



partnershipforchildren

JOHNSTON COUNTY a partner in the smart start network



## DEAR FRIENDS,

It was a great 2018-19 year for the Partnership from beginning to end. Not only is the Partnership focused on, and responding to the critical needs of our young children and their families, we embrace opportunities to lead within our community.

This year, we acknowledge and thank each of our staff for their work and commitment to excellence. As our name suggests, we strive to be great partners in Johnston County and it takes all of our team to accomplish this. Shared leadership opportunities allow staff to serve on Chamber Boards and Education Committees, Head Start Local Policy Council, JLH Community Action Board, and various service collaborations such as Safe Kids, Local Interagency Coordinating Council, the Opioid Task Force, Child Fatality Task Force, Oral Health Alliance, and the JCC Educational Advisory Committee. Additionally, the Partnership is represented on state-wide organizations such as NCAEYC, NC Citizens for Public Health, NC's Family Engagement Framework Planning, NC's Home Visiting and Parenting Education System Planning, Pathways to Grade Level Reading, and Smart Start's Allocation Methodology Workgroup.

Our Finance Department was selected to participate in a state wide review of accounting system needs and changes. The Partnership continues to participate in United Way Collaborations in Johnston. Every year, PFC sponsors staff in Leadership Johnston and staff remain active on the Leadership Johnston Planning Board.

We are strong because staff are willing to stretch and lead. For this and many other reasons, PFCJC is recognized throughout North Carolina. That respect brought the Partnership to an initiative called Think Babies™, we revived Champions for Children, and made a great impact at our Winterfest event, celebrating 20 years of service. Our year ended being recognized by Johnston Now as the Non-Profit of the Year. Those who nominated us referenced not only that the Partnership is a great place to work, but that we are creating a positive impact in the community.

Needless to say, we are proud of our work, but we are just as excited about the many opportunities we have to engage, lead, and be change agents within our great county.

Dwight Morris, Executive Director  
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Regina Smith, Chair, Board of Director  
rsmith@ksbankinc.com



Dwight Morris and Regina Smith

## OUR VISION

Our Vision is that Johnston County's children will be given all the educational, health and emotional support they need to grow into engaged and productive members of our economically thriving and globally competitive community.

## OUR MISSION

The Partnership works effectively with its community partners to ensure that Johnston's youngest residents and their families receive the best educational, health, and emotional support services possible, helping to ensure those children enjoy life-long success, and providing the maximum return on investment for those funds entrusted to the Partnership.

# Johnston County Highlights

## NC PRE-K

Served 391 children in 34 classrooms across 24 sites

87% children met or exceeded standard Developmental Expectations on final Teaching Strategies Assessment (a 281% improvement from beginning assessment)

## EARLY CHILDHOOD

119 licensed programs

67 are 4 or 5 stars

Worked with 49 facilities

308 early educators received technical assistance

Impacted 1940 children

610 providers participated in Professional Development trainings

\$980,350 to expand childcare subsidy services

## FAMILY SUPPORT

269 parents/guardians utilized our family services

101 families participated in intensive group parenting programs

Almost 1,000 children participated in the Toys for Tots program

## SAFE KIDS

106 car seats checked

51 new car seats distributed

11 Nationally Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians (CPST's) on staff

Only 25% of children were riding in seats that needed no corrections

100% of remaining children who had their seats checked are riding safer

## LITERACY

6,271 children receiving free books each month from Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

1,889 books distributed at well child visits through Reach Out and Read

## KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- PFCJC's **Winterfest** event celebrated 20 years of providing services to young children, families, and early educators in our community. Attendees were able to learn more about PFCJC through a scavenger hunt and from our families who shared how our services have impacted them.
- Through a grant from the NC Early Education Coalition and collaboration with local organizations and child care providers, PFCJC hosted a **Think Babies™ Bus Tour**. Business and community leaders toured various childcare facilities and learned about different issues impacting Johnston County's infants, toddlers, and their families.
- In the Spring, two **Little Free Libraries** were unveiled: one at the Selma office and the other at the Benson office. In conjunction with the Little Free Library in Benson, a Buddy Bench was dedicated in honor of Evelyn Aranda. This free "Take a Book, Leave a Book" exchange increases access to books for readers of all ages and backgrounds.
- A new Family Engagement grant allows PFCJC the opportunity to participate in statewide discussions and guide decisions on the creation of a **Strengthening Family Engagement and Leadership** framework. Through the grant, a local coalition was created to discuss how we can improve on these issues locally to better serve families.
- During Week of the Young Child, PFCJC celebrated the 2018 **Champions for Children**, recognizing the significant achievement of individuals and local businesses who are committed to quality early experiences for young children by giving of their time and talent and advocating to support the health, education, safety, and overall well-being of Johnston's young children.
- Two new programs were launched. **Incredible Years Teacher Classroom Management** is a prevention program designed to strengthen classroom management strategies and promote children's pro-social behavior and school readiness. **Attachment and Biobehavioral Catch-Up (ABC)** is a short term home visiting model designed to strengthen interactions and bond between caregiver and their children 6-24 months.



Andrew and Alexa enjoying a book with their mom, Maria.

## FUNDERS

Thank you to the foundations, corporations, government entities, and many individual donors that keep our services high quality, innovative, and affordable for all Johnston County families. Our heartfelt appreciation goes to all of those who support us:

- Acera Wealth Management, LLC / Chris Key
- Atlantic Coast Pipeline LLC
- Benson Housing Authority
- Duke Energy Foundation
- Johnston County Government
- Johnston County Fraternal Order of Police
- KS Bank
- North Carolina Child Care Resource and Referral Council
- North Carolina Community Foundation
- North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services-Children's Trust Fund
- North Carolina Division of Child Development and Early Education
- North Carolina Early Education Coalition
- North Carolina Partnership for Children
- Rotary Club of Central Johnston County
- The Wade Group
- United Way of the Greater Triangle
- Walmart

\*A full list of our supporters can be found on our website [www.partnershipforchildrenjoco.org](http://www.partnershipforchildrenjoco.org)

## LOOKING FORWARD

- In Fall 2019, PFCJC will host another **Think Babies™ Bus Tour**. We will take a tour of childcare facilities in Johnston County while learning about issues that impact infants, toddlers, and their families.
- PFCJC is providing two new programs for our families, **Active Reading** and **Positive Parenting Program (Triple P)**. Active Reading teaches parents strategies to make reading time more enjoyable and engaging while raising strong beginning readers, through a two-part series. Triple P is another short-term intervention to assist parents of young children who are exhibiting a specific problem behavior or issue.
- The **Campaign for Grade Level Reading Steering Committee** is beginning its work to develop a Community Solutions Action Plan to ensure that Johnston County children are reading on track by the end of third grade.
- PFCJC will organize more screenings of **Resilience: The Biology of Stress and the Science of Hope**. This documentary discusses Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and how they impact children and adults. We are also participating in discussions with our judicial district's guardian ad litem program to further promote resiliency in our community.
- PFCJC continues to collaborate with community agencies and participate in the statewide coalition on creating a plan to increase and strengthening family engagement and leadership with hopes of moving toward **implementation** in 2020.

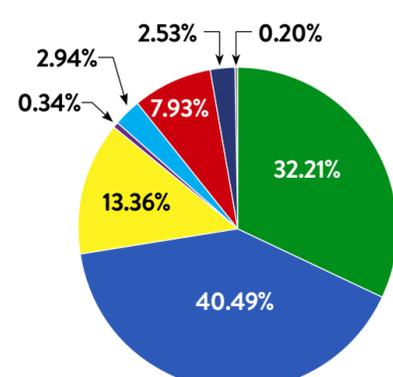
Ms. Shamora, NC Pre K teacher, helping her children get their wiggles out and brains focused.



PFCJC named Nonprofit of the Year by Johnston Now magazine.



## 2018-2019 EXPENDITURES



## STORIES

### United Way Adolescent Parenting Transitions Collaborative

The Adolescent Parenting Program at Johnston County Department of Social Services is the support program for teenage parents and their children. We have been fortunate to collaborate with the Partnership for Children for the past several years through the United Way Adolescent Parenting Transitions grant.

With the help of the Partnership for Children, we have provided a higher level of services for our teens. In our program, we focus on our teens on obtaining their high school diploma or GED, improving maternal and infant/child health care, preventing child protective services involvement and improving parenting skills. Unfortunately, it's a tall order so we are not able to focus on the parenting education and skills as much as we would like. The Partnership filled this gap by providing educational classes focusing solely on our teen parents. Often our teen parents can be defensive of their parenting skills, as they are often judged by the general public. The Partnership has built trust, improved their knowledge of child development, how to address unwanted behaviors, managing stress, and much more. They are truly making a difference in the lives of our community and future generations.

- **Nathalia Parrish, Adolescent Parenting Program Supervisor**

### Early Childhood

The Partnership for Children has impacted our community and the families Little Believer's Academy serves in so many ways this past year. One of our families was able to take part in the parenting classes as she has a set of twins and a new infant. Parenting was difficult for her prior to the classes because the twins were very curious and she didn't know how to effectively parent. Not only have the classes helped her with the struggles of parenting, they have allowed her to become a strong advocate for her family by attending Strolling Thunder in Raleigh, speaking to legislators and boosting her self-esteem as a parent. Since beginning the programs, she has become a stronger parent, started a new job, and now has a car. I am so proud of the impact the Partnership has made on this family.

Little Believer's also serves as an NC Pre K contractor. Partnership staff have been available all year providing support to our classrooms, from room arrangements to professional development and supporting children with challenging behaviors. As a result of the stellar technical assistance and NC Pre K support, we scored very well on our ECERS quality assessment.

Little Believer's Academy has enjoyed working with the Partnership for Children of Johnston County because they care about all people and they want the best for our community. I look forward to even more great outcomes this upcoming year!

- **Cassandra Brooks M.Ed., Owner of Little Believer's Academy**

### Family Support

The Partnership has made a great impact in my family. They have helped us grow as individuals and be better parents. We have received more than what we expected. They always reach out to us just to simply ask how we are doing or what else they can do to help us as a family. Having the Partnership in our lives is so important to me and my family because they are someone we can always count on.

- **Claudia Urbina, Parent**

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# Partnership For Children Park

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We extend our sincere gratitude to the many other community donors!

