



THANK YOU

Thank You Members and Donors

Black Diamond Foundation August 2019 Update

School Readiness Program of the Early Learning Coalition of Citrus County

The School Readiness Program offers financial assistance to low-income families for early education and care so they can become financially self-sufficient and their young children can be successful in the future. Last October there were 759 at-risk children ranging in age from 6 weeks to 12 years enrolled in the Citrus County School Readiness Program and 137 children on the waiting list. It is important to note that for every dollar donated locally, the Early Learning Coalition receives \$15.67 in federal matching funds. This means that our contribution of \$10,000 becomes more than \$160,000 in funds available to support this investment in the future of Citrus County. That's leverage!

The Early Learning Coalition of the Nature Cost currently contracts with child care facilities throughout Citrus County to deliver the School Readiness Program. Children participate in a wide variety of activities that serve to develop skills in such areas as STEM, social studies, creative expression and character development. Services vary based on the individual need of the family and range from part time child care a few days per week to extended day care seven days per week. A School Readiness after-school program provides the student assistance in a safe environment while the parent completes their workday. Funding also covers full day care on school holidays and summer breaks.

Black Diamond Foundation - Annual Priorities Survey

Each year, the Black Diamond Foundation Board receives applications from Citrus County charities and then determines which charities will receive grants. Over the next twelve months, the Foundation hopes to receive roughly \$150,000 from our community donors and golf tournament. In turn, this money will be distributed to the selected charities. The Foundation would like the input of our community donors before we begin our budgeting process and application review this fall. Please help us prioritize our four primary areas of giving by completing our Annual Priorities Survey. We value your feedback.

[Click here to begin Priorities Survey](#)

Have a great summer,

Foster Lamm, Chairman, Black Diamond Foundation