

CIRCLE TIME

News from The Children's Center



The Value of Early Education

Recent scientific research has proven that learning and mental development begin immediately after birth. During the first three years of a child's life, essential brain and neural development occurs and children greatly benefit by receiving education before kindergarten.

A study conducted by the Abecedarian (ABC) Project in North Carolina² evaluated two groups of children for an extended period of time, those with formal pre-school education and those not receiving any formal education. According to their findings, children with formal education scored higher on reading tests during subsequent school years. It was also shown that the children who did not receive any formal education in their pre-kindergarten years were more likely to struggle with substance abuse and delinquent behaviors in their early adult years.

The conclusions drawn from most research about early childhood education are that individuals and societies greatly benefit, in terms of social, economic, and other benefits from it. Greater emphasis placed on early education is one strategy to alleviate substance abuse and criminal behavior that plagues many adolescents and young adults. The economic benefits, for example, can be immense when emphasis is placed on early childhood education.¹

James J. Heckman, Henry Schultz Distinguished Service Professor at the University of Chicago, Nobel Memorial Peace prize winner and expert in the economics of human development, in his Spring 2011 article entitled *The Economics of Inequality* concludes "Evidence shows that supplementing the family environments of disadvantaged children with educational resources is an effective and cost efficient way to provide equal opportunity, achievement, and economic success. We can invest early to close disparities and prevent achievement gaps or we can pay to remediate disparities when they are harder and more expensive to close. Investing early allows us to shape the future: investing later chains us to fixing the missed opportunities of the past."³ 

1. "The Value of Early Childhood Education." *The Value of Early Childhood Education*. Education Corner, n.d. Web. 14 Sept. 2015.
2. Campbell, Frances, Frank Porter, and Elizabeth Pungello. "Carolina Abecedarian Project (ABC) and the Carolina Approach to Responsive Education (CARE), Age 21 Follow Up Study, 1993 - 2003 (ICPSR 32262)." *Carolina Abecedarian Project (ABC) and the Carolina Approach to Responsive Education (CARE), Age 21 Follow Up Study, 1993*. The Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research. Is Part of the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan, 31 Jan. 2014. Web. 14 Sept. 2015.
3. "The Value of Early Childhood Education." *The Value of Early Childhood Education*. Education Corner, n.d. Web. 14 Sept. 2015.

Your support of The Children's Center makes impacts in the lives of not only the children in our programs but also on the future of our entire community. You do make a difference.



**Hilton Head Island
8 Nature's Way
Hilton Head Island, SC 29926
843.681.2739**

www.thechildrenscentersc.org

Jody L. Levitt
Executive Director

Board of Trustees

Tom Conner
Chairman

Jennifer Green

Angie Greenfield

John Howe

Carl Jones

Carol Kavanaugh

Allan LaCoe

Robert Lembo

Jay Parks

Carol Prillaman

Anne Kelley Russell

Edwina Sanders

Andrea Siebold

Carlos Tovar

Jody's Gems

Time certainly flies when you're having fun! I am having so very much fun coming to work every day here at The Children's Center. A few things really stand out in my first few months, first being the amazing staff here at The Children's Center. The people who work here are committed to the children that come through our doors; their hearts are made of gold! Next is the number of committed volunteers who come through the door and do anything that is asked and then leave – only to return again the following week. Whether it's working in the kitchen, reading a book or changing a diaper, our special volunteers are so important to our Center.



Last, but certainly not least is the group of unsung heroes who give of their time and talent on our Board of Trustees. Each person on the Board has made a valuable and important impact in just my short tenure. Our Board members sit on multiple committees and not one is a Trustee in name only! There are many past Trustees who continue to provide support and guidance as an ongoing service to the children and families we serve. People with beautiful hearts walk through our doors almost daily with donations of time, talent and treasure.

Our biggest challenge is to share our story with those outside the TCC community. Today we have more than 200 children in our care. Many of them came to us through word of mouth or have had brothers or sisters attend here. The Children's Center is so much more than child care. Our commitment to early education is at the core of what we do, and last fall we aligned our assessment tools with those used in the Beaufort County school system. Initial results have been extremely positive. The chart below shows the results for our pre-k children after the first comparative assessment of 5 months of the program.

Area of Assessment	Number of Children Assessed	Percentage Meeting or Exceeding Standard
Social-Emotional	29	86.2%
Physical	29	75.9%
Language	29	86.2%
Cognitive	29	79.3%
Literacy	17	76.5%
Mathematics	19	63.2%

We are excited to have base-line results to measure against moving forward.

THANK YOU!

The Children's Center is grateful for the support we receive from so many people and organizations throughout our community.

Caring Coins Foundation

Thank you to the Caring Coins Foundation for their ongoing and valuable support. To all the Hargray customers, your choice of Hargray as your telephone service provider makes a positive difference in our community.



Women's Association of Hilton Head

Thank you to Women's Association of Hilton Head for their donation to purchase a Now!Board for our younger age classrooms. Outgoing President Donna Manske & President Elect Sue Todd visited Ms. Rickie's classroom to make the presentation.



Long Cove

Thank you Long Cove for your support of our Continuity of Care program for families suffering a setback in their ability to keep their children in the educational programs at TCC. We applaud your generosity.

Summer at TCC



Father's Day was very special and our children provided donuts for their dads when they dropped them off.



Thanks to our VOLUNTEERS!



The Children's Center is blessed with very special volunteers, just a few are: **The Saturday Wall Club** (above left) and **AmeriCorps 9/11 Workday team** (above right).

Avery Faucette, sophomore from Cornell University delivers stuffed animals for our children. This is the 3rd year she has come to Hilton Head for a weekend family vacation, but stopped by to share with our children. We have placed the new friends in several classrooms.

THANKS, AVERY!



Testimonial

“Our experience at your school has been positive. There are two people in particular I would like to recognize. These two outstanding employees are Tonya and Ms. Val. These two ladies always were willing to go over and beyond their call of duty. They both exhibit true professionalism and passion for what they do. These ladies display a natural love for the children and families of The Children’s Center..”

– Stacey O’Grady July 2015

Upcoming & Don’t Forget

Harris Teeter’s Together in Education Program

With a new school year comes the opportunity to re-engage your support through our local grocery stores. Please help The Children’s Center by linking your VIC card and choosing The Children’s Center. It costs you NOTHING and we receive additional funding to support our mission. See below for a link and special promotions to “bump up” your support!

Visit www.harristeeter.com and click on the “Together In Education” link under the “Community” tab to re-load The Children’s Center as your school of choice.

Our school code is: 5734.

Barnes & Noble Book Fair

Save The Date – December 12, 2015.



Welcome Build A Bear!

Children from Ms. Jenkins “Ladybugs” class were honored to be a part of the Grand opening of Build A Bear in Tanger Outlets 2.

So Much Fun!
So Many Smiles!



SOUTH CAROLINA FIRST STEPS TO SCHOOL READINESS is a comprehensive results-oriented initiative for improving early childhood development...First Steps exists to develop, promote and assist the efforts of agencies, private providers, and public and private organizations and entities at the state level and the community level to collaborate and cooperate in order to focus and intensify services, assure the most efficient use of all available resources and eliminate duplication of efforts to serve the needs of South Carolina’s young children and their families.

Supporting Hilton Head’s Future:

As a non-profit organization, The Children’s Center appreciates the generosity of our community. We thank you for your continued support!



8 Nature's Way
Hilton Head Island, SC 29926

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Hilton Head Island, SC
Permit No. 200



Providing Quality Childcare & Early Education for Working Families since 1967

- The Children's Center enables working families to afford quality education & childcare.
- The Children's Center provides a multicultural, bilingual early childhood program for children ages 8 weeks to 6 years beginning at 6:30 each morning.
- The Children's Center serves a nutritious breakfast, lunch and snack at NO additional cost to parents.

Visit us at our Jarvis Creek Park location

We invite you to tour our facility at your convenience!

Please call 843.681.2739 or visit www.thechildrenscentersc.org for info

Thanks to our major supporters



The Bargain Box

Support Us Everytime You Shop!



Kroger Community Rewards®

To enroll sign in or create an account at

www.kroger.com/communityrewards

Enroll or update your Community Rewards using # 69893. Then shop at Kroger and swipe your Plus Card to earn donations for The Children's Center!



Harris Teeter
Together in Education

Use your VIC Card and The Children's Center Together In Education school code (5734) during checkout OR visit the website below.

www.harristeeter.com/community/together_in_education/link_to_your_school.aspx

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

Simply shop at Amazon Smile and select The Children's Center as your charity of choice.

www.smile.amazon.com