

Funding Request:

Fund Help Me Grow[®] Florida (HMGF) at \$4.5M annually to provide needed services statewide.

HMGF benefits our economy with a total economic impact of **\$11.6M annually** in increased sales, revenues, income, employment and lifetime earnings!¹

23,541 children assisted by HMGF

90% of children successfully connected to services

27,796 free developmental and behavioral screenings HMGF connects families to resources to give children their best start. 22 physician champions advocated and promoted the system

21,049 referrals made to supports and services

175 community screening and resource events held

80% of children received services before entering kindergarten

49% of screenings showed a concern

HMGF helps children not typically supported by other services. **45%** of children served did not attend an early learning program

73% of children screened are Medicaid enrollees

Cumulative averages across fiscal years 2016-17 to 2020-21 are reported. Data from 2012 to 2016 were excluded due to data inconsistencies. ¹Harrington, J., M.R. Niekus, S. Whitney. Help Me Grow[®] Florida – Economic Valuation and Assessment Study. Final Report to Help Me Grow[®] Florida, November 2020. See: <u>https://www.cefa.fsu.edu/sites/g/files/upcbnu1851/files/Final%20HMGF%2011-9-20%20Clean.pdf</u>

Partnership Highlights—Collaborations are integral to HMGF's success.

- Act Early/COVID-19 Response Teams Grant from the Association of University Centers on Disabilities and Centers for Control & Prevention for recovery supports to families.
- **Reach Out and Read Florida** collaboration with community partners and healthcare providers to distribute children's books and refer families to HMGF.
- Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Impact Project funded by Department of Health & Human Services and Florida Association of Healthy Start Coalitions to facilitate cross-sector partnerships.
- **Books**, **Balls**, and **Blocks** in-person and virtual community screening events connecting families with resources and providers.

2020-2021 FY AFFILIATES

13 local affiliate sites implement HMGF in 37 counties

2-1-1 Big Bend
2-1-1 Brevard
2-1-1 Palm Beach/Treasure Coast
2-1-1 Tampa Bay Cares
Early Learning Coalition of Duval County
Early Learning Coalition of Flagler-Volusia
Early Learning Coalition of Lake County
Early Learning Coalition of Marion County
Early Learning Coalition of Northwest Florida
Early Childhood Council of Hillsborough County
Heart of Florida United Way
Jewish Community Services of South Florida
United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades

One Family's Story

Rosalyn, a single mother from New York, recently moved to Florida to be closer to family supports. She reached out to HMGF to have her 2-year old son, Elijah, screened. The HMGF care coordinator called Rosalyn and together they completed a developmental screening, which revealed the need to monitor Elijah's social-emotional development. The care coordinator connected Rosalyn with information and materials to help her understand and foster his development and scheduled a future screening to address any additional concerns. Rosalyn says "I really don't know what I would have done without Help Me Grow...They've been my Go-to..."





Scan here to see how Help Me Grow Florida benefits Florida's economy!





Sponsored by the Children's Forum and the State of Florida, Division of Early Learning For more information, please visit www.helpmegrowfl.org

