



Head Start turns 60!

The Head Start Project launched in 1965 as a comprehensive child development program. Over the last six decades, it has provided a window of opportunity to more than 40 million vulnerable children and their families. Since 1965, Head Start has impacted the life circumstances of more than 40 million children and families: better health, better preparation for kindergarten, greater likelihood of graduating high school and going on to post-secondary education.

We are proudly celebrating Head Start's 60th birthday by spreading the word about the monumental impact Head Start has had on children, their families, their communities, and the country.



In this newsletter you can expect:

Event Updates

Give Local 757 Summary

In the Classroom Highlights

PACT Spotlight

Donations

How you can help



Sham Rock-N-Roll in Franklin

The Annual Sham Rock-N-Roll was a BLAST in March! Children, teachers, and families enjoyed rolling on all sorts of wheels in the parking lot of our Texie Camp Marks Center!



Social Work Month

Every March, National Social Work Month recognizes the dedication and empathy social workers across the country deliver while providing services to children and adults in need.

In March, we celebrated our Family Services Staff for their service to our community and demonstrating compassion in action!



Mom & Me Swimming

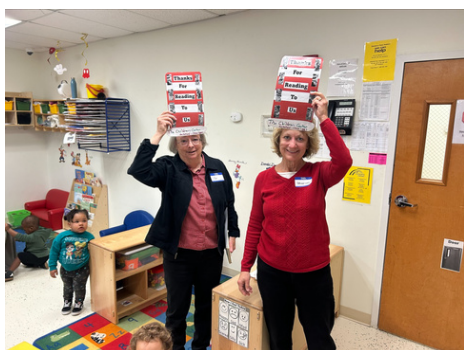
Our Home-Based moms & babies had a swimmingly great time learning CPR basics and Water Safety at the Suffolk YMCA.

Special thanks to Family Advocate Kellie Schwenk for the Mini & Me session that was fun and informative!



Read Across America Celebrations

Each center celebrated Read Across America on March 3rd. We welcomed volunteers into our classrooms to read to children. Thank you to everyone who participated and visited our centers to make this day special as we celebrated the importance of literacy in early childhood!





Another Successful Giving Day!

We participated in Give Local 757 on May 6, 2025 as our Annual Giving Day! Give Local 757 is a regional giving day where many nonprofits in the 757 region aim to raise funds for their mission.

This year, we supported our Early Intervention babies! Many young children need a little extra help to reach certain developmental milestones. The Children's Center has helped many babies in Western Tidewater and beyond grow and learn! This program is a fee-based program, however many families enroll at little to no cost. No child is turned away for the inability to pay for services. Because of that, this program needs donations to keep going!

We often need to purchase developmental materials such as books, sensory manipulatives, and equipment for our therapists to use when working with children.

We were able to raise \$2,794 for the Early Intervention program! We surpassed our \$2,000 goal with flying colors! Thank you to each and every donor who supported us this year. The Early Intervention team is excited to utilize these funds for the program. All donations will be in our next edition of this newsletter!



Thank you for donating!

In the Classroom



Earth Day in Suffolk!



Community workers week
in Smithfield!



Read Across America in
Courtland!



Spring Fling in Suffolk!



Police visit in Suffolk!

All classrooms are implementing the STREAMin3 curriculum and children are enjoying the interactive activities! This curriculum is funded by the Obici Healthcare Foundation and the Virginia Department of Education.



Follow us on
Facebook and Instagram!
FB: @thechildrenscenterVA
IG: @thechildrenscenterofficial

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PACT Events



PACT represents Parents and Children Together. Families enrolled in our homebased Early Head Start program gather once a week for educational, fun activities where they can interact and play with their child.



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Donations

We embrace the community as our partner in serving children. Donations help make our programs stronger. The Children's Center extends many thanks to the good friends who have made donations between January 1, 2025 - April 30, 2025. You can donate online at www.childrenscentervva.com/donate.

In Memory

David Betz

Nancy Edens
Donald Spengeman
Susan Rieger

Ann Marie Brotzman

Owen & Ann Gillette

Lewis Dunlow

Owen & Ann Gillette

Leah & Marshall Hubbard

Mark Hubbard

Mr. & Mrs. William T. Jones

Judith Jones Terrell
Bill Jones, Jr.

Palmer Runnels

Georgianna Runnels

Bracy Smith

Denise Smith-Barnes

Carter Stephenson

Lauren Harper

Jan Tomlin

Joe & Linda Drake

In Honor

Chris Cole

Troy & Jane Miller

Rosalind Cutchins

Lane & Perkinson, P.C.

Barbara Mease

Susan Morton

Jane Miller

Stephen & Christine Cole

In Honor

G.Lee Taylor

Chester & Sandra Hart

Donors & In-Kind

Bryon & Nancy Arnone
Stephen & Christine Cole
Vicky Doxey
Joe & Linda Drake
Nancy Edens
John Fisher
William Fowler
Owen & Ann Gillette
Lauren Harper
Chester & Sandra Hart
Bruce Herbkersman
Mark Hubbard
Susan Rieger
Georgianna Runnels
Denise Smith-Barnes
Jennifer & Matt Spencer
Donald Spengeman
Sarah Wright

Community Donors

Bennett's Creek Sertoma Club
Birdsong Peanuts
City of Franklin
City of Suffolk
Department of HHS
Franklin-Southampton United Way

Community Donors

Lane & Perkinson, P.C.
Obici Healthcare Foundation
Old Dominion University
Richard Bennett Trust
United Way of South Hampton Roads
USDA
Virginia Early Childhood Foundation

You can make a
donation online at
childrenscentervva.com!



Give Local 757 donors
will be acknowledged on
the next Rainbow News.

How you can support us!



Donate!

You can donate directly to the Children's Center through our website www.childrenscentervva.com, or by mail at 700 Campbell Avenue, Franklin, VA 23851. Your donation can be made in memory or honor of a loved one or friend and designated to a particular building or program. Have you considered a continuing monthly donation by credit card? Click on the DONATE button at the top of our website! When you pay through PayPal you have the option to make your payment recurring!

In Kind Gifts

We accept In-kind gifts including classroom supplies and materials. We accept classroom art supplies, educational toys, recreational toys, and other general supplies. You can donate these items to any center!

Planned Giving

You can make an impact on children for many years to come through planned giving. Planned gifts also give back and can help you prepare for your future. This allows you to take a sizeable tax deduction, and provide favorable capital gains tax treatment. Planned giving allows you to leave a legacy that fits your philanthropic goals.

Follow Us!

The Children's Center is on Facebook and Instagram! Follow us on both so you never miss an update or photo! Sharing our page, including our posts and photos, can help us reach more people and carry out our mission every day!

Amazon Wish Lists

Do you shop on Amazon? Our teachers have wish lists on Amazon! You can help supply our classrooms with needed items! Visit our website to learn more and get the links for each center!

Rite Aid Kid Cents

The Children's Center is part of the Rite Aid Kid Cents program! You can round up your change when you make a purchase at any Rite Aid in the country and designate it to The Children's Center. Go to www.kidscents.com for more details!

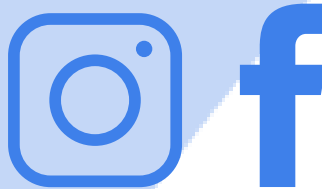
NAP Tax Credits

The Virginia Neighborhood Assistance Program provides tax incentives for individuals who donate \$500 or more to The Children's Center in a 6 month period.



**The Children's Center is a partner with
United Way South Hampton Roads and
United Way Franklin Southampton
Area. You can designate your United
Way or Combined Virginia Campaign to
us at Agency #5076!**

***Commonwealth of Virginia campaign
#29-005076***



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@TheChildrensCenterVA

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females/disabled/veterans). We recruit, employ, train, compensate, and promote without regard to
race, religion, creed, national origin, age, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, veteran
status, or any other basis protected by applicable federal, state, or local law.*

*We thank you for your continued support in
our efforts to nurture and
educate children and families!*

www.childrenscenterva.com