



July/
August 2016



Early education. Lifelong success.

Quick Links

[Teacher of the Month](#)

[Community Events](#)

[In Early Education News](#)

[Program Information and Updates](#)

[Professional Development Institute](#)

[Upcoming Events and Resources](#)

Connect With Us!



President's Message



Dear Friends,

"Back to School" is quickly approaching, and we are happy to participate in a number of outreach events to share early education resources with the community. The month of August is a very busy month the highlight of which is the start of school and the school year VPK program. The Early Learning Coalition will be participating in back-to-school fairs throughout Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties as we work to prepare children for the upcoming year. We welcome both providers and families to be a part of these events, as they provide both information and resources that greatly benefit the children we serve. The Early Learning Coalition distributes hundreds of books at outreach events to promote reading at all ages, to help children build their at-home libraries and to encourage parents to "Talk, Read and Sing" with their children. These three words can secure the bond between parent and child, child and caregiver and the overall development of young children.

To continue to drive this message into every home, the Early Learning Coalition alongside trusted messengers: Holtz Children's Hospital, Jackson Health System, Help Me Grow, and Miami-Dade Public Library System has partnered with Too Small to Fail and the Opportunity Institute to provide every newborn with a "Talking is Teaching: Talk, Read, Sing" resource bag that reinforces parents as a child's first teachers. Additional community partners will distribute posters and milestone cards to remind families and caregivers that everyday activities are filled with infinite learning opportunities. Please see our monthly featured poster included in each newsletter for "Talking is Teaching" ideas.

Lastly, this August we return to our monthly installment of the ELC Lunch Café Series. The theme for this month is the First 1000 Days. If you have not participated in one of our dynamic cafés, we invite you to come and join us. Each café is open to the community and free of charge. To register, go to trainings.elcmdm.org. This month's café highlights the integral first 1000 days of a child's life. The first 1000 days is a singular window of opportunity to maximize brain development. We invite the community to come learn just how.

We thank you for your continued partnership.

Please follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for up-to-date information on programs and events.

Sincerely,



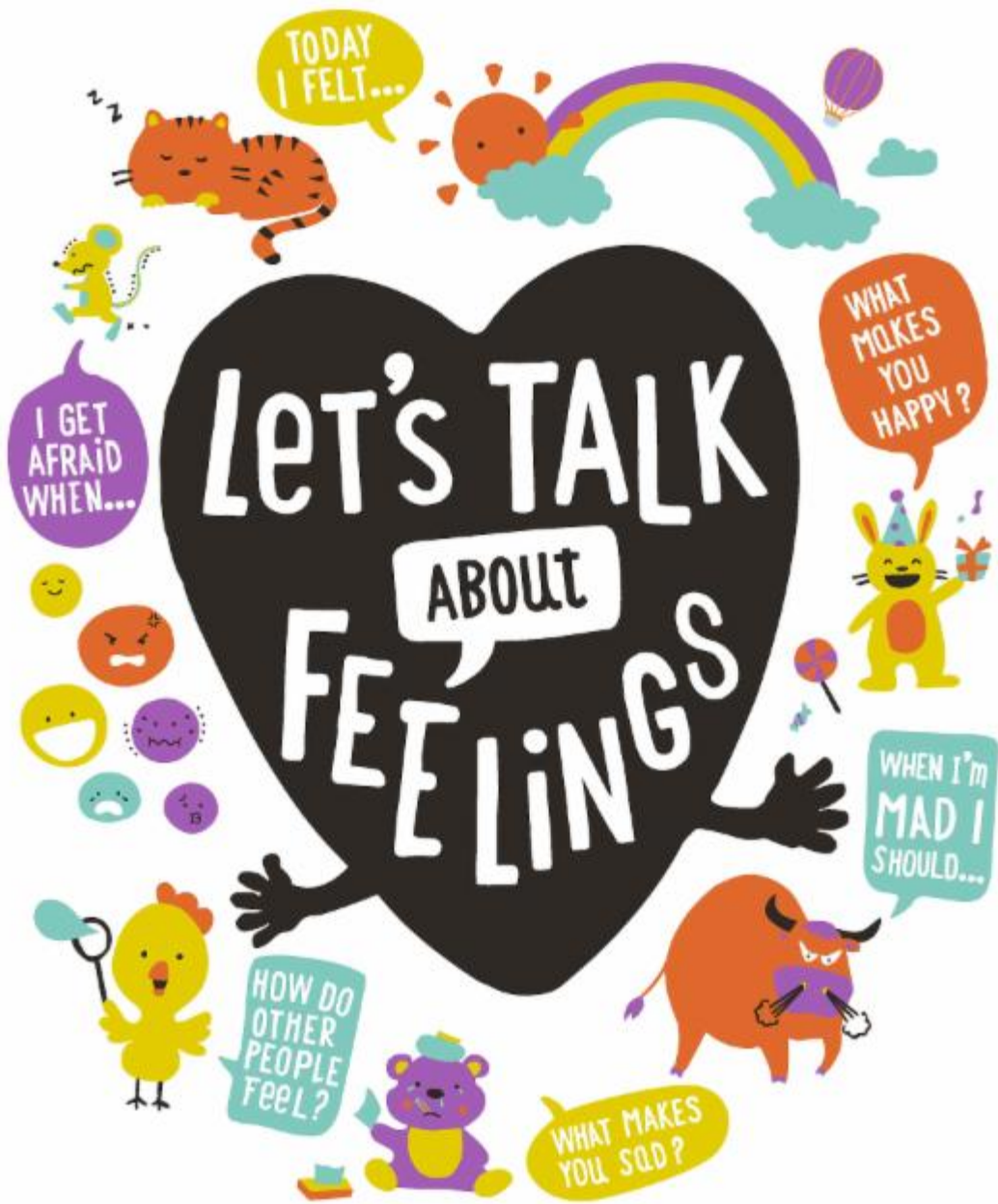
Evelio C. Torres
President & CEO

TALKING IS TEACHING **MIAMI**



LEARN ABOUT OUR NEW CAMPAIGN!
#LETSTALKMIAMI





TALKING IS TEACHING.ORG

TALKING IS
TEACHING.



Teacher of the Month

As a part of our continuous commitment to quality early learning programs, we would like to highlight the Quality Counts Teacher of the Month. Working in conjunction with our program partners, Florida International University, the United Way, Family Central and Children's Forum, we highlight instructors who have been recognized for applying excellence in the classroom. This month, we

recognize **Dora Cerutis** from **Discovery Years**. She has more than 30 years of experience in early education. Congratulations Dora Cerutis



QUALITY COUNTS
Striving for High Quality Early Learning



Teacher Spotlight: July



Dora Cerutis
Teacher Name

Discovery Years
Program Name

2 Year Olds
Classroom/ Age Group

30
Number of Years in Early Education

With 30 years of experience in early childhood education, Dora Cerutis continues to excel in her teaching practices. Through consistent, meaningful interactions, Ms. Cerutis engages the children in her classroom at all times. She designs and implements lessons that connect with real life concepts to develop children's expressive language and communication skills. With a background in special needs, she is able to adjust her teaching practices to suit children's unique learning styles. Ms. Cerutis is truly passionate and dedicated to the field of early education which is evident in the trusting, caring relationships she has developed with her children.

Quality Counts would like to recognize and thank Ms. Cerutis for her commitment to quality early childhood education!

Early Learning Coalition in the Community

Early Learning Coalition Around Town. Stay up-to-date with community events on our Facebook page.
[July Community Events](#)

In Early Education News



1. [Breastfeeding Awareness Month](#)
2. [Age-By-Age Guide to Feeding Your Baby](#)
3. [2016 Recommendation for Immunizations for Children Ages Birth to 6](#)
4. [2016 Recommendation for Immunizations for Children Ages Birth to 18](#)
5. [Hippy in the News](#)
6. [Gov. Scott: With Likely Mosquito-Borne Zika Cases, State Will Use Full Resources to Protect Floridians](#)
7. [Pediatric Screening Flow Chart](#)
8. [Drain and Cover](#)

Early Learning Program Updates

[Early Head Start Inaugural Parent and Health Orientation Fair](#)

[Monroe Child Health Screening Project- Fall Screenings in September](#)

Early Learning Professional Development Institute



Miami-Dade/Monroe

EARLY CHILDHOOD
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
INSTITUTE

A division of the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe

ELC Café

It's More than Just Lunch



The First 1000 Days

The First 1000 Days offer a critical and singular window of opportunity. What happens during this time largely determines the child's ability to grow, learn, work, and succeed. These experiences help shape a healthy and successful child. Please join us for a curated panel of experts as we discuss why the First 1000 Days are the most important.

A lost chance at greatness for one child is a lost opportunity for all of us. If we want to shape the future, to truly improve the world, we have 1,000 days to do it, mother by mother, child by child.

-Roger Thurow

Join Us!

Thursday, August 18, 2016
12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

David Lawrence Jr.
Community Meeting Room
Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe
2555 Ponce De Leon, Suite 500
Coral Gables, FL 33134

Register to participate at
<http://trainings.elcmdm.org>

Lunch for panelists courtesy of
OBBA Sushi & More restaurant

PANELISTS

Diana Ragbeer

Director of Public Policy & Community Engagement,
The Children's Trust
Co-founder
First 1000 Days Florida Coalition

Karen Weller, RN, BSN, MBA-HSM

Assistant Community Health Nursing Director
Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County

Vicki Vertich, IBCLC, RLC, ICCE

Maternal Family Health Liaison
The Women's Hospital at Jackson Memorial

Katherine Maughan, R.N., B.S., IBCLC

Lactation Specialist
Holtz Children's Hospital & The Women's Hospital at Jackson

Eriko Grover, MS-MPH, RD LD/N

Public Health Nutrition Program Director
Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County

Norma Bonet, LCSW

President
Florida Association for Play Therapy



Upcoming Events

[Early Head Start Inaugural Parent Orientation and Health Fair](#)

[Storytime at North Miami Library with Mayor Dr. Smith Joseph](#)

Stay Connected

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)



Sponsored by



OFFICE OF
Early Learning
LEARN EARLY. LEARN FOR LIFE.

Miami-Dade: 2555 Ponce de Leon Blvd, Suite 500, Coral Gables, FL 33134 305-646-7220
Monroe: 1111 12 St, Suite 206, Key West, FL 33040 305-296-5557