Early Learning Coalition of Marion County
2021-2022 Annual Report

Learn more about the many colors of the

ELCMC Early Learning Coalition of Marion County, Inc.

elc-marion.org
2300 SW 17th Rd., Ocala, FL 34471
(352) 369-2315
LETTER FROM OUR CHAIR

The Early Learning Coalition of Marion County (ELCMC) is determined to ensure every child in Marion County enters school ready to succeed. During the 2021-2022 fiscal year, we continued to feel impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, but saw our child care providers rally and stay open and provide safe, quality learning environments for our children.

Along with most industries, we have faced challenges. With the help of both government and community support, we were able to help child care providers increase wages while keeping quality child care affordable for families.

We are honored to serve families and invest in the future of our children through the many programs and services offered at ELCMC. We are proud to invest in over 100 small businesses in the community. We are thankful to our many community partners who make our work possible.

Sincerely,
Robert Colen
2021-2022 FINANCES*

$33.2 Million Budget

- $13.6 million in direct School Readiness and VPK child care services
- $17.1 million in non-direct services, including classroom materials and provider and parent training

*Preliminary as of 8/16/22

OPEN FOR BUSINESS
The Early Learning Coalition of Marion County provided additional resources to child care providers to support our community’s youngest learners as the community continued to feel impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE AND RELIEF SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS (CRRSA)
Over $3 million in federal grant funding was provided to child care providers who served families through the pandemic.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA)
$1.8 million in additional federal funding was provided to operating child care businesses to assist them during the COVID-19 crisis.

PROVIDER STABILITY SUPPORT FUNDS
School Readiness child care providers received further financial support from ELCMC in February 2022.

PROVIDER REIMBURSEMENT RATE INCREASE
The ELCMC Board of Directors received approval from the FL Division of Early Learning to increase the base rate paid to School Readiness contracted child care providers by an average of 33%. The rate increase went into effect on March 1, 2022.
## 2021-2022 Community Impact

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Statistics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children Served</td>
<td>3,945 Monthly Avg. through School Readiness and VPK*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developmental Screenings Conducted</td>
<td>214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teachers Trained</td>
<td>927 Teachers Trained*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parents Attended Classes</td>
<td>257 Parents Attended Classes*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pack 'n Plays Distributed</td>
<td>109 Pack 'n Plays Distributed Success By 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children's Books Distributed</td>
<td>27,331 Children's Books Distributed + 427 Read Aloud 15 Minutes Partners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diapers Distributed</td>
<td>59,613 Diapers Distributed + 39,088 Diapers Collected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diapers Distributed</td>
<td>72 Car Seats Distributed Buckle Up for Life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website Users</td>
<td>35,741 Website Users + 112 media mentions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Events Participated</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Presentations Provided</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facebook Reach</td>
<td>6,089 Avg. Monthly Facebook Reach</td>
</tr>
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</table>

*Includes duplicates

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**Fordham Early Learning Academy**

The Early Learning Coalition of Marion County is proud to partner with Marion County Public Schools at the new Fordham Early Learning Academy. The Academy is a school of choice open to VPK and kindergarten students in the 2022-2023 school year. The Fordham Early Learning Academy will focus on literacy skills, social-emotional learning concepts, and music enrichment. Fittingly, the Academy is named for Edmond Fordham, a career educator and administrator in Marion County Public Schools who, after retiring, went on to mentor aspiring school administrators enrolled in the Early Education and Exceptional Student Education programs. Fordham is remembered for being an avid reader and a community leader who enjoyed helping others - a legacy that will live on through generations of Fordham Early Learning Academy graduates.
OUR WHY!

“Today I was down to 3 diapers and this blessing happened.”
- Jennifer, who was struggling with health issues, received diapers and wipes for her 2 daughters (Success By 6)

“I am now able to use up-to-date screenings to bring to [my son’s] doctor, therapists and his school to make sure he is getting the best possible care.”
- Destiny, mother of son with autism (Help Me Grow)

“The parenting class has helped us be more attentive to the kids’ feelings and also talk to them more.”
- Nitzabelle (Success By 6)

“Good Beginnings = Great Endings!”

“[The staff at ELCMC] have provided me with valuable resources I desperately need, and it has lessened the stress in dealing with trying to get established in this community.”
- Andrea, a mom new to FL (School Readiness & Success By 6)

“I haven’t needed daycare in a very long time, so this was brand new to me all over again. I’m happy that I found the ELCMC because I know it will make a huge difference.”
- Joy, mom of 2 teens and an infant (School Readiness)

“This contribution from the Early Learning Coalition enables us to fulfill our mission of providing educational opportunities in a Christ-centered environment of academic excellence.”
- Meredith Garner, Director of Advancement, Grace Christian School
Thank you to our many community partners whose contributions help us meet families’ needs.

Adam Hanson Better Communities Fund  Kid City USA Ocala
AdventHealth  Kids Zone
Altrusa International of Ocala  Law Office of Melissa K Hancock
ASTRA Clubs  Marion County Children’s Alliance
Barnes & Noble  Marion County Public Library System
Brick City Information Technology  Marion County Public Schools
CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion  Monarch Leadership Group
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints  Ocala Electric
Circle Square Foundation  Ocala Fraternal Order of Eagles
Citizens First Bank  Ocala Metro Chamber & Economic Partnership
City of Ocala Recreation & Parks  Ocala Women’s Network
Clermont Radiology  On Top of the World
College of Central Florida  Panzer Concierge Medicine
Crippen & Co.  Publix Super Markets
Discount School Supply  Purvis Gray
Episcopal Children’s Services  Sholom Park
Florida Credit Union  Spirit of Love Childcare Centers Inc.
Florida Public Relations Association Ocala Chapter  Renasant Bank
H2 Advisors  Texas Roadhouse
Heart of Florida  The TJX Foundation, Inc.
Help Me Grow Florida  University of Florida, Lastinger Center for Learning
Hennessey Family Foundation  Wellcare
The JPB Foundation  Zone Health & Fitness
Key Clubs

The information provided in this report is believed to be accurate as of the end of our 2021 - 2022 fiscal year. However, no claims, promises, or guarantees about the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the information is made. All information provided is public record. For additional details, email info@elc-marion.org.