

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **The Growing Place Child Care Center earns designation as breastfeeding-friendly**

*NC Division of Child and Family Well-Being announced the 3-year designation*

**ASHEBORO, N.C. (April 5, 2022)** — Randolph Partnership for Children is pleased to share the NC Division of Child and Family Well-Being announced that The Growing Place Child Care Center earned the NC Breastfeeding-friendly Child Care Designation (NC BFCCD). The announcement was made in a letter to Center Director Katherine Davis dated March 1.

The NC BFCCD Review Committee determined that The Growing Place Child Care Center successfully demonstrated the implementation of all five standards to become designated as a North Carolina Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care program. Child care programs are designated for a period of three years from award date. The Growing Place Child Care Center is designated until March 31, 2025. Prior to the expiration date, the center can reapply to maintain its designated status.



*Katherine Davis, Director of The Growing Place Child Care Center*

“Today, in North Carolina, more than 80% of mothers start out breastfeeding their newborns. Families are looking for child care programs that support breastfeeding so that they are able to continue providing their children with the best nutritional start possible,” Early Childhood Health & Wellness Specialist Patty Sullivan said. “The Growing Place Child Care Center welcomes breastfeeding families and have educated their staff on the best practices to support these families. Randolph Partnership for Children is proud of the work Director Katherine Davis and her staff have done to go above and beyond the expectations of child care centers.”

According to NC BFCCD, the program was developed in 2014 to recognize licensed child care programs that have taken steps to promote, protect, and support breastfeeding in the early care and education setting. The five standards are based on the Ten Steps to Breastfeeding-Friendly Child Care as adopted from the Carolina Global Breastfeeding Institute at UNC-Chapel Hill. This state initiative encourages early care and education programs to promote and support



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breastfeeding in their local communities. NC BFCCD is aligned with the statewide 2025 goals set forth in the NC Early Childhood Action Plan (ECAP) for children from birth to 8. Specifically, the ECAP encourages breastfeeding-friendly policies and services in local communities.

Centers with designation status are listed on the NC Division of Child and Family Well-Being website: <https://www.nutritionnc.com/breastfeeding/bf-childcare-awardees.htm>

NC BFCCD provided The Growing Place Child Care Center, located on Church Street in Asheboro, with a certificate. The designation is also listed in Facility Special Features on the center's NC Division of Child Development and Early Education's online child care facility profile.

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**About the Randolph Partnership for Children:** Since 1999, the Randolph Partnership for Children (RPC), a non-profit organization, has positively impacted the lives of Randolph County's young children. As the community's lead organization for young children and their families, RPC works with and through diverse agencies, individuals, organizations, and communities to ensure all children enter school healthy and ready to succeed in school and life. RPC is a United Way agency. For more information, visit [www.randolphkids.org](http://www.randolphkids.org).

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