children. Through real-life videos, partner activities, breathwork, and playful practice, participants learn 5 transformative tools to reduce resistance, interrupt attention-seeking, and empower strong-willed, neurodivergent students as leaders.

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

Author Study: The Imaginative Life and Works of Shel Silverstein

Dawn Espinoza, M. Ed

Students explore Shel Silverstein's poems and illustrations through reading and discussion. They analyze his humor, rhyme, and themes of kindness and imagination, then create original poems inspired by his distinctive style.

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

Teach & Sign: The Complete Program for Preschool Classrooms (Ages 3-5)

Lillian Hubler Tobin

This session equips Family Childcare professionals with practical strategies to embed sign-enhanced learning into daily routines. Participants learn to use American Sign Language to support social-emotional skills, classroom management, transitions, storytelling, and early literacy for preschoolers. All to create calmer environments, clearer communication, and stronger school readiness.

Conference Highlights

Thursday, June 25

Special Opening Ceremony

6:00 p.m.

Exhibit Hall Opening

6:30 p.m.

Friday, June 26

Concurrent Workshops

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

Conference Luncheon

With Cari Miller & Courtney Smith

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Saturday, June 27

Keynote: Holly Elissa Bruno

Accreditation Recognition

8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Concurrent Workshops

10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Concilio Latino

1:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Keynote: Dawn Espinoza

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Provider Celebration

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

Sunday, June 28

Keynote: Lillian Hubler Tobin

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Annual General Meeting

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.



Deshunn Cummings

Saturday's Provider Celebration DJ



Florida Family Child Care Home Association

Enhancing Our Minds... in 2026

34th Annual Conference

Pre Conference June 24-25 | Conference June 26-28

For hotel reservations, call 407-597-4000 or use this link [FFCCHA Group Rate Hotel Reservations](#) Deadline is June 1, 2026



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 for \$70!

Applications received after April 30 pay \$90

Pre-Conference Training - June 24-25, 2026

| Day | Time | Session | Cost |
|--|------------------------|---|-------|
| Wednesday, June 24, 2026 | 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. | <input type="checkbox"/> ME! Mentoring Essentials * Part 1 | \$105 |
| Thursday, June 25, 2026 | 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | <input type="checkbox"/> Mentor I Certification (Part 2) | \$105 |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Author Study: The Whimsical World of Laura Numeroff | \$105 |
| | 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. | <input type="checkbox"/> Behavior Mastery (Heart-Centered Classroom Management) | \$150 |
| | 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. | <input type="checkbox"/> Author Study: The Imaginative Life and Works of Shel Silverstein | \$105 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teach & Sign: The Complete Program for Preschool Classrooms | | \$105 | |

* To become a Certified Mentor, you must attend both sessions and submit a pre-qualifying application.

Pre-Conference Total

Conference - June 26-28, 2026

| 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) | \$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 Box Lunch (must be purchased by June 6, 2026) Guest Name(s): _____ | \$60 per person | \$60 per person | |
| Saturday Pre-Purchase Box Lunch (please choose one) <input type="checkbox"/> Ham Sandwich <input type="checkbox"/> Turkey Sandwich <input type="checkbox"/> Roast Beef Sandwich <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetarian Mediterranean Salad Lunch includes: Gourmet chips, a side of pasta salad, a freshly baked cookie, whole fruit and bottled water. | \$25 per person | \$25 per person | |
| 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 29, 2026 (after this date, you **must** register online)

**EARLY BIRD
DEADLINE
MAY 29!**



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

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U.S. POSTAGE
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JACKSONVILLE, FL

**2026 Conference Registration
&
Information Enclosed**

*Talleres de español en cada
sesión*

www.familychildcare.org

Enhancing Our Minds ... in 2026

**Want your child's photo here?
Enter for a chance to win on our website!**



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