



**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CHILDREN'S FORUM EMPLOYEES INVITED TO SPEAK AT NATIONAL
WHITE HOUSE INITIATIVE ON EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE FOR
HISPANICS PRESENTATION**

Latino teacher recruitment in Hispanic education to be discussed

TALLAHASSEE, FL (April 19, 2016) Two local employees from the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Scholarship Program have been invited to speak at the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics national presentation on Wednesday, April 20, 2016, from 2:00-3:00 p.m. The presentation will focus on Latino teacher recruitment and Lisa Adams, Assistant Director of T.E.A.C.H., and Martha Grant, T.E.A.C.H. Counselor, will discuss what makes a T.E.A.C.H. scholarship so beneficial for a Latina early childhood professional, how T.E.A.C.H. reaches out to recipients with limited English proficiency, and how community colleges are helping Hispanic T.E.A.C.H. scholars be successful. The presentation will be streamed via [Google+ Hangout](#).

Operated by the Tallahassee-based Children's Forum, T.E.A.C.H. provides scholarships for child care teachers to work towards earning a Bachelor or Associate degree in early childhood education as well as various child care teaching credentials. Studies show that investing in high-quality early learning programs benefits our society through long-term economic gains such as a reduced crime rate, a more stable economy, and a more competent workforce. In addition, high-quality programs begin with a knowledgeable and competent workforce.

“We are humbled to speak on the benefits of T.E.A.C.H. through the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics,” said Phyllis Kalifeh, Ed.D, president and CEO of the Children's Forum. “In Florida, Latinos make up a large part of the child care workforce. We continue to evaluate our services and supports to identify Hispanic recipient needs related to higher education.”

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In 2014-2015, 12,336 credit hours were taken by T.E.A.C.H. participants in Florida. In addition, 2,192 scholarships were awarded to new recipients across the state.

For more information on T.E.A.C.H. or the Children's Forum, please contact Jenna Brown, communications director, at 850-487-6344 or jjbrown@thechildrensforum.com

About the Children's Forum

The Children's Forum is a statewide, nonprofit organization with an uncompromising vision to make Florida a state where children grow and thrive in quality environments and where families have access to information, resources, and options to assist them in their parenting roles. Through a broad array of programs, services, research and advocacy, the Forum is committed to achieving our vision and expanding opportunities for success.

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