



## COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO THE NEEDIEST CHILDREN FOR HOLIDAY GIVING PROJECTS

January 2014  
VOL. 1 (Mini)

### Resources At the Center

- Developmental screenings and assessments help determine each child's needs
- Individualized behavioral support strategies for school and home
- Social service resource information
- Transition planning support and linkages with Head Start and PreK services
- Ongoing opportunities to meet and strategize on each child's educational needs and linkages to services
- Information about alternative educational options for your child

**The Linda Ray Intervention Center (LRIC)** is a University-based Multidisciplinary Educational Service Center within the Department of Education's Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System. Additionally, the LRIC is one of the five Early Intervention Birth-Two Programs in Miami within the state's Early Steps program for young children with disabilities. The LRIC is part of the Department of Psychology within the College of Arts and Sciences. The mission of the Linda Ray Intervention Center is to support and facilitate positive developmental outcomes, thereby improving young children's chances for school readiness.

### 2013 LEGISLATION – SENATE BILL 1108

The 2013 Florida Legislature passed Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 1108 (CS/SB 1108) – An act relating to exceptional student education. Governor Scott signed this bill on June 28, 2013, with an effective date of July 1, 2013. The legislation impacts multiple statutes related to exceptional student education (ESE). The enrolled bill may be found at <http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2013/1108/BillText/er/pdf>.

• At the conclusion of a meeting, parents and school district personnel in attendance must sign a form stating whether any school district personnel have prohibited, discouraged or attempted to discourage the parents from inviting a person of their choice to the meeting. A sample form has been developed to assist school districts (**Appendix B**). Districts are not required to use this form.

The following statutes are amended:

#### Section 1002.20, Florida Statutes (F.S.), K-12 student and parent rights

• School district personnel may not object to, discourage or attempt to discourage the attendance of an adult of a parent's choice at any meeting with school district personnel. Actions that are prohibited include attempted or actual coercion or harassment of parents or students, or retaliation or threats of consequences to parents or students.

• Meetings that are identified in the law include, but are not limited to, eligibility determination meetings for ESE; individual educational plan (IEP) or individualized family support plan (IFSP) development meetings; meetings to develop a 504 accommodations plan under the provisions of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; transition meetings for children leaving early intervention services for school district-operated programs; secondary transition planning meetings; and any other meetings related to discipline issues or matters related to educational placement.

January 2014				
M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

- New Teachers Report
- Teacher Planning Day
- Teacher Planning Day No Opt
- Legal Holiday
- Recess Day
- Beg/End of Grading Period
- Secondary Early Release

Students from Hialeah Middle School and Coral Park Senior High donated holiday gifts to the children at the Center as part of their annual giving projects.



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Training in Disability Awareness was provided to newly hired child welfare workers in Miami-Dade through a collaboration between FDLRS/UM and Our Kids of Dade and Monroe, Inc. Participants learned about child development and risk factors which impact school readiness for young children in foster care prior to entering Kindergarten.



Children at the Linda Ray Center (FDLRS-UM) were the happy recipients of warm pajamas for the cold season as the Perez Family of Miami-Dade completed their Annual PJ Drive for 2013. The children sang songs, spent time with Santa and received their gift packages prior to the holiday recess.