

# Donna Hines ('15)



Donna Hines serves as the Education Manager for Kids Incorporated of the Big Bend, where she works closely with staff to meet the educational needs of children and families in the Early Head Start program. In essence, she is the teacher of the teachers. In her role as a teacher, she decided to pursue a formal education in the field of Early Childhood Education. With the full support of the agency and a little prodding, Donna applied for a TEACH scholarship to formalize her education.

She began her journey for a degree at Tallahassee Community College, where the Early Childhood Education program both reinforced what she learned working with infants and toddlers and expanded her knowledge of developmentally appropriate educational experiences for young children. Her experiences at TCC gave her the confidence and courage to continue her higher educational journey, and she obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education.

“My time at Tallahassee Community College not only gave me the confidence that I could obtain a higher education, it helped me understand that my desire to teach doesn't end with the children, I also have a passion for teaching those who teach children,” she said. “I love my current role as a coach and educational leader for our teachers and staff. My ability to serve the children and families of our community is no longer limited to only the children in my classroom. A degree in Early Childhood Education made that possible.”