



# Newsletter

MARCH 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.



## CAR SEAT SAFETY

In a car, the best way to protect your child is by using a car seat. One of the leading causes of death and injury is car crashes, but when car seats are used correctly they reduce this risk by 71 percent. In Florida, the law requires that children ages 5 and under be secured in crash-tested, federally approved child restraint devices including car seats. Children ages 12 and under should be in the back seats since the front seat airbags can be dangerous to them.

When choosing a car seat for your child it is best to consider weight, size, and age, as well as your vehicle. There are three car seat types: the rear-facing car seat, the forward-facing car seat, and the booster seat. Babies should ride in rear-facing car seats until they reach the age of 2 or more, or outgrow the seat. After the rear-facing seats, they are ready to move into forward-facing car seats with a 5-point harness and top tether until they outgrow it, then onto a booster seat. To find out whether your child still fits their car seat, check the labels on them. The labels will provide the height and weight requirements for that seat. Happy Safe Driving!

## 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

## CAR SEATS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

- Car seats for children with disabilities are designed with a range of features that accommodate the different needs of each child, such as extra padding, specialized headrests, and/or an adjustable harness.
- When choosing a car seat, it is important to consult with a medical professional or a certified car seat technician to ensure that the seat meets the specific needs of the child and is installed correctly.



### DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH

The month of March celebrates developmental disabilities awareness, recognizing all humans as unique and loved individuals.

Here are a few book recommendations:

- *Meeting Mimi* by Francie Dolan
- *Uniquely Wired: a Story about Autism and its Gifts* by Julia Cook
- *It's okay to ask!* By Nancy Carlson
- *Bodies are Cool* by Tyler Feder
- *You Are Enough: A Book About Inclusion* by Margaret O'Hair
- *Daniel Has an Allergy* by Angela C. Santomero

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- March 10th: Miami Children's Museum Art Activity
- March 20th-24th: Spring Break

March 2023						
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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	31	

- 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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