



AUGUST 2026

Partnership News!

THE PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN OF WAYNE COUNTY

As the excitement of a new school year begins, it's the perfect time to remember that learning starts long before a child walks through the classroom doors. The early years of life are some of the most important for brain development, laying the foundation for future academic success, social-emotional growth, and lifelong learning. Every interaction, conversation, and experience helps shape a child's future. The good news is that parents and caregivers don't need expensive toys or elaborate lesson plans to help children learn. Some of the most meaningful learning happens during everyday moments—reading a favorite bedtime story, talking during a trip to the grocery store, singing songs in the car, counting steps as you walk, or exploring nature together. These simple activities build language, literacy, problem-solving, and critical thinking skills while strengthening the bond between you and your child.

Whether your child is starting kindergarten, attending preschool, or learning and growing at home, every day offers new opportunities to discover, create, and succeed. By making time to read, play, ask questions, and encourage curiosity, you're helping your child develop confidence and a love of learning that will last a lifetime.

At the Partnership for Children of Wayne County, we're here to support families every step of the way with programs, resources, and services designed to give every child the strongest possible start. Together, we can help every child enter school ready to learn and ready to thrive.



August 10-12th- Pack It Forward Supply Drive

August 17th- Resource a & Development
Committee Mtg.-12pm

August 27th- Executive Committee Mtg.-12pm

EARLY CARE & EDUCATION

NC Pre-K Applications!

NC Pre-K Enrollment is Open!
Give your child a strong start!

Eligible 4-year-olds can enroll in FREE, high-quality NC Pre-K, where they'll build the skills needed for kindergarten success. Apply today—help us spread the word to families with eligible children!



Ready to start building a career in early education?
Take the first step, your future begins today!



Early Childhood Workforce Ready Academy Complete interest form by July 28th

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Participants will complete essential state-required trainings in just two weeks and build the skills employers value in early childhood education. Launch your career in a growing workforce, supporting young learners and strengthening our community. Offered by The Partnership for Children of Wayne County, Inc with support from The Camber Foundation.



Scan the QR code to fill out an interest form!

FREE FOR PARTICIPANTS

Jumpstart your career in early childhood education! Limited spots are available in the Early Childhood Workforce Ready Academy—secure your spot today and gain the foundational skills to make a real impact on young learners.

TRAININGS:

Healthy & Safety, CPR & First Aid
Challenging Behaviors, ITS SIDS
Playground Safety, NC FELDS
Professionalism/Resume Building



Melissa Stricklin
mstricklin@pfcw.org
919-735-3371 x226



Early Childhood Workforce

Ready Academy

Zero Tuition. Zero Fees.
Guaranteed Job Interviews.
Ready to jumpstart your career in weeks, not years?
The Early Childhood Workforce Ready Academy is launching new cohorts in Wayne County! Get certified in CPR/First Aid, health and safety standards, and qualify for your NC Early Childhood Teacher Credential at absolutely no cost to you. Don't let upfront fees hold you back—we cover everything from books to background checks. Ready to learn more? Complete the EC WRA Interest Survey TODAY!

FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAMS



CIRCLE OF PARENTS

Circle of Parents (COP) is a supportive space for parents and caregivers of children ages 0–5 to share experiences and find encouragement together.

CONTACT US

919-735-3371

Angela Frady x237
Brianna Modin x240



Meeting Dates:

10–11:30am

August 10th

August 24th

September 14th

September 28th

Enroll for Parents as Teachers!

Parents as Teachers (PAT) is a free, voluntary program that helps parents and caregivers give their children the best possible start in life. Serving families from pregnancy through kindergarten, PAT offers personalized home visits, developmental screenings, fun parent-child activities, and connections to community resources. Enroll today and gain the tools, support, and confidence to help your child learn, grow, and thrive!

Parents as Teachers

SIGN UP NOW

Looking for extra support on your parenting journey?

Parents as Teachers (PAT) is a *free and voluntary* program designed to support families with young children, from **prenatal through kindergarten**. Grounded in the belief that parents are their child's first and most important teachers, PAT offers personalized visits, child development screenings, parenting resources, and connections to community services.

Why join PAT?

Because early childhood is the foundation for lifelong success—and you don't have to do it alone.

Get involved today and give your child a great start!

CONTACT US

919-735-3371 x237

www.pfcw.org

afrazy@pfcw.org



TRIPLE P

POSITIVE PARENTING PROGRAM

Why Triple P?

- ✓ Strong Relationships
- ✓ Increased Confidence
- ✓ Improved Behavior
- ✓ Flexible Options

CONTACT US!

Angela Frady
919-735-3371 x237
www.pfcw.org



Positive
interactions
resilient
children



Sessions available for parents and caregivers of children ages 0–5 years old

Triple P – Positive Parenting Program®

Build confidence in your parenting with Triple P, a free, evidence-based program for parents of children ages 0–5. Learn practical strategies to strengthen family relationships and manage everyday parenting challenges.

The Power of Positive Parenting

Looking for practical ways to encourage positive behavior and strengthen your relationship with your child?

Join our FREE Triple P – Positive Parenting Seminar and learn simple, proven strategies to build confidence as a parent, manage everyday challenges, and create a more positive home environment.

Designed for parents and caregivers of children birth to 5 years old, this one-time seminar is offered on August 13 (10:00–11:30 a.m.) or August 25 (2:00–3:30 p.m.). Space is limited, so call 919-735-3371 ext. 240 or 237 to register today!



The Power of Positive Parenting Seminar

Discover simple, practical strategies to encourage positive behavior, build a strong parent-child relationship, and create a more positive family environment.



August 13th 10-11:30am **OR** August 25th 2-3:30pm

For parents and caregivers birth to 5 years old

Please call to register:
919-735-3371 x240 or 237

800 N. William St., Goldsboro

Early Learning Resource Center

CONTACT CRYSTAL:
919-735-3371 X227

**\$15
YEAR
MEMBERSHIP**
per individual



The Early Learning Resource Center offers high quality educational materials for parents, early childhood professionals, students, therapists and caregivers. Materials are available for a four week loan period.

Looking for fun, educational resources for young children? The Partnership for Children of Wayne County's Early Learning Resource Center (ELRC) offers books, educational toys, learning kits, games, and curriculum materials available to families, child care providers, and educators!

The ELRC is designed to support early learning through hands-on play and literacy while providing valuable resources at no cost. Visit us to explore everything the ELRC has to offer and help children build a strong foundation for lifelong learning

Inspire a **LOVE** of Reading



Universal Access to Books

Donations help cover the cost of gifting books to children from birth to age five no matter the family's situation.

Family Bonding

Reading together provides caregivers and children valuable opportunities to strengthen emotional bonds.

Community Empowerment

Children who develop strong reading skills early on are more likely to succeed academically and in life.

SCAN ME



Great news for families in Wayne County—enrollment for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is open again!

You can sign up your child or to receive a FREE, age-appropriate book delivered to your home every month from birth until age five. It's a simple way to build early literacy skills and create special moments around reading together.

To get started, visit

www.imaginationlibrary.com/check-availability and complete your registration today or scan the QR code.



SAFE KIDS



School Bus Safety Starts with You

As students head back to school, take a few minutes to review school bus safety with your child. Walking them to the bus stop, standing a safe distance from the curb, and teaching them to wait for the driver's signal before crossing the street can help prevent injuries. Remember, school buses are the safest way for children to travel to and from school—but everyone plays a role in keeping them safe. Whether you're a parent, caregiver, or driver, staying alert around school buses helps ensure every child arrives safely.

Pack It Forward School Supply Drive

Help local children start the school year prepared! Join us August 10-12 by donating new school and classroom supplies for students and early childhood programs throughout Wayne County. Every donation makes a difference and helps set children up for success. Thank you for helping us Pack It Forward!

PACK IT FORWARD SUPPLY DRIVE

Aug 10th-12th

9am-4pm

at 111 S. Center Street, Goldsboro, NC 27530

ITEMS WE'RE COLLECTING:

3-Ring Binders
AAA Batteries
Backpacks
Band-aids
Chalk
Colored Pencils
Composition Books
Cotton Balls
Craft Sticks
Crayons
Disinfecting Wipes
Dry-Erase Markers
Erasers
Feathers
Sticky Notes
File Folders
Glue
Graph Paper
Hand Sanitizer
Highlighters
Hole Punch
Index Cards
Markers
Notebooks
Paint Brushes
Paper

Paper Bags
Paper Plates
Paper Towels
Pencil Boxes/Pouches
Pencil Grips
Pencil Sharpeners
Pencils
Pens
Pipe Cleaners
Playdough
Pocket Folders
Pom-Poms
Protractors
Ribbon
Rulers
Scissors
Stamp Pads
Stapler & Staples
Stickers
Tape
Tissue Paper
Tissues
Watercolor Paint
Water Bottles
(Reusable/Individual)
Wipes
Yarn



Help us keep the joy of reading growing! We are accepting donations of gently used children's books for our Little Libraries located throughout Wayne County. Your donation can help put a great book into the hands of a child and inspire a lifelong love of reading. Thank you for helping us build a stronger reading community!

COMING SOON!

5 Basics NC Principles.

Weekly Texts. Endless Growth.



Smart Start Presents
The Basics™
NORTH CAROLINA

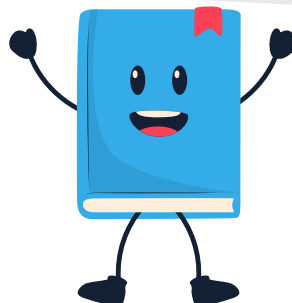
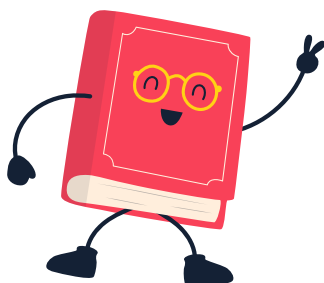
Introducing The Basics NC: Building Strong Brains in Everyday Moments

The Basics NC helps families support children's early brain development through five simple, research-based practices woven into everyday routines. From talking and reading to playing and exploring, these small moments help build strong brains and prepare children for kindergarten success. Every interaction matters. Every community builds brains.

New StoryWalk

Book at Herman Park!

Take a stroll through Herman Park and enjoy our newest StoryWalk adventure, Kittybunkport! Families are invited to walk the trail together, read the story page by page, and enjoy the perfect combination of literacy, movement, and outdoor fun. Stop by and discover a new story while making lasting memories with your little ones



Valerie Wallace, Executive Director
Amanda Atkinson, Finance Officer
Sharon Price, Administrative Assistant
Thomas Nevins, Compliance Officer
Shelly Willis, Program Evaluator
Blair Cox, Community Engagement Coordinator
Angela Frady, Family Support Coordinator
Rosa Audelo, Family Support Specialist
Kasey Casbarro, Family Support Specialist
Brianna Modin, Family Support Specialist
Trinisia Carlton, Program Specialist
Tamesha Lewis, Program Specialist
Cassandra Dunn, Behavior Support Specialist
Crystal Heath, Early Learning Resource Specialist
Maria Lopez, NC Pre-K Intake Specialist & Administrative Assistant
Melissa Stricklin, Director of Early Care and Education



@PFCWayne



PFCWayne

PFCW Mission:

The Partnership for Children unites the community to effectively support and empower families, prepares children to succeed in school and encourages continuous learning for educators of young children, therefore contributing to the economic vitality of Wayne County.



August 2026

TRAINING CALENDAR

Seated and Virtual Training Opportunities



 TUESDAY 8/4/2026 4:00pm – Until	CPR/FIRST AID CPR: Participants will learn lifesaving procedures to perform in sudden cardiac arrest emergencies. FIRST AID: Participants will learn basic medical care procedures to assist someone experiencing a sudden injury or illness. <i>(Allen Jones)</i>	 HOURS N/A  COST \$75
 THURSDAY 8/6/2026 6:30-8:30 pm	CREATING & PLANNING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS This training supports programs in proactively planning safe environments, strengthening daily systems, and ensuring licensing compliance. <i>(Trinisia Carlton)</i>	 HOURS 2 HRS.  COST \$7
 TUESDAY 8/11/2026 6:30-9:00pm	EPR Participants will identify ways to prepare staff and children for emergency events. Learn how to outline/plan procedures and practice drills. Mandated training for childcare centers and family childcare homes. <i>(Tamesha Lewis)</i>	 HOURS 2.5 HRS.  COST \$15
 WEDNESDAY 8/12/2026 6:30-8:30 pm VIRTUAL	RELATIONSHIPS WITH CHILDREN Explore responsive relationship practices, teacher-child relationships, race and anti-bias conversations, and strategies to promote peer relationships between children. <i>(Ann Carter HSB Coach)</i>	 HOURS 2 HRS.  COST \$10
 TUESDAY 8/18/2026 10:00am-12:00pm VIRTUAL	QRIS LEARNING LAB ★ Understand and implement the steps required to meet your chosen stars for Pathway 2. Learn about family community engagement, CQI, and approved curriculum. We'll review the checklists, required documents, and how to organize your binders for DCDEE consultants. <i>(Trinisia Carlton)</i>	SCAN TO REGISTER!   HOURS 2 HRS.  COST \$7
 THURSDAY 8/27/2026 6:30-8:30pm	FIRE SAFETY Providers will receive fire safety training about "Common Childcare Violation", annual fire inspections, preventive strategies, and DCDEE policies and procedures to follow. <i>(Vaden Lee)</i>	 HOURS 2 HRS.  COST \$7



MINIMUM NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS REQUIRED:
If minimum number of participants is not met by noon the business day before, the class will be cancelled.



VIEW OUR FULL TRAINING REGISTRATION POLICY AT:
www.pfcw.org



TO REGISTER CONTACT:
 The Partnership for Children of Wayne County
Crystal Heath 919-735-3371 ext. 227,
cheath@pfcw.org or Front Desk at ext. 0