



## **GROWING TOGETHER:** **SUPPORTING FLORIDA'S FAMILIES** **FROM THE START**

### **Liz Randall**


Senior Director, Help Me Grow Florida  
CDC's "Learn the Signs. Act Early." Ambassador to Florida

### **Linda Hafner**


Program Manager  
Healthy Start Coalition of Southwest Florida, Inc.

# WHAT IS HELP ME GROW?

A COORDINATED SYSTEM  
THAT SUPPORTS EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

 Builds on what already exists

 Supports children from birth to age 8

 Always free for families








**By providing families with access to the resources they need when they need them,  
Help Me Grow works to ensure all children have the best possible start in life.**



 Help Me Grow<sup>®</sup>  
Florida

# HMGF HELPS FAMILIES

## HMGF CARE COORDINATORS:






-  Offers personalized support and guidance
-  Answers questions and eases concerns
-  Guides families through developmental and behavioral screenings
-  Promotes development at home
-  Makes milestones easy to understand





# HMGF HELPS FAMILIES

## HMGF CARE COORDINATORS:

-  Connects families and children to the right resources
-  Helps families navigate barriers
-  Supports while waiting
-  Follows up and closes the loop
-  Empowers families to be advocates

# 94%

of children are successfully connected to  
critical resources



**"I JUST COULD NOT BELIEVE HOW  
DIFFICULT IT WAS TO FIND HELP FOR OUR  
KIDS DURING SUCH A CRITICAL TIME IN  
THEIR EARLY LEARNING DEVELOPMENT.**






**HELP ME GROW HAS BEEN A BRIGHT LIGHT  
FOR TWO PARENTS WHO FELT  
COMPLETELY LOST IN THE DARK TRYING TO  
NAVIGATE A SYSTEM THAT WAS FALLING  
SHORT."**

**-THE MERRITT FAMILY**








# HMGF HELPS COMMUNITIES THRIVE



-  Improves referral accuracy
-  Streamlines access & coordination
-  Raises awareness of local resources
-  Fills gaps & supports collaboration
-  Drives better outcomes for children

# HMGF SUPPORTS HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

-  Extends the reach of pediatric care
-  Helps families understand screening results
-  Bridges the gap between screening and services
-  Promotes developmental monitoring
-  Extends care beyond the exam room

41

PHYSICIAN CHAMPIONS  
ACTIVELY ENDORSE AND  
ADVOCATE FOR HMGF



**“HELP ME GROW IS A  
GREAT, MUCH NEEDED  
PROGRAM HERE IN BAY  
AND SURROUNDING  
COUNTIES.”**

**-DR. ALLISON DAVIS,  
M.D., F.A.A.P.**

**EMERALD COAST PEDIATRICS**

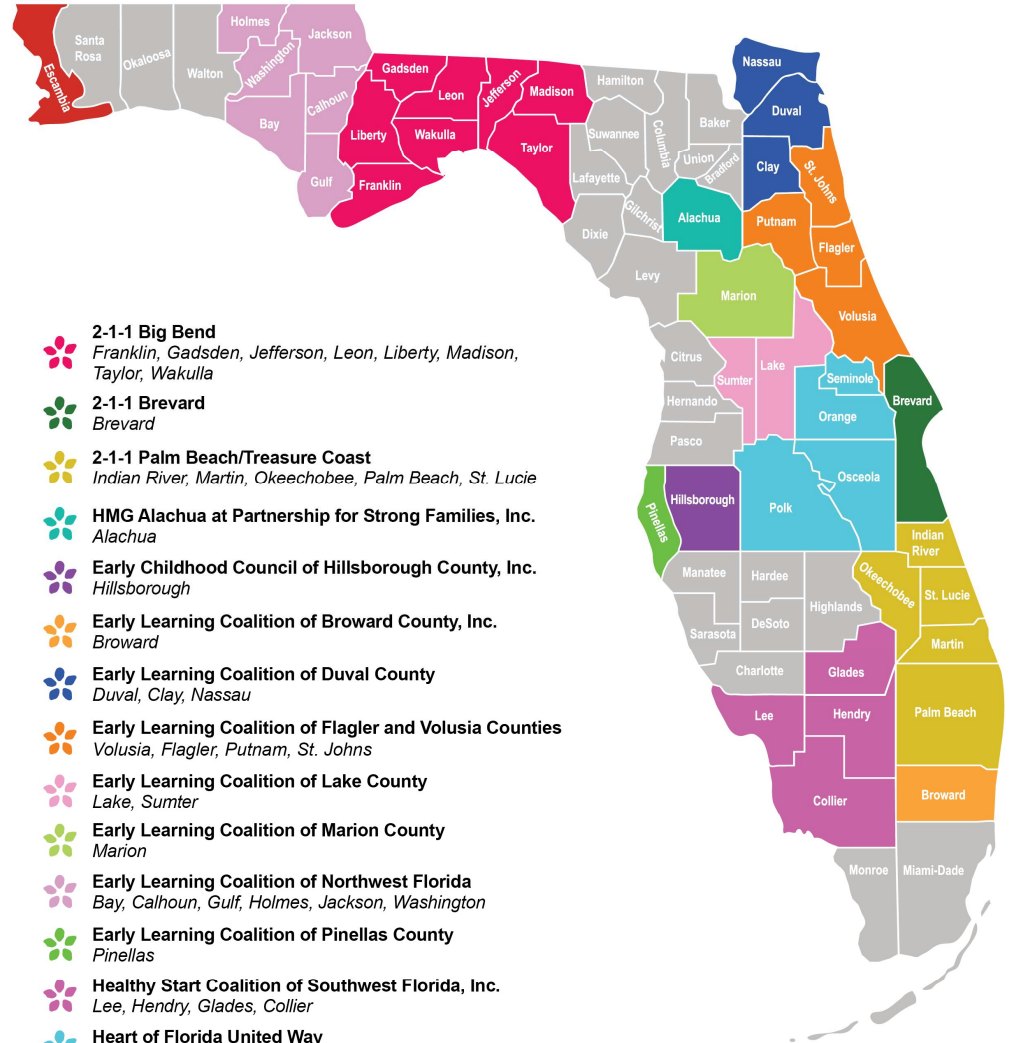




# Help Me Grow<sup>®</sup> Florida

## LOCATIONS

**15 AFFILIATE SITES**  
**42 COUNTIES**



-  **2-1-1 Big Bend**  
*Franklin, Gadsden, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Taylor, Wakulla*
-  **2-1-1 Brevard**  
*Brevard*
-  **2-1-1 Palm Beach/Treasure Coast**  
*Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee, Palm Beach, St. Lucie*
-  **HMG Alachua at Partnership for Strong Families, Inc.**  
*Alachua*
-  **Early Childhood Council of Hillsborough County, Inc.**  
*Hillsborough*
-  **Early Learning Coalition of Broward County, Inc.**  
*Broward*
-  **Early Learning Coalition of Duval County**  
*Duval, Clay, Nassau*
-  **Early Learning Coalition of Flagler and Volusia Counties**  
*Volusia, Flagler, Putnam, St. Johns*
-  **Early Learning Coalition of Lake County**  
*Lake, Sumter*
-  **Early Learning Coalition of Marion County**  
*Marion*
-  **Early Learning Coalition of Northwest Florida**  
*Bay, Calhoun, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Washington*
-  **Early Learning Coalition of Pinellas County**  
*Pinellas*
-  **Healthy Start Coalition of Southwest Florida, Inc.**  
*Lee, Hendry, Glades, Collier*
-  **Heart of Florida United Way**  
*Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Polk*
-  **The Arc Gateway**  
*Escambia*

January 2025

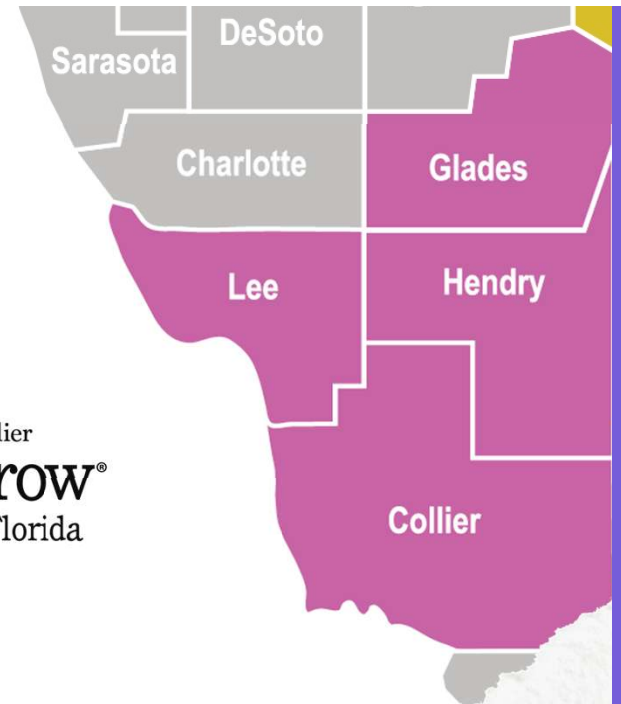


# LOCAL AFFILIATE SPOTLIGHT



Lee, Hendry, Glades, Collier  
**Help Me Grow**<sup>®</sup>  
Florida

  
**Healthy Start**  
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA



 **Help Me Grow**<sup>®</sup>  
Florida



# THANK YOU!

Scan here →  
to be in the know  
about  
Help Me Grow!



**Contacts:** **Liz Randall**  
lrandall@thechildrensforum.com  
helpmegrowfl.org

**Linda Hafner**  
linda@healthystartswfl.com  
healthystartbaby.org

