



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## Early Childhood Programs are Selected to Become Models

### Supporting the Inclusion of All Children by Promoting Social Competence and Effectively Intervening with Challenging Behavior

**WHAT:** Five early childhood programs in Florida have been selected to become state demonstrations for the implementation of Positive Behavior Support (PBS).

**WHY:** These high quality early childhood programs are committed to the inclusion of all children. The PBS model provides early educators with the knowledge and tools needed to promote the social emotional competence of all children, prevent the development of behavior challenges, and ensure that young children with behavior problems get effective intervention.

**WHERE:** The five programs are:

- Just Kids Learning Center, Orange Park, Florida
- Winter Park Day Nursery, Winter Park, Florida
- Discovery Point 68, Land O' Lakes, Florida
- Magic Moments, Clermont, Florida
- Pro Child Learning Center, Lake Worth, Florida

These programs will receive intensive training and technical assistance from nationally recognized faculty members at the University of South Florida who developed the early childhood PBS model. Research on the implementation of early childhood PBS has validated the effectiveness of the model for reducing child challenging behavior and promoting children's social emotional competence. This model holds great promise for providing effective early intervention that helps children with the foundations needed for school readiness. Each of the selected programs will be training teachers, working with families, and bringing this model to their programs. Program leadership teams will use data-based decision-making to make sure that the social emotional needs of all children in the program can be met.

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Florida Center for Inclusive Communities (FCIC) is a University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities at the University of South Florida. With funding from the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc. FCIC is providing training and technical assistance to early education programs to implement program-wide adoption of Positive Behavior Support.