

Cyianna's Story

Cyianna and her parents enrolled in the Head Start program in August, 2010. Born with developmental delays, she had been receiving thera-



py services in her home and had never been in a group care setting. At age two, her parents enrolled her at the Brandon's Place location; she could not walk, talk or feed herself and for the first six weeks she cried every day. Therapists worked with her in the classroom, as did her teacher.

Over time, Cyianna began standing up, taking steps, walking, feeding herself, saying words, and brushing her teeth. She is now able to better interact with her seven classmates, two teachers, Foster Grandparent, and volunteers. She no longer cries, and her teacher, Ms. Tamiko, says she always has a smile on her face.



Kids Incorporated's mission is: "Supporting and educating families and young children through quality early learning, health and family services."

Founded in 1972 by the late Budd Bell, Kids Incorporated is a community organization serving children 0-3 years of age and pregnant women.

If you would like to volunteer or want more information about Kids Incorporated visit our web site or contact Kids Incorporated at info@kidsincorporated.org.

2326 Centerville Road
Tallahassee, FL 32308
850.414.9800

Fax: 850.414.9810
www.kidsincorporated.org
Email: info@kidsincorporated.org



Early Head Start



"Strong Families= Strong Communities"

Early Head Start

The Kids Incorporated Early Head Start (EHS) program serves eligible families in Jefferson, Leon, and Madison counties at 6 different locations. This program is the only program that provides comprehensive services to low-income pregnant women and children- birth through three years of age- and their families. These services include quality child development, health & nutrition, and family community partnerships.

The children have an individualized curriculum and a ratio of 4 children to 1 adult. A minimum 10% of the children we serve have special needs. We strive to help children reach their developmental milestones and to provide parents/guardians with the tools to be the best parents they can be.

We currently have 236 children and their families, as well as 42 pregnant women in our services.

Early Head Start Centers

Brandon's Place
Bright Beginnings
Bright Days
Budd Bell
Jefferson County
Parkway



Services Provided



- Screening and assessment tracked for improved child outcomes
- Family support with Individual and family goal setting
- Prenatal Program
- Parent education with monthly parent meetings
- Strong parent involvement with shared system of governance & decision-making
- Health & Disability Services with annual dental, hearing, and vision screenings
- Nutritional services, including 2 healthy meals and 1 snack each day
- Natural playscapes used as outdoor classrooms
- Volunteers in classrooms, include foster grandparents

Eligibility

Eligible participants are required to minimally:

- Reside in Jefferson, Leon or Madison counties
- Have a child no older than 3 years of age or be in the first 4 months of pregnancy
- Meet the income eligibility requirements

Federal regulations require that EHS programs verify the child's age, family income and where applicable, special needs (Part C Verification). Income eligibility is based on the federal poverty guidelines.



Legacy for Children

Legacy for Children targets new mothers through a home-based project designed to improve outcomes for children in poverty through positive parenting.

New mothers will receive home visits and attend group socializations where they will learn about child intellectual, social, behavioral and emotional development. Mothers will be taught skills such as time and energy management, parental behavior and knowledge, attitudes and beliefs, and family systems functioning.



Project REAL

Project REAL is a program designed to improve the teaching skills of Early Head Start teachers in Kids Incorporated classrooms. Project REAL provides coaching services to 32 Head Start teachers and 6 "Lead" teachers, along with 2 education staff members from Kids Incorporated and 2 education staff members from the Children's Forum.

Weekly coaching services are provided to the teachers and are designed to improve their skills in the areas of child assessment, teacher-child interactions, and working with children from diverse backgrounds.

Data will be collected to measure success in improving teacher quality, enhancing child outcomes, and promoting career development of EHS teachers within Kids Incorporated.