



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Achievement Academy Recipient of the Iron Horse Family Foundation Grant

LAKELAND, FL (January 31, 2020) –The Iron Horse Family Foundation has awarded a grant to the Achievement Academy to help fund their Hospital Home Program. With the new Carol Jenkins Barnett Pavilion for Women and Children's Level III NICU, premature babies are now being born in Polk County instead of surrounding counties. Early Interventionists in Achievement Academy's Birth to Three program have a weekly presence in the Carol Barnett Pavilion which builds trust and relationships with the families before they leave the hospital. This also provides a seamless transition for the early interventionist to provide services in the home. This funding will help families with tiny premature babies receive free early intervention services and empower the parent to be the child's first teacher. The support of the Iron Horse Family Foundation is truly a vital component to the success of the children in our community.

Iron Horse Family Foundation is a Lakeland, FL based private foundation that is devoted to carrying on the legacy of David M. Clark. Iron Horse Family Foundation exists to improve the lives of children through initiatives, projects and support of organizational missions that bolster children's health and wellness. Iron Horse Family Foundation is an invitation-only grantor.

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About the Achievement Academy

*The Achievement Academy serves children from birth through age five with various developmental delays and disabilities. The Achievement Academy offers two programs, each provided at no cost to the child or family. The first program is a **Charter School** that offers specialized instruction by certified teachers; small class sizes; individual speech, occupational and physical therapies; and assistive technologies that enable each student to reach his or her full potential at one of the Achievement Academy's three campus locations (Lakeland, Winter Haven and Bartow). The second is a **Birth to Three Program** that provides early intervention services to infants and toddlers who are "at-risk" for developmental delays and/or have been identified with a specific delay. Professional Early Interventionists serve these children and their families.*