**Start-up**

HIPPY is a structured home-based model focused on parent-child centered learning. It may be operated through existing agencies and organizations that have the space, fiscal, and personnel support to administer the program.

**Establishing a HIPPY program means:**

- ✓ forming a local group of interested advisors;
- ✓ selecting an implementing agency;
- ✓ raising funds;
- ✓ working with HIPPY USA and the Florida HIPPY T&TA Center;
- ✓ preparing and submitting an application to HIPPY USA;
- ✓ training a program coordinator; and
- ✓ becoming a part of a growing national network of HIPPY programs.

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**Florida HIPPY Training & Technical Assistance Center**

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13301 Bruce B Downs Blvd, MHC 2113A
Tampa, Florida 33612
Phone (813) 974-2177
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http://floridahippy.fmhi.usf.edu

**HIPPY USA**

1221 Bishop Street
Little Rock, AR 72202
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**History**

- **1969** HIPPY was developed in Israel, at the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) Research Institute for Innovation in Education at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.
- **1984** HIPPY programs were established in the United States.
- **1985** The first Florida HIPPY program began in Miami.
- **1988** HIPPY USA was established at NCJW to provide training and technical assistance to all HIPPY programs.
- **1991** HIPPY USA became an independent, non-profit, educational organization.
- **1996** The Florida HIPPY Training & Technical Assistance Center was opened at the University of South Florida.
- **2008** Florida HIPPY has 15 sponsoring agencies which utilize the services of 21 professional coordinators and approximately 115 Home Visitors to serve more than 2,500 children in 17 counties.

**What is HIPPY?**

HIPPY is a **parent involvement** and **school readiness** program. The Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) program offers **free** home-based early childhood education for three, four and five year old children working with their parent(s) as their first teacher. The parent is provided with a set of developmentally appropriate materials, curriculum and books designed to strengthen their children’s cognitive skills, early literacy skills, social/emotional and physical development.

**Parent Involvement**

- HIPPY begins with the basic tenet that all parents want the very best for their children, but might need support and help in developing their children’s potential.
- HIPPY gives parents the tools, skills and confidence they need to be the primary educators of their children.
- HIPPY teaches parents how to engage their children in educational activities.
- HIPPY delivers services through home visits by trained peers from the community.
- HIPPY provides additional learning experiences through group meeting activities and special events.

**School Readiness**

- HIPPY is primarily cognitive based focusing on language development, problem solving, logical thinking and perceptual skills.
- HIPPY’s curriculum covers the skills necessary to acquire reading and other literacy skills.
- HIPPY’s curriculum is developmentally appropriate and builds on the child’s interests and maturing skills.
- HIPPY offers skill development through a variety of approaches.
- HIPPY fosters social-emotional and physical development in children.

**Florida HIPPY T&TA Center**

The Florida HIPPY Training and Technical Assistance (T&TA) Center is based at the University of South Florida in Tampa. The role of the state office is to work in collaboration with HIPPY USA’s national office in Little Rock, Arkansas to provide training, technical support, and guidance to all of the HIPPY programs in the state of Florida.