



The Partnership
wishes you a
Happy Valentine's
Day...

Full of...
Hugs & Candy Kisses!

Who We Are...

The Partnership for Children of Wayne County, Inc. is a non-profit organization designed to provide programs and services for families and children in Wayne County, North Carolina. We build partnerships with families and the community to create a comprehensive system of early care and education. In doing so, our community leads the way in building a brighter future for all of North Carolina.

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Some Thoughts from our Board Member, Dr. Katherine MacDonald



Every year cold and flu season arrives.

This is the time of year when many infants, children, and adults are sick with any number of viral illnesses. The most serious of these is caused by the influenza virus, commonly known as "the flu." While there is no way to prevent all illnesses, there are things that we can do as parents, caregivers, and teachers that will help us stay as healthy as possible during this time of cold and flu viruses.

The single most important thing that every person older than 6 months of age can do is **get their flu vaccine** every fall. Few people who are unable to get this vaccine. The people at highest risk of getting hospitalized from the flu are infants under 6 months of age, babies born prematurely, people with

asthma and other chronic health conditions, pregnant women, and people over 65 years of age. When you get vaccinated, you also help to protect babies under 6 months old who are not old enough to be vaccinated.

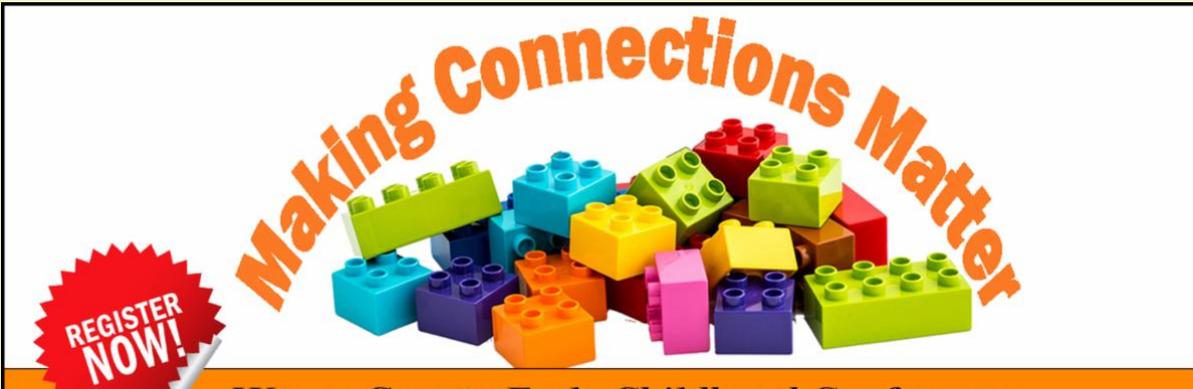
The second most important thing we can do to prevent the spread of illness is good handwashing. Wash hands with regular soap and warm water. As caregivers and teachers, we need to teach children to wash hands regularly and for 15 to 20 seconds.

Many people like to sing a song either out loud or to themselves such as the ABCs to make sure the handwashing time is long enough. The most important times to wash hands are before eating and after using the bathroom, changing a diaper, playing outside, coughing or sneezing into hands, touching pets, and any time that the hands look like they are dirty. Another choice for handwashing is the waterless hand sanitizer, but only if there is no visible

dirt on hands.

Another important issue during cold and flu season is preventing the spread of infection by staying away from people and at home when necessary. Generally speaking, children and adults should not go to school, childcare, or work until they are fever free (temperature less than 100.4 F) for 24 hours without using fever reducers like ibuprofen or acetaminophen. Also, children should feel well enough to participate in school or activities before returning to school. Children and adults are still contagious when they are coughing a lot, sneezing, vomiting, and having diarrhea. Keep children home until they are no longer contagious since viruses spread by coughing, sneezing, sharing toys that have been chewed on, and sharing drinking cups and eating utensils when we are sick. Preschool and school aged children are the people most likely to spread illness. By getting yearly flu vaccines, washing our hands well and often, and staying at home when we are still sick, we can decrease the spread of colds and the flu.

Katherine T. MacDonald, MD
Goldsboro Pediatrics, PA



REGISTER NOW!

Making Connections Matter

Wayne County Early Childhood Conference
Wayne Community College - Saturday, March 7, 2020
7:45 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Registration Fee \$30 (\$35 on-site day of conference)

Download the conference packet online at PFCW.org or pick up a registration form at the Partnership office.
Register EARLY to guarantee your spot in your preferred classes.
You can earn up to 6 hours of DCDEE credit.
For more information, contact Crystal - 919-735-3371 (ext. 227)



NC Pre-K

The Partnership is now accepting Pre-K applications for the 2020-2021 school year. Your child is eligible if they're 4 years old on or before August 31, 2020. If you are interested in enrolling your child, you can log onto our website (PFCW.org) or come by the office at 800 N. William Street to pick up an application. Please call the office for more information (919-735-3371)



Early Childhood Providers (did you know)...

AWARD\$ provides education-based salary supplements to low paid educators working full-time with children birth through age two in North Carolina. Child Care Services Association is proud to be administering this salary supplement initiative, which is funded by the Division of Child Development & Early Education and is available in every county in the state.

To be eligible for AWARD\$, applicants must:

1. work at least 35 hours/week with infants, ones or twos.
2. earn at or below \$18 per hour. For center employees, bonuses received from the employer will be included in calculations to determine hourly rate.
3. work in a licensed child care center or home with at least three stars.
4. have an Associate Degree plus or including at least 24 birth to five focused semester hours or higher.



for more information on the AWARD\$ program, go to:
<https://www.childcareservices.org/awards>

Help Us... Spread the **LOVE** of Reading!

DONATE BOOKS!

The Goldsboro News-Argus has generously donated 12 old newspaper boxes to the Partnership. Through the magic of teamwork, our staff will transform them into mini-libraries and then distribute the boxes throughout Wayne County. They will be filled with books for our children, who can choose a book to take along with them to enjoy.

We are asking for donations of gently used books that are appropriate for children with which to stock our "libraries". You may drop your donations off at the Partnership for Children office at 800 N. William Street, Monday - Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

THANK YOU!



SAFE KIDS wants to remind you that February 2-8 is National Burn Awareness Week.

See the Tip Sheet

below to help keep your kids safe from burns & scalds!



The smell of cookies baking in the oven or tasty sauces simmering on the stovetop is hard to resist for adults and kids alike. Here are a few simple steps to keep your little chef safe from potential burns, whether in the kitchen, around a fireplace or in any other part of your home.

Childproof Your Electrical Outlets and Appliances

- Keep appliance cords out of children's reach, especially if the appliances produce a lot of heat.
- Cover electrical outlets so that children are unable to insert metal objects, such as forks or keys.
- Keep an eye on appliances such as irons, curling irons or hair dryers that can heat up quickly or stay warm after use. Unplug these items after you're done.
- Don't carry or hold a child while cooking on the stove. Instead, move a high chair in the kitchen within reach or sight before you start. Then talk to your children so they know what's going on. It's a great way to spend time together.

Check to Make Sure the Water Temperature Is Just Right

- With everything going on, we know the water heater is the last thing on your mind. But a small change can give you one less thing to worry about. To prevent accidental scalding, set your water heater to 120 degrees Fahrenheit or the manufacturer's recommended setting.
- Consider installing anti-scald devices in water faucets and showerheads to avoid potential burns.
- Check the water with your wrist or elbow before giving your baby a bath.



Use the Back Burner and Oven Mitts

- Kids love to reach, so to prevent hot food or liquid spills, simply use the back burner of your stove and turn pot handles away from the edge. Keep hot foods away from the edge of your counters.
- Use oven mitts or potholders and keep hot foods and liquids away from table and counter edges. Be careful if your oven mitt is hot; when combined with heat, the moisture can cause scalds.
- Slowly open containers that have been in the microwave, as steam can burn little fingers and faces.



In 2013, more than 126,035 children across the country, including more than 67,000 children 4 and under, were injured due to a fire or burn and treated in emergency rooms.



The Lobsters are coming...

and so are the shrimp!

Make plans to join us for the Partnership's
16th Annual Shrimp and Lobster Fest!



Mark your calendar... one day only!

Friday, May 15, 2020

12 noon through 6:00 pm

Tickets will go on sale soon and
MUST be purchased in advance!

Your \$25 ticket includes your choice of a full Maine lobster (cooked or live) or 2 lbs. of shrimp (cooked or frozen). Sides of baked potato and corn on the cob will be available for an additional \$5.

For information call the Partnership at 919-735-3371 or visit our website at PFCW.org... (we can't wait to see you!)

We had SO MUCH FUN at the Partnership's Children's Christmas Party!

Over 300
children
participated
in games and
crafts and; of
course, our
very own
Santa
was there
to give out
treats and
toys to all the
good little
girls & boys!



Did You Know That You Can Give To The Children of
Wayne County...

(without spending a penny!)



Did you know that you can donate to the Wayne County Partnership for Children... **without spending an extra penny...** whenever you place an order on Amazon!

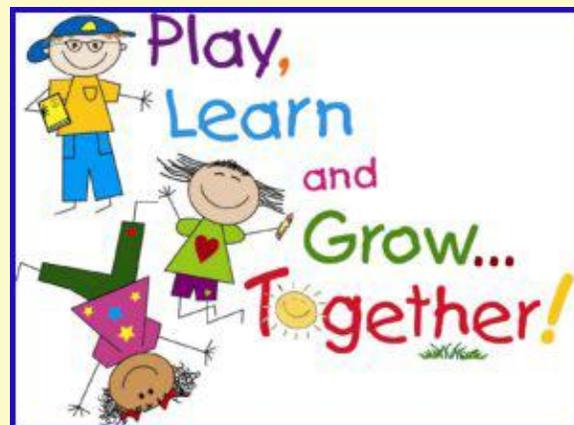
The Partnership is a participant in AmazonSmile. The website features all the **same products** and **same prices** as Amazon, is operated by Amazon, but gives the charitable organization of your choice 0.5% of your purchase price.

It's easy to do, just visit **www.smile.amazon.com** and search for, then select Wayne County Partnership for Children, Inc. as your organization of choice.

It's as simple as that. The AmazonSmile Foundation will automatically send your donation along to us!

Bet You don't know EVERYTHING the Partnership does for the children of Wayne County...

Visit www.pfcw.org and review all of our wonderful programs. **We think you'll be surprised!**



The Partnership for Children of
Wayne County | www.pfcw.org

