



Presented by



CHILDREN'S WEEK
c/o United Way of Florida
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www.childrensweek.org

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 10, 2010

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Children's Week brings attention to children's services across Florida, prelude to the April 13th celebration in Tallahassee.

Tallahassee, FL - Throughout Florida, youth, families and organizations are gearing up for the 15th Annual Florida Children's Week to raise awareness about critical children's issues and programs.

"Children's Week is the largest statewide civic education event for children and families in Florida," says Children's Week coordinator Jason Zaborske. "With events happening in all 67 counties and thousands of families traveling to Tallahassee to participate in the Children's 'Capitol for a Day', it is the one time during the year that students have the opportunity to come together with one voice for children."

From now through April, more than 75 statewide partners and organizations including Comcast, Nemours, United Healthcare, Florida KidCare, Thomas Media Partners, United Way of Florida and dozens of non-profit organizations are teaming up to host a multitude of events and activities designed to promote the education, health, safety and well-being of children and families across the Sunshine State.

During the next ten weeks, communities will host children's activities and events including:

- Children in schools and child care centers throughout Florida will design and color more than 100,000 paper cut-outs of their hands, which will be transported to Tallahassee via the "Caring Hands Caravan." Hundreds of volunteers from across the state will arrive at the Capitol on Sunday, April 11 at 1p.m. to help with the official "Hanging of the Hands" in the Capitol Rotunda.
- The "Capital Steps for Kids" program presented by Nemours provides local Children's Week local event coordinators with 10,000 pedometers to organize walks and promote healthy and active lifestyles. Coordinators will track the number of steps, and Nemours will announce how many steps were walked for children's issues at the Capitol on Tuesday, April 13.
- N.I.E Civics Essay Contest – Students have the opportunity to become even more involved in Children's Week activities than in years previous. The focus for the 2010 N.I.E. Civics Essay Contest is "Citizenship." Students have the ability to put their thoughts into action in essay form, focusing on problems in their community, why such problems need to be solved and ways to address the issues at hand. To find out more information on how students can take part, visit – www.childrensweek.org
- The "Children's Capital for a Day" is scheduled for Tuesday, April 13 from 9a.m. to 3p.m. at the State Capitol. The day includes free walking tours of the Capitol, hands-on educational activities for children, and legislators reading and distributing books to children. Free healthy boxed lunches will be provided by Roly Poly to all children and teachers who RSVP by April 2, 2010.

For a complete listing of local events taking place in your area, please see the attached listing. Additional information on activities taking place during Children's Week at the Capitol is available at <http://www.childrensweek.org>.

All activities are free and open to the public.

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