

AUGUST ADVOCACY IS ACTION

Advocacy is Action is NAFCC's annual campaign mobilizing family child care educators, allies, and advocates to drive real policy change during the Congressional recess. Beginning August 11, 2025, educators across the country will rise in unified action to protect and strengthen the future of family child care.

This year's campaign comes at a turning point. Family child care continues to be squeezed out of the system, despite being the backbone of early care in rural, multilingual, and underserved communities. With nearly 100,000 FCC programs lost since 2012, and more closures looming, the stakes are higher than ever.



FAMILY CHILD CARE EDUCATOR

Mary Morris

Owner and Director of Mary L Morris Family Child Care
Palm Beach County, Florida

Appointed Roles

- **Gold Seal Quality Care Provider**
- NAFCC **Observer**
- Member, NAFCC **Leaders Shaping Leaders Cohort 4**
- Member, National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC)
- **Member**, Florida Family Child Care Home Association
- **Member**, Palm Beach County Family Child Care Association
- **Area Representative Coordinator**, Florida Family Child Care Home Association (FFCCHA)
- **Public Relations Officer**, Palm Beach County Family Child Care Association (PBCFCCA)
- **Past President**, Palm Beach County Family Child Care Association
- **Member**, Palm Beach County Health & Education Services Advisory Committee (HESAC)

Impact

With over 30 years in the field, licensed to care for up to 7 children, with over 500 children and families positively impacted by her program over the years.

Advocacy and Leadership

- Led rallies and protests at the Palm Beach County Health Department, successfully advocating for an increase in family child care capacity from 5 to 6 children in Palm Beach County.
- Champion for Early Education
- Appeared before the Board and CEO of the Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County to push for increased wages for family child care providers—resulting in approved wage enhancements that uplift the profession locally.
- Program Leader & Community Voice
- Pioneered numerous leadership roles to empower child care providers and give them a voice within the broader early education system.
- Served 12 years as a Florida Department of Health Child Care Advisory Council Member, representing family child care providers statewide.
- Serves on the Palm Beach State College Early Childhood Education Business Partnership Council, where she collaborates with community stakeholders to ensure the college provides a relevant and high-quality education to early care practitioners across Palm Beach County.