



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ELC of Duval Receives IBM KidSmart Grant to Provide Computers for Non-Profit Child Care Providers

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. September 23, 2010 — The Early Learning Coalition of Duval is one of the recipients of the 2010 IBM KidSmart Early Learning Program Grant through the Association of Early Learning Coalitions (AELC), *an organization representing the Executive Directors of Florida's 31 Early Learning Coalitions.*

The Early Learning Coalition of Duval is responsible for local administration of early learning programs in Duval County and is dedicated to supporting early learning providers in delivering services that support good outcomes for young children and their families. The IBM KidSmart Grant will enable the coalition to distribute 10 computer systems loaded with high quality early education software to not-for-profit early learning sites that serve low-income children. Local not-for-profit recipients were selected based on their commitment to serving low-income children and enhancing quality of care.

All centers were asked to complete the Patriots Act form and to submit a 501(c)3 certificate. The centers receiving the grant were the centers who complied by submitting the 501(c)3 certificate requested.

The recipients are: BUILDERS OF THE FAITH CHRISTIAN DAYCARE, FAITH ACADEMY AND DAY CARE, HOLY ROSARY SCHOOL, KINGDOM KIDS DAY CARE, INC (PEARL ST), OPEN ARMS CHRISTIAN CHILD CARE, SAINT PIUS V PARISH SCHOOL, TRINITY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY and WESLEY CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER.

The KidSmart Early Learning Program will provide important resources to support children's success and improve the quality of early learning environments.

Susan Main, Executive Director of ELC Duval stated, *"We are proud of the work we do for the families and children of Duval County. This grant from IBM is much appreciated and will help children in the selected centers improve their education and access to technology."*

The Association of Early Learning Coalitions (AELC) is organization dedicated to good outcomes for young children and their families. The 31 Early Learning Coalitions are responsible for local administration of early learning programs throughout Florida. The IBM KidSmart Grant will enable the AELC to distribute 100 computer systems loaded with high quality early education software to not-for-profit early learning sites that serve low-income children. Sixteen of the 31 Early Learning Coalitions will be participating in the grant: Okaloosa-Walton, Escambia, Santa Rosa, Northwest Florida, Duval, Florida's Gateway, Lake, Marion, Pasco-Hernando, Orange, Manatee, Pinellas, Polk, Sarasota, Broward, and Indian River. The KidSmart Early Learning Program will provide important resources to support children's success and improve the quality of early learning environments.

To learn more about other Early Learning Coalition of Duval's programs (including VPK or Guiding Stars of Duval) call **(904) 208-2044** or visit www.ChooseQualityChildCare.org.

To learn more about the Association of Early Learning Coalitions, please visit www.earlylearningassociation.org.

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