



**Early Learning Coalition of the Nature Coast**  
Serving Citrus – Dixie – Gilchrist – Levy – Sumter Counties



**Provider Alert #103**

**Date:** July 19, 2011  
**Subject:** Provider At-Risk and Rilya Wilson Act Reporting

On May 12, 2010 Provider Alert #83 titled: "Rilya Wilson Act Reporting" was distributed to School Readiness providers.

The Provider Alert outlined provider responsibility for reporting absences of children served under the Rilya Wilson Act (2003), to include children identified At Risk between the ages of three (3) and five (5) and additionally children from birth to three (3) years of age, in accordance with the legislative intent of with the Rilya Wilson Act.

The Early Learning Coalition of the Nature Coast in Provider Alert #83 **recommended** in addition to meeting the requirements of the act that provider reporting responsibilities be applied **to any other children named on the same At Risk referral** as a child served under the provisions of Rilya Wilson, regardless of the child(ren)'s age(s).

Recent inquiries and interpretation of At Risk reporting responsibilities has prompted a **CHANGE** in the provider requirements outlined to ELCNC's Provider Alert #83, referenced above.

**Effective immediately**, providers are notified that the following applies to child At Risk reporting requirements:

Based on the definition of "children At-Risk of abuse, neglect, abandonment and/or exploitation in Rule 60BB-4.400 Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C) and the Child Care Development Fund State Plan for Florida (CCDF), provider reporting absences to the Department of Children and Families or its designee apply to **ALL CHILDREN OF ANY AGE WHO ARE IN THE "AT RISK" CATEGORY. This includes children who are in foster care and out of home relative/non-relative care as well as those under in home investigation/supervision.**

School Readiness providers are required to report any absence by the end of the business day following an unexcused absence, or seven (7) consecutive excused absences of an At Risk child of any age to the Department of Children and Families or its designee.

REVISED **Sample** At Risk Absence reporting forms are attached to this Provider Alert. Please note that they contain current referring agency DISTRICT SPECIFIC fax numbers. School Readiness providers are responsible for verifying the fax number with the referring agency prior to submitting an absence report.

If you have questions in reference to this Provider Alert, please contact the Client Services Manager for your area:

Citrus County (352)563-993 ext. 238  
Dixie, Gilchrist, Levy Counties (352) 490-5855 ext. 410  
Sumter County (352) 793-5430 ext. 313