The Earlier, the Better
Art by Jamesha Rollins, Young Women's Academy for Academic and Civic Development at JRE Lee.
We wait at the doctor’s office, at the mechanic’s shop and in the supermarket. These daily inconveniences do us no real harm. So we wait and make the best of it.

But in some cases, waiting can be harmful to us and others.

Violence prevention is like that. A child’s early years are formative years. Childhood experiences can have lasting impact. Parents, teachers and other adults can help determine whether that impact is positive or negative.

The Melissa Institute for Violence Prevention and Treatment has always been a strong proponent of the notion “the earlier, the better.” While we believe that it is never too late to address violence, we know that the sooner we address the issue, the greater the chances of success.

“Violence prevention begins in the high chair, not the electric chair,” said Institute President Suzanne L. Keeley, Ph.D. That may seem severe, but it reflects an undeniable truth: A child who lacks basic reading skills can become trapped in a downward spiral of violence and low self-esteem.

What does literacy have to do with an infant in a high chair? Simple. His parents’ reading ability affects how they will raise him. Which, in turn, affects how he will later raise his children.

The one thing that all children have a right to expect from their parents is to be raised in a safe, stable, nurturing atmosphere. They have a right to expect their parents to protect them.

When parents attend to the basic needs of their children, those children are more likely to become productive, nonviolent members of the community. And they, in turn, are more likely to do what is best for their children.

Nonviolence can be an upward spiral. It’s a positive force that we can create and encourage.

At The Melissa Institute, we are here to “give science away” to help meet that goal. We do it through literacy initiatives, bullying prevention, parent education, suicide and domestic violence prevention, and more.

If “the earlier, the better” is true, it follows that the sooner we reach our goals through your support, the better our chances of success. Every dollar we spend on prevention can save up to $28 down the road.

Why wait?

---

The Institute’s mission is to prevent violence and promote safer communities through education and application of research-based knowledge.
A major contributing factor of criminals who engage in violent behavior is the lack of literacy. Adults who are illiterate account for more than 80 percent of the prison population in the United States.

If someone had gotten to those individuals much, much sooner and had taught them reading, writing and comprehension skills as children, the odds are they would be occupying their time productively, rather than occupying a prison cell.

Someone is doing that for today’s children — before they become tomorrow’s inmates. That someone is Dale Willows, Ph.D., an internationally acclaimed reading expert and Scientific Board member.

Dr. Willows’ “Balanced Literary Diet” is a powerful, inexpensive and innovative approach that educators can use to teach reading skills. Children, contrary to popular belief, do not simply grow naturally into readers, even in a supportive environment. Dr. Willows has found that when teachers have a positive impact on a child’s reading success they can also benefit from the positive cycle of teaching and learning that develops. “If we can simply raise the teacher’s knowledge of literacy, this can be a gift to many children,” Dr. Willows said. This can be especially advantageous for educators who teach children who live in disadvantaged populations or in home situations that do not know how to encourage literacy.
The Balanced Literacy Diet organizes teaching methods into a “diet” containing “food groups” for literacy. The approach helps educators assess the needs of students, create powerful, simple lesson plans, and create an atmosphere of success for reading.

The Melissa Institute has brought Dr. Willows’ Balanced Literacy Diet to teachers of at-risk students in Hialeah, Overtown and Liberty City. The results are impressive. Hialeah Elementary School, for instance, went from being a “D” school to an “A” school as a result of its implementation of the program.

Crime-clock facts
In the United States, there is, on average:
- One murder every 32.3 seconds.
- One forcible rape every 5.9 minutes.
- One robbery every 1.2 minutes.
- One aggravated assault every 37.8 seconds.
- One burglary every 14.2 seconds.
- One larceny-theft every 4.8 seconds.
- One motor vehicle theft every 33 seconds.

Balance — online
In late 2011, The Melissa Institute will launch an innovative new website. The Balanced Literacy Diet site will include more than 300 instructional videos, and will combine the expertise of Dr. Willows and her staff of reading experts with the Institute’s financial and organizational support. Educators everywhere will benefit from this free, user-friendly tool. Meanwhile, you can visit youteachreading.org now to see a preview of the site.

Our two other websites, melissainstitute.org and teach-safeschools.org, have totaled more than 3 million hits worldwide. And if you Google “violence prevention,” our Teach Safe Schools website will appear near the top of the list — out of more than 44 million violence prevention references.
In September 2010 Tyler Clementi, a violinist and Rutgers University freshman, committed suicide. He jumped off the George Washington Bridge as a result of a cyberbullying incident. In March, high school freshman Phoebe Prince hanged herself from a stairwell. She was the victim of relentless taunts and physical threats from fellow students.

These suicides gained national notoriety. But they are by no means isolated incidents.

Bullying is a relationship problem. It is all about a power imbalance. It can be extremely stressful for those who are victimized. And it can be prevented.

The Melissa Institute addresses the issue of bullying and victimization through education and research. We conduct numerous programs that address bullying and childhood aggression. Scientific Board members Debra Pepler, Ph.D., and Jim Larson, Ph.D., each conducted bullying prevention conferences and workshops for students and school counselors.

In November, the Institute hosted a series of bullying programs: a cyberbullying presentation given by Wendy Craig, Ph.D.; an elementary school bullying prevention youth conference led by Drs. Pepler and Craig; and a conference on Bullying Prevention: Social Responsibility for 21st Century Schools. This seminar, presented at South Miami Hospital in partnership with Miami-Dade County Public Schools, featured Scientific Board members Drs. Pepler, Craig and Ron Slaby, as well as Kim Storey, Ed.D.
Students share bullying concerns with school counselors and other adults.

Participants create artwork, as well as songs, poems and skits, about bullying prevention.

Bullying is a relationship problem. It is all about power. It can be extremely stressful for those who are victimized. And it can be prevented.

Dr. Slaby has also been working on an advisory panel for Cartoon Network, helping design a campaign to combat bullying by teaching children how to intervene. The campaign will use cartoons and recognizable characters to teach kids a wide range of bullying prevention tactics.

In late October, The Melissa Institute took part in Baptist Children’s Hospital’s annual Children’s Health Day. Institute members handed out “Love Your Kids. Lock Your Gun” bookmarks in English, Spanish and Creole, and distributed “No Bullying Buddies” stuffed animals with printed rules to teach children how to avoid violence and prevent bullying.
Question: What is the single most important and influential institution in the United States? Answer: The family.

That means that parenting is one of our country’s most important careers. Because, as we know, when it comes to having a positive impact on children, “the earlier, the better.”

It is known that domestic violence is frequently a learned behavior. It’s learned in the home, during childhood. It involves physical, mental or emotional abuse against children or a spouse or other family member. The problem is complicated by a lack of knowledge, as well as by a lack of societal response.

Society changes slowly. Years ago, it was perfectly normal for children to ride in cars without seatbelts, for newborns to come home from the hospital in their mothers’ arms — who also weren’t wearing a seatbelt — and for anyone to light up a cigarette anywhere. We’ve learned, at great personal expense, that these behaviors cannot be tolerated. The time has come to do the same for domestic violence.

What can we do to help parents? That was the question at a seminar held last year at South Miami Hospital. “Reducing Violence Through Family Empowerment” was sponsored by The Melissa Institute, the Thelma Gibson Health Initiative, University of Miami School of Education, Baptist Children’s Hospital and The Children’s Trust.

The conference began with short presentations from a panel of experts, including Dr. Keeley, Thelma Gibson and Scientific Board members Guerda Nicholas, Ph.D., and Isaac Prilleltensky, Ph.D.
The format quickly shifted to a more hands-on approach. Workshop leaders joined discussion groups with 10–20 local experts. The process was repeated twice, with attendees switching groups and topics. Topics included: Coming to the U.S.A. — Fitting in a New Country; Religion and Spirituality — Guiding Peace; and Managing Stresses — Race, Family and Economy. All the groups then collated the information they had gathered and presented a report to the attendees.

Many parents who live in high-risk neighborhoods, or who are straddling cultural boundaries, want to do what is best for their children. The purpose of conferences such as this is to help develop culturally relevant ways to educate and empower parents through community partnerships.

ACT: Following the Leader

Kids learn at a very young age to play “follow the leader.” Whether or not they play the actual children’s game with one another is beside the point. They follow the leader by taking cues from their parents’ behavior. That means when you’re a parent, you are leading your children 24 hours a day, rain or shine, no matter what.

A program of Adults and Children Together (ACT) Against Violence, “Parents Raising Safe Kids,” was designed by the American Psychological Association to train early childhood, mental health and service agency professionals to deliver an enhanced parent education curriculum. The Melissa Institute has been designated as the ACT Regional Training Center for the southeastern United States. ACT-trained facilitators conducted two series of two-hour, eight-week parent classes in Miami-Dade County last year. The first, in English, met on Saturday mornings at Hibiscus Elementary School. Another series, in Spanish, was conducted at enFAMILIA in Homestead. The parents who participated wrote about the experience. Here are some of their comments:

“Every parent began somewhat apprehensive and finished empowered, able to see things from a child’s point of view.” “These sessions have taught me not to easily become angry and act out by hitting my daughters.” “The ACT program is an instrumental tool that teaches parents they have several options when it comes to disciplining or rewarding our children.” “I am giving out more hugs. Home is supposed to be a place of love, comfort and security.”

ACT Southeast Regional Center Director Trish Ramsay was again invited to talk about the program at the annual meeting of the Florida Association for the Education of Young Children held in Orlando. ACT facilitator training seminars were also held at South Miami Hospital in English and Spanish.
The Melissa Institute’s 14th annual May conference, “Child and Adolescent Depression and Suicide: Promising Hope and Facilitating Change,” drew more than 200 interested professionals to South Miami Hospital on May 7.

The meeting, sponsored by Baptist Children’s Hospital and the Ganley Foundation, was featured in local news coverage on CBS4. It focused on identifying warning signs, assessing adolescent depression, and intervention methods to prevent suicide. Dr. Keeley, conference director, was joined by Donald Meichenbaum, Ph.D., Research Director of The Melissa Institute. Guest presenters included Grace L. Carricarte, M.S.Ed., Executive Director of the Ganley Foundation and a member of the Institute’s Board of Directors; Joan Rosenbaum Asarnow, Ph.D., director of the Youth Stress and Mood Disorders Program at UCLA; and psychiatrist Fernando Pino, M.D. Attendees also heard from Jordan Burnham, a suicide attempt survivor, who gave a firsthand account of what it was like for a successful, popular student to battle depression. His miraculous survival has helped him discover healthy coping mechanisms.
Suzy Berrios (Miami-Dade County Public Schools), Dr. Suzanne L. Keeley, Jordan Burnham, Lynn Aptman, Dr. Michael Aptman, Grace Carricarte, Dr. Donald Meichenbaum and Ann Ganley.

2010 Belfer-Aptman Scholars Award for Dissertation Research

The Melissa Institute awards scholarships to doctoral students who are conducting research within the area of violence prevention and treatment. The Institute has partnered with the Belfer Family Foundation to create a permanent endowment for the Belfer-Aptman Dissertation Research Award. The following individuals received $2,000 each:

Lydia Barhight, M.A.
University of Delaware
“Children’s Physiological and Emotional Reactions to Witnessing Bullying”

Heidi Kar, MHS, M.A.
Stony Brook University
“Victims Who Victimize: The Association Between PTSD and Intimate Partner Violence Among Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) Veterans”

Mark Your Calendar
May 6, 2011

The 15th annual conference, “Resiliency Training: A Lifespan Perspective,” is scheduled for Friday, May 6, at South Miami Hospital. More than 250 mental health professionals are expected to attend.
Peace, Harmony and Moonlight

For years, The Melissa Institute has hosted “An Evening of Peace and Harmony: Music for a Better World.” This March, we made it even more appealing. “Peace, Harmony and Moonlight” featured live music and a tram ride through a moonlit Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden to view sculpture in a natural setting. Entertainment was provided by musicians from Coral Reef High School. The event was chaired by Dr. Suzanne L. and Brian E. Keeley, President and CEO of Baptist Health South Florida, and Lynn and Michael Aptman, M.D. The dinner and a silent auction, chaired by Grace L. Carricarte, raised more than $80,000 for the Institute. The auction included 131 items, including signed Panthers hockey pucks, a two-night stay at the Biltmore Hotel, a high-definition TV and free orthodontic services.
Susan and Larry Kahn, Dr. Suzanne L. Keeley, Wayne and Shaida Brackin.

Trish Ramsay, the Institute’s Education Director, and Grace Carricarte, who chaired the silent auction.

Philipp Ludwig, Andres Aguirre, Alejandro Blanco and Wayne Brackin await the outcome of their silent auction bids.

Tram riders about to embark on a tour of the garden.

Mark your calendar. The next fundraising concert, “Peace and Harmony in the Garden,” is scheduled for Thursday, March 3. Join us!
OUR VOLUNTEER BOARDS
Without the participation, expertise and leadership of our volunteer boards, the Institute could not accomplish its goals. The boards include the Board of Directors, Scientific Board and Honorary Board.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Committed individuals who volunteer their time to oversee the operation of the Institute, assist with fundraising, plan projects and represent the organization at community events.

Suzanne L. Keeley, Ph.D., President and a founder of The Melissa Institute, a psychologist in private practice with extensive clinical experience in treating victims and perpetrators of violence.

Donald Meichenbaum, Ph.D., Research Director and a founder of The Melissa Institute, a clinical psychologist, Distinguished Professor Emeritus, University of Waterloo, Ontario, and a former Distinguished Visiting Professor, University of Miami.

Lynn Aptman, M.Ed., Melissa’s mother, one of the founders of The Melissa Institute and Director of Information Services.

Michael Aptman, M.D., neurologist, Melissa’s father, one of the founders of the Institute and Vice President.

Jo Baxter, MBA, Corporate Vice President, Baptist Health South Florida.

Kenneth Bloom, Esq., Bloom & Minsker, P.L.

Marilyn J. Bruno, Ph.D., J.D., CEO, Aequor, Inc.

Grace L. Carricarte, M.S.Ed., Executive Director, Ganley Foundation.

Penn B. Chabrow, Esq., Vice President and Director, law firm of Wampler Buchanan Walker Chabrow Banciella & Stanley, P.A.

Judge Norman Gerstein, 11th Judicial Circuit of Florida.

Lisa M. Goldberg, Esq., Office of Gen. Counsel, Internal Revenue Service.

Remi J. Kajogbola, MBA, healthcare consultant.

Philipp N. Ludwig, M.S., MBA, Treasurer of the Institute and Assistant Vice President, Baptist Health South Florida.

Kristy Nunez, Esq., Assistant State Attorney.

Ana M. Ojeda, Psy.D., licensed psychologist.

Judge Nushin G. Sayfie, 11th Judicial Circuit of Florida.

Maggie Snyder, Esq., law offices of Ronald Well, P.A.


SCIENTIFIC BOARD
This board comprises international experts in the areas of violence prevention and treatment of victims.

Etony Aldarondo, Ph.D., is Associate Dean for Research, Director of Dunsapugh-Dulton Community and Educational Well-Being Research Center and an Associate Professor in the School of Education at the University of Miami. His professional career includes appointments at Boston College, Harvard Medical School’s Cambridge Hospital and the Philadelphia Child Guidance Center. The recipient of various recognitions for academic excellence, his scholarship focuses on positive development of ethnic minority and immigrant youth, domestic violence and social justice-oriented clinical practices. His publications include the books Advancing Social Justice Through Clinical Practice (Routledge) and Programs for Men Who Batter: Intervention and Prevention Strategies in a Diverse Society (Civic Research Institute, with Fernando Mederos, Ed.D.)

Wendy Craig, Ph.D., is a Professor in the Department of Psychology at Queen’s University in Ontario. She has published widely on the topics of bullying and victimization, peer processes, sexual harassment and aggression in girls, and was editor of a volume on childhood social development. As a Canadian representative, Dr. Craig works with the World Health Organization and UNICEF conducting research and promoting healthy relationships. She recently wrote a chapter on bullying and fighting for the World Health International Report for the World Health Organization. She is an author and co-editor of Understanding and Addressing Bullying: An International Perspective. Together with Dr. Debra Pepler, Dr. Craig is leading PREVNet (Promoting Relationships and Eliminating Violence Network), a Networks of Centres of Excellence — New Initiative.

Jim Larson, Ph.D., NCSP, is Professor of Psychology and Director of the School Psychology Training Program at the University of Wisconsin, Whitewater. He has more than 25 years’ experience with the study and treatment of anger-related behaviors in children and youth. Dr. Larson was a school psychologist with the Milwaukee Public Schools for 14 years and directed their violence prevention program. He also has extensive experience in the area of parent management training and is the co-author of Parent to Parent: A Video-augmented Training Program for the Prevention of Aggressive Behavior in Young Children and Helping School Children Cope with Anger: A Cognitive-behavioral Intervention. His most recent book is Think First: Addressing Aggressive Behavior in Secondary Schools.

Donald Meichenbaum, Ph.D., is Research Director of The Melissa Institute and Distinguished Visiting Professor in the School of Education at the University of Miami. He is one of the founders of cognitive behavior therapy. North American clinicians voted Dr. Meichenbaum “one of the 10 most influential psychotherapists of the 20th century.” He has published extensively, and his most recent book is Treatment of Individuals with Anger-control Problems and Aggressive Behavior. Other books include Treating Adults with Post-traumatic Stress Disorder, Nurturing Independent Learners and Stress Inoculation Training.

Guerda Nicolas, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Educational and Psychological Studies at the School of Education at the University of Miami. As a multicultural (Haitian American) and multilingual psychologist (English, Spanish, French and Haitian Creole), her research focuses on developing culturally effective mental health intervention for people of color, particularly immigrant children, adolescents and families. Concerned about women’s issues, depression, spirituality and social support networks of ethnic minorities, Dr. Nicolas is author of many articles and book chapters and is an invited presenter at national and international conferences. She is a member of the Caribbean Studies and 2009 president of the Haitian Studies Association.

Clifford R. O’Donnell, Ph.D., is Professor of Psychology and Director of the Community and Cultural Psychology Graduate Program at the University of Hawaii. He has published on topics such
as delinquency prevention, school violence, firearm deaths among children and youth, cultural-community psychology, and education and employment in community psychology. He serves on the board of directors of the Intermountain Centers for Human Development and consults to several youth mentoring programs that use his community-peer delinquency prevention model.

Debra J. Pepler, Ph.D., C.Psych., is Distinguished Research Professor of Psychology at York University, Toronto, Ontario, and co-director of Promoting Relationships and Eliminating Violence Network (PREVNet), Canada’s national initiative for bullying prevention. She is an internationally recognized expert on bullying and childhood aggression and an authority on school-based interventions. She speaks widely to professional and community audiences and publishes extensively. Her major research program examines the antisocial behavior of children and adolescents, particularly in the school and peer contexts. She is an author and co-editor of Understanding and Addressing Bullying: An International Perspective. She was honored with the Contribution to Knowledge award from the Psychology Foundation of Canada.

Isaac Prilleltensky, Ph.D., is Dean of the School of Education at the University of Miami. Prior to that he was Director of the Doctoral Program in Community Research and Action at Peabody College of Vanderbilt University. Dr. Prilleltensky is concerned with value-based ways of promoting personal, relational and collective well-being. He is the author, co-author or co-editor of several books, including Community Psychology: In Pursuit of Liberation and Well-Being, Doing Psychology Critically, Critical Psychology, Promoting Family Wellness and Preventing Child Maltreatment, and The Morals and Politics of Psychology. The book Promoting Well-Being: Linking Personal, Organizational, and Community Change was co-authored with his wife, Dr. Ora Prilleltensky.

Wendy K. Silverman, Ph.D., ABPP, is Professor of Psychology and Director of the Child and Family Psychosocial Research Center at Florida International University. She is an expert on child anxiety and its disorders. Her research on developing and evaluating evidence-based assessment and treatment procedures for children and adolescents with anxiety disorders has been funded for the past two decades by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). In addition to conducting research, teaching and mentoring students, she has served as editor of the Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology, associate editor of the Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology, past president of the Society of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology (Division 53, American Psychological Association), and chair of the NIMH grant review panel for Child and Adolescent Psychosocial and Psychopharmacological Intervention Research.

Ron Slaby, Ph.D., is a developmental psychologist who serves as a Senior Scientist at the Education Development Center in Newton, Mass., and the Center on Media and Child Health in Children’s Hospital Boston/Harvard Medical School. Dr. Slaby has advanced our understanding of media influences on children’s health. He has generated and evaluated media literacy programs, investigated remedies for media violence effects on children, and served as the educational advisor for many award-winning family television programs and feature films. His books and programs include: Aggressors, Victims, and Bystanders: Thinking and Acting to Prevent Violence; Social Development in Young Children; Early Violence Prevention: Tools for Teachers of Young Children; Viewpoints: A Guide to Conflict Resolution and Decision Making for Adolescents; and Eyes on Bullying: Preventing Bullying in the Lives of Children.

Dale Willows, Ph.D., is a Professor in the Department of Human Development and Applied Psychology, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto. She is also a registered psychologist. Dr. Willows is a renowned expert in the teaching of reading and preventing reading and writing difficulties in young children. She has devoted herself to implementing change in early literacy education through in-service professional development for primary grade teachers and school administrators. In addition to publishing extensively in journals and authoring numerous books and book chapters, she is frequently invited to present at academic and professional conferences. In 2001, Dr. Willows was honored as an Outstanding Educator by three Canadian school districts. Dr. Willows serves as the only international member of the National Reading Panel, which was commissioned by the U.S. Congress in 1998. She was invited to attend the White House Assembly on Reading in 2001.
IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS
Actors’ Playhouse
Adweb Services, Inc.
Airport Hampton Inn & Suites
Mr. Thomas Alfano, CPA
Mr. Jason Alpert
Anne Nouvelle Event Design & Flowers
Dr. & Mrs. Michael Aptman
Ms. Janine Armstrong
Aunt Jill’s Desserts Awards Inc. — Trophy World
Baptist Children’s Hospital
Baptist Health South Florida
Bay Plumbing Company
Bellezza Spa
The Biltmore Hotel
Francisco Blanco, DMD
Bliss Salon
Blooming Gardens
Bloomingdale’s
Border’s Frame Shop
Mr. Romero Britto
The Bud Stop
Ms. Gail Burak
Ms. Grace Carricarte
Mr. & Mrs. Penn Chabrow
Christy’s
Dr. & Mrs. Frank DeLaurier
Deli Lane Cafe & Tavern
Mr. & Mrs. Manny Elfenbein
Ellen’s Treasures
Executive Printers
Express Travel
Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden
Fit-2-Go
Florida Panthers Foundation
Randy L. Fursman, DDS
Global Bodies
Guayabera Lady
The Heat Group
Ms. Donna Hennessy, Silpada Designs
Hirni’s Wayside Florists
Ike Behar Shirts
Illy
JAACX Distributors Corporation
Jewelry by Jan
Joe’s Stone Crabs
Mr. & Mrs. Kent Jurney
K9 Tutor Dog Training
Kara Conceptual Event Experiences
Dr. & Mrs. Barry Katzen
Dr. Suzanne L. & Mr. Brian E. Keeley
Kendall Hotel & Suites
Ms. Natasha Ludwig
Ms. Astrid Malval-Beharry
Marion Abela Restaurant Corporation
Maurice’s Jewelers
Miami Seaquarium
Miami Symphony Orchestra
Misha’s Cupcakes
Monet Coiffure
Ms. Patricia Murphey
Myra & Company
Ocean Reef Club
Ms. Yoko Ono
Pecan’s Day Spa
Pekin Flowers
Perricone’s Marketplace
Precious Memories
Pro Golf
Ms. Trish Ramsay
Ms. Olga Ramudo
Susan Randall Photography
Red Fish Grill
Ms. Patricia Redmond
Ritz-Carlton Coconut Grove
Roasters ’N Toasters
Leonard H. Rothenberg, DDS
St. Regis Hotel, Aspen, Colorado
Mr. & Mrs. Emery Sheer
Skin Plus Corporation
Mr. Richard Slatko
Ms. Ellen Steiner
Sunset Corners Fine Wine & Liquors
Sushi Maki
Theatre of the Sea
Trattoria Luna
Two Chefs
Ms. Denise Ledee Winston
Carlos Wolf, M.D.
X-treme Rock Climbing
The Zoological Society of Florida

VOLUNTEERS
Mr. James Armstrong
Ms. Julie Astuto
Mr. Evan Basciella
Ms. Blair Bernstein
Dr. Barbara Bloom
Ms. Jill Bloom
Mr. Kenneth Bloom
Ms. Valerie Cambronne
Ms. Grace Carricarte
Rev. Katherine Carroll
Ms. Liza Carroll
Ms. Sheila Chabrow
Ms. Angela DeLaurier
Ms. Wendy Denkhaus
Ms. Phyllis Goldberg
Ms. Amy Halsey
Ms. Joan Holensee
Ms. Martha Jurney
Ms. Susan Kahn
Ms. Judith Katzen
Mr. Kevin Kestenbaum
Ms. Janet Kunde
Ms. Astrid Malval-Beharry
Ms. Eryn McJilton
Ms. Jeanee McJilton
Ms. Alyse Messinger
Ms. Rita Morgan
Ms. Krisa Ramsay
Ms. Olga Ramudo
Ms. Jill Sheer
Dr. Silvana Spinelli-Casale
Ms. Ellen Steiner
Dr. Sam Steiner
Ms. Lelenia Vasallo
Ms. Shelley Werner

DONORS
$25,000 and up
Mr. Robert Gintel
Dr. Suzanne L. & Mr. Brian E. Keeley
Ethel and Harry Reckley Foundation, Inc.

$10,000-$24,999
Dr. & Mrs. Michael Aptman
Mr. R. Kirk Landon

$2,500-$9,999
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Baxter
Coastal Construction Group
Mr. Richard Cole
Anonymous
Dr. & Mrs. Frank DeLaurier
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Easton
The Ganley Foundation
Mr. Remi Kajogbola
Thelma Gibson Health Initiative
White & Case
Mr. & Mrs. Philip Wolman

$1,000-$2,499
Mr. Gregory Aptman
Mr. Alejandro Blanco
Mr. John Brandow
Ms. Nancy Carr
Mr. Eric Castellanos
Mrs. Alvah Chapman Jr.
Mr. Bernard Eckstein
Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Flicker
Mr. & Mrs. George Foyo
The Garner Foundation Inc.
Mr. & Mrs. William Glassner Health Foundation of South Florida
Mr. & Mrs. Javier Hernandez-Lichtl
Mr. & Mrs. Kent Jurney
Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Kislak
Mr. Rudy J. Kransy
LexisNexis
Mr. & Mrs. Elton Lipnick
Mr. & Mrs. Philipp Ludwig
Dr. & Mrs. Donald H. Meichenbaum
Paul & Adrianne Mittentag

Art by Tyreek Jackson.

Art by Jewly Fleuristil.
Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Novak
Professional Bank
Ms. Trish Ramsay
Ms. Patricia Redmond
Dr. Silvana Spinelli & Mr. Jeffrey Casale
Weitz & Luxenberg, PC
Mr. Trae Williamson
Dr. Dennis Wiseman
Dr. & Mrs. Howard Zwibel

$500-$999
Ms. Jane Anderson
Mr. & Mrs. James Armstrong
Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Beharry
The Boston Consulting Group, Inc.
Mr. Michael Carricarte
Mr. & Mrs. Penn Chabrow
Mr. Bob De Martino
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Epstein
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Glick
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Halsey
Dr. & Mrs. Michael Hoff
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Kohn
Dr. James D. Larson
Ms. Donna Latshaw
Mr. & Mrs. Randall Lee
Ms. Barbara Ludovici
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Malloy
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Marlowe
Mr. & Mrs. Raul Martinez-Esteve
Dr. & Mrs. Neil Messinger
Mr. Richard Montalbano
Neuroscience Consultants
Dr. Guerda Nicolas & Mr. Mark Graesser
Ms. Marie Occhigrossi
Dr. & Mrs. Philip Paul
Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Pertnoy
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Poulion
Ms. Olga Ramudo
Dr. & Mrs. Lawrence Rothman
Mr. Kyle Saxon
Mr. & Mrs. John Swobedel
Mr. & Mrs. Emery Sheer
Mr. & Mrs. Ed Shohat
Mr. & Mrs. George Silver
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Silverman
Dr. Nilda Soto & Ivory Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Spiegelman
Mr. Andrew F. Toma
Ms. Wendy Walsh
Wampler Buchanan Walker Baniella & Stanley
Dr. & Mrs. Malvin Weinberger
Ms. Alice Jane Zimmerman

$250-$499
Mr. Jose Andres Aguirre
Mr. & Mrs. Wallace Apter
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Baal
Bellezza Spa Salon Boutique
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Bernstein
Dr. Barbara & Mr. Kenneth Bloom
Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Bloom
Mr. Wayne D. Brackin
Mr. Henry Bush
Ms. Cindy Cancio
Dr. & Mrs. John Cassel
Dr. & Mrs. John Christie
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Contreras
Ms. Wendy Denkhaus

Mr. & Mrs. Gonzalo Diaz
Mr. & Mrs. William Dickinson
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew D. Elfmont
Dr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Glasser
Mr. Joseph Goldstein
Dr. & Mrs. Timothy Grant
Ms. Wendy W. Greenleaf
Dr. & Mrs. Allan Herskowitz
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Ivins
Dr. & Mrs. Jason James
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Kahn III
Dr. & Mrs. Paul Kaywin
Dr. Linda & Mr. Gary Keller
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Kohn
Dr. James D. Larson
Ms. Donna Latshaw
Mr. & Mrs. Randall Lee
Ms. Barbara Ludovici
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Malloy
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Marlowe
Mr. & Mrs. Raul Martinez-Esteve
Dr. & Mrs. Neil Messinger
Mr. Richard Montalbano
Neuroscience Consultants
Dr. Guerda Nicolas & Mr. Mark Graesser
Ms. Marie Occhigrossi
Dr. & Mrs. Philip Paul
Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Pertnoy
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Poulion
Ms. Olga Ramudo
Dr. & Mrs. Lawrence Rothman
Mr. Kyle Saxon
Mr. & Mrs. John Swobedel
Mr. & Mrs. Emery Sheer
Mr. & Mrs. Ed Shohat
Mr. & Mrs. George Silver
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Silverman
Dr. Nilda Soto & Ivory Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Spiegelman
Mr. Andrew F. Toma
Ms. Wendy Walsh
Wampler Buchanan Walker Baniella & Stanley
Dr. & Mrs. Malvin Weinberger
Ms. Alice Jane Zimmerman

$100-$249
Ms. Mona Adams
Dr. Etiony Aldarondo
Ms. Nina Alexander-Hurst
The Allen Morris Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Lovell Apter
Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Apter
Ms. Michelle H. Apter
Ms. Suellen Apter
Mr. & Mrs. Dan Azari
Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Baer
Dr. & Mrs. Barry Baker
Mr. & Mrs. Lou Barocas
Dr. & Mrs. Jonathan Baumgard
Mr. Arild Bergseth
Bet Shira Congregation
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Bieman
Dr. & Mrs. Lawrence Blacher
Ms. Rochelle Jennifer Boas
Dr. & Mrs. Francisco Borja
Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Butler
Dr. & Mrs. Mark Caruso
Dr. & Mrs. Louis Casale
Dr. & Mrs. Martin Cohen
Ms. Barbara Collins
Dr. & Mrs. John Defazio Jr.
Dr. & Mrs. Harold Deutsch
Mr. & Mrs. Ira Drescher
Dr. & Mrs. David Edelman
Mr. Victor Esterlitz
Mr. & Mrs. Neal Farr
Dr. & Mrs. Michael Finer
Dr. Randy Fursman
Mr. & Mrs. Dane Gordon
Dr. & Mrs. Paul Gustman
Dr. & Mrs. Barry Halpern
Mr. & Mrs. James W. Harris
Drs. Joshua & Ana Harris
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Hevia
Mr. Bruce Holley
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Horowitz
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Jackman
Dr. & Mrs. Warren Janowitz
Mrs. Doris Jansen
Mr. & Mrs. James Kalishman
Dr. & Mrs. Leonard Kalman
Dr. & Mrs. Lawrence Katzen
Dr. & Mrs. Howard Katzman
Mr. & Mrs. Gene Kissane
Ms. Linda Knudsen
Dr. & Mrs. Steven Kobetz
Dr. Adam Koppelkin
Mr. Andrew F. Toma
Ms. Wendy Walsh
Wampler Buchanan Walker Baniella & Stanley
Dr. & Mrs. Malvin Weinberger
Ms. Alice Jane Zimmerman

Art by Kayl Gloster.

Art by Jackie Crocamo.
Mr. Ralph Lawson  
Ms. Deborah Lehman  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Lehman  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Lester  
Dr. Laura Beth Levine  
Ms. Maria Lowe  
Ms. Janet R. McAliley  
Ms. Jeannee McJilton  
Mr. Lincoln Mendez  
Dr. & Mrs. Jonathan Messinger  
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Andrew Metsch  
Mr. Allen Morris  
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Nelson  
Ms. Phyllis Oeters  
Drs. Steven Pabalan & Grace Wang  
Mr. Richard Parrish & Ms. Marianne Pantin  
Mr. & Mrs. Brett Perlmutter  
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Phillips  
Ms. Sharon Polk-Sadownik  
Ms. Winifred Marchisello Pritchett  
Drs. Seth Rafal & Mary Pantahova  
Mr. & Mrs. Joshua Rednik  
Ms. Lili Reeves  
Ms. Debi Rice  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Rosenberg  
Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Rosenberg  
Ms. Ruth Rosenberg  
Dr. & Mrs. Robert Safinski  
Dr. & Mrs. Glenn Salkind  
Dr. & Mrs. Richard Sandrow  
Dr. & Mrs. Fred Schild  
Mr. & Mrs. Art Schlecht  
Ms. Marge Schrader  
Ms. Penelope S. Shaffer  
Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Sheldon  
Dr. & Mrs. Fred Sherman  
Dr. & Mrs. Alan Shiffrin  
Ms. Andrea Silberman  
Drs. Leonard & Gail Silverman  
Ms. Jeanette Slesnick  
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Socol  
Dr. & Mrs. Henry Trattler  
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Tulloch  
Dr. & Mrs. Dennis Turk  
Ms. Blanca M. Valle  
Ms. Michelle Wallach  
Ms. Claire Warren  
Mr. Daniel Weiss  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Williams  
Ms. Barbara Wolfsdorf  
Ms. Vicki Wyman  
Dr. & Mrs. Jack Yaffa  
Dr. & Mrs. Jack Ziffer

$1-$99

Ms. Joan E. Abess  
Dr. & Mrs. Kevin Abrams  
Mr. & Mrs. John Aprea  
Ms. Vivian Arias  
Ms. Evelyn K. Axler  
Bailey Search & Associates  
Mr. & Mrs. Seymour Beer  
Mr. Daniel Benjamin  
Mr. & Mrs. Herman Berger  
Dr. & Mrs. David Billings  
Ms. Kathleen Blackwood  
Ms. Alice Bloom  
Ms. Debbie Bloom  
Bloomington’s  
Ms. Samantha Boucher  
Ms. Philippa Bullard  
Ms. Teresa Buoniconti  
Ms. Alexandra Camillo de Penso  
Ms. Silvana Carmelino  
Mr. & Mrs. Philip Carroll  
Ms. Katja Carvalho  
Ms. Karyn I. Cunningham  
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Demartino  
Ms. Robin Denison  
Mr. Edward Ehrlich  
Mr. & Mrs. Harald Eidsmo  
Dr. & Mrs. Eugene Eisner  
Dr. & Mrs. Gerald Enerfeld  
Mr. & Mrs. Sigmund Fox  
Mr. & Mrs. Antonio Fralicciardi  
Ms. Debra Freedman  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Friend  
Ms. Joanne Gentile  
Dr. & Mrs. Henry Glick  
Mr. & Mrs. Mario Gomez  
GoodSearch  
Ms. Holly D. Gordon  
Ms. Monica Guarderas-Vallejo  
Ms. Meredith Halsey  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Hearns  
Mr. & Mrs. Roy Heimlich  
Ms. Judith Ozar Henry  
Mr. & Mrs. Martin Hernandez  
Mr. & Mrs. Dan Himes  
Mr. & Mrs. John Hohensee  
Ms. Carole Horowitz  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Horowitz  
igive.com Holdings LLC  
Mr. & Mrs. Eric Jacobs  
Dr. & Mrs. Geoffrey James  
Ms. Frances S. Kadesh  
Mr. Barry J. Katz  
Ms. Barbara Kaufman  
Mr. Douglas Kenner  
Mr. & Mrs. Nelson Keshen  
Ms. Ingrid Kessler  
Mr. & Mrs. Hyman Kirsner  
Ms. Hilary L. Kohn  
Mr. & Mrs. Josh Kotler  
Cantor Mark H. Kula  
Ms. Miriam Lawrence  
Dr. Joel M. Levin  
Mr. & Mrs. Warren Levitan  
Ms. Stacy Levitt  
Mr. & Mrs. David Liebman  
Mrs. Jean Long  
Ms. Nuria Manueco  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Marx  
Ms. Cara Mattison  
Ms. Lana McNamara  
Ms. Christina Mendoza  
Ms. Brenda Molinet  
Mr. Harold Robert Nelson  
Mr. Jack Patterson  
Mr. David Prescott  
Dr. Edward Rappaport  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Reale  
Ms. Mary Reincke  
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Rifkin  
Ms. Betty Rodriguez  
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Rosen  
Dr. & Mrs. Seth Rosen  
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Ross  
Ms. Meredith Rubin  
Ms. Leanne Rutter  
Ms. Sara Sadownik  
Ms. Staci Salvatore  
Ms. Rebecca Saret  
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Schotland  
Ms. Margot Seigel  
Mr. & Mrs. Neil Sosler  
Dr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Spar  
Mrs. Raie Spektor  
Mr. Michael Spritzer  
Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Stein  
Dr. & Mrs. Sam Steiner  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Stone  
Mr. & Mrs. Seth Stopek  
Ms. Christine M. Summers  
Dr. Barbara Thomlison  
Ms. Ayala J. Usdin  
Ms. Cheryl Weiner  
Ms. Rachelle Werner  
Dr. Julie S. Whitney  
Dr. & Mrs. Charles Wohl  
Dr. & Mrs. Carlos Wolf  
Ms. Jennifer Zidel  
Mr. Steve Zimet

This list represents donors from September 1, 2009, through August 31, 2010. We regret any omissions due to the printer’s deadline.
You Can Help

Your contribution enables The Melissa Institute to continue providing education, community service, research support and consultation. Donations may be directed to the general fund or earmarked for a specific project or program. A donation is also a unique way to mark special occasions or honor individuals and families. Please join us in making our world a safer place.

☐ Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution in the amount of $________ or

☐ Please charge my credit card in the amount of $________ or

☐ Please charge my credit card each month in the amount of $________

☐ I can’t make a donation right now, but I would like to make a pledge that I will pay $________

☐ Monthly ☐ Annually beginning _____________ (date)

☐ Please send me a Wishes for Peace & Harmony coupon book to make donations in honor/in memory of loved ones.

Please make check payable to:
The Melissa Institute
6250 Sunset Drive, Suite 204
Miami, FL 33143

Name

Address

City State Zip

Telephone

E-mail

Thank you for your support!