



PO Box 2187 ✨ Stuart, FL 34995 ✨ 772-220-0043 ✨ fax: 772-463-2896



News and Events

- *Provider Training*
October 20th, 2009
10:30 am
CSCMC Training Room

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Letter from the Executive Director

Greetings to all,

Whole Child Connection is proud to announce its latest partnership with Martin County Parks and Recreation, the Boys and Girls Club, and Martin County Healthy Start Coalition. Two Health Navigators will be joining our community located in Jensen Beach and Palm City thanks to these wonderful organizations.

Parks and Recreation will employ one Health Navigator at Langford Park in Jensen Beach to assist families in completing applications for Medicaid, Food Stamps, and KidCare in the mornings and serve as an After School Care Program Coordinator in the afternoons. Boys and Girls

Club of Martin County will employ a similar position at their Palm City Branch. Martin County Healthy Start will assist in the funding of both positions. Whole Child Connection has conducted a training with the new Health Navigators and will continue to be available for ongoing assistance.

Partnerships such as this one are pivotal to achieving Whole Child Connection's mission of connecting all families in Martin County with much-needed services. By working together, we can certainly reach more families in a more efficient and cost effective manner. Therefore, I urge every Whole Child Provider to consider small steps that can have a big impact to-

wards Martin County children and their families.

Any service provider in contact with families can increase their impact by becoming a Whole Child Community Advisor. As a Community Advisor, service providers will be able to instantaneously connect families with other needed services, eliminating duplications of services and more effectively serving clients in need.

For more information, please contact Alicia Hohsfield, Senior Whole Child Advisor at 772-220-0248.

Sincerely,
Nicole King,
Executive Director

Top Providers for August & September, 2009

The Providers below have received and responded to the highest number of client referrals for the months of August & September, 2009. These Providers have responded to Client Service Requests generated from the WCC System in a timely manner!

House of Hope	18 Referrals
Prenatal Outreach Center	12 Referrals
MCSD Extended Day	11 Referrals

Way to go!

Meet Our Staff

Blee Picciano, Advisor



Blee Picciano is the newest Advisor for Whole Child. Blee has 32 years of Early Childhood experience and owned her own child care business. She grew up in New York State on the Pennsylvania border—at the same address her whole life. She was married on the front lawn, and bought the house from her parents after they retired to raise her daughters there. She has been married for 35 years, has 2 daughters, and 1 grandchild. Blee loves cooking, gardening, construction, organizing rooms and parties, helping family, friends, and neighbors and most of all - being a grandma.

helps families complete the Whole Child Profile, link services on the Whole Child Resource List, and develop a comprehensive Whole Child Plan. Whole Child Advisors are also available to assist providers in updating information on the resource list, and to provide families with additional information on services and service providers.

Whole Child Advisors follow up on families, facilitating revisions to Whole Child Plans as needed and ensuring that families have the pieces in place for a successful future.

As a Whole Child Advisor, Blee

Staff Contacts

- ◆ Nicole King
Executive Director
772-220-0043
- ◆ Alicia Hohsfield
Senior Whole Child Advisor
772-220-0248
- ◆ Blee Picciano
Whole Child Advisor
772-334-2553
- ◆ Maria Zornosa
Whole Child Advisor
772-463-2168
- ◆ Odilia Nerios
Health Navigator
772-463-2168
- ◆ Danyella Lustosa
Health Navigator
772-597-6398
- ◆ Kim Waser
Community Relations
Liaison
772-463-2888



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Or Visit:

www.floridakidcare.org



First Annual Provider Recognition Luncheon
August 14, 2009

To see more images from our First Annual Provider Networking Luncheon, please visit:

<http://connectingmartinkids.com/Provider-Recognition-Luncheon-2009.pdf>



Whole Child Connection Funders



The Frances
Langford Foundation



Children's Services Council
OF MARTIN COUNTY



Allegany Franciscan Ministries, Inc.



HOBE SOUND
COMMUNITY CHEST



Community Foundation
FOR PALM BEACH AND MARTIN COUNTIES

Whole Child Connection System Statistics

The following statistics are based on profiles submitted between July 1st, 2009 and September 30th, 2009. A total of 757 profiles were submitted during this time.

Top 59% referral generated questions:

- | | |
|---|------|
| • Do you and your children have health insurance? | 70% |
| • Do you sometimes need help paying for food, housing utilities, or clothing? | 89% |
| • Are you reading/sharing stories with your child several times a week? | 100% |
| • Do you have a gynecologist? | 59% |
| • In the last year have you had a cholesterol test? | 62% |
| • Do your daily meals include fruits and vegetables? | 88% |



Trick or Treating Safety Tips

Halloween is here again and with it comes an opportunity for fun family memories! Follow these tips to keep your little pumpkins and ghosts safe this Halloween:

- Bring a flashlight and better yet: make sure the batteries are fresh before you leave the house
- Give your kids glow sticks to carry so you can easily spot them when the sun goes down
- Do NOT wear rollerblades when trick-or-treating—not only is this unsafe, but it is also a nuisance the
- Only trick-or-treat in familiar neighborhoods
- Stick to driveways and walkways that are well lit and don't cut through a neighbor's yard
- Check to be sure all candy is sealed
- Always visit the front door and NEVER visit the back door
- Stay away from any animals you don't know
- Be sure to use a reusable bag for your treats—not only is it less likely to break, but it's better for the environment too!
- Never go inside the house of a stranger
- Plan a safe route ahead of time
- Stay in well-populated areas
- Children should only trick-or-treat during daylight or with an adult



“It is not flesh or blood, but the heart which makes us fathers and sons.”

– Johann Schiller

“When I moved to Martin County, I had no idea where to find speech therapy for my son. The Whole Child Profile connected me with Easter Seals, and I am so impressed with how easy it was to find the help I needed through Whole Child Connection!”



Connector's Club

You're invited to join the Whole Child Connection Connector's Club!

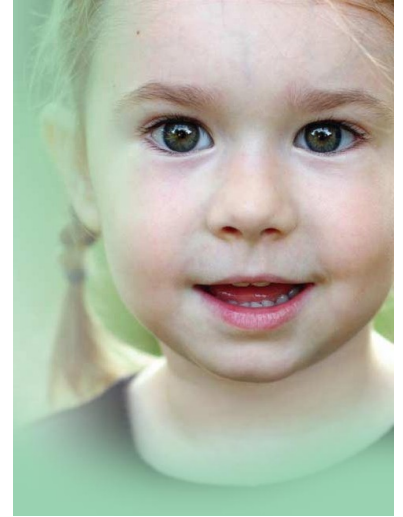
The Connector's Club is a select group of people who give a hand-up, not a hand-out, to families and children in Martin County. Your donation will go directly to help families and children get the assistance they need. Thanks to your support, this service is given free to everyone regardless of income.

Benefits of joining the Connector's Club include:

- ◆ An invitation to exclusive Connectors Club receptions
- ◆ A free Whole Child Connection mouse pad

- ◆ Your name and/or company listed on the Whole Child website and in the annual report
- ◆ Free passes to the Children's Museum in Jensen Beach
- ◆ Your donation of cash, stocks, bonds, life insurance, 401K, or property to Whole Child Connection, a 501C3 non-profit organization, is tax-deductible as allowed by law.

For more information regarding the Connector's Club, please visit www.connectingmartinkids.com/donate



*"The quickest way for a parent to get a child's attention is to sit down and look comfortable."
- Lane Olinghouse*

Top WCC Provider of August & September 2009



House of Hope
2484 SE Bonita St.
Stuart, FL 34997
(772) 286-HOPE (4673)

Contact Us

Whole Child Connection
PO Box 2187
Stuart, Florida 34995-2187
Phone: (772) 220-0043

Visit us on the web:
www.connectingmartinkids.com

Want to know more about how Whole Child works?

[Click here](#)

