Promoting the Healthy Development and Well-Being of Florida's Children through Collective Impact

FY 2019 – 2020 Annual Report Summary

**OUR MISSION**
To promote healthy development for every child in our state and for every child to receive routine developmental screenings

**OUR VISION**
For Florida to have a comprehensive system to support the optimal health, development, and well-being of all children in Florida

**OUR VALUES**
Building collaboration among community programs
Providing a centralized access point for information and referral
Promoting surveillance and screenings
Educating and informing the community

www.helpmegrowfl.org | 877-352-4453
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AUTHORITY AND FUNDING

The Help Me Grow® Florida (HMGF) system is sponsored by the Children’s Forum, Inc. and the State of Florida, Office of Early Learning (General Revenue Fund – Chapter 2019-116 – Appropriation 84).

For fiscal year 2019-2020, the Florida Legislature allocated $1,808,954 to HMGF. During this period, the HMGF State Coordinating Office contracted with ten affiliate sites.

Including two locally funded sites, children and their families are served in a total of 31 counties across the state.

FACT:
Help Me Grow® Florida served children in 31 of 67 counties in Florida. However, this means that one in two children in Florida still need access to HMGF.

STATE COORDINATING OFFICE

The Help Me Grow® Florida State Coordinating Office (SCO), located at the Children’s Forum, Inc. in Tallahassee, FL is responsible for oversight of the administrative, programmatic, and fiscal activities of the HMGF system at the state level.

The SCO provides technical assistance and other resources to its affiliates so that they may successfully implement HMGF in their respective counties and areas.

Meet the Help Me Grow® Florida SCO team

- Phyllis Kalifeh, President and CEO, Children’s Forum
- Melissa Clements, Vice President/Chief Research Officer, Children’s Forum
- Alexandra Goldberg, Statewide Director, Help Me Grow® Florida Children’s Forum
- Liz Randall, Data and Research Manager, Help Me Grow® Florida Children’s Forum
- Yolanda Tervil, Program and Outreach Specialist, Help Me Grow® Florida Children’s Forum
- Kerri Cloud, Chief Financial Officer, Children’s Forum
- Anita Bushnyakova, Contracts and Grants Manager, Children’s Forum
- Cathy Hall, Contract Compliance Specialist, Help Me Grow® Florida Children’s Forum
WHO WE ARE

HMGF is designed to empower families to support their children’s healthy development through the implementation of four Core Components:

- **Centralized Telephone Access Point** – assists families with questions and provides care coordination for children and their families to needed services
- **Family & Community Outreach** - promotes awareness of HMGF and develops associates/partners in the local community
- **Child Healthcare Provider Outreach** - educates and motivates physicians & other child healthcare providers to conduct routine child screenings and utilize the Help Me Grow® centralized telephone access point
- **Data Collection and Analysis** - bolster advocacy efforts and guide the system to ensure continuous quality improvement

OUR IMPACT

The early detection and intervention services provided through the Help Me Grow® Florida (HMGF) system are critical for optimal outcomes for children.

- **5,316** families served
- **7,621** screenings completed
- **4,198** referrals to community services and programs made

HMGF Affiliates regularly host free community screening events, including **Books, Balls, and Blocks**, where families and their children (birth to five) can participate in developmental screenings while connecting with community resources and partners.

**58** Books, Balls, and Blocks events were held in the 2019-2020 FY where more than **884** screenings were completed.

FACT:

From the year 2002 to 2016, pediatrician use of developmental screening tools has increased by approximately **40%**\(^1\) based on the American Academy of Pediatrics\(^2\) recommendations to screen babies and toddlers at 9 months, 18 months, and 30 months.

\(^1\)https://www.aap.org/en-us/professional-resources/Research/research-findings/Pages/Trends-in-Standardized-Developmental-Screening-Results-from-National-Surveys-of-Pediatricians-2002.aspx

OUR AFFILIATE PARTNERS

The local affiliates ensure that the Help Me Grow® Florida system builds collaboration across sectors, including early care and education, healthcare, and family support.

Families can contact HMGF by dialing 2-1-1 and asking to speak with a care coordinator. The HMGF care coordinators remain in contact with families they serve until they are successfully connected to a service.


75% Children successfully connected to at least one service

312+ Healthcare Providers partnered with HMGFL

2019-2020 FY AFFILIATES

- 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 Lake County
- Early Learning Coalition of Marion County
- Early Childhood Council of Hillsborough County
- Heart of Florida United Way
- United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades
- United Way of Volusia-Flagler Counties

2019-2020 FY LOCALLY FUNDED AFFILIATES

- Jewish Community Services of South Florida

Help Me Grow® Florida connects families to resources to give children their best start.

For more information and program data, please visit www.helpmegrowfl.org