



**The Forum's Tallahassee-based employees** honored all fighters and survivors during Breast Cancer Awareness Month. They also learned about the importance of mammograms at the *Walk Around Remington* event sponsored by the Area Health Education Center.

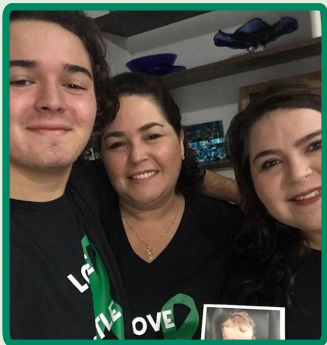




# Dwarfism Awareness Day



Forum employees honored International Dwarfism Awareness Day. We wore green and spread the love in support of our Forum Family member, **Laura Cain**, Registry Coordinator, and her son, James.





# Program Spotlight



Because you asked, issues of *Forum Focus* will now spotlight one of our programs or services. In doing so, other Forum departments will better understand the important role we all play in fulfilling our mission. This issue's spotlight features the **Early Learning Career Center** program.

The Early Learning Career Center (ELCC) offers professional development services and support to all DCF-licensed early learning programs, family child care homes, and educators in Miami-Dade County. As part of the Miami-Dade Thrive by 5 Early Learning Quality Improvement System (QIS), the ELCC provides career advising and educator scholarships in support of a diverse workforce. In addition, the ELCC connects early childhood educators in Miami-Dade to Forum professional development supports such as Early Childhood Educator INCENTIVE\$ Florida and the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Scholarship Program.

Funding for the registries is provided by The Children's Trust.

**Professional Development Registries Fun Fact:** QIS educators have higher quality interactions with the children in their classrooms when they hold degrees, accept more scholarships, and receive INCENTIVE\$ financial supports.

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## Meet the Early Learning Career Center Team!



**Melissa  
Clements**  
VP, Chief  
Research Officer



**Dasiely  
Cruz**  
ELCC  
Director



**Flor  
Brito**  
Prof. Dev.  
Coordinator



**Aymara  
Aguiar**  
Prof. Dev.  
Specialist



**Sonia  
Corbo D'Amico**  
Prof. Dev.  
Specialist



**Ana  
Naranjo-Gonzalez**  
Prof. Dev.  
Specialist



**Nayree  
Navarro**  
Prof. Dev.  
Specialist



**Leidy  
Sevilla**  
Program Support  
Specialist



# Conferences and Adventures



**Phyllis Kalifeh**, President and CEO, **Bill Kirchhoff**, Vice President and Chief Technology Officer, **Lori Stegmeyer**, Director of Workforce Initiatives, **Laura Cain**, Registry Coordinator, **Courtney Lee**, Registry Coach, and **Erika Pope**, Registry Coach, attended the National Workforce Registry Alliance in Minneapolis, Minnesota. They learned best strategies to enhance captured data about early childhood educators to inform policy makers.



**Melissa Clements**, Vice President and Chief Research Officer, and **Ana Naranjo-Gonzalez**, Professional Development Specialist, got the chance to connect at the Zero to Three Conference in Ft. Lauderdale.



**Martha Grant**, T.E.A.C.H. Counselor, and **Cristian Oliva**, INCENTIVE\$ Assistant, were happy to discuss scholarships and financial incentives to attendees at the Florida Association for the Education of Young Children Annual Conference.



**Emily Fulkerson**, T.E.A.C.H. Counselor, raised awareness of scholarship opportunities at the Early Learning Coalition of Pasco and Hernando Counties Conference.



Zion Nathan, son of **Angela Nathan**, T.E.A.C.H. Counselor, visited his first pumpkin patch this year!





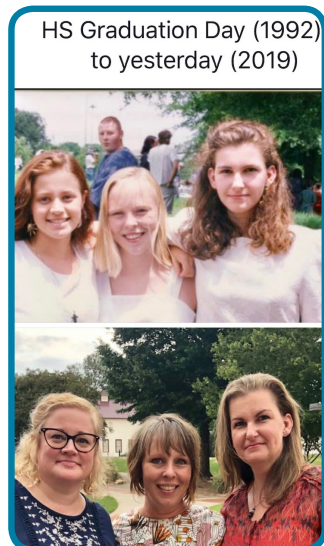
# Events and Adventures



Tim Jackson, son of **Tomica King-Jackson**, T.E.A.C.H. Counselor, was an Escort for the Annual Senior Girl Presentation. In addition, he was on North Florida Christian School's homecoming court!



**Kim McDonald**, Senior Registry Coach, shared that her nephew Wyatt is attending an Audubon Society nature's classroom outdoors. Wyatt loves exploring nature and has shown a particular fascination with bugs and worms.



HS Graduation Day (1992) to yesterday (2019)

**Emily Fulkerson**, T.E.A.C.H. Counselor, visited Clemson, SC with her sister, Holly, who attended her 20 year high school reunion! She was able to see many of her high school and college friends as well, and put a pin on the map for Tallahassee at one of Clemson's athletic shops.



Brooke and Hailey McEllhenney, daughters of **Melissa Clements**, Vice President and Chief Research Officer, enjoyed family time at Wild Adventures Theme Park!

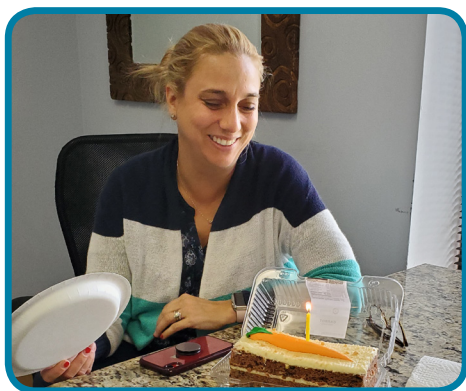




# Parties and Adventures



**Chelsea Lister**, T.E.A.C.H. Administrative Coordinator, celebrated her 40th birthday with friends in Destin, Florida! Forum employees **Ashley Casey**, T.E.A.C.H. Data and Communications Coordinator, **Laura Cain**, Registry Coordinator, and **Kiki Peters**, INCENTIVE\$ Coordinator, joined in Chelsea's birthday fun and festivities.



**ELCC employees** sang "Happy Birthday" to **Ana Naranjo-Gonzalez**, Professional Development Specialist, on her special day!



**Jenna Brown**, Communications Director, enjoyed Toy Story Land and the Tower of Terror with her family at Hollywood Studios!



**Tomica King-Jackson**, T.E.A.C.H. Counselor, kicked back and had a blast with her family at Hollywood Studios!



**Angela Nathan**, T.E.A.C.H. Counselor, attended Chuck E. Cheese to celebrate the first birthday of her son, Zion!



# Forum Happenings



## Happy Birthday

### September

**Kimyarra Gardner, INCENTIVE\$** ..... Sep 02  
**Ana Naranjo-Gonzalez, ELCC**..... Sep 11  
**Teresa Valentin, INCENTIVE\$** ..... Sep 12  
**Cristian Oliva, INCENTIVE\$** ..... Sep 13  
**Jillian Davis, IT** ..... Sep 30

### October

**Anita Bushnyakova, Fiscal** ..... Oct 11  
**Kathy Moffett, Registry** ..... Oct 22  
**Chelsea Lister, T.E.A.C.H.**..... Oct 25  
**Leidy Sevilla, ELCC** ..... Oct 25

## Happy Anniversary

### September

**Emily Fulkerson, T.E.A.C.H.**..... 14 years  
**Melissa Clements, Admin**..... 9 years  
**Denise Bishop, Outreach**..... 5 years

### October

**Mary Terry, T.E.A.C.H.**..... 16 years  
**Dawn Lynn, T.E.A.C.H** ..... 12 years  
**Nayree Navarro, ELCC**..... 11 years  
**Angela Nathan, T.E.A.C.H.**..... 4 years



## Shout Outs!

"I would like to give a shout out to **Grace Moore**, T.E.A.C.H. File Clerk. We may not say it often, but we REALLY do appreciate your service. It helps us TREMENDOUSLY!!"  
 -Tomica King-Jackson

Special thanks to the **Forum's Morale Committee** for providing yummy snoball treats, courtesy of JMo's Sneauxball Catering Co., for our Tallahassee-based employees!

