



Helping Migrant  
Parents and Children

# Round Table Discussion: Charting the Course of the Future

# Round Table Objectives

- Share information about the Florida Migrant Education Program (FMEP) and the Preschool Initiative (PI) consortium
- Discuss the school readiness needs of the preschool (3-5 year old) population and available services in our state/communities
- Establish opportunities and means for networking and information sharing across agencies that provide services to the preschool (pre-k) population and their families



# Survey says...

- Comprehensive services
  - Academic
  - Health, nutrition, screenings
  - Social service referrals
  - Professional development and technical assistance
- Most are statewide organizations
- Emphasis on collaborative efforts with other programs
- Several programs have a focus on parental involvement



# What is the MEP?

A supplemental program for eligible migratory children who move among states to ensure they have access to a high quality education and programs and are not penalized by disparities among states with regards to curriculum, graduation requirements, and student academic achievement standards

(<http://www2.ed.gov/programs/mep/index.html>)

Services can include support such as:

- Academic/instructional
- Health
- Career and vocational
- Advocacy, guidance, counseling



# FMEP



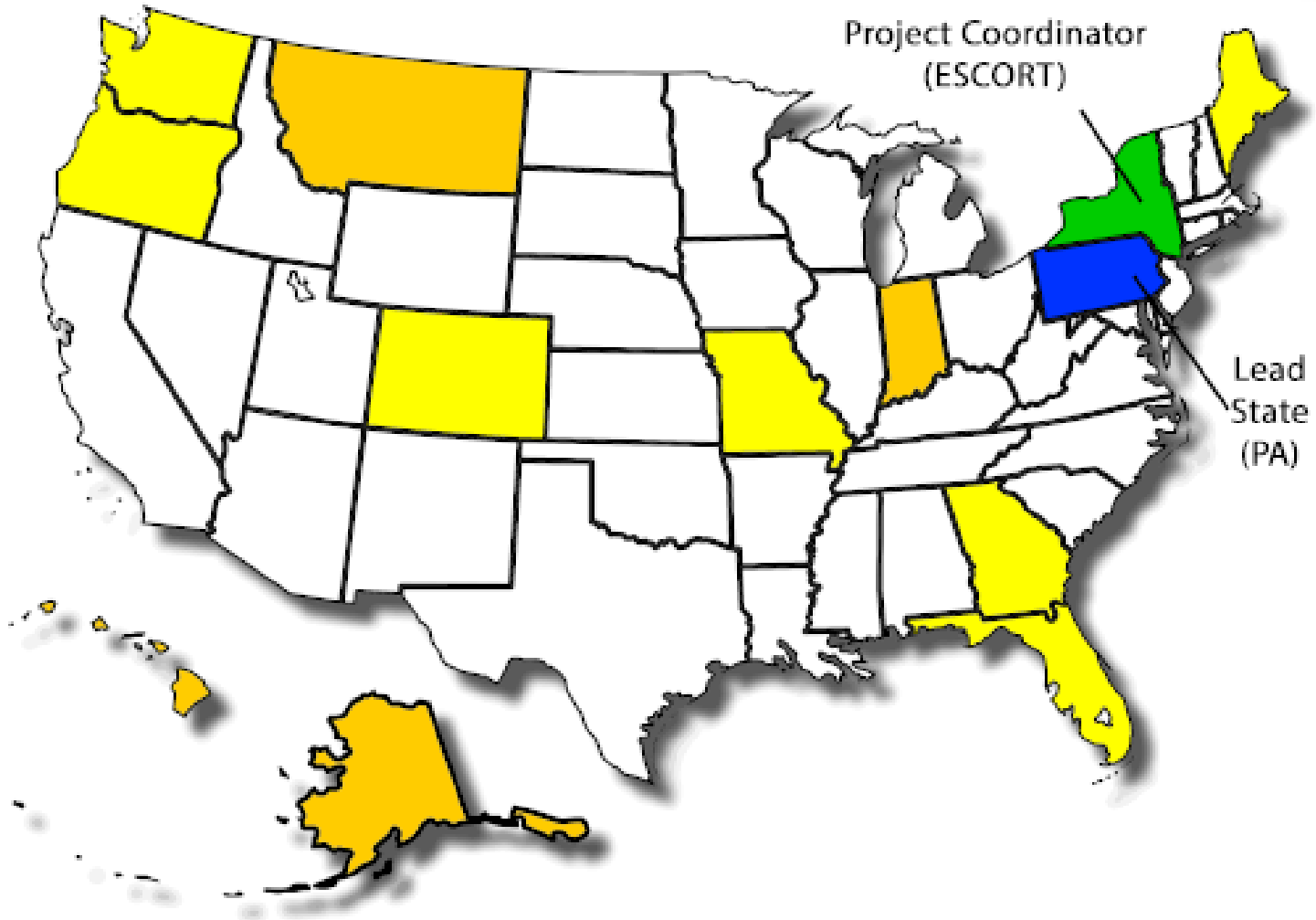
# What is the Preschool Initiative?

A consortium of 13 state MEPs dedicated to:

- **Increasing the amount of pre-k services** to migrant children
- Improving the **quality of those services** to meet the unique needs of migrant children
- **Supporting parents** to be able to take a larger, more **proactive role** in preparing their children for success in school
- Ensuring migrant children get a **strong educational foundation**



# Participating states



# Florida Pre-K Task Force

Charged with...

- Reviewing and recommending practices and strategies to improve services to migrant pre-k children and increase parental involvement in preparing these children for school
- Supporting the efforts of the PI consortium





# Clearinghouse Categories

- Exemplary Resources
- Collaborations with early childhood providers
- Promising practices and service delivery models
- Professional development
- Parent partnerships and support

<http://www.preschoolinitiative.org/>



# FL Pre-K Task Force

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- Jodi Bell – Hendry County Director of Federal Programs
- Annette Betts – East Coast Migrant Head Start, Early Head Start Director
- Kate Bloomquist – Manatee County MEP Coordinator
- Margot Di Salvo – FMEP Identification & Recruitment (ID&R) Education Specialist
- Lucia Esquivel – Panhandle Area Educational Consortium (PAEC) MEP Coordinator
- Dr. Tara Huls – FDOE Office of Early Learning VPK Director
- Carol Mayo – Hillsborough County MEP Supervisor
- Julie McLeod – Hillsborough County Federal Programs Evaluation Supervisor
- Dr. Ray Melecio – FMEP State ID&R Coordinator
- Dr. Maria Pouncey – PAEC Administrator of Instructional Services





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DATA HELP TELL THE STORY