

## ECI Family Fun Day

“We really enjoyed our day at the museum. Thank you for everything!” writes the cheerful mother of one ECI Family. The nineteen families and over 115 attendees of the first ECI Family Fun Day agreed on two things: they had fun, and they would like to see more events such as this one take place in the future.



ECI and the Children’s Museum of Houston partnered with one another through the museum’s Open Doors program. The museum graciously donates passes that admit up to 6 individuals to agencies who serve families who might not otherwise be able to visit the museum due to financial circumstances. ECI is a recipient of such passes, and staff on the Northwest teams nominated families to be invited to the event on August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009. Ashley Jackson, Jessica Hightower, and

Stephanie Coleman, interns from the University of Houston’s Human Development and Family Studies department, worked with Ahmad Hernandez (Children’s Museum’s Manager of Community Partnerships), Laura Lopez (ECI Internship Coordinator) and Cyndi Sanchez (ECI Child Find Coordinator) to organize an event for these families who live on the Northwest side of town to visit the museum and mingle with one another.

ECI staff who attended the Family Fun Day with their own families were pleased to see the participation of the families that they serve each day, as well as enjoy the museum themselves. The collaboration between the Children’s Museum of Houston has only begun, as Family Fun Days are already being organized for ECI’s



Northeast and Southwest teams’ families. ECI hopes to continue these events to encourage families to network with one another and enjoy the various activities that the Children’s Museum has to offer children and their families.

For more information on the Open Doors program, please visit [www.cmhouston.org](http://www.cmhouston.org).

For information regarding ECI services, please visit [www.mhmraharris.org/MRSD/eci.htm](http://www.mhmraharris.org/MRSD/eci.htm).