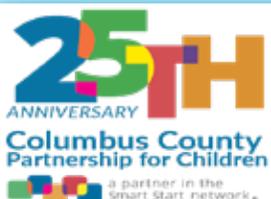


Early Years Are Learning Years



Celebrating the Week of **THE YOUNG CHILD**

April 1-7, 2023



In celebration of the Week of the Young Child and to bring attention to April as Child Abuse Prevention Month, Smart Start is pleased to present this special section focusing on the care, health and development of young children.



Did You Know?

• Columbus County Partnership for Children (Smart Start) has served local families for more than 25 years. The Partnership convenes community stakeholders and families to discuss and resolve issues that impact the education, health, literacy and well-being of young children and their families.

• The Partnership administers Smart Start funds appropriated from the North Carolina legislature to support local programs that benefit children ages birth to 5 and their families living in Columbus County.

• Over the years the Partnership has offered evidence-based programs such as Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, Quality Enhancement for childcare providers, Raising A Reader, Reach Out and Read (in partnership with local pediatricians), the Early Learning Facility (ELF) Lending Library, Smart Start Subsidy for child care, Transportation for expectant mothers and children ages birth to 5 without Medicaid, WAGE\$ supplement for teachers; Ready, Set, Go! behavioral support; and Parents as Teachers for teen parents.

• Columbus County Partnership for Children (CCPC) launched three grant funded programs last year.

• **Ready and Resilient Children**, funded by United Way of the Cape Fear Area and the North Carolina Community Foundation (Healing Communities Fund), is a program dedicated to building resilience in children as well as promoting early childhood literacy and targets all children, especially those in community-and family-member care.

• **Family Engagement and Leadership** is a Preschool Development Grant funded project that seeks to engage family leaders and community stakeholders as a coalition to impact decisions and policy-making at local and state levels.

• **Ready and Resilient Families and Communities**, funded by the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust, is a program focused on building awareness of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), toxic stress and resilience in an effort to decrease incidents of child abuse and neglect.

The Columbus County Partnership for Children seeks to provide the options and resources necessary for children and their families to lead healthy, happy and productive lives, and we could not do that without the support we receive from our funders.

Resilient Columbus Task Force

Resilient Columbus is a coalition of community stakeholders and family leaders who discuss and address the issues of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and building resiliency in Columbus County by educating within the community. Flyers and brochures are being circulated and informational sessions are being provided to the faith community, school systems, and local agencies. The coalition also offers virtual and in-person screenings of the film, Resilience -The Biology of Stress and The Science of

Hope as well as training in the Strengthening Families Five Protective Factors, Community Resiliency Model (CRM), Connections Matter and other skills for building resilience. The goal of Resilient Columbus is that all families, businesses, service organizations and faith communities in Columbus County are trauma informed and resilient. For more information about the coalition or how to register for a film screening, information session or training for yourself, your agency or your business, contact Sherry Baldwin at 910-642-8226 Ext. 109. Follow Resilient Columbus on Facebook at Columbus County Resiliency Task Force.



Need a FREE ride to a medical appointment?

Children ages birth to five and expectant mothers who do not have Medicaid reimbursable transportation can ride FREE of charge to medical appointments by scheduling a ride with Columbus County Transportation. This service, which is free to qualified families, is funded through Columbus County Partnership for Children (Smart Start). To check eligibility or to schedule a ride, call Columbus County Transportation at 910-642-7201.



Children are like seeds... they need help to grow up well.

Being specialists in agriculture for Columbus County farmers, we feel a real investment in the future. We believe in investing in our children as well. Programs like Smart Start give Columbus County children a definite edge in reaching their full potential.

If it helps our children, it helps our community. And we all prosper!

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Smart Start Education Awards

Columbus County Partnership for Children (Smart Start) Education Award offers, qualifying individuals financial support in local completing classes in the field of Early Childhood Education.

As part of the Partnership's commitment to the improvement of early care and education quality, education awards encourage higher education among child care professionals. As a result of their academic endeavors, 24 preschool teachers, representing 10 early childhood education programs, received education awards totaling \$9,400 for courses completed during summer and fall semesters of 2022. Of the recipients, one earned a associate degree in Early Childhood Education, another is working towards a Birth-Kindergarten Add-On Licensure, seven are working towards a Bachelor of Science Degree in Birth-Kindergarten Education or related field, and

15 are working towards Early Childhood Associate Degrees. The financial support provided by the Education Awards serves to diminish the financial barrier that often delays or prevents the completion of an educational program.

Following are comments from recent recipients of education awards.

This program has afforded me to have my education at almost zero cost and be debt free. I appreciate all the things that it provided. C.C.



Whiteville Primary School teacher, Sarah Ritener is the recipient of a Smart Start Education Award.

This award will pay for childcare for my 4-year-old daughter. R.L.

The Smart Start Education Award not only benefits the recipients, but also the child care programs where the recipients are employed. Early educators working with children ages



Alexis Mitchell (left) and Cynthia Mitchell, teachers at Beverly's Day care, are education reward recipients.

birth to 5 years old at any star-rated, temporarily licensed or GS110 childcare facility in Columbus County may be eligible to apply. Transcripts must be submitted with all applications. Applications for the Spring 2023

awards are due May 2023.

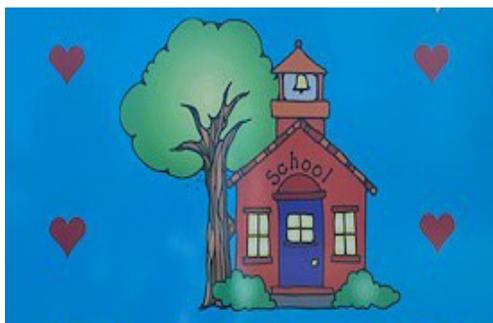
For applications and additional information about the education award process, contact Sandra Newkirk at sandra.newkirk@columbusmartstart.org or call 910-499-4547.

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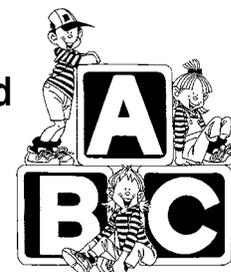
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Edu-Care Preschool
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Smart Start Event to Focus on Family Fun and Reading – April 22

Columbus County Partnership for Children (Smart Start) will host Spring into Reading on April 22. The event, cosponsored by International Paper Foundation and Corning, will feature a variety of activities at 109 W. Main St.

The event will feature an open house with the reopening launch of the Smart Start Early Learning & Family Resource Facility (ELF), as well as resource booths sponsored by local businesses and family support agencies. Other features include story time, dancing by the Solid Hitters majorettes, games, face painting, free books, food and other giveaways; music and prize drawings.

This event is supported by the Columbus County DREAM Center, Whiteville City Schools, Columbus County Schools, Columbus County Literacy Council and the Columbus County Library System.

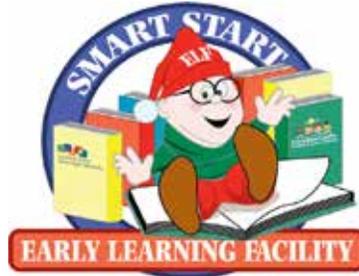
For more information or to sponsor a resource booth or to make a donation to this event, call the Columbus County Partnership for Children at 910-642-8226.



Virtual Week of the Young Child 2023

From April 3-7, Columbus County Partnership for Children will celebrate the Week of the Young Child! Special activities and videos will be posted on Columbus County Partnership for Children's website at www.columbuscountysmartstart.com and Columbus County Partnership for Children (Smart Start) Facebook page @ColumbusSmartStart. Follow us for some fun and interactive activities!

The Week of the Young Child schedule of virtual events will be posted soon!



At Trinity Baptist Child Care, teachers and families work closely in partnership to ensure high-quality care and education for children. Parents feel supported and welcomed as observers and contributors to the program.

The program is staffed by adults who understand child and family development and who recognize and meet the developmental and learning needs of children and families. The program is efficiently and effectively administered with attention to the needs and desires of children, families and staff.

Trinity Baptist Child Care

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HEALTH AND
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and Substance Abuse Services

Supported by the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services, with funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (grant #5U49CE000111) and N.C. State University (grant #1111111111).

More Fruits and Vegetables for Women and Children



As the weather warms, we begin to think of more outdoor activities. Those might include grilling some of your favorite vegetables (and possibly fruits). The Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) is still offering benefits that include more Cash Value Benefits (CVB) used to buy fresh, frozen or canned fruits and vegetables. Currently, the Cash Value Benefit rates are children 1-5 receive \$25 per month, pregnant women/non-breastfeeding postpartum women receive \$44 per month, and fully breastfeeding postpartum women receive \$49 per month. This will last until September 30, 2023. Congress and President Biden may adjust the amounts received after that time.

The waivers that were put in to effect during the COVID19 pandemic will be ending over the next few months. This means that participants/guardians may be asked to come in to the WIC office to complete certain steps of their certification/assessment. Some of the items that participants have been receiving (like the larger loaves of bread, higher %fat milk) will no longer be able to be purchased with the eWIC card. Infants and their families will be once again purchasing WIC contract formulas (i.e. Gerber formulas). This should all be thought of as progress being made. We no longer face grocery trips with the possibility of bare shelves. Most of us can find most of the items we want/need day to day. If you have a problem finding a particular item or infant formula, please call the WIC office. We may be able to help you locate the item.

Remember that WIC program is much more than a food give-away. WIC clients receive physical assessment, nutrition education and tailored food packages. The goal is to promote healthy lifestyles that support better outcomes for some our at-risk neighbors.

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) is a public health nutrition program designed to influence lifetime nutrition and health behaviors. The program is federally funded to serve low to moderate-income pregnant, breastfeeding, and non-breastfeeding postpartum women, infants and children up to age 5 who are found to be at nutritional risk. WIC serves over 1700 clients who receive assessment, nutrition education and approved healthy foods in Columbus County each month.

In accordance with Federal civil rights laws and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its agencies, offices, employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audio-tape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the agency (state or local) where they can apply for benefits. Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing or who have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information is available in languages other than English.

For more information about WIC in Columbus County, call 910-641-3904 or visit the Columbus County Website (www.Columbusco.org) For the latest general information about the WIC program benefits and requirements, visit: www.nutritionnc.com or come see us at the Columbus County Health Department.



Shop and Dine 4 Autism

Are you a business owner who wants to show your support for the autism community? We're looking for businesses to participate in Shop & Dine 4 Autism on April 25. Commit to donating at least 10 % of your total sales on April 25 and sign up here: <http://mvnt.us/m1375926>

Chapters and Support Groups provide a place for families who face similar challenges to feel understood as they offer each other encouragement.

For more information about events and meetups, contact the chapter by email, or join the Facebook group by using the following links.

For additional assistance, call Columbus County Partnership for Children at 910-642-8226.

bladencolumbuschapter@autismsociety-nc.org
www.facebook.com/groups/asnc.bladen.columbus
<https://www.autismsociety-nc.org>



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Columbus Regional Healthcare System

is committed to providing more than quality pediatric healthcare to the children of Columbus County and surrounding communities. We realize that our role goes beyond providing checkups, flu shots or treating children when they feel under the weather. We are here to make sure that children are healthy, so that early learning can happen in their lives. Visit **Advanced Pediatrics** or **Advanced Family Care** for exceptional healthcare for your child.

This week we salute the teachers, families and communities that are still making early learning possible!

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Whiteville, NC
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What is Autism?

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) refers to a group of developmental disabilities that are typically associated with challenges of varying severity in the areas of social interaction, communication, and repetitive/restricted behaviors. Autism is a brain disorder that typically appears during the first three years of life. Learn more about statistics on autism in North Carolina and around the country below.

One in 44 children may be diagnosed with autism nationally



1 in 44

As its name implies, ASD is a spectrum disorder that affects individuals differently and with varying degrees of autism severity; no two people with ASD are the same. ASD is typically diagnosed in children, but it is a lifelong disorder that affects individuals of all ages. ASD also is often found in combination with other disabilities.



5.4 million+ adults in the U.S. have ASD

40,000+ individuals and their families receive direct services annually in N.C.



Autism Signs and Behaviors

People with ASD may have problems with social, behavioral, and communication skills. They might repeat behaviors and might not understand change in their daily activities. Many people with ASD also have different ways of learning, paying attention, or reacting to things. A person with ASD might:

- Have severe language deficits or differences
- Talk about or show interest in a restricted range of topics
- Not point at objects to show interest (point at an airplane flying over)
- Not look at objects when another person points at them
- Have trouble relating to others or not have an interest in other people at all
- Avoid eye contact and want to be alone
- Have trouble understanding other people's feelings or talking about their own feelings
- Prefer not to be held or cuddled or might cuddle only when they want to
- Appear to be unaware when people talk to them, or repeat words or phrases in place of normal language (echolalia)
- Have trouble expressing their needs using typical words or motions
- Laugh, cry, or show distress for no apparent reason
- Repeat actions over and over again, often in a very stereotyped manner.
- Have trouble adapting when a routine changes
- Have unusual reactions to the way things smell, taste, look, feel, or sound
- Be oversensitive or under-sensitive to pain
- Lose skills they once had (for instance, stop saying words they were once using)

Doing Our Part To Help Children & Families In Columbus County...



Columbus County Transportation

... providing Columbus County with "transportation you can count on" since 1995.

Call 910-642-7201

General Public Transportation

- Work Transportation
- Medicaid Transportation
- Child Care (5 Years & Under Free)
- Veterans' Transportation
- Department of Aging
- Health Department

Partnering with Smart Start...

Expectant mothers and children less than 6 years old who are not eligible for Medicaid reimbursable transportation can be transported to and from medical appointments free.

To learn more about this Smart Start activity, call 642-7201 (Columbus County Transportation).

The Imagination Library

The Columbus County Partnership for Children (Smart Start) and Dolly Parton's Imagination Library are still working together to get books into the hands of each eligible child in Columbus County.

Research has shown that "children who are read to at an early age are more successful in school and that reading aloud to infants and children encourages social, emotional and cognitive development. The ability to learn language skills is greatest before the age of six and children who are read to have bigger vocabularies when they enter school." Adults who read just one book a day with a child will reach 1,000 books in less than three years. <https://1000booksbeforekindergarten.org/>

Dolly Parton's Imagination

Library was first launched in 1995 in singer, actress and author Dolly Parton's home state of Tennessee. Her vision included promoting a love of reading in preschool aged children as well as their families. She wanted every child to have books regardless of their fam-



ily's income. Thanks to the Imagination Library, many families across Columbus County enjoy receiving their child's monthly book.

In 2022, 23,502 books were mailed to Columbus County Children and over 100,000 total books since the program's in-

ception.

All children, ages birth to 5 years old who are residents of Columbus County are eligible to participate. The number of books each child receives will depend on the age of the child at registration. Children can potentially collect a 60-volume set of books from the birth to 5 time-frame. Eligible children will receive high-quality, age appropriate books mailed directly to their home each month until their fifth birthday. This project is made possible through funding appropriated by the North Carolina Legislature.

For more information about the Imagination Library and how to register, contact Gloria Riddick, at gloria.riddick@columbusmartstart.org or 910-642-8226 Ext. 110.

Child Abuse Prevention Month highlights the importance of nurturing positive childhoods through 'Prevention in Partnership'

April is National Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Month, a time when child wellness and child welfare organizations across North Carolina and the nation elevate the importance of creating systems and programs that put children and families first. Columbus County Partnership for Children (Smart Start) along with Prevent Child Abuse North Carolina (PCANC) recognizes that all community members have a role in ensuring children have positive experiences and families have the resources they need when they need them, well before they are in crisis. We all have a stake in prioritizing equal opportunities for every child from all communities in each corner of the state to build a more prosperous future for us all and nurture positive childhoods.

"It's never been truer that communities today need to band together in collective ways to help our families and children thrive. Too often, our society thinks of raising healthy children as a parent or caregiver's responsibility alone," said Dr. Selena Rowell, Columbus County Partnership for Children's executive director. "In reality, we all benefit when groups of people work together to collectively care for children, and this April for Child Abuse Prevention Month, our team is dedicated to working together to lessen the load of stress that families face."

Extreme stress and uncertainty for families may increase the risk of child abuse and neglect, raising the need to support families and prevent abuse before it occurs. Child abuse and neglect are preventable, and all communities benefit when children and families are well supported.

Throughout CAP Month,

Continued on page 10

At Opening Doors Preschool...

We pride ourselves in bringing the community quality child care for infants through 12-year-olds.

During the summer months, we offer an exciting program for school age children.

Opening Doors Preschool II 5 Star Center

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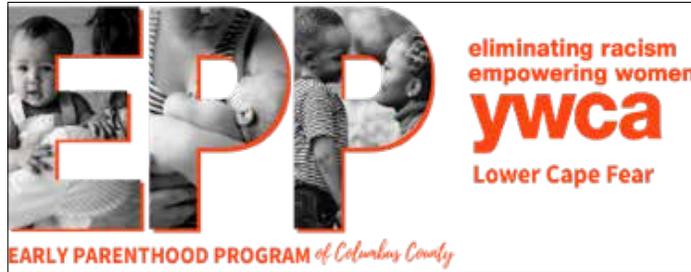


Support for teen moms and babies in Columbus County

The YWCA Lower Cape Fear's Early Parenthood Program (EPP) provides services to expectant or parenting teen moms in Columbus County. The program was created in partnership with the NC Department of Health and Human Services and the NC Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiatives and works in collaboration with the Columbus County Partnership for Children. EPP works with pregnant and parenting teens to provide direct services and one-on-one support through personal visits, individualized goal plans, intensive case management services, and group educational sessions. The program's goal is to empower young mothers with the tools they need to stay in school, build a strong, healthy

future for their families and reduce repeat pregnancies.

EPP provides access to prenatal and community resources and helps mothers develop strong parenting skills to raise healthy and school-ready children. The program works with young



women, ages 12-19, who are currently pregnant or have one child. Eligible mothers must be attending school or enrolled in an equivalent program and live in Columbus County.

EPP participants receive support and incentives to complete their education,

information about child growth and development, virtual home visits to support parenting skills, opportunities for peer support, connections to community resources, free baby supplies and more.

Here is what recent participants in EPP have shared about their experiences in the program:

"The YWCA has helped me and my son by giving us a sense of independence with the help provided through the resources given us. I received a brand new car seat to replace a used one. They showed me how to install it in the car and explained the importance of an updated car seat (which I had no knowledge about)."

"Being in this program has helped me in a lot of ways to be a better mother and to take care of myself. It has helped me to learn how to keep up with the development of my baby and make sure she is on track. The program also makes sure we have the supplies that we need to care for my baby."

"I couldn't have asked for a better support system. The EPP workers give me knowledge and resources to help me better my future."

Since the start of the program over 50 young moms and babies in Columbus County have benefited from the support and resources provided by the Early Parenthood Program. The Early Parenthood Program is free to those meeting eligibility criteria. EPP is currently enrolling new participants. For more information, or to refer a young mom who might benefit from the YWCA's Early Parenthood Program please contact Kathy Robson, Program Coordinator at epp@ywca-lowercapefear.org or 910-520-4819.

The YWCA Lower Cape Fear's mission is to eliminate racism, empower women, and promote peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all. Through our community outreach programs we provide safe spaces for women and girls and build strong female leaders.

Child Abuse

Continued from page 9

Columbus County Partnership for Children and Prevent Child Abuse North Carolina are raising awareness through the concepts of "Nurturing Positive Childhoods" and "Prevention in Partnership" to reinforce the concept that prevention cannot and does not happen alone.

"During this year's Child Abuse Prevention Month, we hope all North Carolinians find a way to be a connection and help nurture positive childhoods so more children can thrive," said Sharon Hirsch, President and CEO of PCANC. "There are a number of ways you can get involved in this campaign and help prevent child maltreatment from ever

occurring."

Prevent Child Abuse NC recommends local community members help raise awareness and impact through the following simple action items this April and beyond:



- **Wear blue on Friday, March 31st, Wear Blue Day**, to show support for children and families as we build momentum leading into Child Abuse Prevention Month. Post a photo or video on social media and include the #WearBlueDay2023 + #NC hashtags.

- **Participate in National**

Digital Advocacy Day on Wednesday, April 19. Advocate for economic supports that strengthen families and contact your representatives to advocate for the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) to provide states and communities the resources to implement community-based solutions for the prevention of child abuse and neglect.

For additional information about

Child Abuse Prevention, call the Columbus County Partnership for Children at 910-642-8226. Visit CCPC online at www.columbusmartstart.com.

For more information about Prevent Child Abuse NC, call 919-829-8009 or email info@preventchildabusenc.org Prevent-ChildAbuseNC.org.

Columbus County Partnership for Children



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Columbus County Partnership for Children Activities 2022-2023

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library provides books to children living in Columbus County. Each month, children ages birth to 5, who are registered for the program receive a brand new book mailed directly to their homes. The books are free of charge to the family. For more information, call 910-212-6352.

Quality Enhancement Project

This project helps licensed child care programs increase the level of star rated licensure and the level of provider education. Professional Development services are also available for facilities that complete an Educational Facility Plan. Teachers in these facilities who are attending school may be eligible for Educational Awards. For assistance, call 910-642-8226.

Raising A Reader

Raising A Reader helps child care providers work with families to build and maintain the home-based language and literacy experiences young children need for later school success. By rotating high quality children's literature into homes each week, Raising A Reader's research-based program helps children and parents develop the habit of "book cuddling." Families also build the connections to libraries that result in lasting family literacy habits and improved outcomes for children. For assistance, call 910-642-8226.

Reach Out and Read

Reach Out and Read prepares America's youngest children to succeed by partnering with doctors to prescribe books and encourages families to read together. At each well child visit, children between the age of six months and 5 years receive brand new, age and developmentally appropriate books to keep and

their parents receive guidance on the importance of reading aloud to their children. For assistance, call 910-642-8226.

Ready, Set, Go!

This activity provides early identification of special needs and enhances the provision of early intervention services to ensure positive outcomes for all children ages birth to 5 in child care settings. For assistance, call 910-618-9260.

Smart Start Early Learning Facility (ELF)

The Early Learning Facility provides child development resources which parents and providers can use to enhance the early care and education of young children. A variety of children's books, videos, topic resource books, resource kits and toys, a computer with Internet access and other resources are available to library members at a nominal fee. Training and workshops are offered as well as consumer materials in Spanish. For assistance, call 910-212-6352.

Smart Start Subsidy

This scholarship program provides assistance with the cost of child care to qualified parents with children ages birth to five. For assistance, call 910-642-3178.

Transportation

Expectant mothers and children ages birth to 5 who are not eligible for Medicaid reimbursable transportation can be transported to and from medical appointments. For assistance, call Joy Jacobs at 910-642-7201.

WAGES

This project provides child care professionals with education-based salary supplements and addresses teacher turnover and increased teacher educational levels. For assistance, call Allison Miller at 919-967-3272.

Biblioteca de imaginación de Dolly Parton

La Biblioteca de Imaginación de Dolly Parton ofrece libros para niños que viven en el Condado de Columbus. Cada mes, los niños de entre nacimiento y 5 años de edad, que están registrados en el programa, reciben un libro nuevo enviado directamente a su hogar. Los libros son gratuitos para la familia. Para más información, llame al 910-212-6352.

Proyecto del realce de calidad

Este proyecto ayuda a los programas de cuidado infantil certificados a incrementar el nivel de rendimiento y el nivel de educación proveída. Servicios profesionales del desarrollo están disponibles para facilidades que completen un Plan Educativo. Maestros en estas facilidades que asisten a las escuelas pueden ser elegibles para recibir un Premio Educativo. Llame 910-642-8226.

Creando un lector

Esta actividad con los centros de cuidado infantil o guarderías con licencias promueve el intercambio diario de libros entre los padres y sus hijos. Cada niño recibirá una brillante bolsa roja llena de libros de alta calidad, libros apropiados para su edad que se rotarán semanalmente. Llame 910-642-8226.

Lee y Alcanzarás

Lee y alcanzarás prepara a los niños más pequeños de Estados Unidos a tener éxito en su futuro, esto lo hace asociándose con los médicos que prescriben libros a sus pacientes para alentar a las familias a leer juntos. En cada visita para su chequeo físico anual, los niños entre la edad de seis meses y 5 años reciben libros nuevos apropiados para su desarrollo y los padres reciben también orientación sobre la importancia de leerle a sus hijos. Para más información llame 910-642-8226.

¡En sus marcas, listos, fuera!

Esta actividad provee temprana identificación de las necesidades especiales y mejora la temprana intervención en los servicios y asegura resultados positivos para todos los niños desde la edad del nacimiento hasta los 5 años en los centros de cuidado infantil o guarderías. Llame 910-618-9260.

Smart Start Centro de Aprendizaje Temprano

La centro de aprendizaje temprano provee recursos de desarrollo infantil que padres y proveedores pueden usar para el crecimiento del cuidado y la educación temprana para los bebés y niños. La variedad de libros para niños, videos, libros con temas de recursos, artículos y juguetes, computadora con acceso al internet y otros recursos están disponibles para los miembros de la centro a un mínimo pago. Entrenamientos y cursos como

también materiales en español. Llame 910-212-6352.

Smart Start Subsidio

Este programa de becas provee asistencia con los costos para el cuidado de niños para calificar padres con niños desde la edad del nacimiento hasta los cinco años. Llame 910-642-3178.

Transportacion

Madres embarazadas y con niños recién nacidos hasta la edad de 5 años que no son elegibles para el reembolso del Medicaid también pueden ser transportadas, y para sus citas medicas. Llame a Joy Jacobs en 910-640-7201.

Pagos

Este proyecto provee a profesionales del cuidado infantil suplementos del sueldo. Aumenta los niveles de entrenamiento de los maestros en centros de cuidado infantil. Llame a Allison Miller en 919-967-3272.

CCPC Staff and Telephone Numbers

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Dr. Selena Rowell – Executive Director | 910-499-4548 |
| Charmaine Blue-Singletary – Program Coord. | 910-499-4545 |
| Sandra Newkirk – Quality Enhancement | 910-499-4547 |
| Lisa Clewis – Community Outreach | 910-212-4689 |
| Gloria Riddick - Dolly Parton's Imagination Library | 910-642-8226 |
| Sherry Baldwin - Resilient Columbus | 910-642-8226 |
| Alyssa Lewis - Ready & Resilient Children | 910-642-8226 |
| Dr. Latoya Beatty - Resilient Families & Communities | 910-499-4546 |
| Latrinda Pierce - Resilient Families & Communities | 910-499-4549 |
| Kathy Robson - YWCA-EPP (Parents as Teachers) | 910-212-4010 |
| Smart Start Early Learning Facility (ELF) | 910-212-6352 |

Columbus County Partnership for Children
109 W. Main St., Whiteville, N.C. 28472





Spring Into Reading!

- Street Fair -

Hosted by the Columbus County Partnership for Children

Saturday, April 22, 2023

10:00 AM—2:00 PM

109 W. Main St. Whiteville, NC 28472



Join Us!

FREE family fun day planting the seeds for our children's mind to bloom!

Story Time, Dancing, Games, Story Book Characters, Prizes, Resource/Informational Booths, Face Painting, Special Guest & Performances, Food & MORE!!

25TH
ANNIVERSARY

Columbus County
Partnership for Children

 a partner in the
Smart Start network.

Early Literacy Facts

- *Early literacy is a mix of experiences that involves the senses.*
- *The brain grows through sound, sight, touch and talk.*
- *Brains are built, not born. The cells are there but the connections are not.*
- *What a child experiences in the world determines how connections are formed.*
- *Early literacy tactics focus on a child's developmental abilities and preparedness to acquire literacy skills.*
- *The home is the child's first school.*
- *The parent is the child's first teacher.*
- *The more you read and speak to your child, the better he or she will do in school.*

For more information about early literacy programs offered by Columbus County Partnership for Children (Smart Start), call 910-642-8226. www.columbusmartstart.com