

IMPACT REPORT 2022-2023

\$5.7M

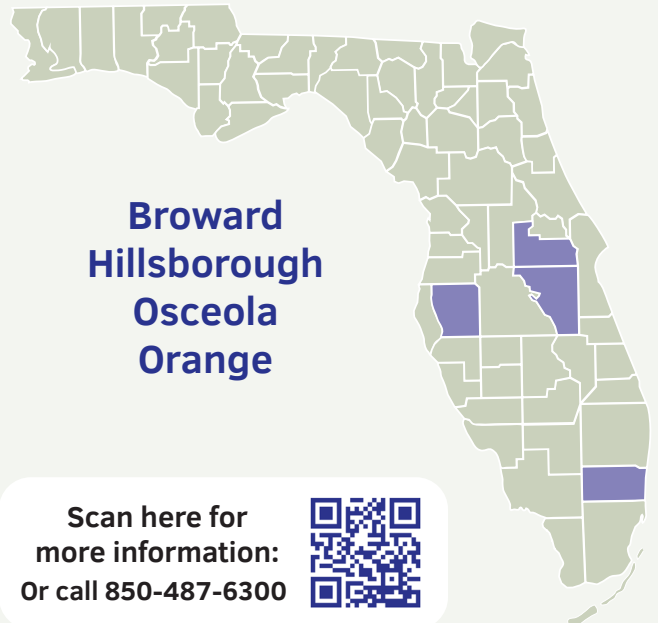
local investments into Florida's
early childhood education workforce

There were **638** early learning
centers and family child care homes

With **1,867** total
INCENTIVE\$ participants

Who supported **47,646** young
children and their families.

Participating counties for the
2022-2023 funding year include:



Early Childhood Educator INCENTIVE\$ Florida is an early childhood quality initiative locally funded through participating early learning coalitions, children's services councils, and private contributors. INCENTIVE\$ rewards early childhood educators with stipends ranging between \$450 and \$5,000 as they further their education and maintain continuous employment.

Since the program's implementation in 2003, INCENTIVE\$ (formerly Child Care WAGE\$®) has awarded more than \$30,500,000 in stipends to early childhood educators working with birth to five aged children in participating counties. The average INCENTIVE\$ stipend for the 2022-23 funding year was \$1,958. This is equivalent to an additional \$0.94 per hour for these educators. The monetary supports

provided through the program are essential for many of our INCENTIVE\$ participants, as 94% reported that the annual stipend "helps ease financial stress." The impact of this figure is made even more meaningful with 59% of participants indicating that they are the only source of income for their households.

INCENTIVE\$ requests legislative support and funding for statewide application of this effective and evidence-based initiative to encourage continuing education efforts, increase staff retention and commitment to field, and improve compensation across Florida's early learning workforce and small business, for-profit sector.

