

## Miami Dade County Community Action & Human Services Head Start/Early Head Start Father Named Florida Head Start Association Father of the Year

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**TALLAHASSEE**, **FL** – **December 1, 2024**—Max Jean, President of the Parent Committee for Haitian Youth and Head Start Policy Council representative, was selected as the Florida Head Start Association (FHSA) Father of the Year.

Before immigrating to Miami, Mr. Jean was a high school teacher and administrator in Haiti. His unwavering commitment to education led him to enroll in English classes upon his arrival in America. He earned his degree in Economics and Theology and is currently a Pastor at the South Florida Christian Center. His dedication to learning is further demonstrated by his pursuit of an MBA, with the goal of opening an early childhood education center. His transformation has inspired his three children and countless others, especially fathers, through his active involvement in the program's father engagement events.

Mr. Jean was elected as the president of the parent committee at the Early Step Learning Center, and his representation of Head Start parents on the mayor's Blue Ribbon Children's Commission is a testament to his deep involvement in the community. His participation in policy council meetings, parent committee meetings, training/workshops, fatherhood program engagement, and daily volunteering in the center and classroom further solidify his role. He is always ready to lend his support when the school needs it, embodying the values of love, dedication, and commitment that are essential for exemplary fatherhood.

The FHSA annual awards luncheon, where Mr. Jean will be honored, will occur on December 11, 2024, at the DoubleTree by Hilton at the Entrance to Universal Orlando as part of the association's 25th Anniversary Celebration and Annual Conference. We invite you to join us in celebrating her achievements. Complete details are available at <a href="https://www.FLHeadStart.org">www.FLHeadStart.org</a>.

## **About FHSA**

The Florida Head Start Association (FHSA) is a nonprofit organization that empowers its members to advocate for and enhance education, health, and social services for 45,000 children and families in Florida. Head Start is a key player in the early childhood education landscape, providing critical services, including school readiness and comprehensive health support, guided by the Head Start Program Performance Standards. Since 1999, FHSA has organized impactful events and training sessions to elevate discussions within the Head Start community. FHSA's dedication to this cause is unwavering, striving to make a meaningful difference in the lives of the most at-risk children and families.

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