



No Kid Hungry Birth to Five

EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF DUVAL

FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

OVERVIEW

The Early Learning Coalition of Duval (ELC of Duval) contracts with more than 500 School Readiness and Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program (VPK) childcare providers in Duval County. Sixty-five of those providers are in the urban core and they serve more than 2,000 children living in poverty. In March 2021, the ELC of Duval was one of only eight organizations in Florida to be awarded a No Kid Hungry grant from Share our Strength, a national nonprofit. The purpose of this initiative was to provide vulnerable children from birth to five immediate access to healthy, nutritious food, educate families about healthy eating, and create awareness of federally funded food programs, WIC and SNAP.

COMMUNITY GOALS

Goal 9: Food Security and Nutrition

Goal 8: Health and Wellness



CHALLENGE

To address childhood hunger in Duval and the increased demand for food services in response to COVID-19



INNOVATION

The No Kid Hungry Birth to Five Initiative demonstrated how organizations can successfully deliver resources to hard-to-reach families. Targeting low-income families with young children living in Jacksonville's food deserts, the ELC of Duval created cross-sector partnerships with private childcare providers, the Florida Department of Health (FDOH), the Boys and Girls Club of Northeast Florida, and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that served more than 1,000 of Jacksonville's youngest children and their families. To reduce barriers to food access during the pandemic, these services were delivered to children and families in the areas in which they lived so they did not have to leave their neighborhoods for assistance.

PARTNERS

- All About God's Children
- Bright Futures Learning Center
- Buchman Early Learning Academy
- Florida Department of Health (FDOH)
- For Your Child Only Child Development Center
- Guardian Catholic School
- Joshua Christian Academy
- Kids Hope Alliance
- Northside Community Involvement
- Praise Is What We Do Early Learning Center
- Punkin Place Child Development Center
- Share Our Strength
- St. Thomas Child Development Center
- The Boys and Girls Club of Northeast Florida
- The Gateway to Heaven Christian Church
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- Unique Academy of Excellence
- Victorious Learning Center