

Children First Named as Top Workplace in Sarasota-Manatee for Fifth Consecutive Year, Achieves National Recognition



Sarasota, FL (September 5, 2023) - Children First, Inc. has, for the fifth consecutive year, been recognized as a top employer in the Sarasota-Manatee Top Workplaces competition.

The award is sponsored by Energage and the Sarasota-Herald Tribune and recognizes those organizations that demonstrate workplace excellence and are known for recruiting and retaining the best and brightest employees. Results are calculated by comparing the survey's research-based statements, including 15 Culture Drivers that are proven to predict high performance against industry benchmarks.

"This outstanding achievement is a testament to Children First's commitment to fostering a positive and empowering environment for the dedicated members of our staff," says CEO Philip Tavill. "Our success is so deeply driven by our mission of strengthening children and families. From education, to administration, to comprehensive and family services, everyone works tirelessly to create a nurturing and inspiring atmosphere for those we serve."

With over one thousand employers participating across three award categories, Children First was one of only 25 organizations to be named as a Top Workplace in Sarasota-Manatee.

Children First received second place in the mid-sized business category, and of special note, was recognized with the "Values Award" for holding true to its mission in supporting the most vulnerable children and families in our community.

Children First also received national recognition through Top Workplaces USA with an Industry Award in the Nonprofit category, as well as for Culture Excellence in the areas of Compensation & Benefits, Innovation, Leadership, Professional Development, and Work-Life Flexibility.

The Children First mission is to strengthen children and families by improving the quality of their lives through a comprehensive approach to development, education, health, and well-being. Our agency holds the distinction of being a four-time designated Head Start Program of Excellence and is ranked in the top 1 percent out of more than 1,800 Head Starts nationwide.

About Children First:

Founded in 1961 and ranked in the top 1% out of over 1,800 Head Starts nationwide, Children First strengthens children and families by improving the quality of their lives through a comprehensive approach to development, education, health, and well-being. At 15 sites throughout Sarasota County, Children First offers full-day preschool, infant and toddler care, and nutrition and health care assistance to children ages birth to five years old from low-income families. Through Children First, the children receive the social and cognitive skills needed to enter kindergarten and elementary school on track. For more information, call (941) 953-3877 or go to childrenfirst.net.

###