



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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1,305 Children Enrolled Into Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten during Kick Off Event

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Jan. 31, 2011 — Early Learning Coalition of Duval (ELC of Duval) enrolled more than **1,305** four- year-olds into the FREE Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) program this weekend at the VPK Kick Off, which was held at the FSCJ Downtown campus, Fletcher High School and Ed White High School. The event drew **the 2nd largest number of parents and families** in the history of VPK in Jacksonville.

"We could not be more thrilled with the turn out this weekend," said Susan Main, executive director of ELC of Duval. "Every child deserves a great education; VPK helps set the stage for bright futures by laying a foundation of *quality* early learning. I'm so pleased to see this many families taking a proactive approach in getting their children enrolled into VPK."

Wachovia, A Wells-Fargo Company, sponsored the Kick-Off and will continue to sponsor other community events in the spring including a series of community sign-ups throughout the city. These enrollment events give parents the opportunity to register for the VPK program. **(See attached flyer for sign-up dates.)**

The first community sign-up will be on Tuesday, Feb. 8 at Ribault High School from 6-7:30 p.m. Dates and locations for other sign-ups are available at www.ChooseQualityChildCare.org.

To be eligible for VPK, children must turn 4 years old on, or before, Sept. 1, and they must live in Florida. When enrolling for VPK, parents will need to bring **1** proof of child's age **and 1** proof of Florida residency. Typical examples for each are:

For proof of age: *(Child must be born between 9/2/2006 and 9/1/2007.)*
Birth Certificate, Blue shot records signed by doctor, Passport or Military ID.

For proof of residency:
THE ADDRESS MUST MATCH THE APPLICATION.

Driver's License, Utility bill, Lease Agreement, FL Vehicle Registration Card or Pay stub
* *We are also asking parents to provide their child's Social Security number.*

To find more information about VPK, or to find an enrollment in your area, call 904-208-2044 or visit www.ChooseQualityChildCare.org. Year-round registration is also available at the Early Learning Coalition of Duval office.

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