



# Newsletter

JUNE 2023

## OUR MISSION

The mission of the University of Miami Linda Ray Intervention Center is to support and facilitate positive developmental outcomes with high-quality services, thereby improving young children's school readiness, and future student achievement.



## SUPPORTING SPEECH DEVELOPMENT WITH SIGNS

Did you know infants can communicate long before they can speak? American Sign Language (ASL) is a language expressed by movements of the hands and face used by those that are deaf and hard of hearing, but also those with normal hearing. Using sign language is beneficial not only to infants but also children that may have developmental delays, speech impairments, and those with no conditions as well.

Imitation of hand gestures like waving hi and bye, pointing, and stretching out arms to be picked up are early gestures that help an infant socialize, take turns and make their wants and needs known to their caregivers. Using sign language has shown advantages in increasing communication and vocabulary, and reducing temper tantrums.

Signing improves language comprehension, increases social skills, and contributes to the bond between parent/caregiver and child. Try using these signs at home consistently. Combine the gesture with saying the word out loud and it won't be long before your baby is communicating more and more each day!

## ABOUT US

The UM-Linda Ray Intervention Center is a University-based Multidisciplinary Educational Services Center in partnership with Miami-Dade County Public Schools (MDCPS) and Florida's Early Steps program. We provide early intervention services, diagnostic evaluation, consultation, technical assistance, and pre-service and in-service training for families, teachers, school district personnel, and community support providers concerning children and youth with developmental delays or disabilities, complex medical, emotional, or behavioral problems.



## RESOURCES & SERVICES

- Training
- Direct intervention and consultation services
- Developmental screenings and assessments that help determine each child's needs
- Behavioral support strategies for school and home
- Classroom observations
- Transition planning support and linkages with Head Start, MDCPS, and Pre-K services
- Alternative options for your child's educational needs

# ASL SIGNS FOR HOME

**More**

**Hungry**

**Hurt**

**Drink**

**Book**

**All Done**

**Food/Eat**

## June 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

- Teacher Workday
- Recess Day (Closed)
- Legal Holiday

### Location

750 NW 15TH ST  
MIAMI, FL 33136-1431

### Primary Service Areas

Miami-Dade County  
Broward County  
Monroe County

### Contact Us

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