



Professional Development



Melissa Clements, VP/Chief Research Officer, **Denise Bishop**, T.E.A.C.H. Outreach Coordinator, **Lisa Roberts**, T.E.A.C.H. Outreach Specialist, and **Jenna Brown**, Communications Director, attended the Mayor's Community Summit on Children and enjoyed learning about the power of early education, investing in family-friendly workplaces, the importance of Quality Rating and Improvement Systems, and the impact of Community Schools. It was wonderful to see business leaders, policy makers, child care providers, and early care and education advocates under one roof with one unwavering mission: to improve outcomes for children!



Employees from the Forum's **T.E.A.C.H.** and **WAGE\$** programs attended the T.E.A.C.H./WAGE\$ National Annual Symposium & Articulation Summit April 24-26 in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. They had a great time presenting and networking with attendees from across the country for two days of training and technical assistance on day-to-day program operations as well as broader issues relevant to the professional preparation of the early childhood workforce.

**SAVE
THE
DATE!**

Use Your Noodle: Make a Difference
Forum Professional Development Conference

September 20-22
San Pedro Center in Winter Park
Stay Tuned for Details!

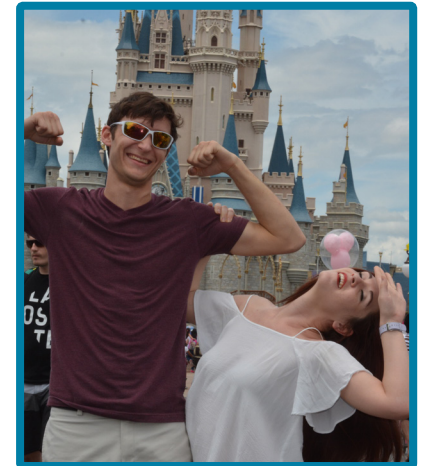
★ Announcements and Adventures



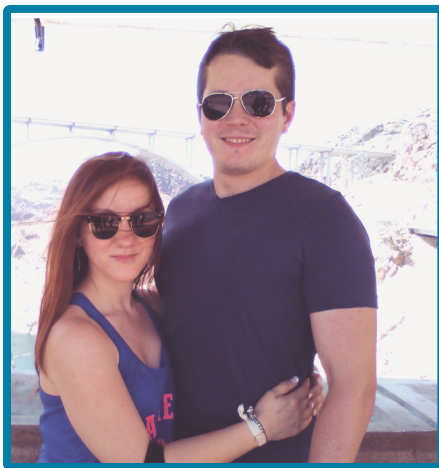
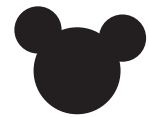
On March 10, **Rayvenn Martinez**, QCCC Program Specialist, and her husband became first-time parents to a beautiful baby boy named Liam Gregory! Weighing in at 6 pounds 6 ounces and measuring 19.1 inches, Liam loves bath time, being outside, and listening to music. He is the happiest baby and Rayvenn is loving parenthood!



Kiki Carter, WAGE\$ Coordinator, **Jinan As-Siddiq**, CEU Coordinator, **Viviana Avila**, Child Care Evaluation Specialist, and **Erika Williams**, Senior WAGE\$ Counselor, embarked on a trip to Orlando for their annual girls weekend getaway! They had a blast touring Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure and lodging at the Cabana Bay Beach Resort!



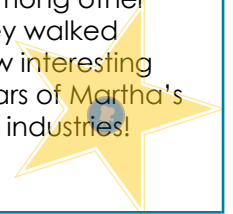
Jillian Davis, IT Office Manager, visited Disney World for her boyfriend's birthday and Earth Day. They had an awesome time at the happiest place on Earth and enjoyed goofing around!



Anita Bushnyakova, Fiscal and Contacts Specialist, took a vacation to Las Vegas, the Grand Canyon, and Hoover Dam with her husband! She enjoyed learning the history surrounding the building of the dam and thought it was neat to cross from Nevada to Arizona right in the middle of the dam. Although Anita is afraid of heights, she says the Grand Canyon is worth the view!



Martha Grant, T.E.A.C.H. Counselor, recently visited San Francisco and Los Angeles with a friend to attend a concert. They rode on the cable cars up and down the hills in San Francisco and visited the Ghirardelli Chocolate Factory, among other things. While touring Los Angeles, they walked Hollywood Boulevard where they saw interesting street performers and located the stars of Martha's favorite people in the film and music industries!



Forum Happenings



The Children's Forum loves giving back to the community! On April 2, seven Forum employees and 14 of their family members from the **Miami** office volunteered for the **GIVE** Program's group service project at the Autism Speaks Walk. During the event, they provided assistance at the photo booth for corporate teams, organized group props, and ensured teams had a fun experience. Employees had a fantastic time and were thankful to be a part of the world's largest autism fundraising event!



Get Involved - Volunteer Everyone



The Forum's **Tallahassee based employees** had a fabulous time at the annual Spring Egg Hunt on April 18! Staff loved looking for yummy treats and fun prizes! Congratulations to **Ilesha Grinnell**, Registry Coach, who found the grand prize egg good for one hour of PTO. Thank you to our Employee Recognition and Morale Committee for coordinating the event!



Way to go! 





Forum Happenings

ZUMBA THON!

SATURDAY, MAY 20, 2017

1:00PM - 3:00PM

YOUFIT HEALTH CLUB

3111 Mahan Drive, Ste #12
Tallahassee, FL 32308

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT:

\$5.00
ENTRY FEE



Join the party and support Children's Forum CARES in a fun, high-calorie burn with some amazing Zumba instructors!

Attendees will be entered into chance drawings for fabulous gift cards and door prizes!

For more information, please contact Jinan As-Siddiq at jassiddiq@thechildrensforum.com or ext. 352

Happy Birthday



April

Laura Simonds, Registry.....Apr 04
Jill Calhoun, PAC.....Apr 05
Iesha Grinnell, Registry.....Apr 05
Birtany Johnson, T.E.A.C.H.....Apr 06
Flor Brito, QCCC.....Apr 07

Courtney Hutcheson, Registry.....Apr 11
Brenda Romuald, T.E.A.C.H.....Apr 11
Camisha Hodge, T.E.A.C.H.....Apr 16
Ava Aviles, QCCC.....Apr 16
Kelly Fountain, IT.....Apr 25

Happy Anniversary



April




Renata Lossano, QCCC.....2 years
Dasiely Marrero, QCCC.....4 years

Paula Grant, T.E.A.C.H.....4 years
Debbie Conley, PAC.....7 years

Save the Date!



Upcoming events for Tallahassee-based staff:

 <p>Lunch and Learn: UF/IFAS Expansion Office</p>	 <p>Zumbathon!</p>	 <p>Forum Garage Sale</p>
May 8	May 20	May 24 & 25