

The VPK program provides children with early learning education to succeed in kindergarten, academia and throughout life.



News

Free VPK program for all Florida four-year-olds

The statewide Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Program is a free prekindergarten program for 4-year-olds who reside in Florida and were born on or before September 1 each year, regardless of family income. The VPK program provides children with early learning education to succeed in kindergarten, academia and throughout life. It helps build a solid foundation for school using educational resources that are geared specifically for the various stages of a child's development. Children are taught literacy skills, such as letter and sound recognition, which are essential for academic success. Each child also has access to qualified instructors and age appropriate curricula. [Click here](#) for more information and to register your child for the VPK Program.



News

Five Back to School tips from FAU CARD

The beginning of a new school year is right around the corner. Transitioning from the lazy days of summer back into the hustle and bustle of the school year can be challenging for many families. Now is the time to start thinking about how you, as a parent or caregiver, can make the transition from summer vacation back to school as smooth as possible. [Click here](#) for tips from Florida Atlantic University's Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (FAU CARD) to help you and your family prepare for the new school year.



News

August is Child Safety Awareness Month

This month, the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) is reminding motorists to focus on child safety in vehicles as well as on and around Florida roads. DHSMV is partnering with the Florida Department of Children and Families, Florida Department of Education, Florida Department of Health, Florida Sheriffs Association, Florida Police Chiefs Association and the Florida Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics to recognize August 2016 as Child Safety Awareness Month. Throughout the month of August, the department will be educating the public regarding all aspects of child safety on Florida roads, including: occupant protection and proper seat restraints, not leaving children in hot cars and safety in and around school zones and school buses. [Click here](#) to visit the DHSMV's website for more information and use the hashtag #ChildSafetyFL this month to add and share important child safety information.



Now, stay up-to-date even if it's not Monday morning.



News

How to choose a quality afterschool program

The 2016-2017 school year starts in less than a week and parents are asking, "How do I recognize programs that are of high quality?" Quality afterschool programs support working families, inspire learning and keep children safe. Prime Time Palm Beach County has provided parents a checklist of questions to ask when making a decision about what program their child should attend during the hours after school. [Click here](#) for the checklist.

News

Mental Health GPS Hotline available for families looking for help

The Mental Health Association of Palm Beach County is here to help parents struggling with behavior problems and other challenges related to depression and anxiety in their children. If you, your child or someone you know needs help finding mental health or substance abuse services, please call our Mental Health GPS (Guiding People to Services) Helpline 561.801.HELP (4357). This free resource and referral line was created to connect community members to a trained member of our support team, who will talk with you and connect you to resources that can help. **Operators are available between 8:30 a.m. – 8 p.m., Monday through Friday.** [Click here](#) to learn more.

News

Get your kids immunized before school starts

Florida Department of Health in Palm Beach County is sending out a reminder to all parents and caregivers that Palm Beach County Schools begin Aug. 15 and new incoming students will need their immunizations up to date. Appointments and the required DH 680 form are available at most medical provider offices, walk-in clinics and Department of Health in Palm Beach County. The required immunizations include, mumps, measles, rubella, (MMR), chickenpox, Hepatitis B, Diphtheria, Tetanus and polio. In addition to the regularly scheduled school immunizations at the health department clinics in Lantana, Belle Glade, Jupiter, Lantana, Delray Beach and West Palm Beach, the immunization van will visit Lake Worth High School on **Thursday, Aug. 4, 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.** [Click here](#) for more information. For appointments, call 561.625.5180.

News

Support Red Apple Supplies with school supply donations

The school supply sales have started! Red Apple Supplies need your help to stock the shelves for Back to School. Help local teachers and students by stopping by Office Depot, Staples, Walmart, Publix, etc., and buying the most discounted supplies – particularly the 1 cent and 25 cent items - and donating them to our free teacher resource store. Supplies can be dropped off at Red Apple Supplies on **Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.** Red Apple Supplies is located at 2600 Florida Ave., Suite D, West Palm Beach. For more information, contact Info@EducationFoundationPBC.org or call 561.951.5527. [Click here](#) to learn more about Red Apple Supplies.

News

The Alliance for Eating Disorders Awareness teen support group is now co-ed

The Alliance for Eating Disorders Awareness announced that its adolescent support group is now co-ed. All groups are free of charge and open to those needing support. Please contact The Alliance for Eating Disorders Awareness at 561.841.0900 with any questions. [Click here](#) for more information and support group schedule.

Events

BRIDGES at Riviera Beach host Happily Ever After Parent-Child Literacy Hour and Lending Library

Children who read frequently are higher achievers than students who rarely read. During the Happily Ever After Parent-Child Literacy Hour on **Saturday, Aug. 13, 11 a.m. – noon**, parents are provided with helpful reading facts and hands-on, interactive strategies that they can easily implement at home with their children. The literacy hour will take place at J.A.Y Ministries, 2831 Avenue S, Riviera Beach. This activity will inspire parents to read with their children by modeling different techniques. These techniques will encourage readers to push through their barriers of fear and open up. Parent participation is required. For more information, call 561.899.1644. To see the calendars of events for all 10 BRIDGES sites in Palm Beach County and their monthly highlights, please [click here](#).

Events

Boy Scouts of America Everglades District host bike rodeo

Join the Boy Scouts of America Everglades District for a bike rodeo on **Saturday, August 13, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.**, at Faith United Methodist Church, 6340 Boynton Beach Blvd., Boynton Beach. Event activities include a bike rodeo, bike and helmet inspections, obstacle courses, races and more! Refreshments will be available as well as the opportunity to earn your very own “Bike Rider License!” For more information, please contact Cheryl Baylor at ScouterCJBaylor@gmail.com.

Events

Resource Depot hosts Back to School open house

Resource Depot, a creative reuse center in Palm Beach County, will be hosting a free open house in the spirit of Back to School time on **Saturday, August 13, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.**, at Resource Depot’s location, 2501 Florida Avenue, West Palm Beach. Guests can take a tour of the Materials Marketplace, which is where Resource Depot houses their donations and allows patrons to shop for a small fee. Light refreshments will be served. [Click here](#) for more information about Resource Depot.

Events

Lutheran Services Florida hosts two job fairs for Head Start/Early Head Start services

Lutheran Services Florida is holding a job fair for Head Start/Early Head Start services on **Tuesday, Aug. 16, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.**, at the PEPPi Head Start Building, 301 S. 8th St., Belle Glade, and on **Wednesday, Aug. 17, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.**, at the Riviera Beach City Council Building, 600 W. Blue Heron Blvd. (upstairs), Riviera Beach. Teachers, teacher assistants, and family and community engagement specialists are welcome to attend. [Click here](#) to access job applications, requirements and more information.

Trainin

Join the Florida Association for Infant Mental Health in August at Boys Town

Join the Florida Association for Infant Mental Health (FAIMH) for their August Chapter meeting on **Friday, Aug. 12, 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.**, at Boys Town South Florida, 3111 S Dixie Hwy, Suite 200, West Palm Beach. The meeting's featured topic is Developing Social-Emotional Competence in Young Children and FAIMH will share effective models and strategies for addressing the social-emotional needs of young children and their caregivers. Currently there are several programs and initiatives being implemented in Palm Beach County including Child First, the Children's Behavioral Health Collaborative, Early Childhood Court, Child-Parent Psychotherapy and Center for Child Counseling's Fighting ACEs. [Click here](#) for more information and to register.

Trainin

Central Palm Beach County Chamber of Commerce hosts luncheon on the importance of early childhood education

The Central Palm Beach County Chamber of Commerce will host an Economic Forum Luncheon on the importance of early childhood education on **Thursday, Aug. 18, from 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**, at the West Palm Beach Marriot, 1001 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Did you know that 85% of a child's core brain structure is formed by age 5? Join experts in early childhood education for a conversation about the benefits of early learning in setting our students up for success. Keynote speaker will be Dr. Robert Avossa, Superintendent of the Palm Beach County School District. Expert panel includes Dr. Lisa Williams-Taylor, CEO of Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County, Warren Eldridge, CEO of the Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County and Dave Lawrence, Jr., Chairman of the Children's Movement of Florida. Member cost is \$50 and non-member cost is \$60. [Click here](#) for more information and to RSVP.

Trainin

Register for the Alliance for Eating Disorders Awareness presentation on Dialectical Behavioral Therapy

The Alliance for Eating Disorders Awareness and the Renfrew Center invite you to the presentation "Navigating the Dialectics in Recovery: Eating Disorders and DBT" on **Friday, Aug. 19, 8:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.**, at the West Palm Beach Event Hall, 2223 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd., Suite #101, West Palm Beach. In this presentation, participants will learn the basic tenets of Dialect Behavioral Therapy (DBT), and will practice applying those tenets to eating disorder treatment. Mindfulness and distress tolerance skills will be discussed, and participants will walk away with skills to implement in their practices immediately. A light continental breakfast and 3 free CEUs will be offered. Registration deadline is **Aug. 17**. [Click here](#) to register. For more information, please call 561.841.0900.

Trainin

The National Alliance on Mental Illness of Palm Beach County offers Spanish-language Family-to-Family Education Course

The National Alliance on Mental Illness of Palm Beach County (NAMI) will offer its NAMI Family-to-Family Education Course in Spanish on **Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.** The course will run from **Aug. 27 until Oct. 1** at the NAMI Lake Worth office, 1520 10th Ave. North, Lake Worth. The courses will be held strictly in Spanish and participants must attend all 6 sessions. NAMI Family-to-Family is a free education program for family, friends, caretakers, partners and significant others of someone who is living with mental illness. The course is designed to help all family members understand and support their loved one living with mental illness, while maintaining their own well-being. To register, please call NAMI Palm Beach County 561.588.3477 or info@namipbc.org.

Trainin

Safety courses available through the Safety Council of Palm Beach County

The Safety Council of Palm Beach County will host two upcoming Certified Occupational Safety Specialist (COSS) series courses. The Safe Supervisor series on **Aug. 29 – 31, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.**, is a three-day course designed to enhance a frontline supervisor's understanding of the bigger picture of safety and the supervisor's role in creating a safer work environment. Member cost is \$525 and non-member cost is \$675. [Click here](#) to register. The Certified Occupational Safety Specialist course on **Sept. 12 – 16, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.**, is for individuals in the safety and health field that coordinate successful implementation of corporate safety and health plans, trainings and provides support to safety and training managers. Member cost is \$1,699 and non-member cost is \$2,199. [Click here](#) to register.

Trainin

The Center for Child Counseling hold art and play therapy workshop for grieving children

The Center for Child Counseling will hold the workshop “When a Young Child Grieves: Art and Play Therapy Techniques for Death, Divorce and Incarceration” on **Friday, Sept. 16, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.**, at Children’s Services Council of Palm Beach County, 2300 High Ridge Rd., Boynton Beach. Therapists are called to work with young children dealing with issues that most adults struggle with understanding. This workshop will provide a foundation for incorporating art and play therapy techniques into clinical services with young children affected by death, divorce and incarceration. Early registration rate is \$125 for individual and \$1,200 for a group of 10. Early registration rate ends Aug. 15. After the early registration period, cost is \$150 or \$155 with State of Florida CEUs. \$1,350 for Groups of 10. APT Credits included. [Click here](#) for more information or to register.

Trainin

Upcoming child passenger safety technician

course

Want to become a child passenger safety technician? The National Child Passenger Safety Certification Training Course will be taught from **Sept. 14 to Sept. 17** at Boynton Beach Fire Rescue Station #5, 2080 High Ridge Road, Boynton Beach. Classes on **Wednesday, Thursday and Friday** will go from **8 a.m. to 5 p.m.** and the **Saturday** class will be from **8 a.m. to 12 p.m.** Registration costs \$85 and to receive certification, you must attend the entire course. The classes are taught by Safe Kids Palm Beach County. Click here to register. For more information, please contact either Kelly Powell at kpowell@cp-cto.org or Fatou Benoit at fbenoit@cp-cto.org.

Trainin

Trainings from Nonprofits First

Nonprofits First offers a range of classes for nonprofit organizations and staff. Register now before classes fill up. To see the course schedule, visit:

<http://www.nonprofitsfirst.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=courseCatalog.list>

Jobs

Enhance Your Hiring Search with Free Job Postings

Children's Services Council continues to offer free job postings for CSC-funded providers in Palm Beach County. For job openings at CSC-funded agencies, go to cscpb.org/agencyjobs.

If you are a CSC-funded agency, contact Paulina Rudzinska at Paulina.Rudzinska@cscpb.org to post a position on CSC's website.

Links

Check Out These Additional Resources

[Visit the CSC website](#)

[CSC Employment](#)

[CSC Provider Agency Employment](#)

[Search for Trainings](#)

[Check the Local Events Calendar](#)

[Sign up for the MMU](#)

Do you have information for the MMU? Please send information to mmu@cscpb.org by Wednesday at 5 p.m.

Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County
2300 High Ridge Road
Boynton Beach, FL 33426
561.740.7000

Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County, 2300 High Ridge Road, Boynton Beach, FL 33426

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