



FEBRUARY 2026

Partnership News!

THE PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN OF WAYNE COUNTY

Early childhood education is more than just care—it's the foundation for lifelong learning. It's not babysitting; it's intentional, developmentally appropriate teaching where children build critical skills through play. In high-quality early learning environments, children develop language, problem-solving, social-emotional skills, and confidence as they explore, imagine, and interact with the world around them. Play is their work, and through it, young children are learning how to think, communicate, and thrive.

It's time to change the language, too. Moving from "child care" to Early Childhood Education or Early Education reflects the value, professionalism, and impact of this work. Words matter—and so does recognizing early educators as the first teachers shaping our children's futures.



UPCOMING DATES:

Feb. 16- Resouce & Development-12pm
Feb. 26- NC Pre-K Committee-9:30am
Feb. 26- Executive Committee- 12pm

EARLY CARE & EDUCATION

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.

Centro de recursos para el aprendizaje temprano

COMUNÍQUESE CON CRYSTAL:
919-735-3371 X227

**\$15 AL AÑO
AFILIACIÓN**
por individuo



El Centro de Recursos para el Aprendizaje Temprano ofrece materiales educativos de alta calidad para padres, profesionales de la primera infancia, estudiantes, terapeutas y cuidadores. Los materiales están disponibles para préstamo durante cuatro semanas.



2026-2027

NC PRE-K APPLICATIONS

We are now accepting NC Pre-K applications for 2026-2027 school year.

**Child must be 4 years old by August 31st.*

Contact us at 919-735-3371 x245

WWW.PFCW.ORG



FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAMS

CIRCLE OF PARENTS



Circle of Parents (COP) offers a friendly, supportive space for parents and caregivers of children ages 0–5. Led by parents and guided by trained facilitators, it's a place to openly share the joys and challenges of raising young children and to find support together.

CONTACT US: 919-735-3371
ANGELA FRADY X237
BRIANNA MARTIN X240



Dates:

Feb. 18th- 5:30pm-7pm

(RSVP required)

March 2nd- 10 am-11:30am

March 23rd- 10am-11:30am

Parents as Teachers



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
afrady@pfcw.org



Los padres como maestros



¿Buscas apoyo adicional en tu camino como padre? Padres como Maestros (PAT) es un programa gratuito y voluntario diseñado para apoyar a familias con niños pequeños, desde la etapa prenatal hasta el kínder. Con la convicción de que los padres son los primeros y más importantes maestros de sus hijos, PAT ofrece visitas personalizadas, evaluaciones de desarrollo infantil, recursos para padres y conexiones con servicios comunitarios.

¿Por qué unirse a PAT?
Porque la primera infancia es la base del éxito durante toda la vida, y no tienes que hacerlo solo.

¡Involúcrate hoy y dale a tu hijo un gran comienzo!



CONTACT US

919-735-3371 x237
www.pfcw.org
afrady@pfcw.org



Triple P – Positive Parenting Program® is one of the world's leading evidence-based parenting programs, developed through over 30 years of research at Australia's University of Queensland. Proven effective across cultures and family types, Triple P helps parents of children ages 0–12 build positive relationships and manage behavior confidently.

For more information, contact:

Rosa Audelo (Spanish): raudelo@pfcw.org | 919-735-3371 x223

Angela Frady: afrady@pfcw.org | 919-735-3371 x237







Heat Your Home Safely





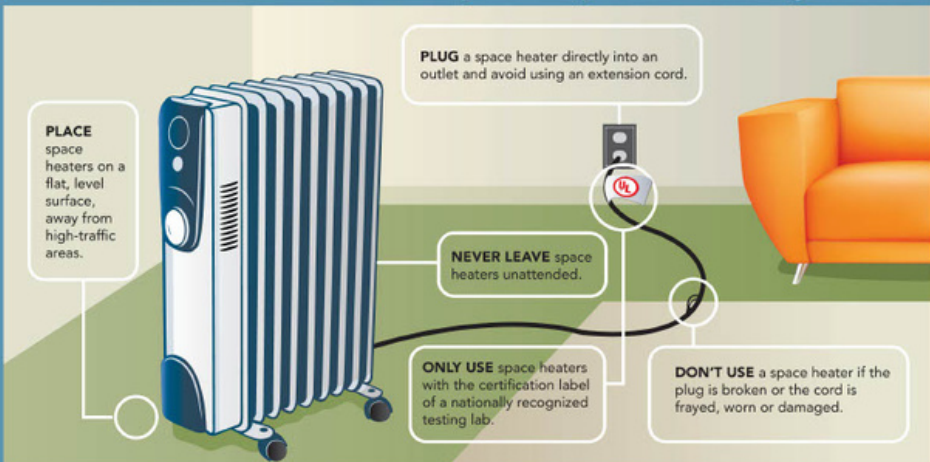
32%
of home heating fires are caused by space heaters.

MORE HOME FIRES OCCUR
during the cold winter months than at any other time of year.



Make Sure to Follow These Important Tips Before You Plug In

PLACE space heaters on a flat, level surface, away from high-traffic areas.



PLUG a space heater directly into an outlet and avoid using an extension cord.

NEVER LEAVE space heaters unattended.

ONLY USE space heaters with the certification label of a nationally recognized testing lab.

DON'T USE a space heater if the plug is broken or the cord is frayed, worn or damaged.

Four Home Heating Tips to Live By

1 **KEEP ANYTHING THAT CAN BURN** at least three feet away from a heating source.

3ft

2 **HAVE YOUR HEATING SYSTEM** inspected annually.



3 **KEEP VENTS CLEAR** of dust and debris.



4 **INSTALL CARBON MONOXIDE (CO)** alarms to avoid the risk of CO poisoning.



www.esfi.org
facebook.com/ESFI.org
twitter.com/ESFI.org



May 9, 2026

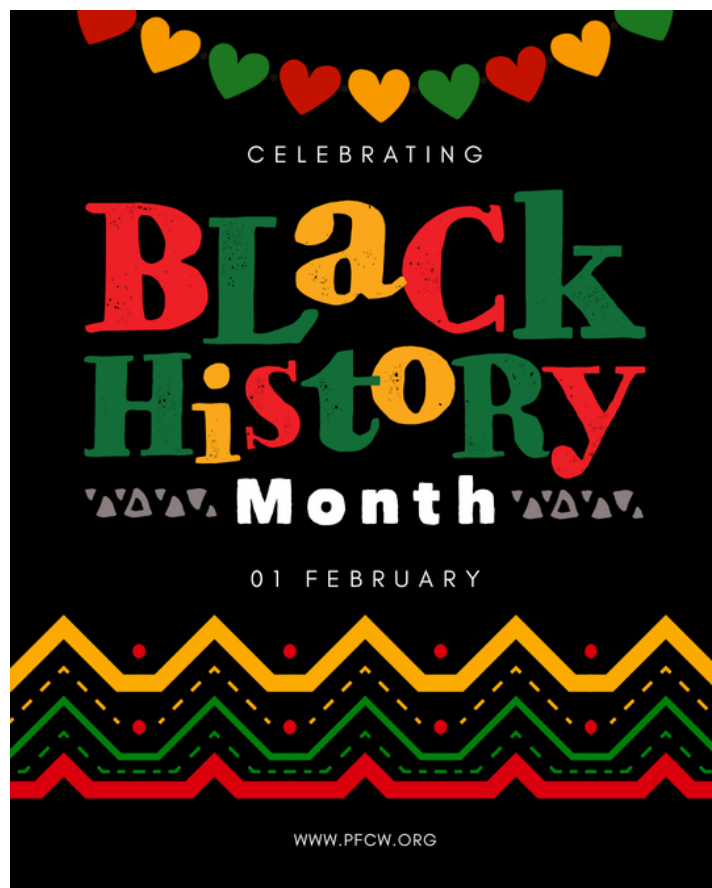
9:00am-2:00pm
Wayne County Fairgrounds

Quiet Time
RESERVED
(no loud noises or flashing lights)
9:00 am-11:00 am

Welcome to Touch-A-Truck
where it's OK to **look** and **touch**!



Black History Month is a time to honor the achievements, leadership, and lasting impact of Black individuals who have shaped our communities and our classrooms. In early childhood education, Black educators, scholars, and advocates have long championed equity, representation, and high-quality learning experiences for all children. This month, we celebrate their contributions and reaffirm our commitment to creating inclusive, culturally responsive environments where every child feels seen, valued, and supported from the very start.



Finding Your New **Pink**

A Safe Space for Moms

Healing after infant loss, miscarriage or postpartum depression

Whether you've faced miscarriage, infant or child loss, or postpartum depression, this group offers comfort, understanding, and hope. Join us in a safe space to share, listen, and rediscover your joy—your "pink"—one step at a time.

Join us from 6-7pm
The Partnership for Children of Wayne County, Inc.
800 N William St. Goldsboro, NC 27530.
(919) 735-3371 if you have questions.



To register, contact
Angela Frady 919-735-3371 x237
Kasey Casbarro 919-735-3371 x243
Brianna Martin 919-735-3371 x240



Healing doesn't mean the loss disappears. It means you find the strength to carry it with love—and colors return to your world.

Scan the QR code to
give feedback regarding
the Children's Museum
that is being developed
for Wayne County!



Wish List

amazon

Join us in supporting families in our community! Our Amazon Wish List is full of items that make a big difference for children and parents alike. Every gift helps meet immediate needs and brings encouragement when it matters most.

PFCW STAFF

Follow Us

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.



MARCH 2026 SEATED & VIRTUAL TRAINING CALENDAR



Date/Time	Training Title	Description of Training	Hours	Cost
Wednesday 3/11/2026 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm	Autism in Early Childhood VIRTUAL	This training covers autism in early childhood. Participants will increase their knowledge of early signs and detection of autism for young children. They will be able to name supportive ways to share concerns with caregivers, identify resources that support and can assist young children with autism in the ECE setting, and explore developmentally appropriate activities and inclusion practices for young children with autism. (Kimberly Gurganus)	2 Hours	\$7
Thursday 3/12/2026 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm	ITS SIDS	Participants will be able to explain safe sleep risks including SIDS, suffocation, strangulation, and entrapment and how to prevent them. Understand the causes of SIDS and the external stressors that contribute to a safe sleep environment. Learn about rules and best practice related to safe sleep, be able to respond to an unresponsive infant and identify resources for those who are experience grief from a SIDS death. (Tamesha Lewis / PFCW)	2 Hours	\$10
Wednesday 3/18/2026 6:30 – 8:30 pm	Rainy Day Activities	Are you singing the rainy-day blues and the rain has you and your little ones cooped indoors? Being stuck inside doesn't have to be boring. I've got a few ideas to get you through the day. With a little imagination, you and your little ones can have lots of fun! (Cassandra Dunn/ PFCW)	2 Hours	\$7
Thursday 3/26/2026 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm	From Observation to Lesson Plan	Provide teaching staff with the ability to create proper anecdotal/observations. Focus on how to align anecdotal with NCFELD/Creative Curriculum/TSG objectives and apply them to the lesson plan to implement intentional teaching strategies for individualization, small group, and whole class. (Trinisia Carlton / PFCW)	2 Hours	\$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. *Note: To view our full training registration policy please visit our website: www.pfcw.org

*Note: 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