

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Six Randolph County child care providers recognized by REACH

Inaugural program recognizes 22 providers statewide

ASHEBORO, N.C. (October 30, 2020) — REACH (Recognizing ECE Programs Advancing Children’s Healthy Habits) announced this week that six child care providers in Randolph County are among 22 recognized for their excellence in healthy eating and Farm to Early Care and Education (ECE). In the Archdale-Trinity Area, Child Care Network #146 of Archdale and Honeycomb Kids of Trinity were recognized. In Asheboro, Harmony Place, Precious Memories Preschool, The Growing Place, and The Kids of Hope, LLC were recognized.

This is the first year REACH has implemented this pilot program to celebrate child care providers that go above and beyond to help young children eat fresh, local, and healthy foods. Randolph Partnership for Children (RPC)’s Early Childhood Health & Wellness Specialist Patty Sullivan and Family & Literacy Engagement Specialist Meredith Shields have been working with local child care providers through the Shape NC project to support their goals to ensure children get a healthy start and begin to create lifelong healthy habits.

Child Care Network #146, Honeycomb Kids, and The Kids of Hope, LLC received accolades in the area of child nutrition, which recognized programs that demonstrated use of healthy menus and one other strength (healthy feeding practices, learning opportunities for children, families, or staff, or policy). Harmony Place, Precious Memories Preschool, and The Growing Place received accolades in the area of Farm to ECE, which recognized programs that demonstrated at least two strengths (local foods provided, gardening, learning opportunities for children, families, or staff, or policy).

“We are so very proud of these six amazing Randolph County child care centers and their teachers and directors who are committed to providing a culture of health for the children in their care,” Sullivan said. “Children attending these centers are introduced to a variety of nutritious and delicious foods as they learn about where their food comes from and how to grow it themselves. These REACH recognized centers as well as other Shape NC participating centers in Randolph County are putting children on the road to a lifetime of healthy food choices.”

The centers are also supported by community partners in this work to incorporate healthy foods and activities in early education. Partners supporting these six as well as other child care providers in Randolph County include the Local Farm to Early Childhood Education Collaborative, Shape NC (North Carolina Partnership for Children), US Department of Agriculture, North Carolina Zoo, Millstone Creek Orchards, the Town of Ramseur, the City of Asheboro, Randolph County Cooperative Extension, Colonial Baptist Church, Randolph County Public Health, and community volunteers.



PRESS RELEASE

Randolph County child care providers interested in receiving support to make healthy changes for children are encouraged to contact Patty Sullivan 336-629-2128 ext. 16 or psullivan@randolphkids.org. To learn more about REACH and the programs it has recognized, visit <https://reachrecognition.wordpress.com/for-families/>.

###

See Page 3 for photos.

About the Randolph Partnership for Children: Since 1999, the Randolph Partnership for Children (RPC), a non-profit organization, has been the community's lead organization for young children and their families. RPC brings together diverse agencies, individuals, organizations and communities to ensure all children enter school ready to succeed. RPC is a United Way agency. For more information, visit www.randolphkids.org.

CONTACT:

Micki Bare, Director of Marketing & Community Engagement and Outreach
Randolph Partnership for Children, 349 Sunset Ave., Asheboro, NC 27203
336-629-2128 Ext. 12; mbare@randolphkids.org

PHOTOS



CUTLINE: Children at Harmony Place in Asheboro tend to their vegetable garden.



CUTLINE: Children at Child Care Network #146 in Archdale explore healthy snacks in their outdoor play kitchen