

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**February 13, 2024**

**EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF ORANGE COUNTY TO OFFER DIRECT SERVICES TO FAMILIES AND CHILDCARE PROVIDERS**

**Orlando, FL – In alignment with the Division of Early Learning’s (DEL) service delivery model, the Early Learning Coalition of Orange County (ELCOC) will be providing direct services to families and childcare providers previously handled by Community Coordinated Care for Children, Inc. (4C). These services include School Readiness (SR) and Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) family eligibility, SR and VPK Childcare provider payments, child screening, and Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) services.**

**CEO, Dr. Scott Fritz said, “This plan provides a client-first service, and ultimately helps Orange County families find affordable, quality childcare.”**

**The new service delivery model will streamline the application process for families as well as the reimbursement process for childcare providers. The plan also includes new family-friendly and easily accessible service sites throughout Orange County.**

**ELCOC will continue to work in partnership with several community agencies in our efforts to serve the maximum number of children in the most cost-effective, and customer-focused manner possible.**

**Dr. Fritz said, “We are thankful for the years of partnership with 4C and their dedication to families. Our plan is to ensure this transition is smooth with no interruptions in services to children, families, and childcare providers.”**

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***“Because the first 2,000 days matter the most.”***

