



Sidewalk Chalk

Monthly e-newsletter

OUR VISION

All children in Randolph County enter school healthy & ready to succeed.

In this month's issue:

- Learn about our new Family Coalition.
- Announcing our Truliant Community Mini-Grant success.
- Dolly Parton's Imagination Library expansion.
- We need gently used books!



A parent is a child's first teacher.



Inspirations

With families being the glorious, complex, life-giving, and sometimes maddening things that they are, it's no wonder they've provided such rich fodder for T.V. sitcoms for the past 60+ years! Wouldn't it be wonderful if all the things that go awry in our *real* families could be resolved as swiftly and as tidily as they are in a half-hour on the small screen?

I am of the firm belief that there are unprecedented pressures on today's families. While being a parent is never easy — even under 'ideal' circumstances — many of our families today are faced with challenges that are truly overwhelming. Thus, when I think about the



overarching goals of the Randolph Partnership for Children, I always return to the child-family dynamic as a particularly critical piece of the puzzle.

A parent is a child's first teacher. This simple sentence is profound in its range of truth and depth of impact. Parenting style and the home learning environment are two of the most significant predictors of cognitive performance among young children. For children who are not in any formal early education program — which is nearly one-third of our county's children under 5 — the important role of parent as teacher is amplified even more.

Engaging parents in ways that honor their expertise and build on their understanding of their children's development is critical to school readiness success! In addition to the Family Coalition you are going to learn about in this newsletter, our Partnership offers home visiting services to families, parent education classes, family learning and play groups, and a robust variety of literacy programs. We take great pride in investing our public and private dollars where there is proven impact and I'll share a quick example: Last year, through our Incredible Years family support program funded by a Children's Trust Fund grant from NC DHHS, 100% of participants reported an increase in the use of positive parenting behaviors and became aware of alternative methods of discipline.

Helping parents feel empowered and supported is necessary if we want our children to enter school healthy and ready to succeed. I invite you to contact me if you'd like to know more about our goals or any of our Family Support initiatives.

Lisa Hayworth

Executive Director

Family Coalition off to a great start!

As an extension of the ShapeNC initiative in Randolph County, Family & Literacy Engagement Specialist Meredith Shields launched our new Family Coalition this year.

This new group met twice each week for six weeks over the summer to provide families the tools needed to realize healthy lifestyle goals.

The Family Coalition is open to all families with children enrolled in any of the 32 centers in the county that participate in the ShapeNC program.

In addition, all directors and center staff at ShapeNC-affiliated centers and their families are welcome to participate.

Participants drive the content of the program, as professionals work with them to address goals for healthy eating and active living. The group also addresses contemporary parenting challenges. While the parents are meeting, the children participate in their own ShapeNC-inspired activities. Dinner is also provided.

The program will resume in the winter/spring, with weekly meetings for eight weeks. For more information, contact Meredith Shields at 336-629-2128 ext. 32 or mshields@randolphkids.org.

Staff Snippets



Another resource to meet the needs of

families



Officials from [Truliant Federal Credit Union](#) visited the Partnership on July 23 to present a \$1000 Community Mini Grant check.

We wrote our grant for diapers. We did this because we learned that as many as 1 in 3 families face the daily crisis of diaper need — having an insufficient supply of diapers resulting in an impossible choice between buying food/paying bills or purchasing diapers. For many of us, it's

incomprehensible, but for many Randolph County families living in poverty conditions, diaper need is a very real health issue.

According to a 2013 report in the journal Pediatrics, the inability to provide a diaper increases the stress levels of mothers, affects mother-child bonding, and can negatively impact the babies' brain development.

"It resonates when you hear people are having to make a choice between food, bills and diapers," Truliant Community Engagement Supervisor Renee Shipko said. Thanks to this grant, when a parent participant in one of our programs is identified as having a dire need for diapers, we will be able to provide help.

When Jim Gailey of the Modern Woodmen of America heard about this need, he rallied chapters in Seagrove (14195) and High Point (17109) to help with our diaper bank, as well! The two chapters provided more than \$500 worth of diapers after hearing about our Truliant Federal Credit Union Community Mini Grant application.



Pictured in above photo, from left, are Truliant Manager Jamie Owens, Truliant Community Engagement Supervisor Renee Shipko, RPC Family & Literacy Engagement Specialist Meredith Shields and RPC Executive Director Lisa Hayworth.

Featured in video clip are, from left, Jim Gailey and Meredith Shields.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library expansion in Randolph County

If you haven't heard, we added all children on our Dolly Parton's Imagination Library (DPIL) wait list to the program. They will begin receiving books this fall.

Through funding from the General Assembly to Smart Start, we are also able to register even more children in Randolph County. The only eligibility requirement is that



www.smartstart.org/dpil

the child is younger than 5 years old.

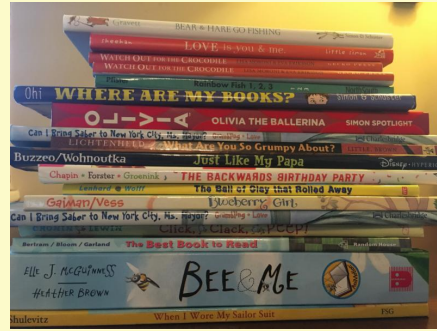
If you've tried before and received a message that the program was unavailable (due to the wait list) or if you've never registered your infant, toddler or preschooler, now is the time!

Please share this good news with family, friends and neighbors who have children younger than age 5. And feel free to share the link!

To register your child to receive a free book each month until their fifth birthday, [CLICK HERE](#).

We need new and gently used books!

As many of you know, we give out free books whenever we have the opportunity to do so. During August, September and October, we participate in lots of back-to-school and fall festival events as an interactive informational vendor. We will give away hundreds, if not thousands of books before we ever get to parade season, during which we give away even more.



Our coffers are running low! We are in need of good quality books. These can be new or gently used. Books can be dropped off at our office during business hours.

In addition, through **September 15** you can drop off books in Asheboro/Randolph Chamber of Commerce Leadership Randolph donation boxes at these locations (also during business hours):

- [Asheboro/Randolph Chamber of Commerce](#), 137 S. Fayetteville St., Asheboro
- [Asheboro/Randolph YMCA](#), 343 NC 42 N., Asheboro
- [BJ Consew](#), 321 Industrial Park Ave, Asheboro
- [Blase Chiropractic](#), 177-ANC 42 N., Asheboro
- [Caraway Conference Center & Camps](#), 4756 Caraway Mountain Rd, Sophia
- [Carillon Assisted Living](#), 2925 Zoo Parkway, Asheboro
- [First Bank](#), 335 S. Fayetteville St., Asheboro
- [Habitat for Humanity ReStore](#), 3060 S Fayetteville St., Asheboro
- [Hospice of Randolph County](#), 416 Vision Drive, Asheboro
- [Mike Cox Insurance/Gina Byrd-Agent](#), 342 Hill St., Asheboro
- [Modern Woodmen of America](#), 2519 S. Fayetteville St., Asheboro
- [Pemmco Manufacturing](#), 631 Veterans Loop Rd, Asheboro
- [Randolph County Dept. of Social Services](#), 1512 N. Fayetteville St., Asheboro
- [Randolph County Emergency Services](#), 760 New Century Drive, Asheboro
- [Randolph County Register of Deeds](#), 158 Worth St., Asheboro
- [Randolph Health](#), 364 White Oak St., Asheboro
- [RE/MAX Central Realty](#), 231 S. Fayetteville St., Asheboro
- [The Courier-Tribune](#), 500 Sunset Ave., Asheboro

Thank you!

Did you know???

When we began our journey in 1999, the



average Star Rating for child care centers in Randolph County was **1.4** out of 5.

As we've supported and encouraged professional development and higher quality environments for young children, we've seen that average increase to

4.0

in 2018. We are proud of the impact we have had and will continue to have on early childhood education in Randolph County.

Penciled in

- **Monday, Sept. 3:** Labor Day. RPC office will be closed.
- **Saturday, Sept. 8:** Bush Hill Festival in Archdale. Stop by our booth **9 a.m.-4 p.m.**
- **Thursday, Sept. 20:** Randolph Parent Education Community Collaborative (RPECC) lunch & learn: Understanding Implicit Bias and Promoting Equity in Early Learning **Noon-1:30 p.m.** at RPC. [REGISTER HERE](#)



*Help us put kids first in
Randolph County!*

Donate

new & gently used books
new infant blankets
diapers

Shop

We're connected with Amazon Smile, so when you shop and select Randolph County Partnership for Children, you're helping to raise money for literacy programs, parent support, early childhood professional development and NC Pre-K right here in Randolph County!



Randolph Partnership for Children | 349 Sunset Ave., Asheboro, NC 27203 | 336-629-2128

Visit our Website