



Dear Childcare Director,

We have good news to share regarding the upcoming round of early learning teacher retention bonuses!

“A retention bonus reassures me early childhood professionals are valued by our community for the vital role we play in the growth and development of our children.”

- Teacher, spring bonus recipient

Exactly—you are valued and vital! This shared belief is what’s driving many community partners to work on your behalf to bring more support to you and your teachers. One such partner is YMCA of Southwest Florida, formerly The SKY Family YMCA.

The YMCA employs 105 education professionals serving more than 650 infants and young children across four campuses annually. Each member of the YMCA’s executive leadership team has a special passion for early childhood. They are eager to share the YMCA’s organizational capacities and resources for the benefit of all children in the community. For these reasons and more, the YMCA was chosen as the administrative backbone for components of Charles & Margery Barancik Foundation’s early learning initiative. More details on what this means will be shared later this year.

For now, let’s focus on plans to support your teacher retention efforts with bonus checks. Here’s what you can share now with your teachers.

- The YMCA will process the applications and distribute the bonus checks.
- The goal is to deliver the checks in-person before Thanksgiving.
- Bonus amounts will be based on tenure in the early learning workforce.
- Centers participating in School Readiness and Look for the Stars will be eligible.
- This is a gift to the community from Barancik Foundation.

Tenure	Estimated Bonus Range
< 1 year	\$250 - \$300
1-5 years	\$500 - \$600
6-20 years	\$750 - \$900
21-30 years	\$1,000 - \$1,200
31+	\$1,200 - \$1,500

Sign-up [here](#) for an alert when the bonus application goes live.

All of this is being done because, like you, we know investing in quality childhood development and education is the best investment we can make in our society’s wellbeing. We THANK YOU for all you do and look forward to staying in touch. You can reach us at retentionchecks@ymcaswfl.org with questions.

Sincerely,

Teri A Hansen
President|CEO
Charles & Margery Barancik Foundation

Gene T. Jones
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