

**COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION SERVICE
LEARNING COMPETITION**



**Williamsburg Technical College
Early Care and Education**

**The Week of the Young Child
Early Years are Learning Years: Celebrating Young Children and
Strengthening Their Families**

Project Director

Dr. Earlene Walker-Kelly

Contact Information for Project Director

Williamsburg Technical College

601 MLK, Jr. Avenue

Kingstree SC 29556-4197

843-355-4128

walkere@wiltech.edu

Establishment Date of Project

April 6-12, 2014

Unit That Administer Project

Williamsburg Technical College Early Care and Education

Williamsburg County First Steps, a non-profit early childhood organization, Williamsburg County School District

Williamsburg County Public Library

Department of Social Services (DSS)

Total Number of Students Involved

75 students in the Early Care and Education Department who are pursuing an Associate in Applied Science Degree in Early Care and Education

Service Learning

Children begin to learn language from the day they are born. As they grow and develop, their speech and language skills become increasingly more complex. Children learn to utilize language to express their thoughts, ideas, and feelings and to communicate with others. During early speech and language development, children learn skills that are important to the development of literacy (reading and writing). This stage, known as emergent literacy, begins at birth and continues through the preschool years.

Strong literacy skills are essential for children's success in school and in life. Children who do not learn to read and write by the end of the primary grades are at risk for school failure. Effective instruction in the preschool years can make all the difference, and the children who are most at risk for school failure stand to benefit the most. Literacy learning begins at birth, but too many children are not receiving a steady diet of rich literacy experience. Recent research has confirmed what early childhood educators have long known: by age three, differences in children's understanding and use of literacy skills are enormous. Some children, for example, have twice the vocabulary of other children. This is a significant finding because the number of words a child knows and uses is a good predictor of reading ability. Preschool teachers have from one to two years to address this gap. They have the power to give every child a solid foundation in literacy skills, and to inspire children to read and write to learn.

In order for teachers, caregivers, and parents to inspire children as to the importance of reading, they must engage in continuing education and professional development. It is essential that a commitment to ongoing professional development among teachers, caregivers, and parents be implemented in order to better teach and inspire children through learning. Caregivers and teachers should have at least 15 clock-hours annually of continuing education in areas such as 5 hours in Curriculum, 5 hours in Child Growth and Development, and 5 hours in other areas such as Professional Development, Early Childhood Education, and Growth and Development. Parents play a vital role in the lives of children and their education.

Project Goals:

1. Strengthen families and build community awareness on the importance of literacy among preschoolers

Objective:

Build community awareness on the importance of literacy by reading to children in Williamsburg County

Expected Outcome:

Have community leaders and Williamsburg Technical College Early Care and Education students read to 450 children at Williamsburg County Elementary Schools in Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten classrooms and child development centers

2. Provide master-level training in continuing education and professional development for students, caregivers, teachers, and parents

Objective:

Provide a total of 7 hours of continuing education (DSS Hours) in a variety of areas to include Curriculum, Child Growth and Development, and in other areas such as Health, Safety, Nutrition, Guidance, or Professional Development.

Expected Outcome:

Invite at least 100 students, caregivers, teachers, and parents to attend the master-level training conference

College Community Involvement

To aid in closing the gap in literacy by building community awareness and promoting continuing education and professional development among students, caregivers, teachers, and parents, Williamsburg Technical College Early Care and Education collaborated with Williamsburg County First Steps, a non-profit early childhood organization, Williamsburg County School

District, Williamsburg County Public Library, and the Department of Social Services (DSS) to host the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) The Week of the Young Child.

To engage and bring awareness to community partners, schools, daycare centers and families in Williamsburg County regarding the Week on the Young Child, the event was heavily publicized via flyers, posters, and emails that were sent to daycares, elementary schools, community leaders, Williamsburg County School District offices. Letters were sent home to parents.

Strategic planning measures were implemented to ensure that the masses would be reached and goals and objectives would be achieved. The Conference Committee met bi-weekly from January – March 2014 to discuss logistics pertaining to conference location, and potential conference speakers, vendors, elementary band and step team participants, local fire station and to discuss reading and fun activities for the children and their parents. The committee met with Williamsburg Technical College maintenance to ensure that facilities would be equipped with proper conference projectors, session seating, and other logistical items that were needed. A list of potential presenters was drafted, and they were invited via email to present. A presenter trainer registration form was sent to a group of presenters throughout the state of South Carolina.

Student Involved/ Target Community/Hand-On Experiences

The Week of the Young Child was held from April 6 - 12, 2014, to honor young children and thank parents, teachers, community leaders, and all who make a difference in the lives of young children.

Williamsburg Technical College Early Care and Education, alongside Williamsburg County School District, Williamsburg County Public Library, Williamsburg County First Steps and the Department of Social Services (DSS), took the lead in implementing The Week of the Young Child, Early Years are Learning Years: Celebrating Young Children and Strengthening Their Families. During the activity Share the Love of Reading, community partners read their favorite children's books to children on April 8, 2014, between the hours of 8:00 AM to 12 noon. While reading to the children, community partners and WTC students dressed up as their favorite storybook character. On April 10, 2014, community partners joined WTC at the nearest public library for the Children's Book Festival and Family Story Time. Community Partners and WTC students also read stories to children on April 12, 2014, during the Children's Story Time at Williamsburg Technical College.

To commemorate the Week of the Young Child, all community partners and leaders, children and parents, schoolteachers, daycare/childcare teachers and officials were invited to attend the Third Annual "Celebrating Young Children and Strengthening Their Families Conference from April 11 – 12, 2014.

The conference offered workshops in a variety of training areas. Caregivers, teachers, parents, and students were able to learn from a group of highly skilled and knowledgeable presenters. This was also a great opportunity for them to enhance their professional development, and

personal growth and to gain tools to strengthen and empower their skills as an early care professional. Participants were able to network and share knowledge and experiences with each other.

The Kids Jamboree was a community-wide event that celebrated children and aimed to strengthen families. Children of all ages, alongside their parents, teachers, daycare providers, caregivers, community partners and leaders, school officials and Williamsburg County community officials, were invited. From 10 am – 12 noon stories were read to children. Several free services from 12 noon – 3:00 pm were provided for the children, such as haircuts and nail painting, horse-back riding, face painting and make and take jamboree carnival, jumping castles, and fire truck tour. Local elementary schools provided band entertainment, and local elementary step-teams performed. There were at least 400 people in attendance at the community-wide Kids Jamboree.

During the Taste of Pee Dee, several local community restaurants served as vendors and provided free samples of their delicious cuisine and desserts during the Taste of the Pee Dee. Everyone who attended were able to sample from Connie's Bakery, Daisy's Catering Kitchen, Grand Central Station, William "Bill" Scott, Sonic Drive-In, Ricky's Bar-B-Que of Kingstree, Lake City Railroad Restaurant, Pepsi, Emma Mouzon, and Bobbette Scott.

The Kids Jamboree and the Taste of the Pee Dee engaged with the children, families, and the community. With help from the gold, silver and bronze sponsorship, the conference was a huge success. Through our committee of strengthening families and building community awareness on the literacy and providing master-level training in continuing education and professional development to caregivers, teachers, parents, the project helped build and promote community awareness about child literacy and interaction. The conference committee helped to ensure a great learning opportunity for local businesses from different show case booths. The Kids Jamboree was free for everyone, but the Taste of the Pee Dee was free to children from birth through five. There was a cost of \$5.00 for children 6-12 and \$10.00 for youth 13 years and older and adults. All proceeds supported a child in Williamsburg County to receive a free book through the Dolly Parton Imagination Library.

Effectiveness

The Week of the Young Child, Early Years are Learning Years: Celebrating Young Children and Strengthening Their Families yielded far reaching outcomes. Literacy awareness was promoted throughout Williamsburg County, and families were strengthened as a result of the Week of the Young Child. Literacy was promoted among Williamsburg County families through the engagement of the community-wide event of reading stories to children. Over 15 community partners, including the fire and police department, 75 WTC students, 60 child-development centers, 3 elementary schools, 5 civil organizations, and 150 families, participated in the Week of the Young Child. The overall goal was to have stories read to a minimum of 300 children. This project goal was exceeded to include stories being read to 450 children. All proceeds raised during the Kids Jamboree and the Taste of Pee Dee provided free books to 100 children in Williamsburg County. Each of the 100 children will receive a free book from the Dolly Parton Imagination Library once a month in the mail until he or she turns 5 years old.

During the 3rd Annual Celebrating Young Children and Strengthening Their Families Conference, master-level training was provided to 125 caregivers, teachers, parents, and students. The conference provided caregivers and teachers 7 hours of continuing education (DSS Hours) in Curriculum, Child Growth and Development, and in other areas such as Health, Safety, Nutrition, Guidance, or Professional Development.

As a result of successful feedback received regarding the 3rd Annual Celebrating Young Children and Strengthening Their Families Conference, planning measures have already begun. The planning committee is excited about the Week of the Young Child 2015: Celebrating Our Youngest Learners! We anticipate impacting over 600 children through story reading.

Funding

Local and statewide businesses were contacted to serve as gold, silver, and bronze medallion sponsors to help with the cost of the conference and provide free books to children.

Sharing the Love of Reading Activities











Week of the Young Child™

Early Years Are Learning Years®

WILLIAMSBURG COUNTY



Williamsburg County
Public Library



Serving Children and
Families

January 27, 2014

Dear Community Partner:

Williamsburg County First Steps, a non-profit early childhood organization, in collaboration with Williamsburg County School District, Williamsburg Technical College, Williamsburg County Public Library, and the Department of Social Services (DSS) will host the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Week of the Young Child. The Week of the Young Child will begin Sunday, April 6 through Saturday, April 12, 2014 to honor young children and thank parents, teachers, community leaders, and all those who make a difference in the lives of young children.

The theme for the Week of the Young Child 2014 is Early Years are Learning Years. In support of the Week of the Young Child and this theme, we are asking you to **Share the Love of Reading** by reading your favorite children's books to children on Tuesday, April 8, 2014 between the hours of 8:00 AM to 12 noon. We will email and/or fax the school/day care you are assigned to read to along with the times and locations. Then, on Thursday, April 10, 2014 at 5:30 PM, please join us at the nearest public library of your choice for the **Children Book Festival and Family Story Time**. Once again, we are asking you to read to children, but dressed as your favorite storybook character. Finally on Saturday, April 12, 2014, we are asking you to read a story during the **Children's Story Time** at Williamsburg Technical College.

If you should have any questions and/or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 843.426.2088, Kimberly Matthews, Chair, Children Book Festival and Family Story Time at 843.426.2381 or Carletta S. Isreal, Executive Director, at 843-355-1031.

Thanking you in advance for your support of WilliamsburgCounty children and families.

Sincerely yours,

Earlene Walker-Kelly, PhD

Earlene Walker-Kelly-Department Head of Arts, Sciences and Education
Williamsburg Technical College

Kimberly Matthews

Kimberly Matthews, Chair
Children Book Festival and Family Story Time

Carletta S. Isreal

Carletta S. Isreal, Executive Director
Williamsburg County First Steps

cc: La-Dine' Williams Gamble, Board Chair, Williamsburg County First Steps

Post Office Box 825 * 500 North Academy Street, Building I, Kingstree, South Carolina 29556
Phone: 843-355-1031 * Fax 843-355-2081 * Website: www.wcsd.k12.sc.us

Our Vision: Every child in WilliamsburgCounty will arrive at school ready to succeed.



Week of the Young Child™

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Registration Form Sharing the Love of Reading

Tuesday, April 8, 2014
8:00 a.m. – 12 noon

Children Book Festival and Family Story Time

Thursday, April 10, 2014
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Children Story Time

Saturday, April 12, 2014
8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Week of the Young Child ~ Early Years Are Learning Years

Name: _____

Agency/Organization: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: SC Zip/Postal Code: _____

Phone # (and ext.): (____) _____ Fax: (____) _____

Email: _____

I plan to participate in the following event (s):

Tuesday, April 8, 2014 – Share the Love of Reading

Please place a check by the times most convenience for you to read (select 3):

- 8:00 AM – 8:30 AM
- 8:30 AM – 9:00 AM
- 9:00 AM – 9:30 AM
- 9:30 AM – 10:00 AM
- 10:00 AM-10:30 AM
- 10:30 AM – 11:00 AM
- 11:00 AM – 12 Noon

Thursday, April 10, 2014 – Children Book Festival and Family Story Time

Please place a check by the public library convenient for you:

- WilliamsburgCounty Public Library – Hemingway Branch
- WilliamsburgCounty Public Library – Kingstree Branch

Post Office Box 825 * 500 North Academy Street, Building I, Kingstree, South Carolina 29556
Phone: 843-355-1031 * Fax 843-355-2081 * Website: www.wcsd.k12.sc.us

Our Vision: Every child in WilliamsburgCounty will arrive at school ready to succeed.



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*Williamsburg County
Public Library*



*Serving Children and
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Saturday, April 12, 2014 – Children Story Time

Please place a check by the time most convenience for you to read:

- 8:30 AM – 8:45 AM
- 8:45 AM – 9:00 AM
- 9:00 AM – 9:15 AM
- 9:15 AM – 9:30 AM

Please fax on or before Wednesday, March 12, 2014. Thank you!

Post Office Box 825 * 500 North Academy Street, Building I, Kingstree, South Carolina 29556
Phone: 843-355-1031 * Fax 843-355-2081 * Website: www.wcsd.k12.sc.us

Our Vision: Every child in Williamsburg County will arrive at school ready to succeed.



Week of the Young Child™

Early Years Are Learning Years®

March 10, 2014

Dear Children and Youth Directors:

Williamsburg County First Steps, a non-profit early childhood organization, in collaboration with Williamsburg County School District, Williamsburg Technical College, Williamsburg County Public Library, and the Department of Social Services (DSS) will host the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Week of the Young Child. The Week of the Young Child will begin Sunday, April 6 through Saturday, April 12, 2014 to honor young children and thank parents, teachers, community leaders, and all those who make a difference in the lives of young children.

The theme for the Week of the Young Child 2014 is **Early Years are Learning Years**. In support of the Week of the Young Child and this theme, we are asking you to bring your children and youth groups to participate in the **Kids Jamboree and Taste of the Pee Dee** to be held on Saturday, April 12, 2014 starting at 12 noon on the campus of Williamsburg Technical College. We will have jump castles, entertainment by students from Williamsburg County School District, information for children and families, sample food from various restaurants and great cooks of the Pee Dee and much more. The Kids Jamboree is free; however, the Taste of the Pee Dee is free to children ages birth to five, \$5.00 for children ages 6-17 and \$10.00 for adults. All proceeds raised will support a child in Williamsburg County to receive free books once a month in the mail until he or she turns five years old through the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.

If you are interested in bringing your children and youth groups, please complete the enclosed registration form and mail along with check made payable to Williamsburg County First Step, Post Office Box 825, Kingstree, SC 29556 on or before Friday March 28, 2014. On the day of the event, please visit the Williamsburg County First Steps Booth to receive your red wristbands to sample from the various vendors.

If you should have any questions and/or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 843.355.1031. Thanking you in advance for your support of Williamsburg County children and families.

Sincerely yours,

Ella Fulton

Ella Fulton, Chair
Kids Jamboree Committee

Kimberly P. Matthews, Chair

Kimberly P. Matthews, Chair
Taste of the Pee Dee

Enclosure: Week of the Young Child Flyer

cc: Carletta S. Isreal, Executive Director, Williamsburg County First Steps
Dr. Earlene Walker-Kelly, Williamsburg Technical College



Williamsburg County
Public Library



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Families



Week of the Young Child™
Early Years Are Learning Years®



Registration Form

Week of the Young Child
 Early Years Are Learning Years
Kids Jamboree and Taste of the Pee Dee
Saturday, April 12, 2014
12:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.



Name of Church: _____

Children/Youth Director's Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: SC Zip/Postal Code: _____

Phone # (and ext.): (_____) _____ Fax: (_____) _____

Email: _____



The children and youth groups are registering to attend the Kids Jamboree and Taste of the Pee Dee:

Ages	Cost	Number of Persons	Total
Birth to 5	\$0.00		\$0
Ages 6-17	\$5.00		\$
Adults	\$10.00		\$
		Totals	\$



*Williamsburg County
Public Library*



Serving Children and Families

*Please mail registration form and check on or before Friday, March 28, 2014 to
 P.O. Box 825, Kingstree, SC 29556
 Thank you!*

Post Office Box 825 * 500 North Academy Street, Building I, Kingstree, South Carolina 29556
 Phone: 843-355-1031 * Fax 843-355-2081 * Website: www.wcsd.k12.sc.us

Our Vision: Every child in Williamsburg County will arrive at school ready to succeed.

Presenter Training Registration Form
2014 Week of the Young Child Mini Conference

Saturday, April 12, 2014, AM - PM
Williamsburg Technical College, Kingstree, SC 29556

Presenter: First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Workplace: _____ Title/Position: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime Phone No.: _____ E-Mail: _____

Title of Training: _____

All presentations must be one (1) hour in length. Please indicate if you are willing to present your topic more than once: Yes _____ No _____

TARGET AUDIENCE (check all that apply):

- Directors and Administration
- Center Teachers
- Family/Group Teachers
- Other _____

AGE GROUP:

- Infant/Toddlers
- Preschool
- School-Age
- Administrator
- All

TOPIC AREA:

Check **one** topic area for the training

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Program Administration | <input type="checkbox"/> Curriculum |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Special Needs | <input type="checkbox"/> Guidance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Development | <input type="checkbox"/> School Age |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Growth and Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Nutrition |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Health, Safety |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

INSTRUCTIONAL PLAN and CONTENT OUTLINE:

Write a brief description of your training session (3 to 5 lines)

Indicate any equipment needed: _____

*Return completed form by 2014 to cisreal@wcsd.k12.sc.us or fax to 843-355-2081
Thank You!*



Week of the Young Child™

Early Years Are Learning Years®



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March 10, 2014

Dear Business/Organization/Agency Partner:

Williamsburg County First Steps, a non-profit early childhood organization, in collaboration with Williamsburg County School District, Williamsburg Technical College, Williamsburg County Public Library, and the Department of Social Services (DSS) will host the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Week of the Young Child. The Week of the Young Child will begin Sunday, April 6 through Saturday, April 12, 2014 to honor young children and thank parents, teachers, community leaders, and all those who make a difference in the lives of young children.

The theme for the Week of the Young Child 2014 is **Early Years are Learning Years**. In support of the Week of the Young Child and this theme, we are asking your business/organization/agency to sponsor the **Celebrating Young Children and Recognition of Families Banquet** to be held on Friday, April 11, 2014 at 6:00 PM in the Kingstree Middle School Cafeteria, 616 Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue, Kingstree, SC 29556. The sponsorship levels are:

- ◆ **Gold** - \$500.00 (includes table with business name, six complimentary individual tickets, and name printed on program);
- ◆ **Silver** - \$250.00 (includes table with business name, three complimentary individual tickets, and name printed on program); or
- ◆ **Bronze** - \$100.00 (patron's list)

Please complete the enclosed sponsorship form and make check payable to Williamsburg County First Steps. Please mail your check on or before Friday, March 28, 2014, to Post Office Box 825, Kingstree, SC 29556.

If you should have any questions and/or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 843-355-5571 ext. 2225 or Carletta S. Isreal, executive director at 843.355.1031.

Thanking you in advance for your support of Williamsburg County children and families.

Sincerely yours,

Ophelia Starks
Ophelia Starks
Activity Board Chair

Carletta S. Isreal
Carletta S. Isreal
Executive Director

Post Office Box 825 * 500 North Academy Street, Building I, Kingstree, South Carolina 29556
Phone: 843-355-1031 * Fax 843-355-2081 * Website: www.wcsd.k12.sc.us

Our Vision: Every child in Williamsburg County will arrive at school ready to succeed.



Week of the Young Child™
Early Years Are Learning Years®



Sponsorship
Celebrating Young Children and
Recognition of Families Banquet
Friday, April 11, 2014
6:00 PM
Kingstree Middle School Cafeteria



*Williamsburg County
Public Library*



*Serving Children and
Families*

Name: _____ Title/Position: _____

Name of Business/Organization/Agency: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: SC Zip/Postal Code: _____

Phone # (and ext.): (____) _____ Fax: (____) _____

Email: _____

Please select the level of sponsorship:

- Gold** - \$500.00
- Silver** - \$250.00
- Bronze** - \$100.00

Yes, my business/organization/agency will attend the Celebrating Young Children and Recognition of Families Banquet and _____ # of guest

No, my business/organization/agency will not be able to attend the Celebrating Young Children and Recognition of Families Banquet, but please accept the enclosed donation.

Signature: _____

Please mail to the First Steps Office on or before Friday, March 28, 2014

Post Office Box 825 * 500 North Academy Street, Building I, Kingstree, South Carolina 29556
 Phone: 843-355-1031 * Fax 843-355-2081 * Website: www.wcsd.k12.sc.us

Our Vision: Every child in Williamsburg County will arrive at school ready to succeed.

The Kids Jamboree and the Taste of the Pee Dee was a great engagement with the children, families, as well as, the community. With the help from the gold, silver and bronze sponsorship the conference was a huge success. Goals through our committee of providing great educations to the care givers/teachers, and community helped build and promote community awareness about child literacy and interaction. Our conference committee help ensure great learn opportunity for local business from different show case booth. The Kids Jamboree is free but the Taste of the Pee Dee is free to the child from birth through five, children 6-12 \$5.00 and adult are \$10.00, however the kids Jamboree is free. All proceeds that are raise will support a child in Williamsburg County to receives a free book through the Dolly Parton Imagination Library.

Special Thanks to the Week of the Young Child Sponsors

GOLD SPONSORSHIP

*S. C. Early Childhood Association (SCECA)
Williamsburg County Council & Supervisor Stanley Pasley*

SILVER SPONSORSHIP

Lambda Theta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha

BRONZE SPONSORSHIP

The Honorable Ronnie A. Sabb

3RD ANNUAL WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILDREN CONFERENCE

**Celebrating Young Children
&
Strengthening Their Families
2014**



**Williamsburg Technical College
April 11 & 12, 2014**

Investigator Alex Edwards, Keynote Speaker



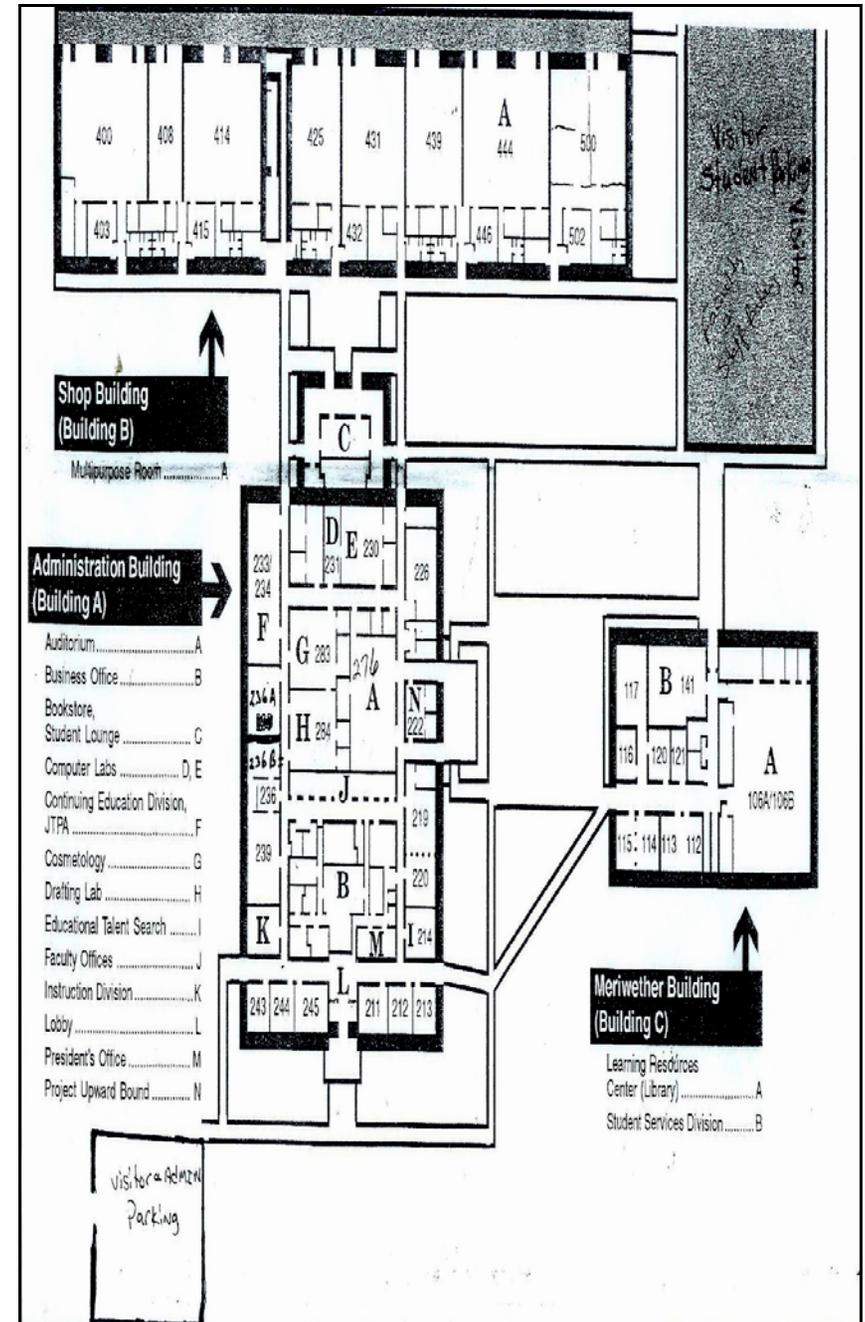
Sponsors:
Williamsburg County First Steps
Williamsburg County School District
Williamsburg Technical College
Williamsburg County Public Library
Department of Social Service (DSS)

Williamsburg Technical College Floor Plan



Mission Statement

The Williamsburg County First Steps to School Readiness initiative supports high quality early childhood educational services for children and their families to help children enter school healthy and ready to learn.



**Special Thanks
to the
Taste of the Pee Dee Vendors**

*Connie's Bakery
Daisy's Catering Kitchen
Grand Central Station
William "Bill" Scott
Sonic Drive-In
Ricky's Bar-B-Que of Kingstree
Lake City Railroad Restaurant
Pepsi
Emma Mouzon
Bobbette Scott*

**Special Thanks
to the
Conference Presenters**

*Crystal Campbell
Alex Edwards
Kristine Jenkins
Patricia Lewis
Suzanna McGougan
Sheila Parson
Shelah Peoples
LaDonna Pipkins
Ronda Steward
Ernestine Young*

**State of South Carolina
Governor's Proclamation**

WHEREAS, appropriate early learning standards are vital to quality education opportunities for the young children of South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive community-based school readiness programs that work are essential to the future academic success of our youngest learners; and

WHEREAS, a broad coalition of school readiness partners, including business, faith, education, health, and nonprofit communities throughout the Palmetto State, is committed to strengthening quality public and private early education and child care choices for parents; and

WHEREAS, the incorporation of quality standards for all school readiness partners, public and private, promotes choice for families and more efficient use of resources while supporting the accountability of an effective early learning system in our state; and

WHEREAS, with the theme "Early Years are Learning Years," the 2014 observance of the Week of the Young Child calls attention to the significant impact of quality early childhood education opportunities on the future success of our children.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 5-12, 2014, as

WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to support early learning for all children and recognize early childhood professionals for their contributions to children and families in the Palmetto State.



Handwritten signature of Nikki R. Haley in black ink.

**NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**



Dear Colleagues and Friends:

We are pleased to extend a warm welcome to this third annual “Celebrating Young Children & Strengthening Their Families” Conference.

This years’ conference offers workshops in a variety of training areas. We are excited to share with you a group of highly skilled and knowledgeable presenters. You’re invited to take this opportunity to enhance your professional development, as well as your personal growth. Also take advantage of this time to network and share knowledge and experiences with your peers. Don’t forget to visit the exhibit booths.

We are grateful for your continued commitment to provide quality care and learning opportunities for our children. Your efforts impact the future of one of South Carolina’s greatest assets, our children. We applaud you in your efforts.

We are confident you will gain tools to strengthen and empower your skills as an early care professional. Enjoy the Conference.

Conference Committee:

- Dr. Earlene Walker-Kelly.....Co-Chair
- Carletta S. Isreal.....Co-Chair
- Judy Coker.....Committee Member
- Melana Scott.....Committee Member
- Vernett Murray.....Committee Member



REGISTRATION

- Melana E. Scott, PCHP Visitor/Program Assistant
- Shakira Fulton, WTC Work-Study Student
- Jasmine Scott, WTC Work-Study Student
- Laquanda Graham, WTC Work-Study Student
- Corvosier Mayrant, WTC Work-Study Student
- Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

EXHIBITORS

- Classy Smiles, Inc.
- Telamon Youth Build
- Williamsburg County School District-Office of Parenting
- Williamsburg County Public Library
- Pee Dee Healthy Start
- Kingstree Fire Department
- Williamsburg Technical College
- Asha’ Thompson

Conference & Kids Jamboree Assistants

- Telamon Youth Build
- Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
- Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc.
- Zeta Phi Beta Sorority
- Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.
- Groove Phi Groove Social Fellowship

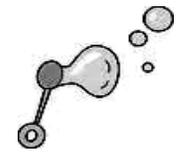


Celebrating Young Children
and
Strengthening Their Families Conference
Saturday, April 12, 2014 ~8:00 AM – 4:30PM

Williamsburg Technical College
601 Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue, Kingstree, SC 29556

Bubbles

2 cups Joy© or Dawn © Dish Washing Liquid
6 cups of water
¼ cup Karo Syrup, Light
Mix the ingredients and enjoy the bubbles!



Cooking is Learning

When your child helps you cook, he or she is developing motor coordination while mixing and pouring, heightening sensory development as he or she smells and tastes, and practicing math skills by counting and measuring. Vocabulary expands as your child discovers new objects and new actions. Social development also grows as you take turns, talk together, and share your finished “masterpiece.” Most important, your young chef will enjoy the satisfaction of experimenting and creating. Try these helpful tips when cooking with your child and easy-to-do recipes.

Frozen Fruit Pops

Ingredients: A 6-ounce can of frozen unsweetened concentrated orange juice, 1 pint of plain yogurt, 2 tablespoons of honey, 1 teaspoon of vanilla extract, popsicle sticks, and paper cups.

Let the orange juice thaw slightly. Have your child measure and mix all the ingredients together in a bowl. Pour the mixture into paper cups, about three-quarters full, and place them in the freezer. When the fruit pop mixture is partially frozen, place a popsicle stick or plastic spoon in each cup for a handle. Freeze the mixture for three to four hours. Peel off the cups and enjoy the experience of licking a chilly, fruity dessert. Excerpted from “Pre-K Today Parent Communication Tips” Store in the refrigerator to extend the life of the mixture. (Note: Honey should not be served to infants).

Agenda

- WelcomeDr. Earlene Walker-Kelly
Williamsburg Technical College
- Greetings Mrs. Carletta S. Isreal, Executive Director
Williamsburg County First Steps
- Introduction of the Keynote Speaker Mrs. Ophelia Starks, Boar Chair
Williamsburg County First Steps
- Keynote Speaker Investigator Alex Edwards
Williamsburg County Sheriff Department

~~Breakout Sessions~~

- 8:30am-10:00am.....Panel Discussion
- 10:05am-4:05pm..... Breakout Sessions
- 4:10pm-4:30pm.....**CLOSING SESSION/DOOR PRIZES**..... Auditorium



TRAINING SESSIONS AT A GLANCE

TIME/ LOCATION	PRESENTER/ TOPIC AREA	TITLE/DESCRIPTION OF SESSION
8:30AM – 10:00 AM Auditorium	Bullying and Public Safety Professional Development 1.0	<u>Public Safety</u> - This session will discuss strategies and techniques for keeping children and families safe in the community and addressing bullying with young children.
Regular Breakout Sessions		
10:05AM- 11:05AM Room 243	Shelia Parson Professional Development 1.0	<u>Building Self-Esteem in Children</u> - This session will focus on getting child care providers to recognize that self-esteem requires constant maintenance throughout a child's life. Strategies will be shared on how parents gain new skills for developing self-esteem in themselves and children. In addition to identifying the main sources of self-esteem.
10:05AM- 11:05AM Room 220	Patricia Lewis Health & Safety 1.0	<u>Children's Dental Preventions</u> –The chronic illness of tooth decay in young children.
10:05AM- 11:05AM Room 244	Ernestine Young Health & Safety 1.0	<u>Keeping the Children Safe</u> – Safety rules prevent injuries and even save lives. These rules are especially important in daycare centers and schools because when parents send children to school, they are trusting teachers and administrators with the students' safety.
10:05AM- 11:05 AM Room 245	Ronda Steward Shelah Peoples Physical Activities 1.0	<u>Physical Activities</u> - This training will provide resources and ideas to engage children of all ages in physical activities indoors and outdoors.

TRAINING SESSIONS AT A GLANCE

TIME/ LOCATION	PRESENTER/ TOPIC AREA	TITLE/DESCRIPTION OF SESSION
Regular Breakout Sessions		
11:10AM – 12:10PM Room 243	Sheila Parson Professional Development 1.0	<u>Building Self-Esteem in Children-</u> This session will focus on getting child care providers to recognize that self-esteem requires constant maintenance throughout a child's life. Strategies will be shared on how parents gain new skills for developing self-esteem in themselves and children. In addition to identifying the main sources of self-esteem.
11:10AM - 12:10PM Room 220	Patricia Lewis Health & Safety 1.0	<u>Children's Dental Preventions</u> –The chronic illness of tooth decay in young children.
11:10AM- 12:10PM Room 244	Ernestine Young Health & Safety 1.0	<u>Keeping the Children Safe</u> – Safety rules prevent injuries and even save lives. These rules are especially important in daycare centers and schools because when parents send children to school, they are trusting teachers and administrators with the students' safety.
11:10AM – 12:10PM Room 245	Ronda Steward Shelah Peoples Physical Activities 1.0	<u>Physical Activities-</u> This training will provide resources and ideas to engage children of all ages in physical activities indoors and outdoors.
12:15PM – 1:55PM	Lunch- Taste of the Pee Dee & Kids Jamboree	
Regular Breakout Sessions		
2:00PM-3:00PM Room 245	LaDonna Pipkins Growth & Development 1.0	<u>How Well Do You Understand Feelings-</u> Participants will be able to define feelings of comfort and feelings of discomfort, learn to recognize feelings in children, teach children how to manage their feelings, and discussions on feelings, manage feelings, will lead to ways to help children handle their feelings.

Conference Presenters' Biography



Suzanne McGougan

Suzanne McGougan is the Training and Development Director for the South Carolina Child Care Resource and Referral Network for Region 4 (Williamsburg, Georgetown, Florence, Marion, Dillon, and Horry counties). She is a fully certified trainer with CCCCD. She earned her M. Ed. from the University of South Carolina as a member of the ABC Early Childhood Leadership Cohort supported by SC Department of Social Services. She is also a member of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and the South Carolina Association for the Education of Young Children (SCAEYC).



Ronda H. Steward

Ronda H. Steward was born in Sumter, South Carolina. Ronda graduated from Sumter High School in 1986 and received a Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education from Benedict College in 1990. She is a Master Certified Child Care Trainer in the State of South Carolina. Ronda has been employed with the South Carolina Department of Social Services for 16 years, as a Child Care Program Monitor. She has 23 years of faithful early childhood experience. Ronda currently serves as monitor for Calhoun, Clarendon, Sumter, Williamsburg, Orangeburg, Richland and sections of Berkeley Counties. Ronda's strong belief is that providing a stimulating early child care education promotes each child's social, emotional, physical, and cognitive development, results in lifelong learners and productive human being.

TRAINING SESSIONS AT A GLANCE

TIME/ LOCATION	PRESENTER/ TOPIC AREA	TITLE/DESCRIPTION OF SESSION
2:00PM-3:00PM Room 243	Crystal Campbell Curriculum 1.0	Jazz it Up! This session will provide participants with the "Why" and "What" of classroom arrangement. We will discuss how to make the flow of the classroom: purposeful, relevant and intentional. Also, how the perfect arrangement can reduce behavioral issues. Come ready to plan, do, review?
2:00PM-3:00PM Room 244	Kristen Jenkins 1.0	Literacy Lessons for a Healthy Body, Mind and Spirit- Using concepts from "Fit Lit" we will explore how we can combine literacy and fitness! Exploring this intersection we will discuss strategies to strengthen children's bodies, minds, and spirits!
2:00PM-3:00PM Room 220	Suzanne McGougan Nutrition 1.0	What's On Your Plate? - It is important that child care providers promote healthy eating and provide children with opportunities to learn about healthy eating. Come learn nutrition education and fun ways to implement it in your classroom.
Regular Breakout Sessions		
3:05PM-4:05PM Room 245	LaDonna Pipkins Growth & Development 1.0	How Well Do You Understand Feelings- Participants will be able to define feelings of comfort and feelings of discomfort, learn to recognize feelings in children, teach children how to manage their feelings, and discussions on feelings, manage feelings, will lead to ways to help children handle their feelings. .
3:05PM – 4:05PM Room 243	Crystal Campbell Curriculum 1.0	Jazz it Up! This session will provide participants with the "Why" and "What" of classroom arrangement. We will discuss how to make the flow of the classroom: purposeful, relevant and intentional. Also, how the perfect arrangement can reduce behavioral issues. Come ready to plan, do, review?
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4:10PM-4:30PM Auditorium		-----Closing Session and Door Prizes-----

Conference Presenters' Biography



Crystal Campbell mesmerizes audiences with her energy and excitement. She has Thirty-two years of classroom teaching experience. She has taught fourth, fifth, second, college undergraduates/graduates, four year old child development, and kindergarten. Crystal retired from working with Child Development, Kindergarten, First and Second grade teachers supporting them as they enhance the art of teaching and use best practices in early childhood in School

Crystal Campbell

District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties. Currently, Crystal provides Technical Assistance to child care centers/workers and those needing help in the early childhood field and works as an Independent Consultant in Early Childhood with numerous agencies around the State of South Carolina. Crystal is also teaching Kindergarten at Riverpointe Christian Academy.



*LaDonna Brooks-Moore Pipkins is a native of Savannah, Ga. and resides in Florence, S.C. with her husband Alexis D. Pipkins, Sr. the couple have four children. Mrs. Pipkins is a ** graduate of Francis Marion University where she works as a College Coordinator for the S.C. Commission on Higher Education. Prior to her current position, she was an Academic Integration Coach with Lee County School District; Parenting Facilitator with for the Pee Dee Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual*

LaDonna Brooks-Moore Pipkins

of Shekinah Child Care Center. In her spare time she is involved in the community and her church. Most of her activities surround her children and others. She is a strong advocate for children, and she believes that all children can conquer anything if they are taught how to do so. One of her favorite quotes is, "Start by doing what's necessary; then what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible." – Francis of Assisi

Conference Presenters' Biography



Married to Rev. Ronald K. Lewis, 2 Children: Justin J. Lewis, a senior at the University of Maryland and Pvt. Sydney C. Lewis who is stationed at Ft. Lee, VA. Graduated from Voorhees College with a BS in Elementary Education. Completed Early Child Hood Education Courses at Florence Darlington Tech and Francis Marion University. Employed as a Human Resource Supervisor for Yale University for 4 years in New Haven Connecticut, Employed as a Counselor for St. Francis Home for Children and Youth Continuum in New Haven Connecticut.

Patricia Lewis

Also serving as the Coordinator of the Parent Child Home Program during that time. Employed by the Medical University of South Carolina from October 2010 until June 2013 as a Program Assistant on a Federal Grant that addressed the issue of the chronic illnesses: hypertension, cholesterol, diabetes, heart disease and cancer in Williamsburg County, SC. Presently employed as a Regional Community Outreach Supervisor for South Carolina Dental Screening Assoc/Classy Smiles. This program address the importance of dental prevention services and work closely with school districts and other community agencies to assure school age children receive these services. Also she is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha.



Sheila G. Parson

Sheila Graham Parson was born in Newport, Rhode Island. She is the daughter of Roosevelt & Maria Graham. She has 4 sisters and 4 brothers. She attended Thomas Jefferson High School in Brooklyn New York. She graduated from Limestone College in Gaffney South Carolina with a BA in Business Administration/Management. She is employed with the Williamsburg County School District for 34 years. She is also employed at the Lake City Wal-Mart Supercenter as Customer Service Manager. She's been working there for 24 years. She has 2 children ages 44 & 41. She has 6 grandchildren. She is a member of Mt. Zion United Methodist Church and sings on the choir. She loves children, people and especially animals. She has a dream to one day meet Denzel Washington in person.

Conference Presenters' Biography



Ernestine Young

Ms. Ernestine Young serves as the Coordinator of Early Childhood and the Academically Gifted and Talented Programs. Ms. Young provides instructional best practices and ongoing professional development opportunities for the Williamsburg County School District. Her credentials include the following: She holds a Bachelor's of Arts Degree in Education from The University of South Carolina, two Master's Degree in Education and Administration from The Citadel, and an Educational Specialist Degree from The Citadel. Ms. Young is a state certified trainer registered through the Child Care Career Development Center in Greenville, SC. Two of her favorite books are: Mr. Splitzer's Garden and 77 Keys to Wisdom.



Kristine Jenkins

Kristine Jenkins received her M.Ed. in Early Childhood Education from USC. She has been employed as the Regional 4K Coordinator with SC First Steps for the last 2 years. She was the owner/director of three child care centers in Myrtle Beach for 16 years. She is a Master Certified Trainer, and a Certified TAP. She is a former high school science teacher. She is has been married to her husband Chris for twenty-seven (27) years. They a twenty-six year old son and a twenty-two year old daughter.

Conference Presenters' Biography



Alex Edwards

Investigator Alex Edwards Auto Biography From: Johnsonville, SC Graduated from Johnsonville High School Class of 2004. Attended Williamsburg Tech with a Certificate In Computer Technical Support in 2005. Joined The Army National Guard in 2005. Graduated from the United States Military Police School in November, 2006 at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. Started with the Williamsburg County Detention Center in Jan of 2007. Started with the Williamsburg County Sheriff's Office also the same year 2007. Graduated From the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy in Columbia, SC. of 2008. Has worked on the Sheriff's Patrol Division from 2008 to 2010. Was promoted to the Investigation Division in 2010 at the age of 25, and one of the youngest investigators to ever work at the Williamsburg County Sheriff's Office.

"This is some of my glory but y'all don't know my story....."



Shelah S. Peoples

Shelah S. Peoples is a native of Timmonsville, SC. She earned her Bachelor's Degree in Family and Consumer Science (Child Development) from South Carolina State University as well as a Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education from the University of South Carolina. She is employed by the Department of Social Services as a Program Coordinator II. Presently, she monitors the following counties: Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Lee, Marion, and Marlboro Counties. I have over 16 years of experience in working in Early Childhood. I enjoy working on behalf of children by ensuring that providers of South Carolina are given the tools they need in helping them to improve the quality of child care.