



The Early Childhood Education *Bulletin*

LEADERSHIP CORNER

By Monique Wilkinson



Research shows that high-quality early childhood programs have directors with high expectations and a high degree of confidence in their staff. “Directors with high expectations helped their staff by developing personal relationships with them, providing backup, [and] supporting professional development . . .” (The Urban Institute, 2010). To this end, The Institute of Excellence in Early Care and Education is pleased to announce the launch of a comprehensive professional development track designed especially for early childhood Center Leaders.

This sequence of five courses facilitates the development of reflective and collaborative leadership skills that encourage and motivate teachers to pursue professional development and strengthen their practices to benefit children and families:

- HEO0243: **Improved Teaching Practices through Reflection** – to develop and strengthen self-analysis skills
- HEO0247: **Observation/Feedback for Center Leaders** – to promote collaborative teacher-leader relationships that improve classroom practices

- Webinar: **Individual Learning Plan** – goal-setting for professional development and Quality Improvement Plan (QIP)
- HE00236: **Introduction to Communities of Practice** – to encourage shared learning and practices
- HEOTBA: **Developmental Supervision for Center Leaders (online)** – to provide individualized teacher support that facilitates professional development and improved program quality

As recognition for the commitment to continuous program quality improvement, The Institute of Excellence is excited to offer the opportunity for a financial award to those center leaders who complete this track, and who demonstrate successful implementation of the knowledge and skills gained.

For more information about this exciting opportunity, please contact Darcy Russo at (561) 868-3663 or russod@palmbeachstate.edu.