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Beverly Williams
Linda Guritz, Advisor
Annette Larkin, Advisor
Paul Sharff, CEO

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NEWS RELEASE
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MANATEE COUNTY ELC BOARD MEMBERS HONORED AS OUTSTANDING DIRECTORS OF 2016!

Palmetto, Florida, October 10, 2016 – The Board of the Early Learning Coalition of Manatee County, Inc. (ELC) has been honored with the **2016 Outstanding Directors Award** by the Tampa Bay Business Journal. The Tampa Bay Business Journal recognizes Tampa Bay-based 501(c)(3), non-foundation community organizations benefiting residents of the eight counties in the Greater Tampa Bay Metro Area, who are fiscally responsible and accountable with regard to program outcomes.

Manatee ELC was chosen from the 67 boards nominated by a distinguished panel of independent judges, and this award recognizes the phenomenal work performed by the board to support the ELC which itself was named 2015 Non-Profit of the Year for Education by the Tampa Bay Business Journal last year.

Board Members will receive their award at a gala reception at the InterContinental Hotel in Tampa on November 3rd, 2016.

Paul Sharff, ELC Chief Executive Officer, said: "I am very proud of this award, and would like to offer my utmost congratulations to all current 25 members of our Board, and those who have served throughout 2016. Our board works tirelessly to improve the lives of children in Manatee County, and are unwavering in their support of the staff here at Manatee ELC as we all strive to give our local children the best possible chance to succeed in life through early care and education."

The Early Learning Coalition of Manatee County, Inc. is a multi-service agency dedicated to helping children develop skills that they will need to be successful in school and life. The agency's focus is on high quality school readiness opportunities for all children and their families, understanding that it is in the first years of life that a child's future educational success is determined and the critical role of parents, as their child's first and most important teacher.

To learn more about Coalition's services, go to www.elc-manatee.org or call 941-757-2900, extension 212.



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