

NEWSLETTER
SEPTEMBER • OCTOBER 2020

Le' Jardin Community Center, Inc.

🌻 PLANTING SEEDS FOR THE FUTURE 🌻



TAKE A PEEK!

FIRST MONTH OF SCHOOL

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH AWARDS:
AUDELIA MARTINEZ CFO/COO

SPIRIT WEEK

NICKLAUS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
#GIVEME5 PROGRAM

PIKITIN ILLUSTRATION CONTEST

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH:
CELEBRATION IN THE CENTERS

PRENATAL ACADEMY BABY SHOWER:
KAREN BIRTHED TWINS!

THANK YOU NOTE FOR ALL LE JARDIN EDUCATORS

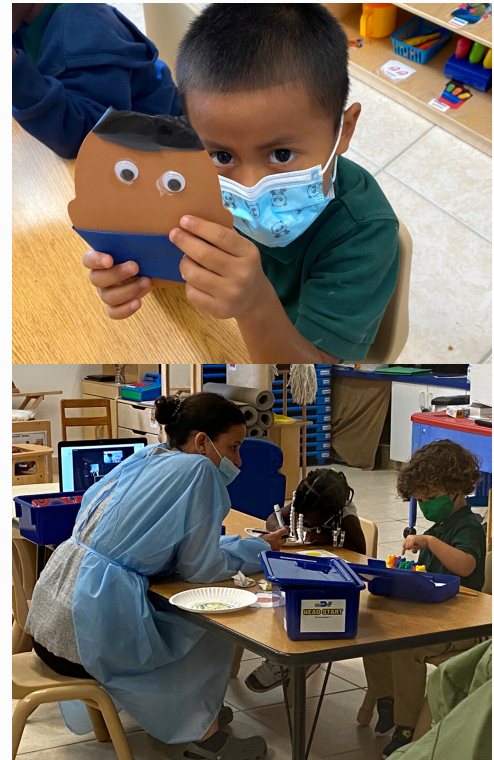


License # C11MD0400 | License # C11MD0422 | License # C11MD1855 | License # C11MD1368 |
License # C11MD2141 | License # C11MD2548 | License # C11MD2926



Back to School

Teachers interacted safely with the students while teaching them the importance of wearing and keeping on their masks.



We're thankful to all parents for their cooperation and patience the first week of school. We value and appreciate the trust you're putting on us during this difficult time!

Center 5b staff Staff dress up as a book character to give a warmth welcome to children and families

Commemorating the September 11, 2001.





Safety First!



Our centers went through countless rehearsals to make sure we keep our children, families, and teachers safe!! We can only hope these pictures bring you peace of mind and confidence because you can rest assured your little one will be safe and cared for!



Pedestrian Safety Activity



The objective of this introductory lesson is to teach children the basic concepts of sharing spaces with cars and other motorized vehicles. At this age, it is important to emphasize that children should never walk near traffic without an adult or responsible, older sibling.



Pumpkin Overload!

Kids in our centers carved and painted designs on pumpkins which encouraged critical thinking skills. Scooping out the inside of the pumpkin is a fun, sensory experience while Carving develops fine motor skills.



Early Head Start/Head Start Dads Take Your Child To School Day!



All father figures welcomed! Dads Take Your Child To School Day promotes father involvement and inner growth and strength in the children. Father involvement greatly affects a child's cognitive and social development. It also instills an overall sense of well-being and self confidence.



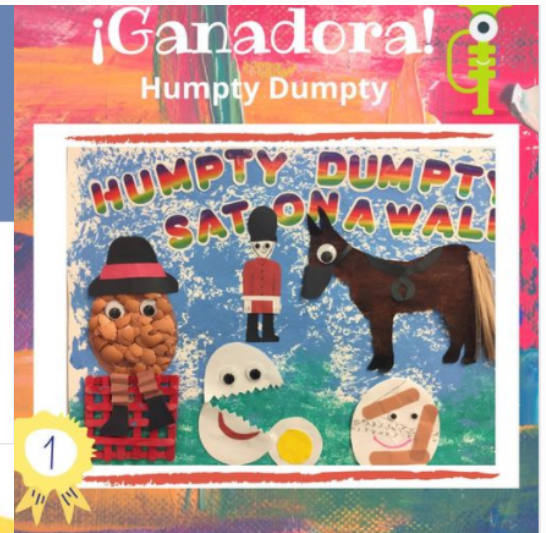
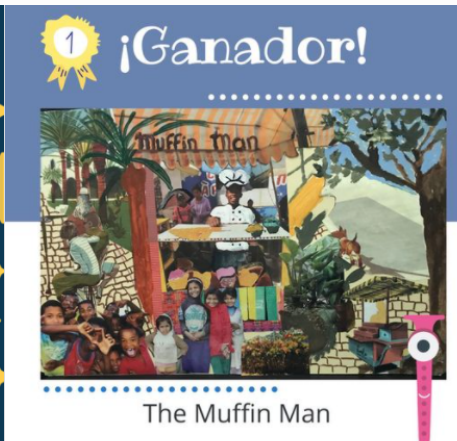
Spirit Week

During these stressful times, spirit week provided staff and children a fun and engaging week-long activity. It helped change the atmosphere and boost morale. It also helps the children to connect.

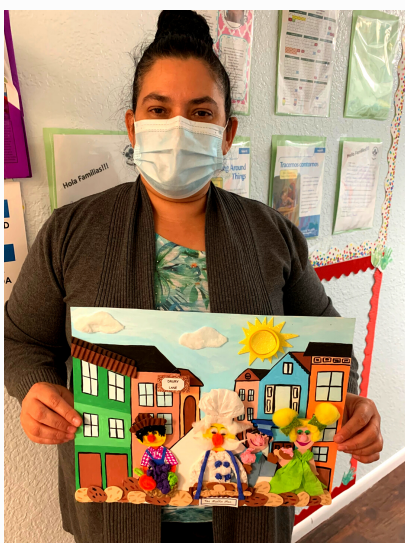


Pikitin Music and Literature Contest

Congratulations to our Early Head Start teachers Marlene, Sonia, Ana, Josefina, and Yusimi for being the winners of the Pikitin Illustration Contest! Le Jardin recognizes your creativity and is proud to have you as part of our family.



Pikitin
Illustrations for Pikitin's Big Book were based on Popular Nursery Rhymes such as Humpty Dumpty, Ring Around the Rosie, The Muffin Man, Hey Diddle Diddle, Mary Has a Little Lamb, and Twinkle Twinkle Little Star.



Thank you to Ana Perez, Yanex Mata, Yusimy Perez, Josefina Batista, Carolina Gomez, and Ana Archilla for putting their creativity to work!!

2nd Annual Hispanic Heritage Month Awards

On October 14, 2020 Le Jardin's Chief Financial Officer/Chief Operations Officer, Audelia Martinez, was invited to by Congresswoman Debbie Mucarsel-Powell to participate in a virtual gathering. Mrs. Martinez, along with various leaders, was recognized for her important contributions to the Hispanic community and Florida's 26th District.

Audelia Martinez moved to the Homestead/Redland Community with her husband, Abdon in 1988 where she enrolled her children at Le Jardin Head Start Center. At Le Jardin, she found her voice advocating for her sons as well as all the children in the Head Start Community.



Rep. Debbie Mucarsel-Powell

Audelia Martinez is the Chief Financial Officer/Chief Operations Officer for Le Jardin Community Center, where she has bettered our community for over 23 years.

She is a tireless advocate and mentor for children in FL-26. I'm proud to celebrate her work this Hispanic Heritage Month!



Ms. Martinez has dedicated and continues to dedicate much of her time volunteering with community and faith-based organizations, and continuously advocating for children and families. She has served on the Southwest Advisory Board, Sacred Heart Women's Club, the Homestead Housing Authority, and the City of Homestead Planning and Zoning Board, where she led the board as chair.

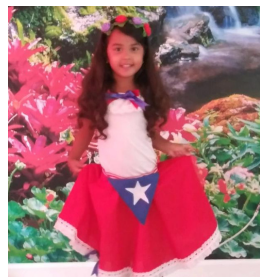
Thanks to her leadership and commitment to children and families, Ms. Martinez has been awarded innumerable honors including Woman of the Year from the Woman's Club of Homestead and Champions for Education Administrator of the Year, from the City of Homestead, Vice-Mayor Patricia Fairclough, and the Education Committee. She has been instrumental behind the numerous distinctions awarded to Le Jardin Community Center, including Non-profit Organization of the Year from the City of Homestead.

Ms. Martinez not only advocates and works for children and families, she is also a mentor and teacher, encouraging others to further their education and find their voice. Ms. Martinez's tireless efforts on behalf of all children and families has been steady unswerving, and exemplifies everything that is best about our nation.



Hispanic Heritage Month

Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated each year to recognize and celebrate the many contributions, diverse cultures, and extensive history of the Latino community. We celebrated to show the children the richness of Latino Culture. Children enjoyed listening to music and playing musical instruments while some were wearing Folk costume.



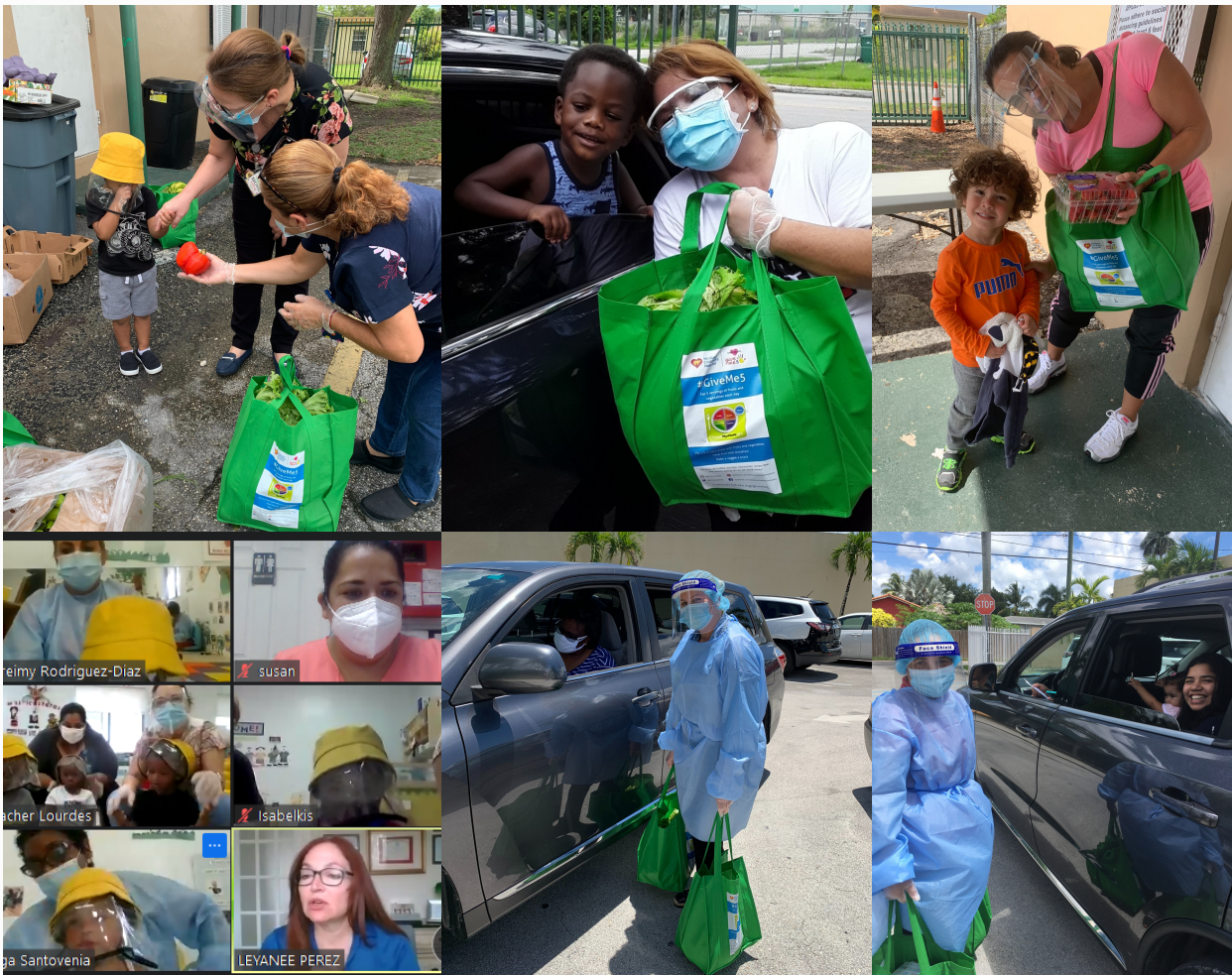


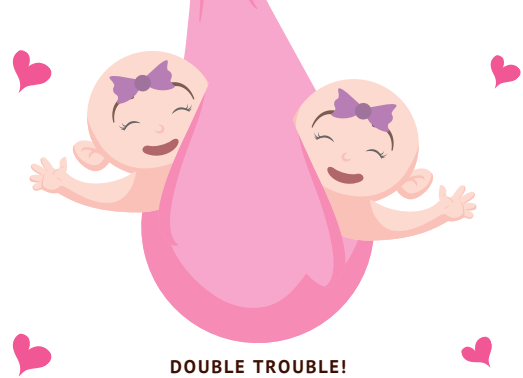
#GIVEME5



Nicklaus Children's Hospital and the Nicklaus Children's Hospital Foundation have partnered with Kohl's Cares on a program called **#GiveMe5** to encourage children and families throughout the community to stay active and eat their five servings of fruits and vegetables a day. This partnership brings healthy eating tips and recipes to kids in local schools and to families at various community events throughout the year.

Children, staff, and parents in Centers 4 & 6 experienced what the #GiveMe5 initiative is all about! They received a virtual class where they learned about the importance of eating five fruits and vegetables every day and received a bag to take home containing the fruits and veggies they learned about in class to share with their family.





DOUBLE TROUBLE!
Karen Birthed Twins!

Arlet Yareli Torres Fuentes and Evolet Arely Torres Fuentes were welcomed into the world on September 24, 2020. The twins, pictured to the left with mother Karen Fuentes, are beautiful, healthy, and growing.



Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors and community partners like Darosh Ibarra-Husband from The Keyes Company ,Olga Eby from Homestead Events Banquet Hall, Homestead Hospital, and Le Jardin's distinguished Board Members, we were able to host a Baby Shower and gift Karen much needed baby items.

The birth of Arlet and Evolet is a bittersweet moment for Karen as she lost a pregnancy four months after giving birth to her now three year old son.

"I was not planning on trying for another child. I was confirmed pregnant after a visit to the hospital. At three weeks I was told it was one baby and at the nine weeks follow-up I was told I was expecting twins. I cant be more than thankful for what god has given me, my two little rainbow babies."

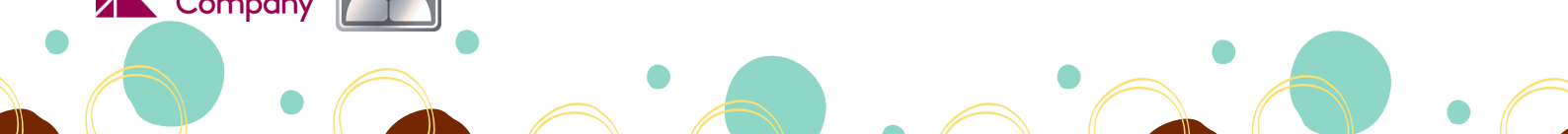
Le Jardin's Prenatal Academy is committed to promoting pregnancy wellness. Through the Prenatal Academy expectant mothers, partners, and family members can receive the care and counseling they need to prepare for the arrival of their newborn at no cost.

For more information on the Prenatal Academy , please call 786.570.3725.



Thank you Board Members!

- Chairwoman: Karin Gerardin
- Treasurer Maria I. Olivera
- Board Member Paola Usquelis
- Board Member Deana Goldin
- Vice-Chairperson Christine A. Moore
- Secretary Virginia M. Aponte
- Board Member Debbie Cherubini
- Board Member Jacqueline Lynch



IT TAKES A BIG HEART TO SHAPE LITTLE MINDS



Teachers faced an unprecedented challenge as they made the transition and adapted from in-person teaching to a new online classroom. We already know that teachers have one of the most important jobs in the world, but now they have one of the most difficult!

We want to say “thank you” from the bottom of our hearts to every teacher, in every center, who continued to educate students virtually with passion and enthusiasm during these challenging times. Your hard work and dedication did not go unnoticed! Your efforts impact the lives of every one of your students. When you’re feeling overwhelmed, always remember that YOU are planting the seeds in your students for their future.

