



Who We Are

- A special district created in Palm Beach County by voters
- Focus on prenatal health and early childhood development
- Children's Services Council provides leadership, funding and research on behalf of Palm Beach County's children.

Our Goals

- Children are born healthy
- Children are safe from abuse and neglect
- Children are ready to learn when they enter school
- Children have access to quality afterschool & summer programs



Third Grade Reading Scores

	Reading Below Grade Level (3rd grade FCAT Reading)									
	SY10/11		SY09/10		SY08/09		SY07/08		SY06/07	
Palm Beach County	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total	4,005	30%	4,163	31%	4,033	31%	3,788	29%	3,931	31%
Participating in FRL	3,385	42%	3,538	44%	3,277	45%	2,998	43%	2,953	45%
Not participating in FRL	620	12%	689	13%	736	13%	777	13%	1,040	17%
ELL	1,456	68%	1,352	69%	1,356	60%	1,352	69%	1,283	57%



Our Approach



 Children's
Services Council
PALM BEACH COUNTY
Healthy. Safe. Strong.

Maternal, Child & Family Services

Pregnancy and child development services:

- Prenatal and post-natal risk screening
- Child development assessments (Ages & Stages Questionnaire)
- Navigation services – links to affordable health care, etc.
- Referral for direct services (data-driven, evidence-based)

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Quality Child Care & Afterschool

- More than 200 early education providers in Palm Beach County (professional development and improve curriculum)
- More than 115 afterschool providers in Palm Beach County (professional development and program enhancements)



Bridges

- Place-based strategy connecting the family, the child, the neighborhood, community agencies and human service organizations
- Based on communities with the greatest need
- Builds relationships and gains trust with community members
- Overall goal: improve child outcomes



Challenges to School Readiness

- Diversity
- Poverty
- Geography
- Little awareness of the issue in the community



Opportunities to Improve School Readiness

- Children's Services Council
- Early Childhood Cabinet
- Partnerships

Next Steps

- Public education campaign to raise awareness and build community action plan (www.cscpb.org)
- Bridging the gap between school readiness and 3rd grade reading success (summer programs, afterschool)
- Evidence-Based Programs