



Episcopal Children's Services Vice President of Information Technology Receives State Award from the Florida Head Start Association

For Immediate Release

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TALLAHASSEE, FL – December 1, 2024- Robert Smith, Vice President of Information Technology with Episcopal Children's Services (ECS), receives the Florida Head Start Association (FHSA) Support Staff of the Year award.

With over 18 years of experience in information technology, Robert holds a Bachelor of Science in networking and telecommunications from Florida State College in Jacksonville. He began his career with Episcopal Children's Services (ECS) in 2008 as a part-time IT specialist, gaining valuable experience. His extensive technical proficiency secured him the role of IT Director to eventually Vice President of Information Technology.

Managing technology for a program with a vast geographic footprint requires multiple IT disciplines, including software development, infrastructure, cybersecurity, data management, and emerging technologies. Robert is a proactive and strategic leader in ensuring sensitive data, maintaining compliance, safeguarding operations, and mitigating evolving threats to ensure the program can effectively support staff work and equip ECS staff with the appropriate technological tools to deliver high-quality services to children and families.

Under his guidance, Robert has spearheaded many projects that have enhanced the program's IT infrastructure while ensuring the fulfillment of the ECS mission and its goals.

The FHSA annual awards luncheon, where Ms. Dale 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 www.FLHeadStart.org.

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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