



**Resources At the Center**

- Developmental screenings and assessments help determine each child's needs
- Individualized behavioral support strategies for school and home
- Transition planning support and linkages with Head Start and PreK services
- Ongoing opportunities to meet and strategize on each child's educational needs and linkages to services
- Information about alternative educational options for your child

**The Linda Ray Intervention Center (LRIC)** is a University-based Multidisciplinary Educational Service Center within the Department of Education's Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System. Additionally, the LRIC is one of the five Early Intervention Birth-Two Programs in Miami within the state's Early Steps program for young children with disabilities. The LRIC is part of the Department of Psychology within the College of Arts and Sciences. Our mission is to support and facilitate positive developmental outcomes with high quality services, thereby improving young children's school readiness, and future student achievement.

*Welcome Back!*

Our 2017 –2018 school year is well under way, and we welcome both new and returning students to the Center. We are most appreciative of the funding support for the Center from Miami-Dade County Public Schools for our Birth-Two program and to the Department of Education for our screening and assessment, training and community outreach components for our students. To achieve the best outcomes for your children we want to establish and maintain positive relationships with you, as parents, and your children. To that end, we provide the quality training needed to maintain our professional teaching staff in the best educational practices for young children, behavioral health support for our students and their families, training opportunities for community providers who also work with our children, and we maintain our website [www.fdlrs-um.miami.edu](http://www.fdlrs-um.miami.edu) and distribute our newsletters with updates and information you can use. Communication is the key to all of our success and we encourage your feedback through our Parent Surveys this year and our daily interactions with you. Please review our school calendars so you can keep track of teacher work days and holidays. Here's to a great year for all of our students!

**September 2017**

M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

**October 2017**

M	T	W	T	F
2*	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27*
30	31			

- New Teachers Report
- Teacher Planning Day
- Teacher Planning Day No Opt
- Legal Holiday

**LENA and Ubisense: Using Technology To Measure Children's Language**

The Linda Ray Center will be again piloting a program that measures children's language growth over time. Our 1 year old children will participate in the program. Once a week, they will wear a wireless battery-powered digital recording device (LENA) weighing just two ounces in a pocket of a specifically designed shirt for the recorder. Children will be wearing LENA during the school day and the recordings are then downloaded to a secure university computer. We are excited to have the opportunity to implement this technology, which will enable us to examine classroom language output for our children, such as where and when the children speak the most during the course of the day.



CENTER NAME: FDLRS/UM Multidisciplinary Educational Service Center  
 LOCATION: UM/Linda Ray Intervention Center, 750 NW 15th Street, Miami FL 33136-1431  
 PRIMARY SERVICE AREA: Miami-Dade, Broward and Monroe Counties

SERVICES: Multidisciplinary evaluation and consultation services for children with complex learning, behavioral, medical, and socio-emotional problems, their families, teachers, and schools; parent education and support services; and in-service training to educators and other community professionals. Additional targeted support services for children developmentally impacted by parental substance abuse, child maltreatment and foster care.

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**WE WELCOME OUR RETURNING AND NEW EDUCATIONAL STAFF MEMBERS!**

Khale (teacher) and Miss Marcia and Miss Yahaira  
Sophia (teacher) and Miss Angie and Miss Barbara  
Miss Toni and Miss Renie (New teacher starts soon)

Shanna (teacher) and Miss Nakia and Miss Bernadette  
Adrian (teacher) and Miss Margie and Miss Karen

**Ongoing support activities for our students:**

Quarterly updates on your children's progress will be sent home throughout the school year.

**HANEN LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

*Learning Language and Loving It* is an in-service education program that equips teachers with practical, interactive strategies for building the social, language and early literacy skills of preschool children. Thanks to the program's three-pronged approach aimed at prevention, intervention and enrichment, our teachers and classroom assistants continue to learn how to ensure that *every* child in the classroom receives the support he/she needs – including those with language delays and those who are second-language learners. Our teachers are using these strategies to build language skills in your children everyday. We are providing staff booster trainings in October.

**CONSCIOUS DISCIPLINE**

Conscious Discipline is a longtime leader in integrating classroom management and social-emotional learning. It utilizes everyday events rather than an external curriculum, and addresses the adult's emotional intelligence as well as the child's. We learn to respond to daily conflict in a way that transforms it into an opportunity to teach critical life skills, and watch every aspect of classroom life improve! The seven skills are Composure, Encouragement, Assertiveness, Choices, Empathy, Positive Intent and Consequences. Ask your child's teacher to tell you about our strategies.

**BOOK SHARING FOR EARLY LITERACY**

Your children are learning the basic steps for requesting an adult or sibling to read to them, how to handle a book and turn the pages and how to follow along as the story is read. These skills will help your child become more familiar with book sharing and prepare your child for reading when he/she is older. Spending time sharing books at home is an investment in learning.

**BABY DOLL CIRCLE TIME**

We also know it's hard for young children to be away from their parents and for you to be away from your children. Baby Doll Circle Time helps us form more caring relationships, and bridge the gap between the home family and the school family. The children will interact with their baby dolls in the same ways we interact with the children individually. If we play peek-a-boo, stop and go, or tickling games with your child, your child will play the same game with the baby doll. In doing so, the children re-experience our connections over and over again, helping to optimize their development.

**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SUPPORT**

Behavioral Health Support is an important component of any early childhood program. Our teaching staff and you as parents are accessing information, behavioral strategies to support positive emotional development of the children. Ask your child's teacher if you would like an appointment with our specialist.



**How our services are unique:**

The Center provides specialized, multidisciplinary services that include:

Direct services to children, youth, families, and educators to improve student outcomes.

- ◆ Multidisciplinary diagnostic evaluation services for children and adolescents with complex educational, behavioral, medical, and socio-emotional problems impacting learning and acquisition of skills.
- ◆ Direct intervention and consultation services for families and children aimed at improving student learning, skill development, and outcomes through implementation of evidence-based interventions.
- ◆ Classroom observations of individual students to build a collaborative action plan intended to improve instructional delivery and student success.
- ◆ Technical assistance to individual teachers for implementing recommended interventions and strategies.