

# We are seeking PHYSICIAN CHAMPIONS!

A Physician Champion is a leader in early childhood development and is the voice for families and children who need early intervention services. Physician Champions play a critical role in giving Help Me Grow<sup>®</sup> Florida (HMGF) credibility and authority, particularly within the health care community.

### **PHYSICIAN CHAMPIONS:**

- ✓ Are Help Me Grow advocates
- Market HMGF to fellow physicians
- Promote HMGF within their own offices
- ✓ Present at state medical meetings about the HMGF system
- Invest as much time as they are willing to give (there is no minimum time commitment)

## Did you know?

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends that developmental surveillance be incorporated into every well child visit. HMGF is a system to support that recommendation.

The AAP recommends that standardized developmental screening tests be administered to all children at the **9**, **18**, and either the **24** or **30** month visits.

### How does HMGF support physicians? HMGF...

- Assists with the referral process; following-up to ensure families are successfully connected to needed services
- Saves the physician time by providing care coordination and promoting developmental surveillance in between doctors' visits
- Enhances the physician and patient relationship by ensuring families receive the support they need promptly
- Provides training to health care staff regarding developmental milestones, if needed
- Supplies technology for families to easily complete a developmental and/or behavioral screening in your office
- Offers materials for families to enhance education about developmental monitoring and surveillance

#### What are the benefits to becoming a Physician Champion?

- Becoming a part of a broader communitybased effort to support early childhood development
- Gaining visibility among professional community and being recognized as an expert in early childhood development
- Strengthening professional reputation and opening doors for leadership opportunities
- Having a platform to advocate for early intervention services and supports and the importance of developmental monitoring and surveillance
- Enhancing collaboration among healthcare providers, early childhood providers, and community organizations
- Collaborating with professionals from various disciplines

There are a number of physician champions in Florida already-Check it out!





Sponsored by The Children's Forum and the State of Florida, Division of Early Learning.

