ECC's Early Childhood Community Resources Guide

Resources for children from birth to age 8 and families in Hillsborough County
The Early Childhood Council of Hillsborough County, Inc.
Community Resources Guide

The Early Childhood Council of Hillsborough County, Inc. (ECC) is pleased to provide this resource guide as part of an effort to provide information about supports & services in our community. Each program listed provides serves children from birth to age 8 and their families in Hillsborough County. Most services are provided free or at low cost to families.

The Early Childhood Council was founded in 1983 to increase community awareness and access to services for young children with special needs. Today, ECC continues its rich tradition of advocacy, education, and innovation on behalf of all children. With representation from over 40 human service organizations as well as families, ECC members work together in a variety of activities and programs to help ensure the optimal development, health, and wellness of children in Hillsborough County.

We would like to extend our thanks to all of the organizations that participated in this project. A special thanks to the Children’s Board of Hillsborough County for their generous support of the Early Childhood Council, and, more importantly, for their commitment to improving the lives of children and families in Hillsborough County. If you would like more information about the Early Childhood Council, please contact us or visit www.ecctampabay.org.

The Early Childhood Council of Hillsborough County, Inc.
4210 West Bay Villa Ave.
Tampa, FL 33611

For a more comprehensive list of available supports & services throughout Hillsborough County to children and adults, you can contact 2-1-1 or visit www.211atyourfingertips.org.

Proudly Funded By

The Children’s Board of Hillsborough County was created by voters in 1988 to improve the lives of children and their families in Hillsborough County. The Children’s Board demonstrates this mission by supporting local prevention and early intervention supports and services through funding, advocacy, and partnership.
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Alpha House of Tampa
Maternity and Residential

Contact Person & Title: Barbara McCormick, LCSW, Director of Programs
Carolyn Glenn, MA, Program Manager

Contact Phone: (813) 875-2024

Contact Email: bmccormick@alphahouseoftampa.org or cglenn@alphahouseoftampa.org

Fax: (813) 876-0657

Address: 201 S. Tampania Ave., Tampa, FL 33609

Web Site: www.alphahouseoftampa.org

Program Description: Alpha House provides a maternity based comprehensive residential program for up to 23 pregnant women and foster care teens and a transitional housing program for 16 homeless women who are newly parenting. Alpha House of Tampa’s maternity home is the only licensed maternity home in Hillsborough County. We have an on-site Parents as Teachers Program, Case Management, Counseling, and Alpha Academy focused on literacy and life skills.


Service Area: Hillsborough County

Referral Process: Call or visit website for an application. Intake appointments will be scheduled with each client.

Eligibility Criteria: Homeless pregnant and parenting women and their children in Hillsborough County.

Bilingual Services: Yes
Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD)
Medicaid Waiver Program ("MedWaiver")

Contact Person & Title: Glorie Singleton, APD Community Liaison
Contact Phone: (813) 233-4318
Contact Email: Glorie_Singleton@apd.state.fl.us
Fax: (813) 233-4302
Address: 1313 N. Tampa St., Suite 515, Tampa, FL 33602
Web Site: www.apd.myflorida.com

Program Description: Individualized services funded by the MedWaiver Program include day activities such as supported employment, adult day training, companion and non-residential supports and services, and extend to residential services that include specialized medical or behavioral services. All services must be medically necessary and meet conditions established by the Agency for Health Care Administration.

Population Served: Individuals with a developmental disability that meet eligibility criteria defined by Florida Statute 393.

Service Area: Suncoast Region includes Hillsborough, Desoto, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas and Sarasota Counties.

Referral Process: Call for appointment in Hillsborough at (813) 233-4300, or download application for services at http://www.apd.myflorida.com/customers/application.htm. For more information, call toll free at (866) 273-2273.

Eligibility Criteria: Eligible customers include Florida residents ages 3 and above, diagnosed as having one or more of the following categorical developmental disabilities (onset prior to age 18 and can be reasonably expected to last): Mental Retardation, Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Spina Bifida, Prader-Willi Syndrome, and High-Risk.

Bilingual Services: Yes, available upon request.
Baby Signs By Lisa Fields

Contact Person & Title: Lisa Fields

Contact Phone: (813) 353-0957

Contact Email: lisa.fields@babysignsprogram.com

Fax: N/A

Address: 3130 W. Powhatan, Tampa, FL 33614

Web Site: www.babysignsprogram.com/bylisafields

Program Description: the Baby Signs Program helps children develop both language and cognitive skills. Studies show that babies who sign actually develop speech sooner and have larger vocabularies when they do start talking. Baby Signs is based on research which began an international movement to teach hearing babies to sign. Baby Signs offers many workshops; to teach babies and toddlers, parents, caregivers and child care professionals how to use Baby Signs every day.

Population Served: All

Service Area: All

Referral Process: Call for information

Eligibility Criteria: Call for information

Bilingual Services: Call for information
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tampa Bay, Inc.
Mentoring Program

Contact Person & Title: Jennifer Libby

Contact Phone: (813) 769-3629

Contact Email: Jennifer.libby@bbbsfl.org

Fax: (813) 877-7057

Address: 711 S. Dale Mabry Hgwy, Suite 300, Tampa, FL 33609

Web Site: www.bbbsfl.org

Program Description: To strengthen our community through high quality, life-enriching mentoring relationships between volunteers and children.

Population Served: Boys and girls between 5 – 12 years old.

Service Area: Hillsborough, Pasco or Polk counties

Referral Process: Call for information.

Eligibility Criteria: Child in service area between the ages of 5 and 12 years. Boys must not have a consistent adult male in their life.

Bilingual Services: Yes
Camp Bayou Outdoor Learning Center
Nature Stations

Contact Person & Title: Dolly Cummings, EE Director
Contact Phone: (813) 641-8545
Contact Email: campbayou@gmail.com
Fax: (813) 641-8545
Address: 4140 24th St. SE, Ruskin, FL 33570
Web Site: www.campbayou.org

Program Description: Variety of programs exploring nature through hands on activities.

Population Served: Pre-K through adult

Service Area: Tampa Bay area

Referral Process: Call or email

Eligibility Criteria: NA

Bilingual Services: Possible, but not the norm.
Bay Area Early Steps

Agencies: Infants & Young Children of West Central Florida, Inc. (IYC)
University of South Florida (USF), Division of Child Development

Contact Persons & Titles: Pat Grosz, Ph.D., Executive Director, IYC
John Landi, Early Steps Coordinator, USF

Contact Phone: IYC: (813) 375-3980, ext. 126 or 123 (Hillsborough County)
IYC: (863) 686-1221, ext. 228 (Polk County)
USF: 1-866-549-1740 Back-up (813) 974-0602 (for all referrals to the program)

Contact Email: IYC: pgrosz@tampabay.rr.com, jatkinson@tampabay.rr.com
USF: jlandi@health.usf.edu

Main Phone: IYC: (813) 375-3980
USF: (813) 974-0602 (for referrals to the program)

Main Fax: IYC: (813) 375-3984
USF: (813) 558-1343

Address: IYC: 1308 W. Sligh Ave., Tampa, Florida 33604
USF: USF, Early Steps
13101 North Bruce B. Downs Blvd., Tampa, Florida 33612

Web Site: www.early-intervention.org

Program Description: The Bay Area Early Steps program serves infants and toddlers from birth to 36 months who have developmental disabilities or delays. All children in this age range for which there is a suspicion of a developmental concern should be referred, as the program is a federal entitlement program under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The program provides service coordination, medical and behavioral specialists, early intervention and therapy services, family support services, provider and family workshops, equipment and adaptive toy lending libraries.

Organization of Region: USF provides entry into the Bay Area system (Polk and Hillsborough Counties) with Child Find, service coordination and eligibility evaluations via developmental, medical, and behavioral specialists. They provide guidance, coordination, and assistance to community teams that conduct eligibility evaluations, provide direct services such as therapy, early intervention, and instructional support. USF provides for the development, coordination, and monitoring of the Individualized Family Support Plan (IFSP), which documents eligibility and treatment interventions. USF provides professional staff to support provider and family development through trainings and in-services, outreach, community collaboration, and agency partnerships.
Infants & Young Children of West Central Florida, Inc., known as IYC, operates the provider network for the Bay Area region. It serves as the network’s fiscal agent and home for the local Early Steps Central Directory. Early intervention, therapy services, and family support services are networked through IYC. This includes provider and family workshops, equipment and adaptive toy lending libraries, as well as direct services. IYC provides marketing and outreach services, and serves on local boards to increase linkages for the program and to cultivate support services for families.

**Population Served:** Infants & toddlers with developmental disabilities and delays or who are at high risk for developmental delays.

**Service Area:** Hillsborough and Polk Counties

**Referral Process:** Referrals can be directed to the *Referral Line* at (813) 974-0602, or faxed to (813) 558-1343.

**Eligibility Criteria:** Developmental disability or delay, or the suspicion of a disability of delay. No financial criteria.

**Bilingual Services:** Spanish, Creole, Deaf and Hard of Hearing; other interpreters arranged as needed.
Champions for Children
Baby Bungalow

Contact Persons & Titles: Patricia Pead, Program Director

Contact Phone: (813) 356-1293 ext 1146

Email: babybung@tampabay.rr.com

Main Phone: (813) 356-1293, Ext 1147

Main Fax: (813) 356-1295

Address: 3108 W. Azeele St., Tampa, FL 33609

Web Site: www.babybungalow.org

Program Description: New and experienced parents benefit from developmental playgroups which encourage growth in developmental domains – cognitive, fine motor, gross motor, language and social-emotional – and school readiness. Other classes include music, infant massage, baby sign language, Tools for Positive Behavior, and a playgroup for children with Down’s Syndrome. Each child is able to be developmentally screened and the caregiver can have a one-on-one discussion with a trained evaluator.

Population Served: Children birth – 5 years old & their caregivers.

Service Area: Services are available at multiple locations in Hillsborough County, including the Children’s Board Family Resource Centers.

Referral Process: The caregiver can call Baby Bungalow to register for a group.

Eligibility Criteria: None

Bilingual Services: Yes
Champions for Children
Parents as Teachers

Contact Person & Title: Georgina Rivera, Program Director

Contact Phone: (813) 356-1293 ext 1145

Email: grivera@cfctb.org

Fax: (813) 356-1295

Address: 3108 W Azeele St., Tampa, FL 33609

Web Site: www.championsforchildrentampabay.org

Program Description:
The Parents as Teachers program is grounded in these basic beliefs:

- Parents are their children’s first and most influential teachers
- The early years of a child’s life are critical for optimal development and provide the foundation for success in school and life.
- All young children and their families deserve the same opportunities to succeed, regardless of demographic, geographic, or economic considerations.

Parents as Teachers is a no-cost, in-home service that is relationship-based and parenting-focused. Our goal is to help build on parent’s own strengths using the most up-to-date research on brain science, child development, and early learning. We provide information on child development and will show parents how to create homemade “toys” that encourage development and foster the parent-child relationship. We serve all families in Hillsborough County, prenatally until 1st grade.

Population Served: Any family that is expecting or has a child from birth to 1st grade.

Service Area: Hillsborough County

Referral Process: Contact Georgina Rivera for a referral form

Eligibility Criteria: Reside in Hillsborough County and fall in target population

Bilingual Services: Yes
The Children’s Home, Inc.
Supporting and Empowering Educational and Developmental Services (SEEDS)

Contact Person & Title: Chamain Moss-Torres, Ph.D.
Contact Phone: (813) 901-3442
Contact Email: cmoss@childrenshome.org
Main Phone: (813) 901-3442
Fax: (813) 882-3689
Address: 5520 West Idlewild Avenue Tampa, FL 33634
Web Site: www.childrenshome.org

Program Description: Supporting and Empowering Educational and Developmental Services (SEEDS) is a program designed to support and empower families in their child’s educational, social, and developmental experience. Families engaged in the SEEDS program partner with school personnel to ensure their child’s success in school. They also become active in their neighborhoods and communities, promote safety, engage in growth promoting activities with their children and capitalize on family strengths in an effort to create positive changes within their family.

Population Served: Children age 3 – 3rd grade

Service Area: Hillsborough County

Referral Process: Complete an application online at www.childrenshome.org OR fax a completed application OR mail a completed application ATTN: SEEDS Program. Call the SEEDS program with any questions.

Eligibility Criteria: Families with children age 3 through 3rd grade who reside in Hillsborough County and have concerns regarding their child’s readiness for school and/or have a child experiencing academic challenges. Children who have been screened and determined to have a developmental delay or who are performing below academic grade level.

Bilingual Services: Yes
Crisis Center of Tampa Bay
2-1-1 Tampa Bay

Contact Person & Title: Cheryl Donish-Ricker
Resource Specialist I/Community Liaison

Contact Phone: (813) 969-4936

Contact Email: cdonish@crisiscenter.com

Main Phone: 211

Fax: (813) 964-1564

Address: One Crisis Center Plaza, Tampa, FL 33613

Web Site: www.211atyourfingertips.org

Program Description: 2-1-1 Tampa Bay, a division of the Crisis Center of Tampa Bay, offers a safe place to call for help 24-hours-a-day, 365 days a year. 2-1-1 is the community’s gateway to health and human services, helping people navigate the complex and ever-growing maze of human service programs and agencies. Certified staff and volunteer crisis counselors provide immediate and confidential short-term crisis counseling/intervention, facilitative and problem solving counseling, advocacy, and information and referral to over 3,000 human services available in Hillsborough County, including resources for: basic needs for food, rent, clothing, shelter and utilities, relationship counseling, senior services, health and substance abuse issues, depression and suicide, teenage issues, parenting help, disaster assistance, legal affairs and financial support.

Population Served: All

Service Area: Hillsborough County

Referral Process: Call directly for assistance.

Eligibility Criteria: Open

Bilingual Services: *Interpreters are available for 150 different languages through a national interpretation service. Through this service, staff members can communicate with speakers of all languages within moments.
Crisis Center of Tampa Bay
Child Development Infoline (CDI)

Contact Person & Title: Helen Coaston

Contact Phone: (813) 486-3162

Contact Email: hcoaston@crisiscenter.com

Main Phone: 2-1-1

Fax: (813) 964-1564

Address: One Crisis Center Plaza, Tampa, FL 33613

Web Site: N/A

Program Description: The Crisis Center of Tampa Bay, in partnership with Hispanic Services Council and Bethesda Ministries offers single point of access, through 2-1-1, for developmental screening services in Hillsborough County. Child Development Infoline (CDI) Care Coordinators will provide comprehensive system navigation through intake, triage, referral and connection to resources and services.

Population Served: Children birth – 8 years

Service Area: Hillsborough County

Referral Process: phone intake through 2-1-1

Eligibility Criteria: Children birth – 8 years with developmental concerns

Bilingual Services: Yes
DACCO
Strengthening Families

Contact Person & Title:    Jolene de la Gardelle, Program Manager
Contact Phone:            (813) 384-4136
Contact Email:            jolened@dacco.org
Main Phone:              (813) 984-1818
Main Fax:                (813) 984-1502
Address:                 4422 E. Columbus Drive, Tampa, FL  33605
Web Site:                www.dacco.org

Program Description:     This evidence-based program increases family cohesiveness. Children ages 5-12 receive counseling in their home, at school, and in the community. Specialists work with clients to identify early risk factors that can lead to later risky behaviors. The counselor works with the child individually, and works with the family 1x/month, in the home. Counselors help families set rules and goals that are achievable. Studies show that children, who live in a structured environment, can read, follow rules, communicate, and think more independently, achieve more and report higher feelings of contentment than others. Clients work with the counselor from four months to one year, depending on individual need.

Population Served:       Youth ages 5-12 who are presenting at-risk for future substance use and/or problem behavior.

Service Area:            Hillsborough County

Referral Process:        Complete a 1-page referral form and submit via fax or mail to the address listed above. Person referring can contact Jolene de la Gardelle for eligibility.

Eligibility Criteria:     Youth ages 5-12 in Hillsborough County that are presenting at-risk for future substance use and/or problem behavior.

Bilingual Services:      No
Early Childhood Council
Inclusion Support Services

Contact Persons: Shabel Hastings, Program Coordinator
                Sheila Zendegui, Inclusion Specialist

Contact Phone:   (813) 837-7903

Contact Email:   shastings@ecctampabay.org
                 szendegui@ecctampabay.org

Fax:             (813) 837-7800

Address:         4210 W. Bay Villa Ave., Tampa, FL   33611

Web Site:        www.ecctampabay.org

Program Description: A child care provider resource program to support inclusion of children with special needs in community early care and education programs. The program provides: training; on-site technical assistance; information and referral; materials and light equipment to support inclusion of specific children; develops intervention plans for classroom implementation (with other team members); and linkages to community resources. The program is designed to provide support to preschool classroom teachers/staff that are including or interested in including children with developmental and/or behavioral difficulties.

Population Served: Preschool children, birth to 5 years, who are experiencing difficulties in group care due to developmental and/or behavioral difficulties, and school-aged children 6 to 12 years, in public school special education programs, during their after school care/summer camp programs.

Service Area: Hillsborough County

Referral Process: 1) Hillsborough County Interagency Referral Alert form completed and signed by the parent/guardian of child;

Eligibility Criteria: Child must live in Hillsborough County and be enrolled in a Hillsborough County licensed child care program (center or family child care home).

Bilingual Services: Yes
Early Childhood Council
ECC/FDLRS Early Childhood Developmental Screening Program

Contact Persons & Titles:  Abby Perez, Program Coordinator

Contact Phone:  (813) 837-7706

Email:  aperez@ecctampabay.org

Fax:  (813) 837-7721 or (813) 837-7719

Address:  4210 W. Bay Villa Ave., Tampa, FL  33611

Web Site:  www.ecctampabay.org

Program Description:  Children living in Hillsborough County who are birth to 5 years of age are screened in the areas of vision, hearing, speech/language, cognitive, motor development, and behavior. The purpose is to identify children who are at risk for developmental delay or disability, and to refer them for further evaluation or early intervention resources, when needed. Developmental Screening does not determine eligibility for services. Rather, it determines whether a child is developing in an age-appropriate way and/or whether there is a need for further evaluation.

Population Served:  Children birth to 5 years of age (pre-Kindergarten)

Service Area:  Hillsborough County

Referral Process:  Self-referral or from the community. Parent/caregiver should call (813) 837-7723. A program coordinator will interview the parent via telephone to determine whether to schedule an appointment for comprehensive screening, or to refer the child directly for further evaluation. Spanish speakers may call (813) 837-7724.

Eligibility Criteria:  Children birth to 5 years of age who reside in Hillsborough County; 5-year-olds cannot be in kindergarten or in Hillsborough County Schools.

Bilingual Services:  Yes
The Family Justice Center of Hillsborough County

Contact Person & Title: Alexandria Taylor

Contact Phone: (813) 935-2015

Phone: (813) 935-2015

Email: ataylor@fjchc.org

Fax: (813) 935-2019

Address: 9309 N. Florida Ave., Suite 109, Tampa, FL 33612

Web Site: www.fjchc.org

Program Description: Family violence affects all age groups, social classes, and ethnicities. It is not restricted to any particular group, and often happens in total secrecy. Because of this, people affected by domestic violence often need assistance and support. The Family Justice Center is designed to provide assistance for the short-term crisis and the longer term healing, including emergency assistance, relocation, and basic needs all in one location.


Service Area: Hillsborough County and surrounding areas.

Referral Process: None.

Eligibility Criteria: Victims of Domestic Violence

Bilingual Services: Yes
The Family Justice Center of Hillsborough County  
SAIN

Contact Person & Title: Renee Ristow

Contact Phone: (813) 490-4906

Phone: (813) 935-2015

Email: rristow@fjchc.org

Fax: (813) 935-2019

Address: 9309 N. Florida Ave., Suite 109, Tampa, FL 33612

Web Site: www.fjchc.org

Program Description: To provide community awareness, education and training workshops to the community and professional organizations on issues related to healthy sexuality in youth and / or youth with sexual behavior problems. SAIN can help provide information referral and support services to families and professionals working with a child with sexual behavior problems. SAIN is specialized in family assessments to determine appropriate service needed as well as develop a formal safety plan with families who are dealing with child-on-child sexual abuse situations.

Population Served: Under the age of 18 and have a sexual behavior problem.

Service Area: Hillsborough County and surrounding areas.

Referral Process: None.

Eligibility Criteria: Under the age of 18 and have a sexual behavior problem

Bilingual Services: Yes
Florida Department of Health  
Children’s Medical Services

Contact Person & Title: Member Services
Main Phone: (813) 396-9743
Main Fax: (813) 396-9792
Address: 13101 N. Bruce B. Downs Blvd., Tampa, FL 33612
Web Site: www.cms-kids.com

Program Description: The Children's Medical Services program provides children with special health care needs with a family-centered, managed system of care. Children with special health care needs are those children under age 21 whose serious or chronic physical, developmental, behavior or emotional conditions require extensive preventive and maintenance care beyond that require by typically healthy children.

Population Served: Birth to age 21

Service Area: Hillsborough County

Referral Process: Call (813) 396-9743 and ask to speak with member services.

Eligibility Criteria: Up to 200% of federal poverty level. Income may be adjusted to 200% depending on health care need.

Bilingual Services: Yes
**Healthy Start Coalition**  
**Healthy Families Hillsborough**

**Contact Person & Title:**  
Barbara Macelli, Program Manager

**Contact Phone:**  
(813) 233-2800, Ext 118

**Contact Email:**  
bmacelli@hstart.org

**Main Phone:**  
(813) 233-2800

**Main Fax:**  
(813) 233-2809

**Address:**  
2806 N. Armenia Ave. Suite 100, Tampa, Fl. 33607

**Web Site:**  
[www.healthystartcoalition.org](http://www.healthystartcoalition.org)

**Program Description:**  
Healthy Families Hillsborough is a voluntary, home visiting program for pregnant women or families with a newborn less than two weeks of age. Families are asked to commit to weekly home visits for the first six months and can remain in the program for up to five years.

**Population Served:**  
Women, infants and families.

**Service Area:**  
Call for specific zip codes served in Hillsborough County.

**Referral Process:**  
Call for eligibility determination.

**Eligibility Criteria:**  
Call.

**Bilingual Services:**  
Yes
Healthy Start Coalition
Children’s Board Family Resource Centers

Contact Person & Title:  Marisa Mowat, Director

Contact Phone:  (813) 233-2800 ext 104

Contact Email:  mmowat@hstart.org

Main Phone:  (813) 233-2800

Main Fax:  (813) 233-2809

Address:  2806 N. Armenia Ave. Suite 100, Tampa, Fl 33607

Web Site:  www.familysupporthc.org

Program Description:  Children’s Board Family Resource Centers are located throughout Hillsborough County to meet the needs of individuals and families from all walks of life. Programs and services are at no cost to members and are planned by community councils. Managing partners include:  Bright Beginnings, Champions for Children, The Children’s Home, Inc., Family Community Advisory Councils, REACHUP Inc., and St. Joseph’s Children’s Advocacy Center.  The centers are a refreshing, homelike environment where parents, children and youth are encouraged to discover the many opportunities available which include:  Prenatal classes, information and referral, developmental play groups, developmental screening, CPR & first aid certification, mobile services, mobile clinic services, car seat safety, parent support groups, Kidcare enrollment support, computer access & classes, and family counseling.

Locations include:
Brandon:  1271 Kingsway Road, Brandon 33510 / (813) 740-4634
Central Tampa:  1002 E Palm Ave, Tampa 33605 / (813) 204-1741
North Tampa:  1401 E Fowler Ave, Tampa 33612 / (813) 558-1877
South County:  3030 E College Ave, Ruskin 33570 / (813) 641-5600
Town N Country:  7520 W Waters Ave #8, Tampa 33615 / (813) 356-1703

Population Served:  All Hillsborough county residents.

Service Area:  Hillsborough County

Referral Process:  Call or visit the center nearest you.

Eligibility Criteria:  No eligibility, serving all children, youth and adults

Bilingual Services:  Yes
Healthy Start Coalition
Mom Care Program

Contact Person & Title: Monica Rodriguez, Program Supervisor

Email: mrodriguez@hstart.org

Main Phone: (813) 233-2964

Main Fax: (813) 233-2856

Address: 2806 N. Armenia Avenue, Tampa, FL 33607

Web Site: www.healthystartcoalition.org

Program Description: Momcare links pregnant women with free health insurance coverage. Once accepted into the program clients will receive guidance selecting a prenatal care provider, assistance scheduling initial prenatal visits, and information about state programs for which they may be eligible. Once enrolled, the program will cover medical care and hospitalization during pregnancy. It may also cover health care bills received up to three months before enrollment. There is no cost for this coverage. Baby may also be eligible for free insurance after he or she is born.

Population Served: Pregnant women

Service Area: Hillsborough County

Referral Process: Call our office for application (813)233-2964 or visit our website

Eligibility Criteria: 185% income guidelines, eligible due to pregnancy. Simplified application process includes a one-page application and notification of eligibility within 10 business days

Bilingual Services: Yes
Healthy Start Coalition
Healthy Start Program

Contact Person & Title: Maria Tamayo
Email: mtamayo@s4kf.org
Main Phone: (813) 871-7412
Main Fax: (813) 871-7416
Address: 2806 N. Armenia Avenue, Suite 100, Tampa, FL 33607
Web Site: www.healthystartcoalition.org

Program Description: The Healthy Start program provides moms, newborns and families with education, resources and support through services in the home, hospital or other community setting, one-on-one phone calls, and support group, depending on the needs and requests of the mom.

Population Served: Pregnant women and new moms with babies up to the age of one.

Service Area: Hillsborough County


Eligibility Criteria: Please call

Bilingual Services: Yes
Healthy Start Coalition
Safe Baby Plus

Contact Person & Title: Lisa Colen, Community Outreach Director
Email: lcolen@hstart.org
Main Phone: (813) 233-2800 ext 110
Main Fax: (813) 233-2809
Address: 2806 N. Armenia Avenue Suite 100, Tampa, FL 33607
Web Site: www.healthystartcoalition.org

Program Description: A universal prevention program delivered to parents prior to discharge home with newborn addressing three leading causes of preventable infant death including choosing a safe caregiver, preventing shaken baby syndrome and practicing safe sleep. Also provides 12 month developmental screening program to infants in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Parents of healthy babies, infants in the NICU and substance exposed newborns all receive services and materials tailored to their specific needs.

Population Served: NICU families in TGH, St. Joseph’s Women’s Hospital, Florida Hospital and Brandon Regional Hospital.

Service Area: Hillsborough County

Referral Process: Through above mentioned hospitals.

Eligibility Criteria: NICU families in TGH, St. Joseph’s Women’s Hospital, Florida Hospital and Brandon Regional Hospital.

Bilingual Services: Yes
Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners
Head Start/Early Head Start Program

Contact Person & Title: Louis A. Finney, Jr., Division Director
Department of Family and Aging Services

Contact Phone: (813) 272-5140

Contact Email: FinneyL@hillsboroughcounty.org

Main Phone: (813) 272-5140

Main Fax: (813) 975-2161

Address: 3639 West Waters Ave., Suite 500, Tampa, FL 33614

Web Site: www.hillsboroughcounty.org/headstart/

Program Description: Hillsborough County low-income children and families are
provided early childhood and prenatal education, family medical, dental, mental
health, nutrition and social service. In Hillsborough County the program serves 3,474
infants, toddler and children as well as pregnant women on an annual basis. Of
these enrollment slots, 3,107 are for Head Start, 343 are for Early Head Start and 24
are for expectant parents. Hillsborough County operates 19 of its own centers and
contracts with Hillsborough County Public Schools to serve additional children at
elementary school sites. Partnerships with Tampa Area Metropolitan YMCA and
Lutheran Services Florida provide services for infants and toddlers through a family
care provider option. Seven contracted child care partners also assist in providing
services in high-demand areas.

Population Served: Low-income children 6 weeks to 5 years old and
their families, including those with special needs, and pregnant mothers.

Service Area: Hillsborough County

Referral Process: Call 272-5140 for application to be mailed, stop by
any Head Start/Early Head Start center to speak with a Sr. Case Manager, or
download application at
http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/headstart/resources/forms/.

Eligibility Criteria: Child must be age-eligible: 6 weeks to 24 months for Early Head
Start, and 3 years old by (September 1st)-5 years old for Head Start. Parent must be
working at least 25 hours a week, or in school or job training full-time. Family must
be below Federal Poverty Guideline for income or receive public assistance (SSI,
TANF, or Subsidized Child Care).

Bilingual Services: Yes
Hillsborough County Health Department
Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Supplemental Nutrition Program

Agencies: Hillsborough County Health Department

Contact Person & Title: Tara Spiller, RD, LD/N

Phone: (813) 307-8074

Contact Email: tara_spiller@doh.state.fl.us

Fax: (813) 272-5408

Address: 2002 E. 26th Avenue, Tampa, FL 33605

Web Site: www.floridawic.org

Program Description: WIC is a federally funded supplemental nutrition program for eligible Women, Infants, and Children up to the age of 5. WIC provides nutrition education, breastfeeding support, and other health care referrals. WIC also supplies vouchers for healthy foods such as fruits and vegetable, whole grains, low fat milk, beans, peanut butter, and some baby foods and cereals. The breast pump loaner program and classes help moms to continue breastfeeding while returning back to every day requirements.

Population Served: Lower income (up to 185% of the poverty level). Women who are pregnant, breastfeeding, or postpartum and infants and children up to the age of 5.

Service Area: Hillsborough County

Referral Process: Please call (813) 307-8074

Eligibility Criteria: Income eligible (total household income equal to or less than the amount in the WIC Income Guidelines, or if you are currently receiving Medicaid, Temporary Cash Assistance or Food Assistance).

Bilingual Services: Yes
Hillsborough County Public Schools
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)

Contact Person & Title: Betsy Drake, Program Manager
Child Care Resource & Referral

Contact Phone: (813) 744-8942

Contact Email: betsy.drake@sdhc.k12.fl.us

Main Phone: (813) 744-8941, Ext. 232

Main Fax: (813) 664-8399

Address: Net Park, 5701 E. Hillsborough Ave, Ste 2301
Tampa, FL 33610

Web Site: www.elc.org OR http://earlychildhood.mysdhc.org

Program Description: CCR&R, through a contract with the Early Learning Coalition of Hillsborough County, provides services to families, child care providers and the community. A database of legally operating child care providers in our county is maintained by CCR&R and is a source of demographic and statistical information on providers and parents. CCR&R generates free personalized listings of child care and consumer information for any parent/guardian. This information is designed to empower families to make informed choices on their child care needs.

Population Served: All families, child care providers, and businesses in Hillsborough County are eligible to receive CCR&R services.

Service Area: Hillsborough County

Referral Process: CCR&R referrals are offered via telephone, in person, email, mail, or web. An interested parent may visit any of our offices: Net Park, 5701 E. Hillsborough Ave, Suite 2301, Tampa, FL 33610; Bay Plaza 9325 Bay Plaza, Tampa, FL 33619; North Tampa, 9309 N. Florida Avenue, Suite 104, Tampa, FL 33612; Plant City, 701 Tillman Place, Plant City, FL 33566.

Eligibility Criteria: None.

Bilingual Services: Yes
Hillsborough County Public Schools
FDLRS Child Find

Contact Persons & Titles: Michael Levine, Supervisor; Emily Cimino, Coordinator
Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FDLRS)

Email: Emily.cimino@sdhc.k12.fl.us

Main Phone: (813) 837-7777 (main office)
(813) 837-7723 (Developmental Screening)
(813) 837-7714 (Spanish line)

Fax: (813) 837-7719 (or 7702)

Address: 4210 W. Bay Villa Ave., Tampa, FL 33611

Web Site: http://fdlrs.mysdhc.org

Program Description: Child Find is responsible for providing information, awareness, outreach, and evaluation activities to help identify preschool-age children who have or are at risk for disabilities. Developmental screening is conducted to determine whether a child should be referred to an ESE (Exceptional Student Education) Pre-Kindergarten assessment team and/or other community resources. Results from ESE Pre-K assessments can determine whether a child is eligible to receive special education services.

Population Served: Birth to 22 years of age, with an emphasis on screening and assessing preschool children from 3 to 5 years of age.

Service Area: Hillsborough County

Referral Process: Call the Developmental Screening number above. If the child is 3 to 5 years old and has not yet started Kindergarten, families will be directed to the ECC/FDLRS Developmental Screening Program to discuss their concerns. A determination will be made to schedule an appointment for developmental screening or to refer directly for evaluation.

Bilingual Services: Yes
Hillsborough County Public Schools
Head Start Program

Contact Persons & Titles: Evelyn E. McFadden, Supervisor
Brenda Mount, Community Partnerships
Program Manager

Contact Phone: (813) 744-8941, Ext. 387
Contact Email: Brenda.mount@sdhc.k12.fl.us
Main Phone: (813) 740-7870 ext. 365
Fax: (813) 740-7892
Address: 4350 East Ellicott Street, Tampa FL 33610
Web Site: www.sdhc.k12.fl.us

Program Description: The Head Start Program provides a comprehensive child
development program to preschool children from families below poverty level, to
prepare them intellectually, socially, emotionally, and physically for school and life.
Hillsborough County Public Schools Head Start operates in 45 elementary schools in
Hillsborough County, providing services to 1,759 children ages 3 to 5 and their
families. Services include education, mental health, health, family services, support
groups, nutrition, parent involvement and disabilities. We promote excellence and
focus on improving your child's socialization, education, literacy, health and self help
skills.

Population Served: Children ages 3 to 5

Service Area: Throughout Hillsborough County (all zip codes)

Referral Process: Agency referral; phone call

Eligibility Criteria: Families who live in Hillsborough County and meet
income criteria with a child who will be 3 or 4 years old by September 1st can contact
us at (813) 744-8941, ext. 393 or 357, or download our enrollment form and take it
to the selected school.

Bilingual Services: Yes
Hillsborough County Public Schools
Parent Services

Contact Person & Title: Millie Bucy, Parent Services Program Manager
Florida Diagnostic & Learning Resources System

Contact Phone: (813) 837-7732

Contact Email: Mildred.Bucy@sdhc.k12.fl.us

Main Phone: (813) 837-7777

Main Fax: (813) 837-7702

Address: 4210 W. Bay Villa Avenue, Tampa, FL 33611

Web Sites:
- Hillsborough County Public Schools, Department of Exceptional Student Education (ESE): www1.sdhc.k12.fl.us/%7Eese.dept/
- Florida Diagnostic & Learning Resources System (FDLRS): www1.sdhc.k12.fl.us/~fdlrs/
- Parent Services: www1.sdhc.k12.fl.us/~fdlrs/parent_services.htm

Program Description:
Parent Liaison Project. The HCPS ESE Department and FDLRS Parent Services offer a project to benefit parents of exceptional students in Hillsborough County. Seven parents (one for each of the 7 geographic areas of the district) are hired by General Area Directors to serve as support and information specialists. Area Parent Liaisons are all parents of students who are (or have been) enrolled in ESE programs in Hillsborough County. Their role is to guide and empower parents to become collaborative, effective supporters for their children with disabilities by providing technical information and support.

Parent Liaison job duties include, but are not limited to:
- Facilitating communication and information flow for parent in their area.
- Providing information and guidance for parents on navigating the Exceptional Education process.
- Participating in district/agency committees.
- Provide parents with information about community resources for families.
- Provide assistance to schools in implementing parent involvement strategies for parents.
Additionally, the Parent Services department offers training and awareness activities for parents, school, and agency personnel on a variety of topics related to the education and support of students with disabilities and/or special needs and those at risk.

Parent Services Communications. Publications include:

**The Parent Press:** A newsletter designed for parents of ESE students. The Parent Press strives to offer as much information as possible from community agencies and groups that provide services to persons with disabilities. The Parent Press is published 6 times a year and can be found at [www1.sdhc.k12.fl.us/%7Eese.dept/parentpress.htm](http://www1.sdhc.k12.fl.us/%7Eese.dept/parentpress.htm)

**Parent E-Brief:** An in-depth electronic update.

**Supports for Families Calendar:** Support groups, workshops, etc.

**Listserv:** A weekly electronic update. For more information and the opportunity to register or manage account: [www.sdhc.k12.fl.us/ListServ/](http://www.sdhc.k12.fl.us/ListServ/)

**Population Served:** Exceptional Student Education (ESE) students ages 3 -22, students with 504 plans, and students at risk of needing special education services.

**Service Area:** Hillsborough County

**Referral Process:** Parents, agencies, or schools may refer by calling, mailing, or faxing information.

**Eligibility Criteria:** ESE students (with an Individual Education Plan, or IEP), students with a Section 504 plan, and students at risk of needing special services in public, charter, or private schools.

**Bilingual Services:** Yes
Hillsborough County Public Schools
School Readiness Programs

Contact Person & Title: Marina Harkness, Adm. of Coordinating Services

Contact Phone: (813) 744-8941 ext. 226

Contact Email: marina.harkness@sdhc.k12.fl.us

Main Phone: (813) 744-8941

Main Fax: (813) 744-8954

Address: Net Park 5701 E. Hillsborough Ave, Ste 2301
Tampa, FL 33610

Web Site: http://www1.sdhc.k12.fl.us/~early.child/schoolreadiness.htm

Program Description: The Agency provides subsidized child care services to families
and the child care community through a contract with the Early Learning Coalition of
Hillsborough County. The School Readiness Programs (SRP) determines eligibility and
enrolls low-income families in subsidized child care. Our staff enhance the quality of
School Readiness early learning providers’ programs by offering them assistance in
developing appropriate practices for school readiness and by conducting
developmental screening with intervention strategies. Support services to help
School Readiness families achieve economic self-sufficiency are accessible through
our staff and are coordinated with available community resources.

Population Served: The School Readiness Programs serve families in Hillsborough
County that meet funding and eligibility criteria.

Service Area: Hillsborough County

Referral Process: An interested parent may visit any of our offices for an interview:
Bay Plaza, 9325 Bay Plaza, Suite 210, Tampa, FL 33619; North Tampa, 9309 N. Florida
Avenue, Suite 104, Tampa, FL 33612; Plant City, 701 Tillman Place, Plant City, FL 33566.
A referral from one of our partner agencies is required for some eligibilities. When
funding is not available, a family may be placed on the waiting list via telephone, in
person, or online at https://spe.schoolreadiness.org/pe/.
**Eligibility Criteria:** Eligibility for subsidized child care is determined by employment and income verification and/or through partner authorizations. The Early Learning Coalition of Hillsborough County has implemented the following School Readiness funding priorities: birth to age 10, and services to children 11 and 12 years of age who are under protective supervision, in foster care, or whose families are receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) subject to federal work requirements and special needs teens.

**Bilingual Services:** Yes
Hillsborough County Public Schools
Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program
Seminole Audiology

Main Phone:  (813) 276-5561 for appointments only

Main Fax:  (813) 276-5560

Address:
Audiology @ Colson Elementary  1520 Lakeview Ave. Seffner
Audiology @ Doby Elementary 6720 Covington Garden Drive, Apollo Beach
Audiology @ Seminole Elementary 6201 Central Ave.  Tampa

Web Site:  www.sdhc.k12.fl.org

Program Description:  Comprehensive hearing aid checks and hearing evaluations including hearing acuity, middle and inner ear function. Fitting and monitoring FM equipment for eligible Hillsborough County Public School students. Consultations with parents and school personnel regarding hearing needs.

Population Served:  Infant-Grade 12

Service Area:  Any child residing in Hillsborough County

Referral Process:  A parent/guardian with a VPK age-eligible child may visit any of our offices to register for our county’s program. During peak registration times of the year, additional registration locations and times are offered and accessed by calling the above information line or web site.

Eligibility Criteria:  None

Bilingual Services:  Yes
Hillsborough County Public Schools
Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK)
Education Program

Contact Person & Title: Marina Harkness, Administrator

Contact Phone: (813) 740-4713 (select 3)

Contact Email: marina.harkeness@sdhc.k12.fl.us

Main Phone: (813) 744-8941 ext 226

Main Fax: (813) 740-4723

Address: 9325 Bay Plaza, Suite 210, Tampa, FL 33619

Web Site:  www.elchc.org

Program Description: The Agency administers Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program (VPK) eligibility and registration of children and providers in Hillsborough County through a contract with the Early Learning Coalition of Hillsborough County. Parents may select the VPK program option that best meets their needs:

School Year Program (540 instructional hours)
Summer Program (300 instructional hours)
Specialized Instructional Services (if eligible)

Population Served: The Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program serves any child four years old on or before September 1st that resides in the state of Florida and has chosen to enroll in the program. VPK is an entitlement program that is free for every four year old eligible for kindergarten the following year.

Service Area: Hillsborough County

Referral Process: VPK registration requires a face to face interview with the parent / guardian at one of these satellite locations: Bay Plaza, Suite 210, Tampa, FL 33619; North Tampa 9309 North Florida Avenue, Suite 104, Tampa FL 33612; Plant City, 701 Tillman Place, Plant City, FL 33566. Additional registration location and times can be found at www.elchc.org or by calling 813-740-4713.

Eligibility Criteria: Four years old on or before September 1st and a resident of Florida. Proof of age and residency is required.

Bilingual Services: Yes
Hispanic Services Council
La Red de Padres Activos / The Network of Active Parents

Contact Person & Title: Lillian Perez, Project Director

Phone: (813) 936-7700

Contact Email: Lillian.perez@hispanicservicescouncil.org

Fax: (813) 936-7709

Address: 2902 N. Armenia Avenue, Suite 201, Tampa, FL 33607

Web Site: www.hispanicservicescouncil.org

Program Description: La RED de Padres Activos prepares Latino children for success in school by partnering with faith-based organizations to engage parents in their children’s education.

Population Served: Children ages 3-8 (VPK – 3rd grade)

Service Area: Wimauma, Plant City, North Tampa, Drew Park, Palmetto Beach

Referral Process: Self, provider, school

Eligibility Criteria: Hillsborough County residents

Bilingual Services: Yes
Infants & Young Children of West Central Florida, Inc. (IYC)
Positive Development and Bay Area Early Steps

Contact Person & Title: Pat Grosz, Ph.D., Executive Director
                      Mary Forbes, Executive Assistant

Phone:              (813) 375-3980

Contact Email:      pgrosz@tampabay.rr.com  OR mforbes@tampabay.rr.com
                      **for positive development, email dkochiy@tampabay.rr.com

Fax:                (813) 375-3984

Address:            1308 W. Sligh Ave., Tampa, FL 33604

Web Site:           www.bayareaearlysteps.com  OR www.positivedevelopment.net

Program Description: Bay Area Early Steps Provider Network and early intervention services and supports for children with developmental condition, birth to three including family support, training and direct services of therapy and early intervention; for Positive Development, provision of developmental screening, evaluation, and services and supports in primary pediatric practices by developmental specialists and follow-up home visits including Parents as Teachers and Family Support Coordination from community partner agencies, Champions for Children and Mental Health Care, Inc.

Population Served:  For Early Steps, children with developmental conditions, birth to three. For Positive Development, all children birth to 5 years who are served by the pediatric practices at TGH Health Park and USF Pediatrics.

Service Area:       Hillsborough County

Referral Process:   For Early Steps, call, email, or fax. For Positive Development, must receive primary health care at the clinical practice.

Eligibility Criteria: For Early Steps, eligibility is determined through and evaluation process. The child must have a developmental delay or disability. For Positive Development, the child must receive primary care at TGH Health Park or USF Pediatrics.

Bilingual Services: Yes
Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute at USF
Center for Autism & Related Disabilities (CARD)

Contact Person & Title: Dr. Karen Berkman, Director

Contact Phone: (813) 974-2532

Main Phone: (813) 974-2532

Main Fax: (813) 974-6115

Address: 13301 Bruce B. Downs Blvd., MHC 2113A
Tampa, FL 33612-3899

Web Site: http://card-usf.fmhi.usf.edu

Program Description: The Center for Autism & Related Disabilities (CARD) at the University of South Florida (USF) is a community-based project that provides information and consultation to individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders and related disabilities. CARD serves children and adults of all levels of intellectual functioning who have autism spectrum disorder (including autism, Asperger's disorder, childhood disintegrative disorder, Rett's disorder, or pervasive developmental disorder not otherwise specified); an autistic-like disability (documented on an evaluation that describes the characteristics that are being considered "autistic-like" by the evaluator); a dual sensory impairment; or a sensory impairment with other disabilities. It is a requirement of the legislation that created CARD that we have documentation of a qualifying diagnosis in order for an individual to receive our services.

CARD-USF offers instruction and coaching to families and professionals through a training and assistance model. Our staff members travel to visit our constituents in their homes, schools or wherever assistance is needed. No services are provided in our offices at USF or Florida Gulf Coast University campuses. The state of Florida is divided by counties into seven regions with CARD professionals serving each area (known as catchment areas). Because our program is funded by the Florida legislature, all of our services are free.

Population Served: Individuals of any age with autism, an autistic-like disability, dual sensory impairment, or a sensory impairment with other disabilities. For children from birth to age 5, we accept a developmental disability diagnosis with documented evidence of autistic-like behaviors.

Service Area: Southwest Florida (14 counties): Pasco, Pinellas, Hillsborough, Polk, Manatee, Sarasota, Hardee, Highlands, Desoto, Charlotte, Glades, Lee, Hendry, and Collier
**Referral Process:** Family should contact the main number at (813) 974-2532.

**Eligibility Criteria:** Individuals must have a diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder or dual sensory impairment by a physician, psychologist, or neurologist.

**Bilingual Services:** Yes
Mental Health Care, Inc. / Gracepoint
Family and School Support Team (FASST)

Contact Person & Title: Lisa Maddocks, Program Manager
                         Pamela Gray, Supervisor

Phone: (813) 239-8254 (Lisa) OR (813) 239-8310 (Pamela)

Contact Email: lmaddocks@mhcinc.org OR pgray@mhcinc.org

Main Fax: (813) 272-3531

Address: 2905 East Henry Ave., Tampa, FL 33610

Web Site: www.fasstonline.com

Program Description: Family and School Support Team (FASST) a program of Mental Health Care, Inc. (MHC) continues its 21-year commitment to supporting children and families. FASST, a strength based early intervention case management program, supports the individualized treatment of behavioral health and social emotional challenges of children and promotes wellness. FASST can provide assessments for behavioral health concerns, counseling / therapy (in home if a child qualifies) and direct access to psychiatric services.

Population Served: Children who have active Medicaid. (Children with pending Medicaid may also be referred). Children experiencing behavioral health / social emotional challenges at school, home, or day care and require the assistance of counseling / therapy, and or psychiatric services. (Previous diagnosis is not required). Families open to engaging in voluntary services with a case manager.

Service Area: Hillsborough County

Referral Process: School staff or anyone involved in the life of a child (with guardian permission) and families can make referrals to FASST by:

- Complete a FASST application on-line at www.fasstonline.com
- Fax or mail a completed application to 813-272-3531 or 2905 East Henry Avenue, Tampa, FL 33610
- Or call 813-272-2888 to complete a FASST application by phone

Eligibility Criteria: Children who have active Medicaid. (Children with pending Medicaid may also be referred). Children experiencing behavioral health / social emotional challenges at school, home, or day care and require the assistance of counseling / therapy, and or psychiatric services. (Previous diagnosis is not required). Families open to engaging in voluntary services with a case manager.

Bilingual Services: Yes
Metropolitan Ministries
First Hug Program

Contact Person & Title: Karrie Roller, Director of Case Management Services

Phone: (813) 209-1058

Email: karrie.roller@metromin.org

Fax: (813) 209-1048

Address: 2002 North Florida Ave, Tampa, FL 33602

Web Site: www.metromin.org

Program Description:
First Hug program focuses on
- Homeless families with children 0-8 years old
- Family stabilization through home visits, developmental screenings, connection with services and referrals for child’s needs, assess housing placement
- Family Strengthening through weekly home visits or other locations at family request, provide employment prep, training and placement.
- Ongoing support- recruit, train and match connectors (mentors) with families for support for two years

First Hug is a no-cost, in-home service. Our goal is to work with families to provide family stability and self-sufficiency, and school success. The Case Manager will provide weekly visits to develop support plan goals that center on education and housing. Families will need to commit to attendance every day for your child in childcare/school, commit to participate in child’s education, and participate in all case management and case plan goals.

Population Served: Any family that is homeless with a child 0-8.

Service Area: Hillsborough County

Referral Process: call 813-209-1006 or on line application at metromin.org under first Hug located on bottom left hand side.

Eligibility Criteria: Reside in Hillsborough County and fall in target population

Bilingual Services: Yes
Molina Healthcare of Florida, Inc.
Medicaid HMO

Contact Person & Title: Angela Blaylock, Manager

Phone: (813) 753-8204

Contact Email: angela.blaylock@molinahealthcare.com

Main Fax: (813) 932-6740

Address: 3350 Buschwood Park Drive, Ste. 245, Tampa, FL 33618

Web Site: www.molinahealthcare.com

Program Description: Provides assistance in the community with educational materials and assistance in health fairs, baby showers, school activities and program, planned community events and much more.

Population Served: Medicaid

Service Area: Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Osceola and Seminole Counties

Referral Process: Call for information

Eligibility Criteria: Call for information

Bilingual Services: Yes
Northside Mental Health Center
Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)

Contact Person & Title: Carolyn Tope, Case Manager / Alex Nott, Case Manager / Gary Viacco-Robles, Program Manager

Contact Phone: (813) 644-6311 or (813) 644-6382

Contact Email: Carolyn.tope@northsidemh.org or alex.nott@northsidemh.org

Fax: (813) 975-8138

Address: 12512 Bruce B. Downs Blvd., Tampa, FL 33612

Web Site: www.northsidemh.org

Program Description: TANF is an outreach, case management and therapy program. TANF therapy services are provided at no charge contingent on continued eligibility.

Population Served: Live in Hillsborough County, have children in FL, have no insurance and meet financial criteria. Parents of children in the child welfare system in Florida may qualify if they have a case plan / reunification goal.

Service Area: Hillsborough County

Referral Process: Call

Eligibility Criteria: Must have a child in the state of Florida or be pregnant, have no insurance, meet 200% of the federal poverty guideline, be willing to obtain / maintain employment or go to school and be capable of achieving family stability.

Bilingual Services: Call
Prevent Blindness Florida
Vision Screening

Contact Person & Title: Jennifer Whittington, Program Manager

Phone: (813) 874-2020, Ext. 108

Contact Email: jwhittington@preventblindnessfl.org

Main Fax: (813)-226-3745

Address: 1112 E. Kennedy Blvd., Tampa, FL 33602

Web Site: www.preventblindnessflorida.org

Program Description: Prevent Blindness collaborates with the Florida Department of Health and other partners to provide vision screenings and assistance to adults and children in need


Service Area: Hillsborough, Pinellas, Polk, Sarasota, Manatee, and Orange counties

Referral Process: Clients must come to one of our free vision screenings, and will be referred if they qualify.

Eligibility Criteria: 200% of poverty guidelines

Bilingual Services: Yes Spanish
Program Description: The Federal Central Hillsborough Healthy Start Project (CHHS) is a program of REACHUP, Inc. The purpose of CHHS is to narrow the gap in the existing racial disparities in perinatal outcomes in Tampa neighborhoods where black infants die in the first year of life at a rate more than twice that of white infants. CHHS services focus on medical, nutritional, mental health and social support delivered by nurses, mental health counselors, interconception coordinators, and community outreach workers. The services are provided by a friendly team specially trained in pregnancy, child birth and baby care. Education and support services are also provided for dads. The mission of REACHUP, Inc. is to advocate for and mobilize resources to help communities achieve equality in healthcare and positive health for families.

Population Served: Pregnant women, new mother, infants and dads who live in East Tampa.

Service Area: Must reside in the zip code areas served by CHHS (33602, 33603, 33605, 33607, and 33610).

Referral Process: Referrals completed within the hospitals, clinics, and / or self-referrals accepted.

Eligibility Criteria: Must reside in one of the above mentioned zip codes.

Bilingual Services: Yes Spanish
REACHUP, Inc.
Special Delivery Doula Program

Contact Person & Title: Jennifer Ruth, LMHC, CLC
Contact Phone: (813) 239-1179 or (813) 404-1362
Contact Email: jruth@ucptampa.org
Fax: (813) 236-5187
Address: 2215 E. Henry Ave., Tampa, FL 33610
Web Site: www.ucptampa.org

Program Description: REACHUP, Inc.’s Special Delivery Doula Program provides perinatal support services, including childbirth education / mentoring classes, labor and delivery support, postpartum support and instruction. The basis of doula care is maternal social support, which includes offering information, tangible physical assistance and emotional support. This maternal social support may offer benefits to socially disadvantaged mothers and their babies. It has been shown to offer benefits such as reduced maternal stress, increased duration and quality of breastfeeding, positive mom / baby bonding and interaction, increase in the new mom’s self-esteem, confidence and overall satisfaction with the social support they receive. Additionally, professional support, social support or both may aid in the diagnosis and treatment of postpartum depression. Lactation consultant services also will be available for those moms experiencing extreme difficulty with breastfeeding.

Population Served: Medically and / or socially at risk pregnant women.
Service Area: Hillsborough County
Referral Process: Pregnant women can attend one of our weekly childbirth education classes, be referred by a case manager or labor and delivery hospital personnel. Please call for more information.
Eligibility Criteria: Medically and / or socially at risk pregnant women in Hillsborough County.
Bilingual Services: Yes
Shriners Hospitals for Children - Tampa
Pediatric Orthopedic Hospital

Contact Person & Title: Caitlin Hamlin, Outreach Coordinator

Contact Phone: (813) 866-7740 (patients)
(972) 2250 ext 7214 (administration)

Contact Email: chamlin@shrinenet

Main Phone: (813) 972-2250

Fax: (813) 866-7742

Address: 12502 USF Pine Dr., Tampa, FL 33612

Web Site: www.shrinershospitalforchildren.org

Program Description: Pediatric Orthopedic services: outpatient / inpatient care, rehab and therapy, seating, orthotics and prosthetics, etc.

Population Served: Any child with an orthopedic condition / concern between birth and 18 years old.

Service Area: All of Florida and Southern Georgia.

Referral Process: Call 866-7740 or fax a referral form.

Eligibility Criteria: Any child birth to age 18 with an orthopedic condition.

Bilingual Services: Yes
St. Joseph’s Children’s Hospital of Tampa
Children’s Advocacy Center

Contact Person & Title:  Bevin Maynard, Manager
Contact Phone:  (813) 615-0589, Ext. 226
Contact Email:  bevin.maynard@Baycare.org
Main Phone:  (813) 615-0589
Fax:  (813) 972-2185
Address:  1401A E. Fowler Ave., Tampa, FL 33612
Web Site:  www.sjbhealth.org

Program Description:  The Children’s Advocacy Center provides health and safety education programs and services to children and families throughout the community. The Center focuses on children’s health and wellness, community and school-based education, injury prevention, and legislative advocacy. Programming includes asthma education, unintentional injury prevention, child passenger safety, mobile medical services, obesity prevention, social injury prevention, Safe Routes to School Program, Florida KidCare Insurance Outreach, Be Our Best health education classes, mobile medical services, The Safety Store at St. Joseph’s Children’s Hospital and Safe Kids Tampa.

Population Served:  All

Service Area:  All of Hillsborough County

Referral Process:  Call us directly

Eligibility Criteria:  None

Bilingual Services:  Yes, but limited
Success 4 Kids & Families (S4KF)  
THINKkids

Contact Person & Title:  
Marsha Lane, MLHC, Program Manager

Contact Phone:  
(813) 490-5494, Ext. 210

Contact Email:  
mlane@s4kf.org

Main Phone:  
(813) 490-5490

Main Fax:  
(813) 490-5495

Address:  
1311 N. Westshore Blvd., Suite 302, Tampa, FL 33607

Web Site:  
www.s4kf.org

Program Description:  THINKKids is a comprehensive case management program for children with emotional, behavioral, and/or mental health needs, and at-risk youth. We provide “wraparound” support that brings services to the child and family to meet their needs. These services can be traditional therapeutic services as well as non-traditional, creative services that are individualized for each family. Direct services are brokered by THINKKids and provided by independent contractors. We utilize system of care principles that are strengths-based, culturally competent, and family-driven.

Population Served:  Children from birth to age 18 with emotional, behavioral, and/or mental health issues; at-risk youth.

Service Area:  Hillsborough County

Referral Process:  Call (813) 490-5494. In-take department will take the referral information, and the parent/caregiver will be contacted within 72 hours by an intake coordinator.

Eligibility Criteria:  Determined at time of intake. Case will be assessed and triaged to connect families with services in the community.

Bilingual Services:  Yes
Suncoast Kids Place

Contact Person & Title: Deborah Brooks or Kim Pacheco

Phone: (813) 990-0216

Contact Email: Deborah@vandyke.org OR kim@suncoastkidsplace.org

Main Fax: N/A

Address: 17030 Lakeshore Dr., Lutz, FL 33558

Web Site: www.suncoastkidsplace.org

Program Description: Providing peer support groups for kids age 3 – 18 years who have experienced a significant death of a loved one in their lives.


Service Area: Lutz locations and Brandon locations

Referral Process: Parent or primary caregiver calls the main number.

Eligibility Criteria: Age 3 – 18 and experienced a significant death of a loved one in their lives.

Bilingual Services: Call
Program Description: Monthly program to educate family members and professionals on issues related to children with special needs. Diverse speakers and topics each month and open to the general community. Please email to lydiaa@tjfs.org or sign up for the newsletter at www.tjfs.org to receive notifications of upcoming meetings.

Population Served: Family members, child care providers and other professionals that work with children with special needs.

Service Area: Tampa Bay Area

Referral Process: email to lydiaa@tjfs.org

Eligibility Criteria: Register ahead of time. $5 donation requested but not required.

Bilingual Services: No
Tampa Jewish Family Services
Counseling

Contact Person & Title: Lydia Abrams, LCSW
Contact Phone: (813) 960-1848, Ext. 4109
Contact Email: lydiaa@tjfs.org
Main Phone: (813) 960-1848
Main Fax: (813) 265-8239
Address: 13009 Community Campus Drive, Tampa, FL 33625
Web Site: www.tjfs.org

Program Description: Individual and family counseling available for children up to Seniors. Professional, licensed psycho-therapists available to address issues such as parenting, children to adults with special needs, stress management, family dynamics and more. Several insurances accepted as well as sliding scale fee. Open to general community regardless of religious affiliation.

Population Served: Children up to Seniors requesting counseling services.

Service Area: Tampa Bay area.

Referral Process: Call 960-1848

Eligibility Criteria: We meet most counseling needs except for substance abuse treatment, domestic violence, chronic psychiatric issues, suicidal or homicidal treatment or court-ordered therapy. Person should have the ability to pay sliding scale fee or use insurance. We will not turn anyone away who is in crisis and will assist in locating community resources.

Bilingual Services: No
Tampa Jewish Family Services
ProActive Parenting

Contact Person & Title: Lydia Abrams, LCSW
Contact Phone: (813) 960-1848, Ext. 4109
Contact Email: lydiaa@tjfs.org
Main Phone: (813) 960-1848
Main Fax: (813) 265-8239
Address: 13009 Community Campus Drive, Tampa, FL 33625
Web Site: www.tjfs.org

Program Description: Monthly parenting workshop with topics that have included: bullying, building self esteem, raising a gifted child, tantrums and anger management, coping with stress, and the impact of media and technology on children.

Population Served: Parents with children of all ages (preschool – high school).

Service Area: Tampa Bay area.

Referral Process: Call 960-1848

Eligibility Criteria: Open to the community and free of charge.

Bilingual Services: No
Tampa Metro YMCA – Partners of Hillsborough
Kinship Care Program

Contact Persons & Titles: Mary Ann Kershaw, Program Director
Cecillia Carothers, Intake Specialist

Contact Phone: (813) 275-9622 ext 263 (Mary Ann) or
ext 254 (Cecillia)

Contact Email: maryann.kershaw@tampaymca.org and
cecillia.carothers@tampaymca.org

Main Phone: (813) 275-9622 ext 254

Main Fax: (813) 200-3996

Address: 110 Oak Ave., Tampa, Florida 33602

Web Site: www.tampaymca.org
(look under “our programs” and click “community programs”)

Program Description: Designed to support relative caregivers and the children who
reside with them to successfully maintain the relative placement. Through the
Kinship Care Program families receive a specialized family support plan and access to
services.

Population Served: Caregivers caring for a relative’s children (formal or informal
placement).

Service Area: Hillsborough County

Referral Process: Call 275-9622 ext 254

Eligibility Criteria: Hillsborough County Resident; not receiving services through
Child Welfare Dependency System at the time of referral.

Bilingual Services: Yes
University of South Florida
Department of Communications Sciences and Disorders
Bolesta

Contact Person & Title:   Kelly Teegardin, M.A., CCC-SLP, Auditory Verbal Therapist
Contact Email:            teegardin@usf.edu
Main Phone:               (813) 974-5733
Main Fax:                (813) 974-0822
Address:                 4202 E. Fowler Ave. PCD 101, Tampa, FL 33602
Web Site:                http://bolesta.cbcs.usf.edu/

Program Description:  Teaching listening and spoken language to children who are hearing impaired.

Population Served:  Infants through adults who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Service Area:  The Bolesta Center @ USF’s Speech Language Hearing Center is housed in the Psych/CSD (PCD) building in the northwest corner of the Tampa campus, directly across from Moffitt Cancer and Research Center and ¼ mile from University Community hospital. The USF-SLHC is walking distance from USF’s Ear, Nose, and Throat Center, the Physical Therapy Department and the Eye Institute.

Referral Process:  Referrals can be directed to the Referral Line by calling (813) 974-5733. A doctor’s referral is not required for many of the services offered at the USF-SLHC.

Eligibility Criteria:  Clients who use amplification such as cochlear implants or hearing aids with the desire to communicate using spoken language.

Bilingual Services:  With use of available volunteers.
University of South Florida  
Department of Communications Sciences and Disorders  
Speech-Language Hearing Center

Contact Person & Title:  
Speech Clinic    Hearing Clinic

Name:  
Kathy Wasson, AA   Geeta Hedge, AA

Phone:  
(813) 974-9844    (813) 974-8804

Contact Email:  
kjwasson@usf.edu   hedge@usf.edu

Main Fax:  
(813) 974-0822

Address:  
4202 E. Fowler Ave.  PCD 1017, Tampa, FL  33602

Web Site:  
http://csd.cbc.usf.edu/

Program Description:  The Speech Language Hearing Center at the University of South Florida (USF-SLHC) was founded in 1969, and is the primary teaching site for the clinical graduate education of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists in West Central Florida. The center is certified as an educational site by the American Speech-Language and Hearing Association (ASHA).

Population Served:  Clients of all ages receive services at USF-SLHC, including, but not limited to: Children in pre-school and school-age programs; children and adults in fluency, voice, aphasia, TBI, cranio-facial and other syndromes, audiology, cochlear implant evaluation and treatment, auditory processing, aural rehabilitation treatment, auditory neuropathy and dis-synchrony, hearing aid evaluation and dispensing. Our clinic also provides accent reduction for working adults and college students.

Service Area:  The USF-SLHC is housed in the Psych/CSD (PCD) building in the northwest corner of the Tampa campus, directly across from Moffitt Cancer and Research Center and ¼ mile from University Community hospital. The USF-SLHC is walking distance from USF’s Ear, Nose, and Throat Center, the Physical Therapy Department and the Eye Institute.

Referral Process:  Referrals can be directed to the Referral Line by calling the following:
Speech Clinic:  (813) 974-9844  
Hearing Clinic:  (813) 974-8804
A doctor’s referral is not required for many of the services offered at the USF-SLHC.

Eligibility Criteria:  Services are provided to individuals (adults and children)

Bilingual Services:  Yes
UCP of Tampa Bay, Inc  
Early Childhood Education Program

Contact Phone: (813)239-1179 ext 227
Main Phone: (813) 239-1179
Main Fax: (813) 238-4605
Address: 2215 E. Henry Ave Tampa, Fl 33610
Web Site: www.ucptampa.org

Program Description: Early Education focuses on cognitive, language, physical, social and emotional development. Our preschool program builds a foundation for later academic and social success. We offer a fully licensed and NAEYC accredited developmental preschool for children with any disability or delayed development as well as typically developing children. Our students learn and play side-by-side in an inclusive, all-abilities learning environment. Inclusion offers invaluable benefits by increasing every child’s understanding of others’ needs, their acceptance of differences and their self-esteem. We have a four star quality designation from the Quality Counts for Kids Program assessed by the Early Learning Coalition of Hillsborough County. For working families, UCP provides physical, occupational and speech therapies during the school day for our children that need therapy.

For working families, UCP provides physical, occupational and speech therapies during the school day for our children that need therapy.

Population Served: Currently enrolling children ages 10 months – 6 years.

Service Area: Hillsborough

Referral Process: Self, referred by another agency, School Readiness referrals, County Wide Positive Behavior Support program participant.

Eligibility Criteria: 10 months – 6 yrs of age, current shot record & doctor physical

Bilingual Services: Yes
UCP of Tampa Bay, Inc
Respite Services

Contact Person & Title: Sherry Rivera, Respite Coordinator

Contact Email: srivera@ucptampa.org

Contact Phone: (813)239-1179 ext. 232

Main Phone: (813) 239-1179

Main Fax: (813) 238-4605

Address: 2215 E. Henry Ave Tampa, Fl 33610

Web Site: www.ucptampa.org

Program Description: UCP of Tampa Bay offers Respite Care and Personal Care Attendant services to help give families the relief and reassurance they need. With Respite Care, families can go out for a weekend, knowing that their family member with special needs is in good hands. Respite Care gives families the time they need to relax. It also gives individuals with special needs the care they deserve. Respite caregivers are caring people, and all are trained to care for people with disabilities. Services include providing a sitter/companion or a caregiver with specialized training for children and adults with medical or behavioral difficulties. Everyone wants to remain in their own home and maintain their independence. However, sometimes a little assistance is needed to make that happen. UCP of Tampa Bay has a twenty year history of providing in-home services for this community. Respite services are for those individuals or couples who are capable of handling their physical needs, but may require assistance with a variety of daily activities.

Population Served: Children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Service Area: Hillsborough and Pinellas Counties


Eligibility Criteria: Based on available funding

Bilingual Services: Yes
UCP of Tampa Bay, Inc
Therapy Services

Contact Person & Title: Patti Hansen, Director of Therapy and Grants

Contact Email: phansen@ucptampa.org

Contact Phone: (813)239-1179 ext. 227

Main Phone: (813) 239-1179

Main Fax: (813) 238-4605

Address: 2215 E. Henry Ave Tampa, Fl 33610 and
1517 Sun City Center Plaza unit D and E
Suncity Center, Fl 33573

Web Site: www.ucptampa.org

Program Description: Therapy helps children achieve their full potential through individual early intervention, occupational, physical and speech therapy sessions. Children receive one-on-one intervention to address their development needs.

Physical Therapy works on improving physical capabilities such as...
- Improving large muscle skills – from crawling to jumping
- Enhancing functional independence and mobility
- Increasing muscle control for improved balance and coordination
- Use of adaptive equipment such as wheelchairs, walkers, crutches or orthotics

Occupational Therapy addresses skills a child needs to perform daily activities such as...
- Playing, learning and self-care tasks
- Motor skills and sensory processing
- Attending to tasks, problem solving, hand-eye coordination, eating and self-care
- Movements involving smaller muscles in the arms and hands
- Processing sensory input to actively to participate in home and/or school environments

Speech Therapy helps children with speech and language skills such as...
- Oral motor skills for safe eating and drinking
- Forming sounds for communication
- Understanding and following simple or multi-step directions
- Communicating want and needs with or without words
**Population Served:** Birth - 21 years

**Service Area:** Hillsborough

**Referral Process:** Physician Prescription or current discipline specific report from another agency.

**Eligibility Criteria:** Medicaid eligible, self pay or approved for available grant funding. Prior authorization (if required).

**Bilingual Services:** Yes
Additional ECC Resources
Visit: www.ecctampabay.org

ECC’s Right On Track Child Development Guide
(Android App)

ECC’s Right On Track Child Development Guide
(Interactive Web Application)

ECC’s Online Community Resource Map
(Interactive Web Application to complement your resource guide)
The mission of the Early Childhood Council of Hillsborough County is to improve the developmental and academic paths of young children through developmental screenings, school readiness initiatives, professional training and advocacy.

The Early Childhood Council of Hillsborough County
4210 West Bay Villa Ave
Tampa, FL 33611
813.837.7753

www.ecctampabay.org

Funded by

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