



U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Administration for Children & Families



**KAYE SCHMITZ**

**PRESIDENT/CEO**

**FLORIDA PROSPERITY PARTNERSHIP**



*U.S. Department of Health & Human Services*

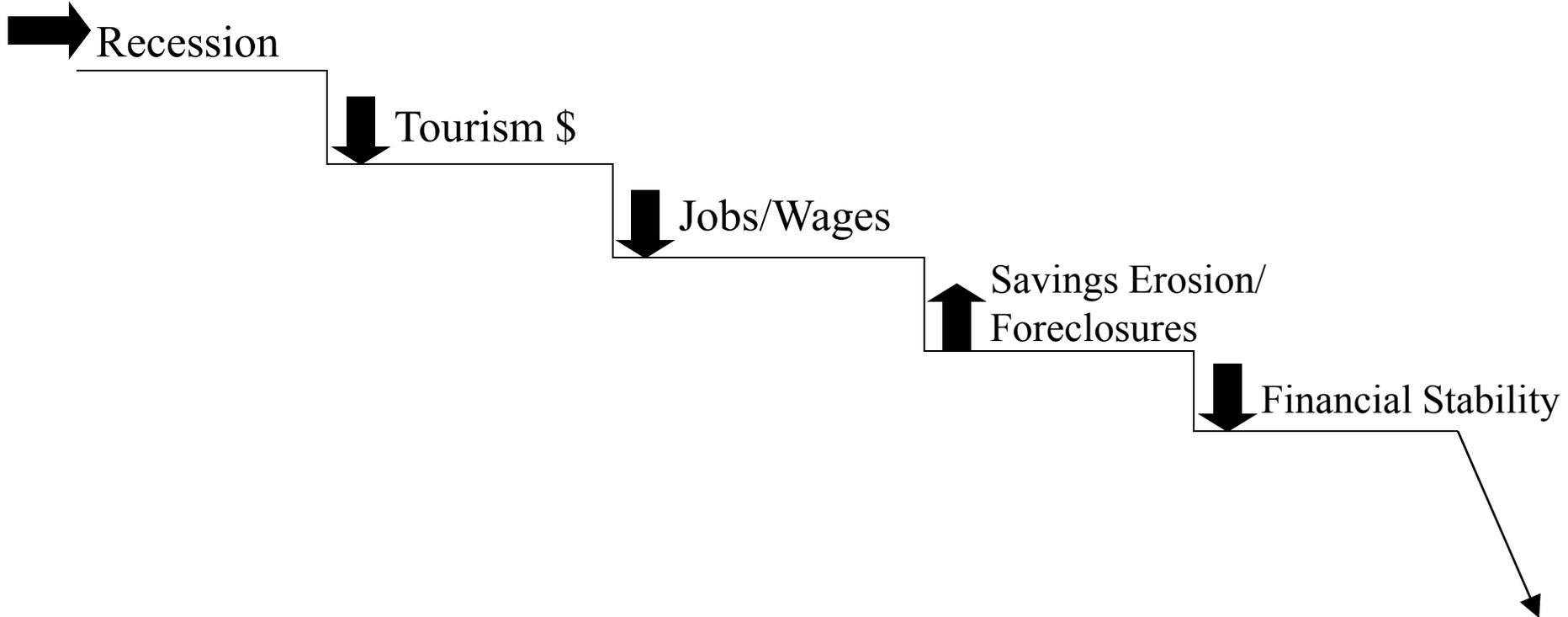
**Administration for Children & Families**

**ISSUES FACING FLORIDIANS:** Florida has historically been a low wage state; heavy reliance on residential/sales tax revenue as its major source of funds





## **ISSUES FACING FLORIDIANS: Florida has historically been a low wage state; heavy reliance on residential/sales tax revenue as its major source of funds**





# ISSUES FLORIDA IS TRYING TO SOLVE:

**CFED  
Assets and  
Opportunities  
Scorecard  
for the  
State of Florida**

<u>Index</u>	<u>2007 Grade</u>	<u>2009 Grade</u>
Financial Security	C	B
Business Development	A	C
Homeownership	A	D
Health Care	F	F
Education	C	C
<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>C</b>





## FLORIDA PROSPERITY PARTNERSHIP

**PURPOSE:** To convene individuals and organizations with the desire to leverage their talent, resources, and passion to improve the prosperity of Florida's families.

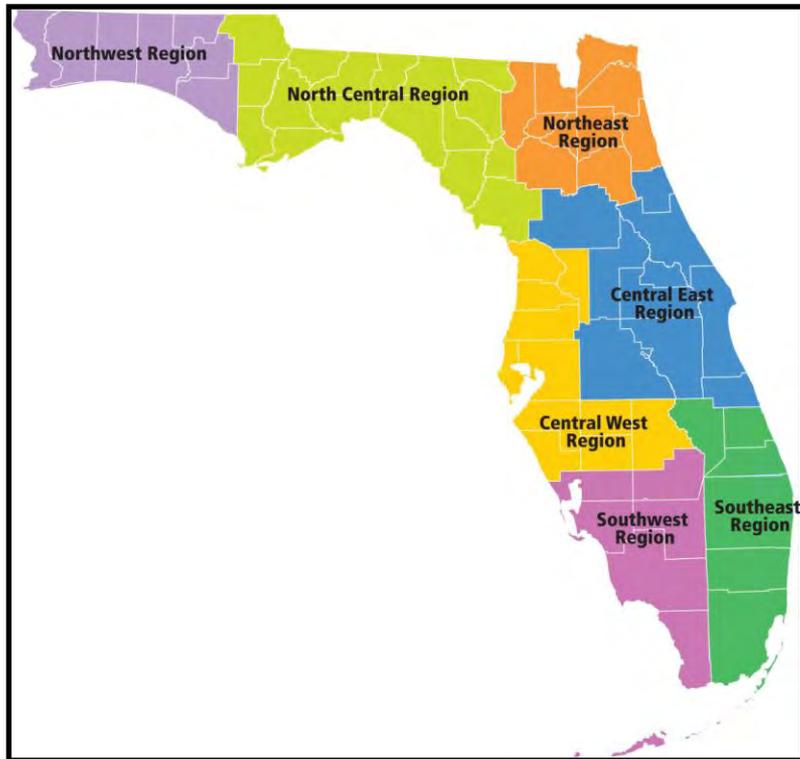
**VISION:** All Floridians have equal opportunities to attain financial stability.

**MISSION:** Establish a statewide collaboration holistically focused on providing life enhancing services to Floridians.





## THE SOLUTION INCLUDES:



- Consolidated policy/advocacy effort
- Priority Projects/Programs include:
  - VITA—EITC and CTC
  - Financial Train the Trainers
  - Financial Mentoring
  - Benefits screening/enrolling
  - Children’s Organizations
  - Shared Services Database
  - Information Distribution via 2-1-1
  - Concentration on rural areas
  - Unified Marketing/Branding
  - Ways to Work
  - Bank On Florida





## **WE PURPOSEFULLY RECRUITED PARTNERS...**

- **Children's Services Council – Broward and others**
- **Florida Department of Children and Families**
- **Head Start State Collaboration Office**
- **Florida Jump\$tart**
- **Florida Association for Community Action Agencies**
- **United Way of Florida**
- **Florida Asian American Federation and Florida Hispanic Unity**
- **Florida Developmental Disabilities Council**
- **Catholic Charities**
- **Jewish Family Services**
- **Kids' Wealth**
- **Food Banks/Prosperity Coalitions**





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# ...AND FUNDERS!



United Way  
of Tampa Bay





## **WE NOW HAVE...**

- **More than 130 Members**
- **An active Board of Directors**
- **Regional Councils that meet in person twice a year**
- **An interactive web site**
- **Regular member communication with members**
- **Strong relationships with the Florida legislature**
- **Programs that are rolling out statewide**
  - **Bank On Florida**
  - **Ways to Work**
- **An annual conference that attracts well known national speakers**





## WHAT STEPS CAN YOU TAKE IF YOU'RE JUST STARTING?

- **Contact your local IRS SPEC\* office:**
  - **Make contact with your local coalition**
  - **Offer to hand out tax site materials in your office**
  - **Send letters to your TANF clients with tax site locations**
  - **Send or hand out letters with “tickets” for free tax preparation**
  - **Make your staff available for tax training**
  - **Host a tax site so your clients have a one stop shop**
  - **Set up a family day at tax sites for your clients**
  - **Join the coalition for future planning**
  - **Volunteer to draft a year round awareness plan**

\*Stakeholder, Partnerships, Education, and Communication





## WHEN YOUR CLIENTS RECEIVE THEIR EITC...

- **That sets the stage for long-term asset building since most coalitions also offer:**
  - **Government savings bonds at tax time**
  - **Mainstream checking and/or savings accounts**
  - **Free financial education**
  - **Matched savings accounts**
  - **FAFSA or Pell grants assistance**
  - **Referrals for other financial assistance and family benefits**





## Contact Information:

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