



★ **Early Learning Programs**

# September Newsletter - Chicago Heights

## Welcome to the 2019-20 Year



### Bryan Stokes II, Vice President of Early Learning Programs

Greetings Parents and Guardians,

As the summer comes to a close, the time has arrived for a new school year in our Early Learning Programs. To those families who have recently enrolled—welcome! To those who are returning—welcome back! We are fortunate to have your family as a part of our program and are eager to partner with you over the 2019-20 year.

At Illinois Action for Children, we know that you are your child's first and most important teacher. The time that you spend reading to your child, visiting the park, or talking about the world is so valuable. Our goal in all of our programs is to support you in that role and to help you build your child's lifelong love of learning. This partnership will provide your child with a foundation for success in school and in life.

Every member of our team here at Illinois Action for Children is dedicated to your child's development and your family's success. Together, we know that this will be an amazing year.

Yours,

Bryan Stokes II

Vice President, Early Learning Programs  
Illinois Action for Children

### CHICAGO HEIGHTS – IMPORTANT DATES:

9/2/19 – Labor Day – No School

9/11/19 – Parent Committee Meeting and “Welcome to School” (**9 a.m.**)\*

*\*All parents are encouraged to attend Parent Committee Meetings, held on the first Thursday of each month at 9 a.m.*



Welcome to the Illinois Action for Children Early Learning Program!

We are looking forward to a productive partnership with you to ensure your children can reach their greatest potential. In order to be successful in school, children need support from both the home and school. Studies have shown that dropout rates, retentions, and special education placements are significantly reduced when families are engaged in the education of the children.

During the school year there will be a robust number of intentional opportunities for parents and families for authentic and regular engagement at the Centers and at home. These opportunities include:

- Parent Meetings/Cafés/Parenting Sessions
- Family Fun Days
- Field Trips
- Educational Workshops
- Parent Teacher Conferences
- and many more

Family Engagement Staff will work with you in identifying needs, interests, concerns, and goals. We will provide resources, referrals, services, assistance and any kind of support you may need, and will follow up on any concerns your family may have. You can also contact your family engagement specialist, parent-educator, or teacher at any time you may need any kind of assistance/support.

Get engaged and volunteer!

## ★ Catalina Torres, Parent Involvement Coordinator

## Around Town

### **CCHHS FRESH FOOD MARKETS:**

Got LINK/SNAP? Get double value when purchasing your fruits and vegetables! For more information, please visit [www.healthyfoodhub.org](http://www.healthyfoodhub.org) or go directly to:

- Wednesday, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
  - o Oak Forest Health Center
  - 15900 South Cicero Ave.,
  - Oak Forest, IL 60452
- Thursday, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
  - o Robbins Health Center
  - 13450 South Kedzie Ave
  - Robbins, IL 60472
- Friday, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
  - o Cottage Grove Health Center
  - 1645 South Cottage Grove
  - Ford Heights, IL 60411

**HOMEWOOD SCIENCE CENTER** on 18022 Dixie Highway, Homewood, IL 60430 offers FREE and fun family learning activities/events. Go to [www.homewoodsciencecenter.org](http://www.homewoodsciencecenter.org) to check the activities schedule

**FedEx** is now hiring package handlers starting up to \$14.50/hr. For more information and locations, visit [www.groundwarehousejobs.fedex.com](http://www.groundwarehousejobs.fedex.com)

### **SOUTH SUBURBAN COOK COUNTY AMERICAN JOB**

**CENTER** offers FREE services for job seekers including: career coaching, professional resume building, job-readiness training, funding for occupational training, on-the-job training, job placement assistance, and paid work experience. Located at:

- IDES Office
- 16845 S. Halsted St.
- Harvey, IL 60426
- (708) 589-7375

**EVERYONE HAS RIGHTS**, no matter their immigration status. These resources can help to inform immigrants about their rights in interactions with immigration officials and support advocates in preparing for and responding to immigration enforcement actions. Please share these links:

<https://www.clasp.org/immigration-raid-resources>

<https://www.nilc.org/get-involved/community-education-resources/>

<https://www.ilrc.org/prepare-your-community-assert-their-rights-against-possible-ice-arrests>