



## *Sidewalk Chalk*

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### OUR VISION

All Children in Randolph County enter kindergarten healthy & ready to succeed in school and life.

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- Child Care Crisis Breakfast
  - Worthy Wage Day 2024
  - Empowering Families: Exploring Foster Care & Resources
  - Pedal Safe: Bike Safety Tips for Young Children
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**Every child deserves a champion — an adult who will never give up on them, who understands the power of connection and insists that they become the best they can possibly be.**

***-Rita F. Pierson***

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## **Child Care Crisis Breakfast**



The Randolph County Partnership for Children hosted a critical breakfast briefing last May 22nd, at the Pinewood Country Club. Over 70 attendees, including local community leaders, policymakers, and educators came together to learn about and collaborate on the child care crisis in Randolph County.

The meeting had important speakers such as Preston Roseboro, Regional Impact Manager for Future NC, Tracy Harrell, owner of the Randleman Enrichment Center, and a poignant recorded message from a local parent affected by a recent child care center closure. The parent's shared experience highlighted the real-world impacts of the crisis, a touching message for attendees.

"This gathering is just the beginning of our concerted efforts to tackle this crisis head-on," said Lisa Hayworth, Executive Director at the Randolph County Partnership for Children. "The discussions today have laid the groundwork for a plan that involves all stakeholders in the community."

The event emphasized collaborative strategies to mitigate the effects of the crisis, including exploring new opportunities to provide child care, enhancing support for current providers, and implementing policies to ensure sustainable operations of child care centers.

The Randolph County Partnership for Children is committed to continuing the conversation and working with all community members to find viable solutions.

Stay tuned for updates!

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## Worthy Wage Day 2024



On May 1st, families with children in care all over Randolph County showed their support for fair compensation for early educators by wearing stickers that said “I’m Able to Work Today Thanks To An Early Educator”. We appreciate their advocacy for our excellent educators!

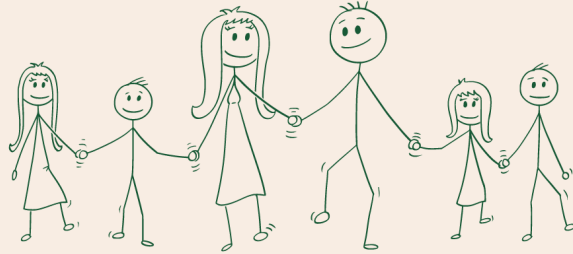
[Read Press Release](#)

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## **Empowering Families:** Exploring Foster Care & Resources

## What is Foster Care?

The Primary Goal of Foster Care is to provide a safe, temporary place for children to live until they can be in a permanent placement, whether that may be with birth family, relatives or a pre-adoptive family. Children of any age from birth to eighteen years of age may come into care.



Foster care is a crucial support system for children who, for various reasons, cannot remain with their birth families. It provides a safe and nurturing environment where children can thrive while their birth families work towards reunification or other permanency options. In our community, foster care is more than just a system; it's a network of dedicated individuals and organizations committed to the well-being of every child.

If you're considering becoming a foster parent, Randolph County offers resources and support to guide you through the process. From informational sessions to training programs, Randolph County Department of Social Services (DSS) is here to assist you every step of the way. Foster parenting not only changes the lives of children but also provides a fulfilling and rewarding experience for caregivers.

If you're interested in learning more about foster care or accessing resources for foster families, please click the button below to visit Randolph County Department of Social Services page about foster care and adoption. Together, you can make a positive difference in the lives of children and families in our community.

[Find Out  
More](#)

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## **Pedal Safe: Bike Safety Tips for Young Children**



**May is National Bike Month**



As we gear up for National Bike Month, it's essential to ensure our youngest riders are equipped with the knowledge and skills to stay safe on two wheels. Biking is a fun and healthy activity for children, but it's crucial to prioritize safety at all times. Here are some essential bike safety tips for young children:

1. **Helmet Heroes:** Emphasize the importance of wearing a properly fitted helmet every time they ride. Helmets can reduce the risk of head injury by up to 85%.
2. **Right Size, Right Ride:** Ensure your child's bike or tricycle is the correct size for them. They should be able to touch the ground with their feet when seated and comfortably reach the handlebars.
3. **Supervised Rides:** Always supervise young children while they're biking or riding a tricycle. Keep them within sight and reach to provide guidance and assistance.
4. **Learn the Rules:** Teach children basic traffic rules and safety guidelines for biking, including stopping at stop signs, looking both ways before crossing, and signaling their intentions.
5. **Practice Makes Perfect:** Encourage regular practice in a safe, open area away from traffic until your child feels confident and comfortable on their bike or tricycle.

By instilling these safety habits early on, we can help our children develop a lifelong love of biking while keeping them safe on the road. Happy riding!



# Penciled In

- **Saturday, June 1, 5 PM** - Night of the Stars
- **Saturday, June 1, 12 PM** - Community Resource Fair at [Northgate Commons](#)
- **Tuesday, June 18, 1, 8:15 AM** Board of Directors Meeting
- **Thursday, June 27, 4 PM** ChAMPS Meeting



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