

First 1000 Days Florida 2023 Priorities

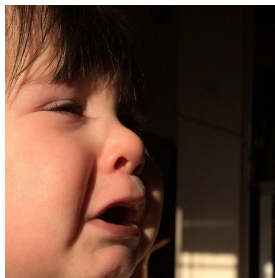


Maternal and Child Health

Maternal health, both physical and emotional, is the foundation for the first 1000 days of a child's life. Florida's postpartum Medicaid expansion for one year after birth will increase access to needed health and mental health services, address racial disparities, and reduce the risk for future adverse birth outcomes.

First 1000 Days Florida supports promoting preconception and interconception health as a key strategy to reduce maternal morbidity and mortality.

ACEs Prevention and Resilience



The first 1000 days of life offer the most opportunity for development, and yet, the most vulnerability for adversity, including maltreatment. One third of abused and neglected children in out-of-home care are under age three. **First 1000 Days Florida supports these strategies: expand capacity for Child Parent Psychotherapy; promote and fund expansion of Early Childhood Courts; and promote legislation addressing out-of-home placement changes and transitions.**



Infant Toddler Care

Quality early learning programs improve language skills and help reduce the achievement gap to increase kindergarten readiness and early grade success. This is accomplished by adopting minimum quality standards for child care providers and Gold Seal accrediting for early learning centers with demonstrable impact on child outcomes. Florida Office of Early Learning proposes 2020-21 rules to enhance these strategies. In addition, child care subsidies increase enrollment in formal child care settings and support maternal employment and education. **This is a First 1000 Days Florida Priority.**

Early Intervention



Early Intervention services boost parental self-confidence and satisfaction, and improve children's cognitive, motor, behavioral, and language development, especially for infants born preterm or low birthweight. We need to promote developmental screening, early intervention and mental health services. Also, work to expand eligibility of early intervention to maximize the impact during the pivotal time of rapid infant & toddler development when least expensive and most effective to intervene. **First 1000 Days Florida supports expanding screening, early intervention, and mental health services for the youngest Floridians.**