

In A Parent's Words...

“Sean was born prematurely. I was fortunate enough to get him enrolled soon after his birth in the Early Head Start (EHS) program at Budd Bell Early Learning Center. Working as a team with EHS staff, I've been able



to meet my child's medical and developmental needs as well as become involved in his care at Budd Bell at a level I'd never thought possible. Because of the EHS emphasis in comprehensive services, Kids Incorporated has access to so many different service providers that assists families to meet their children's needs. Sean's medical needs were met at Budd Bell. His teachers developed an individualized program that specifically met his developmental needs. Also, they worked with him daily in order to address the developmental areas of concern.

As a parent, I was able to access different services offered elsewhere in the community that counseled me as to what was the best course of action to help Sean reach his developmental milestones. I became involved in the Parent Committee and was elected to serve as the parent representative on the Policy Council. These experiences enabled me to help other families through the monthly parent meetings as well as help create policies that help our families. Being involved with EHS and Kids Incorporated has been an ABSOLUTE Joy! I feel like I've really made a difference in my community and in the life of my child. Sean is a healthy happy toddler. What more could a parent ask for!”

Kids Incorporated of the Big Bend is a community-based organization that has been serving children and families since 1972.

Our mission is supporting and educating families and young children through quality early learning, health and family services.

Beatrice Samson was named the 2010 Volunteer Administrator of the Year by the Tallahassee Democrat and Kids Incorporated was named the Non-Profit Business at the Small Business of the Year Awards for 2009 by the Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce.

Over 24,000 volunteer hours were logged in during FY 2009-2010. Volunteers are encouraged to participate at one of our centers, main office, or in any of our program areas. Volunteers are also needed to serve on one of several committees (including the Health Services Advisory Board, Early Head Start Policy Council, & the Development Committee).

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.



Kids In Our Community

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"Strong Families = Strong Communities"

Kids in Our Community



Kids Incorporated of the Big Bend serves at-risk families with children ages birth to three as well as pre-natal women in Leon, Jefferson & Madison counties. Through its' Early Head Start program, quality, comprehensive services are provided. A minimum of 10% of the children served have special needs.

In addition to quality early education services provided at 6 early learning centers, comprehensive services including health & nutrition and family & community partnerships are provided. A Family Advocate is assigned to each Early Head Start center to work with the entire family to help them develop individual & family goals and access needed community services. Children receive annual health and dental screens and necessary follow-up services. Monthly parent meetings enable parents and guardians to take a leadership role in their child's early education activities. It is these comprehensive services which distinguish this program from other child development services.

Volunteers

Groups and individuals may volunteer at one of our child development centers (three in Leon, two in Madison and one in Jefferson county) operated by Kids Incorporated. Volunteers may read to the children, provide an extra pair of hands to assist with a class or playground activity, or assist with maintaining our vegetable, herb & flower gardens in our natural playscapes (outdoor classrooms). Volunteers may also assist in our office, assisting staff with various duties. Special projects are available for groups and of, course, volunteers are needed to assist with Kidsfest. All volunteers are required to participate in a one-hour orientation; there is no minimum hour requirement for volunteering.

Downtown Getdowns



Kids Incorporated is proud to have provided free children's activities at the Downtown Getdowns presented by United Way since these street parties began. You'll find Kids Incorporated volunteers and area children (and even a few grownups) playing in Oobleck or Gak (fun concoctions!) or enjoying other hands-on activities. Bring the family and play or volunteer to help!

Kidsfest

On May 7, 2011 at the N. Florida Fairgrounds, the 10th Annual Kidsfest will be held from 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. Join us for a family-oriented community event for kids of all ages.



Businesses & organizations provide children's activities; while the children are playing, parents are able to learn about area organizations. There will be bounce houses, a water slide, costumed characters, pony rides (from 11:30 - 2:30) and plenty of hands-on children's activities and games.



There's even an area set aside just for toddlers!

Live entertainment is offered and refreshments are sold.

It's a terrific way for families to spend the day and for area businesses to share information. General admission is a minimum donation of \$2 per person and all activities are free. Last year over 100 activities were provided for children and attendance reached over 4,000.