

## CHRIS Turns 30

This year CHRIS celebrates its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary! A brief history of how we came to be and how we have changed over the years is provided below.

In 1983, there was a huge waiting list in Dade County of children waiting to receive services. Dr. Keith Scott and Dr. Richard Urbano decided to create a tracking system to be used at FDLRS South, the first iteration of a child registry system in Florida.



Dr. Keith Scott



Dr. Richard Urbano

In 1986, the Handicap Prevention Act mandates the establishment of local registries for all FDLRS centers throughout Florida. At this point, many FDLRS centers create their own in-house systems. While many others join together creating a “digital Tower of Babel”.

This prompted a wave of consolidation in 1990. A decision was made to have two systems that would track all of the FDLRS centers, located and maintained at the University of Miami. One system for five centers and another system for the remaining 13 centers. Anne Hymowitz Garber also joins the CHRIS team in 1990.

In 1991, a final wave of consolidation brings all FDLRS centers together under one database system. The desktop version of CHRIS is born using Informix.



Anne Hymowitz  
Garber

Register Assist Exit

**CHILD DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION**

DBNUM                      MASTER ID                      NYSIIS                      Entry Person

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_

AKA \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Place \_\_\_\_\_

SSN - - - - -

Race \_\_\_\_\_ Ethnicity \_ - - - - - Current Placement \_\_\_\_\_

Language Proficiency \_\_\_\_\_ Sub-Location \_\_\_\_\_

Service County \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS

Street                      City                      State Zip                      County                      Mail?

\_\_\_\_\_ - - - - - \_\_\_\_\_

FAMILY/SIGNIFICANT ADULTS                      PHONE NUMBERS

Name	Relation	LW	M	Phone#	Notes
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

The 1991 version of the CHRIS Demographic screen

**TRACKING**

DBNUM                      Name                      Birth Date

Staff Assigned \_\_\_\_\_ Tracking Status \_

ISC or SC \_\_\_\_\_ Excep. Status \_

Event	Date	\$	AGN.	Summary	Notes
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

The 1994 version of the CHRIS Tracking screen

In 1995, our software engineer and eventual Program Manager, Olga Camacho arrives.

In 1997 we switch to a FileMaker Pro 3 platform. The back-end of CHRIS still uses FileMaker Pro, although it is up to version 19 now.

At this point in CHRIS history, each FDLRS site maintained its own copy of the CHRIS database. At one time there were 37 separate databases throughout the state of Florida. Each site had to maintain their copy with rudimentary, remote assistance from the CHRIS Help Desk. At the end of each quarter, FDLRS sites would mail a copy of their CHRIS database to the Help Desk where it would be painstakingly combined into a master database used to run statewide reports.

In 1999, Dr. Shihfen Tu becomes the CHRIS Project Director.



In 2001 Aimee Astte Echeverri joins the CHRIS Team. Development of CHRIS *Plus* is underway.



Aimee Astte Echeverri

In 2001, Dr. Christine Delgado becomes the new CHRIS Project Director.



Dr. Christine Delgado

In 2004, Cory Beermann arrives. This year also sees a seismic shift occur. All separate CHRIS databases are consolidated at the University of Miami to be accessed using Citrix via the World Wide Web. A permanent, live, state-wide database is born, CHRIS Plus.



CHRIS Team in 2005  
(Cory, Olga, Aimee, Christine)

In 2008, a new version of CHRIS is released, CHRIS Gold. It includes redesigned reporting features, better graphical user interface and many more improvements. This version was improved continuously until 2021.

4/24/2019 Tracking Summary 16:23:41

Name: Oui, Sebastian DBNUM: 524178 Child\_ID: 524178.68 Code:  
 DOB: 10/2/2015 Age: 3.06 SYS: 2021 Update Date: 8/21/2018 Record Creator: chris  
 3rd BDay: 10/2/2018 Language: Current Location:  
 County Of Residence: Pasco Current Sub-Location:

Staff Assigned: Hicks, MaryJo Exceptionality Status: E  
 ISC or Service Coordinator: Timeline Status: ET  
 Code: Service Coordination Status: RC

PreK Funding Program: Part B - Kindergarten Interagency Release:   
 Agencies/Providers: Head Start Start Date: End Date:

Tracking Timeline Events					Service Coordination Events				
Add	# of Timelines: 1	Time Elapsed: 47	History	Display Contact Log?	Y	N	Y		
Event	Date	AN	Summary	Event	Date	AN	Summary		
Transition	07/05/18		7/10/2018,	Referral Closed	08/21/18	*	Entered Part B Services		
Screening	08/07/18	*	8/1/2018,F	Referral Inactive	08/21/18	*	Referred to appropriate		
Evaluation	08/10/18	*	8/7/2018 , Audiolog , Intellect , Speech	Folder To ESE	08/21/18				
ESE Eligibility	08/14/18		HH	Referral Out	08/13/18		Head Start,		
IEP/IFSP	08/17/18	*	EARLY STEPS PASCO Public School	Appointments	08/07/18		Scheduled,10,Screening,,C		
End Timeline	08/21/18	*	IFSP/IEP Developed	Packet Returned	07/19/18				
				Packet Sent	07/18/18				
				Contact Log	07/17/18		All Case Notes		

2020 was the year when COVID forced a new normal upon us all. During this time of tremendous upheaval, Olga tirelessly worked with a software engineering firm to create the first version of CHRIS to exist in the cloud.

After months of sleepless nights and endless Zoom based design meetings, at the end of June, 2021, Citrix was turned off for the final time, and Olga converted CHRIS Gold from its brick and mortar home in our server room at the University of Miami, into the web-based version of CHRIS that now lives in the cloud. CHRIS can now be used on any device that can access the internet.

The CHRIS Help Desk would like to extend our sincerest thanks to all our users and especially the TAWG (Technical Assistance Work Group) members who, throughout the last 30 years, have provided input, guidance, support and made CHRIS into what it is today. We look forward to improving with you for many years to come.

Happy Holidays!

The screenshot displays the CHRIS web application interface for a child's profile. The header includes a search bar with 'Arv.sth', 'DBNUM: 705335', 'Child ID: 705335.29', 'Age: 3.10', and 'Record Creator: CHRIS'. A 'Copy Test' button is in the top right. Below the header are navigation tabs for 'Demographics', 'Tracking', 'Forms', and 'Print'. A left sidebar contains 'General' (selected), 'SC Events', and 'Timeline Events'. The main content area shows a 'Saved' button and a summary box with fields for DBNUM (705335), Child ID (705335.29), DOB (10/03/2016), Age (3.10), Last Name (Arv), Suffix, First Name (sth), Middle Name, and SYS (2022). Below this is a 'This child is currently: 3 Years, 10 Months, and 14 Days' indicator. The form is divided into several sections: 'Record Creator' (CHRIS), 'Update Date' (MM/DD/YYYY), and '3rd Birth Day' (10/03/2019); 'Primary Language' (English), 'County of Residence' (Pinellas), and 'Location'; 'Sub Location' and 'Code' (dropdown); 'Staff Assigned' (dropdown) and 'ISC or Service Coordinator' (dropdown); 'Prak Funding Programs' (Program 1, 2, and 3 dropdowns); 'Agencies/Providers' (Agency/Provider 1, 2, and 3 dropdowns); 'Exceptionality Status' (1), 'Timeline Status' (ET), and 'Service Coordination Status' (AP); and 'Inter Agency Release' (dropdown), 'Start Date' (MM/DD/YYYY), and 'End Date' (MM/DD/YYYY).