

III. QUALITY ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES

A. Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) and School-Aged Care

Describe the quality activities and services the coalition will implement to enhance child care resource and referral and school-age care.

The Coalition's CCR&R database contains information on all legal/licensed providers, including school-age sites, in Pinellas County and information is provided free to the community and each year providers are asked and reminded to update their information to ensure accuracy.

The Coalition provides Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) services in-house to families in Pinellas County. CCR&R services include School Readiness program referrals, consumer education, and community resources. The Coalition provides CCR&R services, including a comprehensive informational packet, with no cost to the individual requesting services within three (3) business days of the individual's request for services. Information is provided via phone, email, mail, or in person based on the customer's request. To ensure families access to all appropriate resources, the Coalition coordinates with Pinellas County Schools, Head Start, 211 Tampa Bay Cares and other community agencies.

The Coalition provides three (3) physical locations for CCR&R services within Pinellas County (Clearwater, Largo, and St. Petersburg). Families are able to access consumer information and education towards quality early care and education, parent involvement, and family strengthening as well as a full complement of services that support early learning. Families are also provided with information on afterschool resources and out of school time activities, as requested. Information is shared with parents about public library membership, health resources, transportation options, mental and behavioral counseling, inclusion services, literacy programs for parents and children, tutoring and recreation opportunities. The Coalition's CCR&R staff also attends more than 10 back to school events each year to distribute resources and supplies.