



Agency for Workforce Innovation

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Director

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**Agency for Workforce Innovation Celebrates
Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day®**
Theme is "Shaping Tomorrow's Leaders"

TALLAHASSEE—Monesia T. Brown, Director of the Agency for Workforce Innovation (AWI) greeted the children of AWI employees today as the state workforce development and early learning agency marked Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work day. The young people participating ranged in age from four years old to early teens.

"The Agency for Workforce Innovation feels especially connected to Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work day because of our role as the lead state workforce agency and because of the important programs of our Office of Early Learning," said Monesia T. Brown, Director of AWI. "Children need to see their parents as role models in the workplace so they can model that behavior and prepare for successful careers themselves. It is our responsibility to give our children the tools they need to be successful in life and in their careers."

A wide variety of activities were planned for the day that included short workshops to learn about the agency programs, tours of the Old Capitol Building, the Museum of Florida History and the Governor's Mansion. At an afternoon reception, the children were given presentations about occupations available to them by representatives from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Division of Emergency Management, and were informed and entertained by Sparky the Dog, the mascot of the Tallahassee Fire Department.

Agency workshops followed a theme featuring the main business lines of the agency:

- Information Technology – "Use Your NetSmartz!"
- Office of Early Learning – "It's OK to Play AND Learn Today!"
- Unemployment Compensation – "Taking the Lead – Preparing for the Workforce and Beyond"
- Workforce Services – "Look What I Can Be When I Grow Up!"

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Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work day is an educational program of the *Ms. Foundation* intended to teach young people about workplace and career issues by spending a day at the workplace of their parents. The program began in 1993 as a girls-only program and expanded in 2003 to include boys.

The Agency for Workforce Innovation (AWI) is the lead state workforce agency. AWI directly administers Early Learning, Labor Market Statistics and Unemployment Compensation programs along with various workforce development programs. AWI's Office of Early Learning provides oversight of Florida's school readiness programs, the Child Care Resource and Referral Network and is the lead entity for implementing the state's Voluntary Prekindergarten program.

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