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## **Healthy Start Contract Awarded to GCCAC**

Information Provided By: Florida Department of Health



In July the Gulf Coast Children's Advocacy Center was thrilled to take over the Healthy Start contract. In addition to the other services provided by the GCCAC, Healthy Start supports pregnant women and newborns at risk of poor birth, health or developmental outcomes.

Healthy Start staff provides education, care coordination and support for pregnant women and infants up to three years of age. Services include prenatal and childbirth education, breastfeeding education and support, car seat safety, smoking cessation, family planning education, parenting, immunization information, and psychosocial evaluations and referrals. Healthy Start services are free and voluntary. Support plans are based on the needs of the family.

The care coordinators provide services for pre-term babies as well as substance exposed infants as needed upon discharge from the neonatal intensive care unit. Staff also works to insure that these infants receive follow-up and developmental screening with intervention when necessary, up to the age of three years.

Healthy Start care coordinators work in collaboration with private providers, Healthy Families, WIC, Bay District Schools, Family Advocacy at Tyndall AFB, the Pregnancy Center, Family Service agency, Salvation Army and Catholic Charities to reduce infant mortality and improve health outcomes.



### The August Designer Purse Bingo was a huge success! Thank you to everyone that attended and supported the CAC.

#### Special thank you to Bingo Paradise!

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# Gulf Coast Children's Advocacy Center

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You can support the GCCAC with an online donation at gulfcoastcac.org!



August 2017





We are so excited to #ElevateBAY! Huge group of CAC staff, DCF, and BSCO were in the training. Join the movement!! Contact Stacey Legg at leggsl@bay.k12.fl.us for more information.









