

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMINDERS:

- \* ALL PARTICIPANTS ARE AUTOMATICALLY MUTED.
- \* PLEASE SHARE YOUR QUESTIONS FOR SPEAKERS IN THE CHAT BOX.
- \* THIS MEETING WILL BE RECORDED & AVAILABLE AT: <https://www.firstup.org/sepecc/>



# SEPECC Meeting

Tuesday, January 16, 2024

A wooden sign with a white border, hanging from a white string. The sign is divided into two horizontal sections by a white line. The top section contains the word "Welcome" in a white, cursive font. The bottom section contains the word "¡Bienvenido!" in a white, cursive font.

Meeting will begin at 12:30pm

## Agenda:

- 12:30 Welcome
- 12:35 Federal, State & Local Budget/Policy Updates
- 12:45 Advocacy Skill Building & Activities
- 1:05 OCDEL, ELRC & DHS Announcements
- 1:25 Special Presentation: Kindergarten Registration and Transition: Resources for Teachers & Families
- 1:45 Community Partner Resources
- 2:00 Wrap Up

Language Interpretation is available during this presentation.  
Interpretación de idiomas está disponible durante esta presentación.

- Select this icon 🌐 at the bottom of your screen AND choose your preferred language.
- Seleccione este ícono 🌐 en la parte inferior de su pantalla y elija su idioma preferido.

Please Note - Tenga en cuenta

1. The Interpretation Feature can only be used on mobile phone using the zoom app.  
En los teléfonos móviles, solamente se puede acceder a la función de interpretación utilizando la aplicación de zoom.
2. Select "mute original audio" if you do NOT want to hear other languages at a lower volume.  
Seleccione "mute original audio" (silenciar el audio original) si prefiere NO escuchar otros idiomas a un volumen más bajo.
3. Please mute your sound to minimize interference.  
Por favor, apague su micrófono para disminuir las interferencias.
4. ALL participants MUST select one language, English or Spanish, for the feature to work properly.  
TODOS los participantes DEBEN seleccionar un idioma, inglés o español, para que la función trabaje apropiadamente.



MARY GRAHAM,  
CHILDREN'S VILLAGE

TYRONE SCOTT,  
FIRST UP

# BUDGET & POLICY UPDATES (FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL)

# FEDERAL - TAKE ACTION NOW!

## EMAIL CONGRESS NOW!

- It's time to speak up about annual funding! Congress still has not finalized their decisions on funding for child care and they need to hear from you.
- Add your voice to the call for increased funding by emailing your lawmakers today! We just need a few pieces of information to connect you with your lawmakers.

### Instructions:

1. Click here to complete the form: [https://www.childcareaware.org/email-your-lawmaker-2023/?doing\\_wp\\_cron=1695059020.4969389438629150390625](https://www.childcareaware.org/email-your-lawmaker-2023/?doing_wp_cron=1695059020.4969389438629150390625)
2. Review and customize the email template.
3. When you are ready, click the 'submit' button to send your email.



STATE- TAKE ACTION NOW!

**Join us for  
texting  
Tuesday!**

**Tell Governor Shapiro  
to Fund Child Care**

**Text 717-788-8990**



Sample messages-

- I own/direct a child care/pre-k program and can't recruit or retain staff. We need more state funding to solve this crisis.
- Child care programs and classrooms are closing and need more state funding to stay open.
- My job as a child care/pre-k teacher allows others to work - but I shouldn't have to work 3 jobs to support my own family. We need more state funding to solve this crisis.
- Child care programs and classrooms are closing and need more state funding to stay open.
- Or, write your own message.



# ADVOCACY



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# MEETING WITH SENATOR CASEY'S LEGISLATIVE AIDE FOR EDUCATION

DAMARIS ALVARADO-RODRIGUEZ, THE CHILDREN'S PLAYHOUSE EARLY LEARNING CENTERS



# LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

Jan. 9, 2024:

**SEPECC**  
leaders met  
virtually with  
**Senator Bob**  
**Casey's**  
legislative  
aide on  
education:  
**Sydney**  
**Brooks**

The image shows a Zoom meeting interface with six participants in a 2x3 grid. The participants are: Damaris Alvarado (External), Eleanor Levie (Guest), Mary Graham (Guest), Brooks, Sydney (Casey), Shawn Towey (External), and Laverne Cheeseboro (Guest). To the right of the grid is a large circular logo with the letters 'DO' and the text 'Damaris's OtterPilot (Guest)'. At the bottom right, there is a small inset window showing a woman with blonde hair and the text 'First Up' and 'Champion for Early Education'. The Windows taskbar is visible at the bottom, showing the search bar, 'First Up' button, and system tray with the time 3:16 PM on 1/9/2024.





## OUR ADVOCACY MESSAGE

**Sydney Brooks, thank your boss, Senator Casey, for his continuous championing of quality childcare, and for co-sponsoring SB 1354, the Childcare for Working Families Act.**

**Here is our collected testimony to help him get this bill passed!**

## OUR ADVOCACY MESSAGES

**Jackie Groetsch of First Up: First Up and SEPECC both empower early childhood educators with resources and support, making sure they are fully deserving of a living wage and growth.**

**Mary Graham of Children's Village: ECE funding is based on a flawed system of subsidy payments based on market rate survey, not on the true cost of care model.**

## OUR ADVOCACY MESSAGE

**Laverne Cheesboro of Heavenly Made Creations:** As one of approximately 400 Family Childcare programs in PA, she is committed to her families who cannot pay more, but the inability to pay staff prevents her from expanding and flourishing.

**Shineal Hunter of Family Circle Academy:** As a 4th generation child care provider, I am heartbroken that I recently had to close my center, return to being a family program and thus turn many children away. My daughters won't want to make childcare a 5<sup>th</sup> generation business...it's just not sustainable.

## OUR ADVOCACY MESSAGE

**Damaris Alvarado-Rodriguez of Children's Playhouse Early Learning Centers:** Many of my kids who have faced trauma in their lives are further traumatized by the constant turnover of my teachers. Like so many, these teachers are often forced to leave jobs they love to get higher paying jobs elsewhere.

**Shawn Towey of PACCA:** 90% of childcare programs in Pennsylvania report staffing crises, an inability to operate at capacity or to accept more kids. The impact of inadequate childcare which forces parents to stay home is estimated at \$6.65 billion.

## OUR ADVOCACY MESSAGE

**Eleanor Levie, a volunteer advocate with SEPECC from the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW). Inspired by my Jewish values, I know that quality childcare should be a right for all kids. It's a moral imperative that we lift up children and their families: quality childcare and parent engagement = a path out of poverty.**

# SYDNEY BROOKS' RESPONSE

- **Thank you for your stories. We may ask you to present testimony in a committee hearing.**
- **2024 is still in a state of play.**
- **In the Democratic Caucus, the Childcare for Working Families Act is a pillar (i.e., essential).**
- **Yes, there will be budget concessions made to the minority party.**
- **Help us move the needle with Republican legislators.**
- **Advocate for a House bill companion to SB 1534 — Brian Fitzpatrick (R, Bucks County) could be a key player!**



Come out meet State Representative Danilo Burgos along with local State and City departments as they will be hosting a Small Business Resource Seminar for local entrepreneurs, and business owners in the 197th community about the business resource available.

The seminar will offer experts in the business field to provide guidance and support to help your business thrive. The member and staff can also assist you with government-related problems you may have with your business.

# SMALL BUSINESS SEMINAR

HOSTED BY

State Rep.  
**DANILO BURGOS**  
197th Legislative District




Thursday, Jan. 18th  
3:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Voice of Praise  
Worldwide Ministries

3509 Old York Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19140

District Office:  
635 W. Erie Ave. • Philadelphia, PA 19140  
(215) 223-1890 • Toll-Free: (833) 787-1343

RepBurgos.com •    @RepBurgos



Venga a conocer al Representante Estatal Danilo Burgos junto con los departamentos locales del Estado y la Ciudad, ya que serán los anfitriones de un Seminario de Recursos para Pequeños Negocios para los empresarios locales, y los dueños de negocios en la comunidad del distrito 197 sobre los recursos empresariales disponibles.

El seminario contará con expertos en el ámbito empresarial que le ofrecerán orientación y apoyo para que su empresa prospere. El miembro y el personal también pueden ayudarle con los problemas relacionados con el gobierno que pueda tener con su negocio.

# SEMINARIO PARA PEQUEÑOS NEGOCIOS

ORGANIZADO POR EL

Rep. Estatal  
**DANILO BURGOS**  
Distrito legislativo 197



Jueves 18 de enero  
3:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Voice of Praise  
Worldwide Ministries

3509 Old York Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19140

Oficina del Distrito:  
635 W. Erie Ave. • Philadelphia, PA 19140  
(215) 223-1890 • Línea gratuita: (833) 787-1343

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# POLICY WINS FOR CHILD CARE IN 2023

ELIZABETH OZER, FIRST UP





## WINS FOR BABIES & TODDLERS #1-5



1. Presidential Leadership for early care and education.
2. Bipartisan introduction of the Strengthening America's Families Act (SAFA).
3. State expansion of paid leave.
4. State adoption of Medicaid postpartum coverage extension.
5. State adoption of Child Tax Credits.

## WINS FOR BABIES #6-10

6. Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health (IECMH) in the states.

7. The Congressional Dads Caucus.

8. Raising awareness of the impact of climate change on babies.

9. Continuous Medicaid coverage for young children gains ground.

10. Babies and advocates return to Washington, DC.



WASHINGTON, D.C. EARLY EDUCATION TEACHERS ARE PAID ON PAR WITH D.C. PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS.



## ECE WINS AROUND THE STATES

- **New Mexico** and the **District of Columbia** use cost estimation models to set child care subsidy rates for providers based on the cost of high-quality care.
- **New Mexico** also raised eligibility for child care subsidies for families earning up to 400 percent of federal poverty guidelines while waiving copays, effectively making child care free for these families.
- **Vermont** is investing \$125 million annually to expand subsidies for families earning up to 575 percent of the FPL.
- The governor of **North Dakota** signed a bill in April 2023 that eliminates copayments for families with incomes under 100 percent of the FPL.

# ECE WINS AROUND THE STATES

- **Eight states** have set income eligibility at the federal limit of no more than 85 percent of state median income (SMI), and 21 states have set the second tier graduated phase-out level at 85 percent of SMI.



- **Minnesota** invested \$750 million in new funding for child care and early learning programs, expanding eligibility for child care assistance and establishing the Great Start Compensation Support Payment Program for child care providers.

- **New York** invested in its child care sector by expanding eligibility for subsidies to families earning up to 300 percent of the FPL, waiving copays for families under 100 percent of the FPL, and capping copays for all other families at 10 percent of their income.

# LOCAL ADVOCACY WORKS!

- **Washington** state's Fair Start for Kids initiative raises family income limits for child care subsidies to 60 percent of the SMI and caps family copays at 7 percent of income. It also raises provider reimbursement rates to the 85th percentile of market rates and funds health insurance for providers.
- **Louisiana, Wisconsin, West Virginia,** and **Utah** have also set their reimbursement rates above the 75th percentile of the market rate.





# AUSTIN, TEXAS PROP 2 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

BRITANYA BROWN, COMMUNITY CHANGE







**COMMUNITY CHANGE** ACTION

BRITANYA BROWN

COMMUNITY CHANGE / CHILDCARE CHANGEMAKERS

BSBROWN@COMMUNITYCHANGE.ORG



# SHAPING THE NARRATIVE

The Washington Post  
*Democracy Dies in Darkness*

© This article was published more than 1 year ago

A CRISIS OF CARE

## In Texas, child-care providers are returning to a broken system

### IT'S YOUR STORY – TELL IT

Uplifting authentic lived experiences of directly impacted people on a local, state and national level

Work in coalitions with other parents, providers, community orgs and elected officials



HOW? WHEN? WHERE?

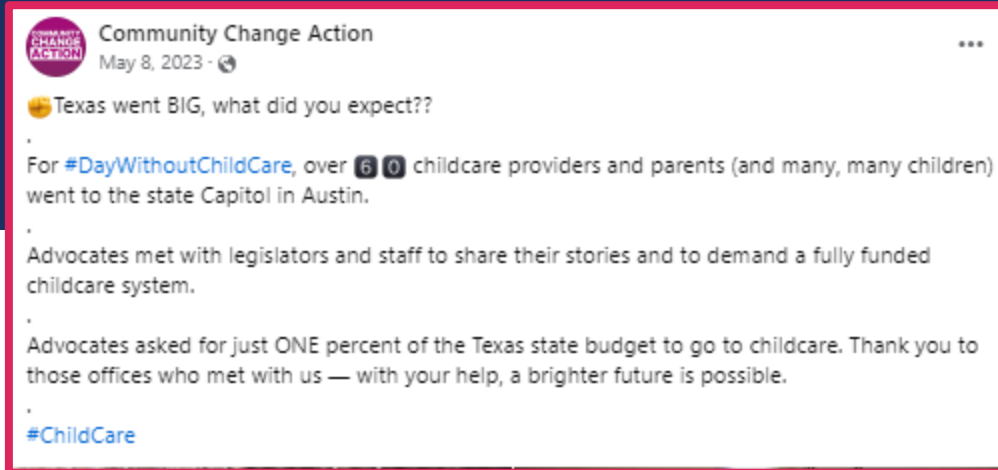


# BUILDING POWER

## BE A CHANGEMAKER

Parents, educators and community leaders/organizations have what it takes to SHIFT the childcare narrative & **BUILD POWER FROM THE GROUND UP!**

- Clarify your demands
- Target those in “power”
- Take action together
- WASH, RINSE, REPEAT!





COMMUNITY  
CHANGE ACTION

“

**This win was a labor of love and organizing from providers, parents, and communities throughout Texas.**

**As an early childhood educator, I give my all to the children and families I serve because I know that they're our future. Even in the face of the federal child care cliff, I knew we couldn't give up on moving solutions forward. **Prop 2 passing means more providers like me will be able keep our doors open while we fight for the federal funding we need for a 21st century childcare system we all deserve.****

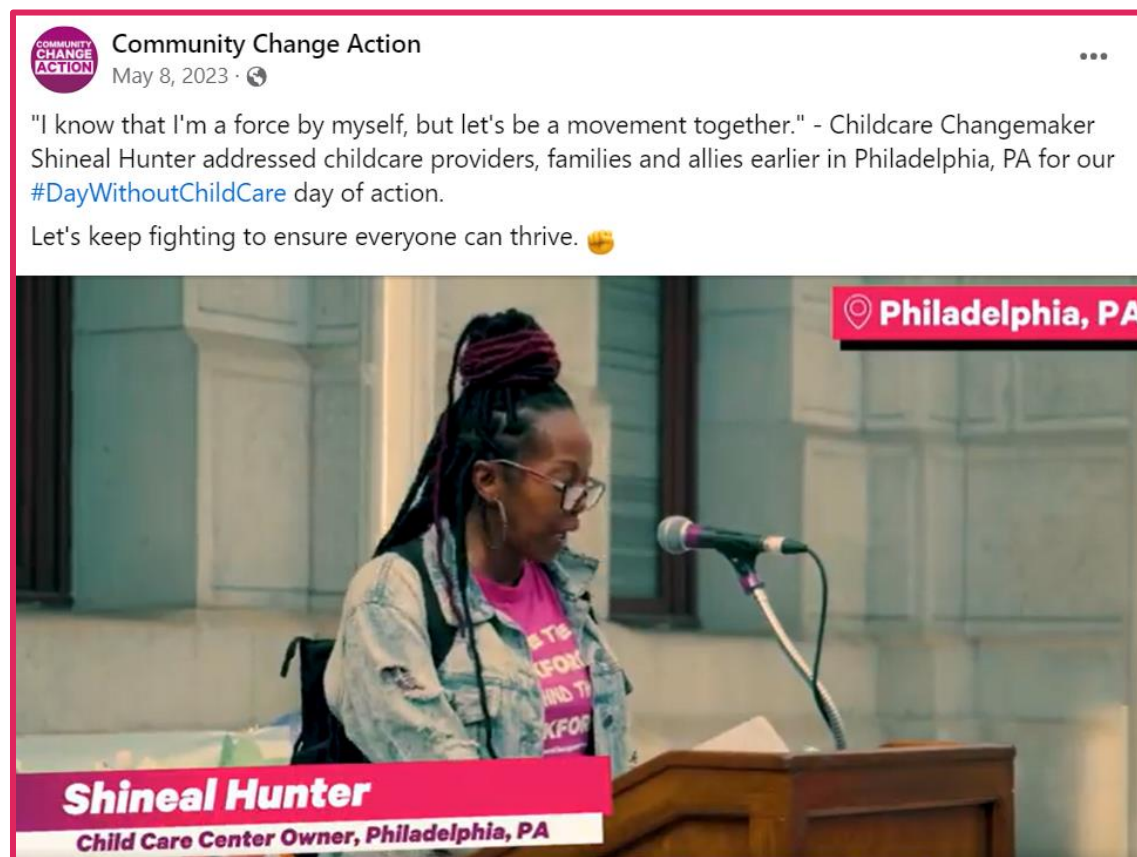
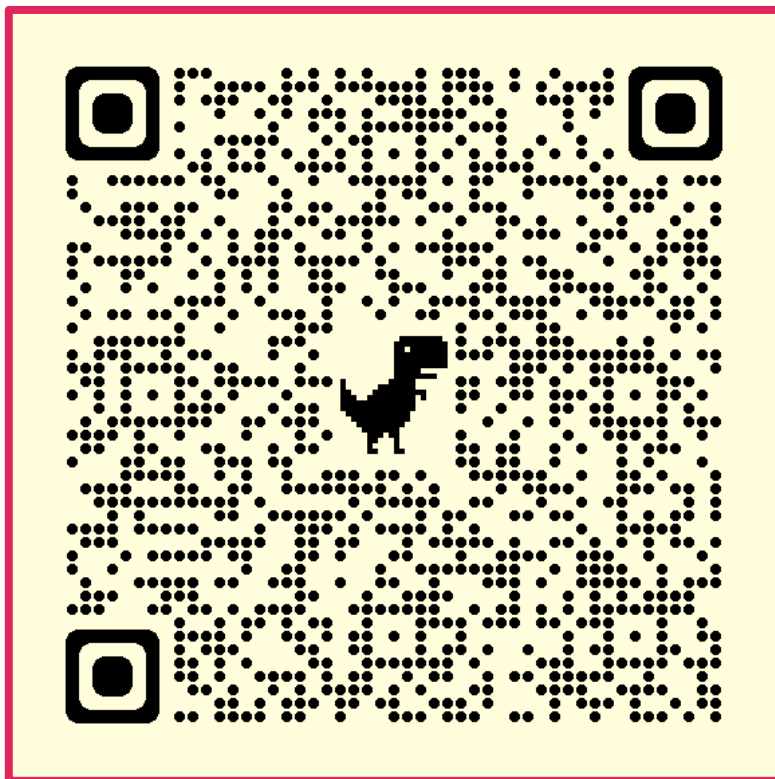
”

**BriTanya Brown**

**Community Change Action Childcare Changemaker & provider-owner of Our Loving Village in Stamford, Texas**

# GET INVOLVED PA

## SCAN ME!



<https://act.communitychangeaction.org/a/pa-changemakers-zoom-meet-greet>

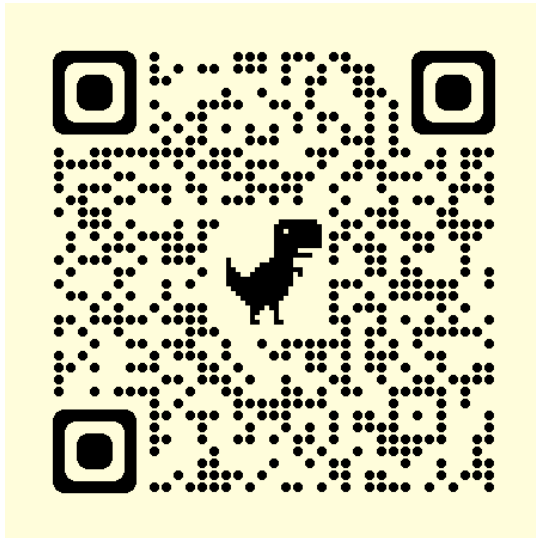


VOTE YES ON  
**PROP 2**

for **Tiny Texans**

COMMUNITY  
**CHANGE** ACTION

**BOOK ME!**



**BRITANYA BROWN**

**COMMUNITY CHANGE / CHILDCARE CHANGEMAKERS**

**BSBROWN@COMMUNITYCHANGE.ORG**



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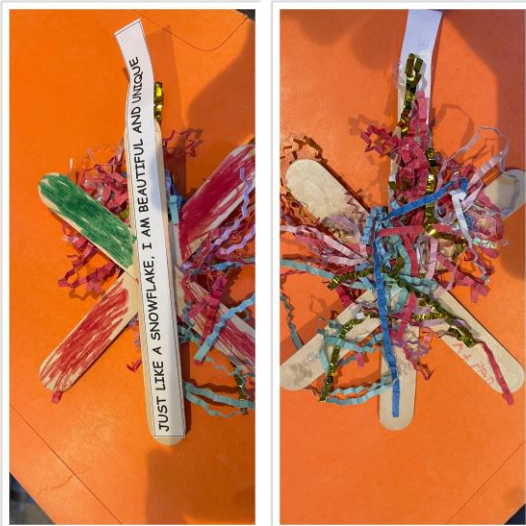
# SNOWFLAKE ADVOCACY CRAFT

MONIQUE ROYE, BEANSTALK PRESCHOOL



# ADVOCACY CRAFT ACTIVITIES

## “SNOWFLAKES ARE UNIQUE” @ BEANSTALK SCHOOL



We used the Snowflake Activity as an inspiration.

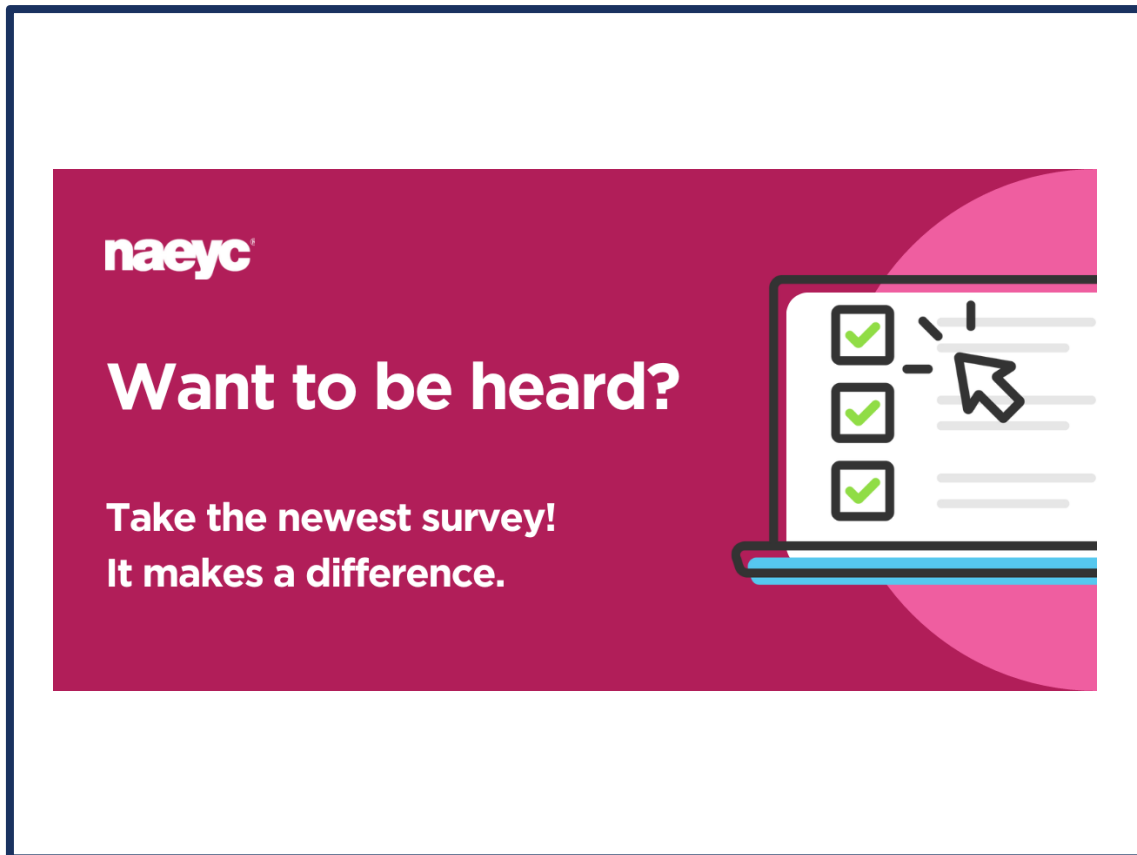
Instead of using crayons and watercolors, we used popsicle sticks, paint, glue and various materials to make a hanging snowflake, we had some of our parents help!

We still used the same slogan: “Just like a Snowflake, I am beautiful and unique”

We displayed some throughout the school, some went home with parents and others were sent to Mayor Parker’s office along w/invitation to visit our school.



# NAEYC SURVEY- WINTER 2024 (RESPOND BY JANUARY 21, 2024)



English:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6HBPYDV>

Spanish:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6HTRR38>

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# OCDEL, ELRC & DHS Announcements

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**JANETTA (NETTA) RADZINSKI** – OFFICE OF CHILD  
DEVELOPMENT AND EARLY LEARNING (OCDEL)  
[C-JRADZINS@PA.GOV](mailto:C-JRADZINS@PA.GOV)

**ANN NARKIEWICZ** – DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN  
SERVICES (DHS)  
[ANARKIEWIC@PA.GOV](mailto:ANARKIEWIC@PA.GOV)

**ANDREW CARTER** - EARLY LEARNING  
RESOURCE CENTERS (ELRC)  
[ACARTER@PHMC.ORG](mailto:ACARTER@PHMC.ORG)



**NETTA RADZINSKI** | SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR  
 EXTERNAL RELATIONS  
 OFFICE OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND EARLY  
 LEARNING  
 607 SOUTH DR, 4TH FL ROTUNDA | HARRISBURG,  
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[WWW.DHS.PA.GOV](http://WWW.DHS.PA.GOV) | [WWW.EDUCATION.STATE.PA.US](http://WWW.EDUCATION.STATE.PA.US)



ACARTER@PHMC.ORG  
ELRC REGION 15

# ELRC UPDATES

## ■ Continuous Quality Improvement Grants

- Eligibility based on provider type, STAR level, licensed capacity as of 11/30/23
- For STAR 2,3,4 providers and STAR 1 sites actively working on movement with open designation request in PD Registry as of 11/30/23 and designation completed by 1/12/24
- Approved spending based on expenses connected with meeting Keystone STARS standards and costs to achieve Alternate Pathway
- Eligibility letters will be sent between 12/18/23 and 1/15/24 with payments going out by end of March 2024

# CQI GRANT CONTACT INFORMATION

ALL CQI GRANT RELATED QUESTIONS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO YOUR REGION AS FOLLOWS:

| <b>Region 15<br/>Delaware County</b>  | <b>Region 16<br/>Bucks County</b> | <b>Region 17<br/>Montgomery<br/>County</b> | <b>Region 18<br/>Philadelphia</b>  | <b>Region 19<br/>Chester County</b> |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| elrc15workforcesupportgrants@phmc.org | elrc-ksgrants@cscinc.org          | elrcregion17@pa.gov                        | <u><a href="mailto:elrc18grants@caringpeoplealliance.org">elrc18grants@caringpeoplealliance.org</a></u><br><br>Note: all award letters will be emailed to eligible providers at the same date/time (TBA) | elrc19grants@phmc.org               |

# ELRC 15 REMINDERS

*Contact ELRC 15 for additional information or assistance*

- **Quality Coach meeting locations:**

- Resource hub at Park Lane Elementary School
- DCIU every Thursday
- Chester Crozer Library every Wednesday

For these office hours, please contact your Quality Coach to make sure that they are available.

- Delaware County has recently updated the Human Services website and the monthly provider newsletter that is mailed out will be available online at <https://delcohsa.org/elrc.html> The newsletter includes any ELRC updates, due dates for invoices and any upcoming events in the region.

# ELRC 16 REMINDERS

*Contact ELRC 16 for assistance or additional information*

- **ELRC Provider Link**

ELRC 16's monthly provider newsletter. You will find STARS and CCW updates, OCDEL news, and regional events. To access this month's newsletter and to subscribe, go to:

<https://elrc-csc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Provider-Link-January-2024-Region-16.pdf>

- **Bucks County Directors Alliance**

All providers are invited to join community partners and Quality Coaches at our monthly Bucks County Directors Alliance meeting! Attendance is strongly recommended as there are important updates for all childcare providers! Each month we focus on a different topic, and community partners share their agency updates. Invitations can be found in the Provider Link Newsletter noted above. Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM.



# ELRC 17 REMINDERS

*Contact ELRC 17 for assistance or additional information*

- **Montgomery County: Childcare Operation Recovery Grant Program**
  - Approximately \$4,000,000 has been allocated out of the Montgomery County Recovery Plan for the Childcare Operation Recovery Grant Program. This funding provides operational grants to licensed Childcare Providers and School-aged Before and After School programs in Montgomery County to help them recover from the financial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic caused by decreased enrollments, reduced staffing, and/or closures due to COVID-19 outbreaks.
  - In order to be eligible for this program, providers must be licensed by Pennsylvania DHS/OCDEL Bureau of Certification and must have a physical address within Montgomery County. The amount of each grant will be determined by the number of children for which the facility is licensed.
  - The Montgomery County Recovery Office is currently accepting applications for the Childcare Operation Recovery Grant Program from eligible providers in Montgomery County.
  - Interested and eligible child care providers can apply for the Childcare Operation Recovery Grant Program on the Montgomery County Recovery Office website at <https://tinyurl.com/edbtnzpc>.
  - The deadline to apply for the Childcare Operation Recovery Grant Program has been extended to February 15, 2024.
  - Please contact your ELRC 17 Keystone STARS Quality Coach with any questions.

# ELRC 17 REMINDERS

*Contact ELRC 17 for assistance or additional information*

- **ELRC 17 Provider Survey- Substitute Teacher Pool**
  - Montgomery County is committed to addressing the staffing crisis in our region and proposes to do so by creating a substitute teacher pool. The Montgomery County Recovery Office has allocated \$500,000.00 toward research and strategic planning to address early childhood work force issues involved around hiring, staff retention, workforce development and access to child care. We would like to hear from you!
  - Below is the link to a fillable survey to complete the “Provider Survey Regarding a Substitute Teacher Pool”:
  - <https://alongtheway.socialsolutionsportal.com/apricot-intake/fl62a836-39a1-4b48-9375-ef421408723c>
  - We appreciate and value your feedback. Please take a few minutes to complete the provider survey by **Friday, January 19, 2024.**
  - If you have any questions, please contact your Keystone STARS Quality Coach.

# ELRC 17 REMINDERS

*Contact ELRC 17 for assistance or additional information*

- **ELRC 17 Upcoming Meetings**

- Local Leadership Council Hybrid Meeting

- Date: Wednesday January 31<sup>st</sup> 1pm-2:30pm

- <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tjEpd--qrzooHdPGbPZeIY8L9IozJlIFquKN#/registration>

- Health & Safety Regional Task Force Hybrid Meeting

- Date: Tuesday February 27<sup>th</sup> 1pm-2:30pm

- <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tjAkc-2grzsoEtUVsnLou-b4wgrQ0AOLib8F>

# ELRC 18 REMINDERS

Contact ELRC 18 for assistance or additional information

- **ELRC 18 E-bulletin**

ELRC 18 shares a wide range of information and resources through an electronic newsletter that is sent out as needed. To add your email to the distribution list or if you have items you would like to share with other Philadelphia providers, please email [dgetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:dgetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org).

- **Children's Village Beginner Business Series for Directors**

The last cohort of the fiscal year will run April 18 and May 2, 9 and 23 from 12:30-3:30p. Don't miss out on this opportunity! Check out the [flyer and application](#). Other upcoming series include:

- [Intermediate Series for Center Directors](#) (must have taken the Beginner Series)
  - February 27, March 12 and 26 and April 2 and 23 from 12:30-3:30p
- [Human Resources Series for Center Directors](#) (must have completed the Beginner Series)
  - March 20, April 3 and 17, and May 1, 15 and 29 from 1-4
- [Beginner Series for Family Child Care Providers Cohort 3](#) – May 16, 23, 30 and June 6 from 6:30-8:30p

- **Provider Networking Meetings**

Check out the e-bulletin for a complete list of provider networking opportunities, both hosted by ELRC18 and other community partners.

# ELRC 19 REMINDERS

*Contact ELRC 19 for assistance or additional information*

- **ELRC Region 19 Weekly Early Education Newsletter**

ELRC 19's provider newsletter is delivered weekly to your inbox. You will find current announcements, OCDEL news, Keystone STARS and CCW updates, and information about regional services and events. To subscribe to the ELRC 19 weekly newsletter, go to our website: [www.elrc19chesco.org](http://www.elrc19chesco.org) and click on the subscription box.

- **ELRC 19 Provider Chit Chat**

All Chester County providers are invited to join our community partners and Quality Coaches at our bi-monthly virtual Provider Chit Chat meeting! Participation is strongly recommended as important information for all Chester County childcare providers is shared! Each meeting brings a different presenter and topic. **The next meeting is February 6<sup>th</sup> at 10 am and our guest presenters will be representatives from OCDEL Certification.** Information and invitations can be found in our weekly newsletter. Subscribe to our newsletter by clicking on the subscription box on our website: [www.elrc19chesco.org](http://www.elrc19chesco.org)

# SOUTHEAST ELRC OFFICES'

Contact your local ELRC for assistance or additional information

| Region 15<br>Delaware County  | Region 16<br>Bucks County   | Region 17<br>Montgomery County  | Region 18<br>Philadelphia  | Region 19<br>Chester County   |
|---|---|---|--|---|
| Delaware County<br><a href="mailto:Elrc15-email@delcohsa.org">Elrc15-<br/>email@delcohsa.org</a>  | Community Services<br>for Children<br><a href="mailto:ELRC16@cscinc.org">ELRC16@cscinc.org</a>  | Montgomery County<br><a href="mailto:ELRCRegion17@pa.gov">ELRCRegion17@pa.gov</a>   | Caring People Alliance<br><a href="mailto:info@philadelphiaelrc18.org">info@philadelphiaelrc18.org</a>   | Public Health<br>Management<br>Corporation (PHMC)<br><a href="mailto:ELRC19@phmc.org">ELRC19@phmc.org</a>                                   |
| Office Location   | Office Location   | Office Location   | Office Location  | Office Location   |
| 20 South 69 <sup>th</sup> St<br>4 <sup>th</sup> Floor<br>Upper Darby, PA<br>19082-2528<br>610-713-2115<br>1-800-831-3117<br>Fax: 610-713-2333 | Fairless Hills<br>333 Oxford Rd, Suite<br>402-403 Fairless Hills,<br>PA 19030-2624<br>833-229-6928<br>215-486-2524<br>Fax: 267-202-6517 | Montgomery County<br>P.O Box 311<br>1430 Dekalb Street<br>Norristown, PA 19404<br>610-278-3707<br>1-800-281-1116<br>Fax: 610-278-5161 | 2361-2372 Welsh Road<br>Philadelphia, PA 19114<br>(215) 382-4762<br>1-888-461-KIDS (5437)<br>Hearing Impaired TTY Service<br>1-877-PA-Kids (1-877-472-5437)<br>Fax: (215) 382-1199 | Chester County<br>Intermediate Unit<br>455 Boot Rd,<br>Downingtown, PA<br>19335-3043<br>484-593-5050<br>1-866-262-8565<br>Fax: 610-343-1605 |
|   | Quakertown<br>136B Mill Rd<br>Quakertown, PA<br>18951<br>833-229-6928<br>267-898-3980<br>Fax – 267-247-5122                             |   |  |   |

# Special Presentation: Kindergarten Registration and Transition: Resources for Teachers & Families

**Shelley Crognale**, School District of Philadelphia

**Minette Taylor**, Mini Montessori Academy

**Damaris Alvarado-Rodriguez**, Children's Playhouse

**Rosanna Matos**, First Up



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF  
PHILADELPHIA

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SHELLEY CROGNALE

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA  
OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD  
EDUCATION

[SCROGNALE@PHILASD.ORG](mailto:SCROGNALE@PHILASD.ORG)



# KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

**Kindergarten registration for the 2024-2025 school year is now open.**

*Families can register:*

- Online using the [Online Registration \(OLR\) System](#)
- In-person at:
  - your catchment (neighborhood) school
  - the Office of Student Enrollment and Placement at 440 N. Broad St.



*District schools will hold two Kindergarten Open Houses:*

- 1) Open House Day is March 5
- 2) Open House Week is May 13 - 17

Please check [philasd.org/thriveatfive](https://philasd.org/thriveatfive) for details



# BUILDING BRIDGES - KINDERGARTEN TRANSITION PLANNING

**Building Bridges is February 9th this year!**



**Registration is open now!**

# KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION SUPPORT

## **District Support Offices**

*Office of Early Childhood:*  
[ktransition@philasd.org](mailto:ktransition@philasd.org)

215.400.5585

*Office of Diverse Learners:*  
[diverselearners@philasd.org](mailto:diverselearners@philasd.org)

215.400.4170

*Office of Student Enrollment and Placement:*  
[OSEP@philasd.org](mailto:OSEP@philasd.org)

215.400.4290

*Multilingual Family Support:*  
[mac@philasd.org](mailto:mac@philasd.org)

215.400.4180



***MINNETTE TAYLOR, M.ED.,  
MONTESSORI CONSULTANT***

***Owner, G & T Daycare, Montessori Program  
Founder & CEO, Mini Montessori Academy  
NAFCC Pennsylvania State Representative  
PHONE: 858-751-9116***

# Ways to Provide Ongoing Support, Information, and Opportunities for Parents

## 1. Parent & Child Evaluation



## 2. Learning Materials!



## 3. Take home kits!



## 4. Parent Engagements “Teach Me Too!”



## 5. Parent Engagements “On-Line Learning”



## 6. Parent Engagements “Educational Videos”





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DAMARIS ALVARADO-RODRIGUEZ

THE CHILDREN'S PLAYHOUSE ELC  
AND LATINOS EDUCANDO JUNTOS

[DAMARIS.ALVARADO3@GMAIL.COM](mailto:DAMARIS.ALVARADO3@GMAIL.COM)

(Enter Your Logo Here)

## Kindergarten Tool Kit for Families

Welcome to Kindergarten! This kit equips families with resources to support your child's success and make their kindergarten journey joyful and impactful.

### I. At-Home Activities to Boost Student Outcomes:

- **Literacy:**
  - Read together daily: Choose engaging books from the suggested list below (English and Spanish!).
  - Play rhyming games: Sing rhyming songs, clap syllables, create silly rhymes together.
  - Practice writing: Encourage drawing, doodling, writing their name, and simple words.
  - Visit the library: Browse age-appropriate books, attend story times, and interact with librarians.
  - We invite you to borrow books from our lending library, which can be found in the hallways in each school.
- **Math:**
  - Count everything: Steps, objects, animals, cars - make counting fun and relevant.
  - Sort and classify: Arrange toys, clothes, or food by color, size, or type.
  - Play with shapes: Build with blocks, draw shapes, create shape collages.
  - Cook together: Measure ingredients, count scoops, estimate quantities.
- **Social-Emotional:**
  - Role-play and pretend: Act out scenarios like going to school, playing with friends, or resolving conflicts.
  - Talk about feelings: Encourage communication about emotions, use feeling words, and offer positive affirmations.
  - Sing songs and dance: Engage in playful activities that build confidence and express emotions.

- Practice routines: Set consistent schedules for bedtime, meals, and playtime to develop structure and stability.

### II. Book Suggestions:

#### English:

- "The Paper Bag Princess" by Robert Munsch: A girl saves the prince in this gender-bending story.
- "Corduroy" by Don Freeman: A teddy bear longs for a child's love in this heartwarming tale.
- "Where the Wild Things Are" by Maurice Sendak: A classic adventure about a boy's imaginative journey.
- "Chicka Chicka Boom Boom" by Bill Martin Jr.: A vibrant alphabet book with a catchy rhyme.
- "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" by Eric Carle: A colorful story about counting and metamorphosis.
- "Wemberly Worried" by Kevin Henkes
- "Off to Kindergarten" by Tony Johnston: Nervous about starting kindergarten, a boy decides he needs to take all kinds of things with him just in case.
- "Look Out Kindergarten, Here I Come! By Nancy Carlson: The first day of kindergarten is finally here, and Henry can't wait to paint pictures, sing songs, and practice counting.

#### Spanish:

- "Adela y el señor monstruo" por Marta Gómez: A shy girl overcomes her fear of a monster under the bed.
- "El patito feo" (The Ugly Duckling) by Hans Christian Andersen: A timeless story about acceptance and finding your place.
- "Cri, Cri... ¿quién viene?" por Mem Fox: A repetitive rhyming book about discovering new animals.
- "A qué sabe la luna?" por Eric Hill: A playful adventure about a curious bear who wants to taste the moon.
- "Buenas noches, Luna" por Margaret Wise Brown: A classic calming bedtime story.
- "Clifford va a Kindergarten" by Norman Bridwell: Emily Elizabeth is starting kindergarten and she's a little nervous. Good thing that the teacher sent a note home that says each child can bring something from home to make the transition a little easier.

### III. School Registration Timelines in

**(Enter Public School and Charter Schools In your Area Here)**

| Name of School | Address | Due Dates | Websites/Application |
|----------------|---------|-----------|----------------------|
|                |         |           |                      |
|                |         |           |                      |
|                |         |           |                      |
|                |         |           |                      |
|                |         |           |                      |
|                |         |           |                      |
|                |         |           |                      |

#### **Bonus Resources:**

- Websites: National Kindergarten Association (NKA), National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).
- Local community programs: Head Start, Early Head Start, library reading programs, and parent support groups.

Remember, play is learning! Make Kindergarten a positive and fun experience for your child. By engaging in these activities and supporting their development, you are setting them up for success in school and beyond.

We wish you a wonderful Kindergarten journey!



Published September 2023

**2024**  
**K-12**  
**SCHOOL**  
**GUIDE**



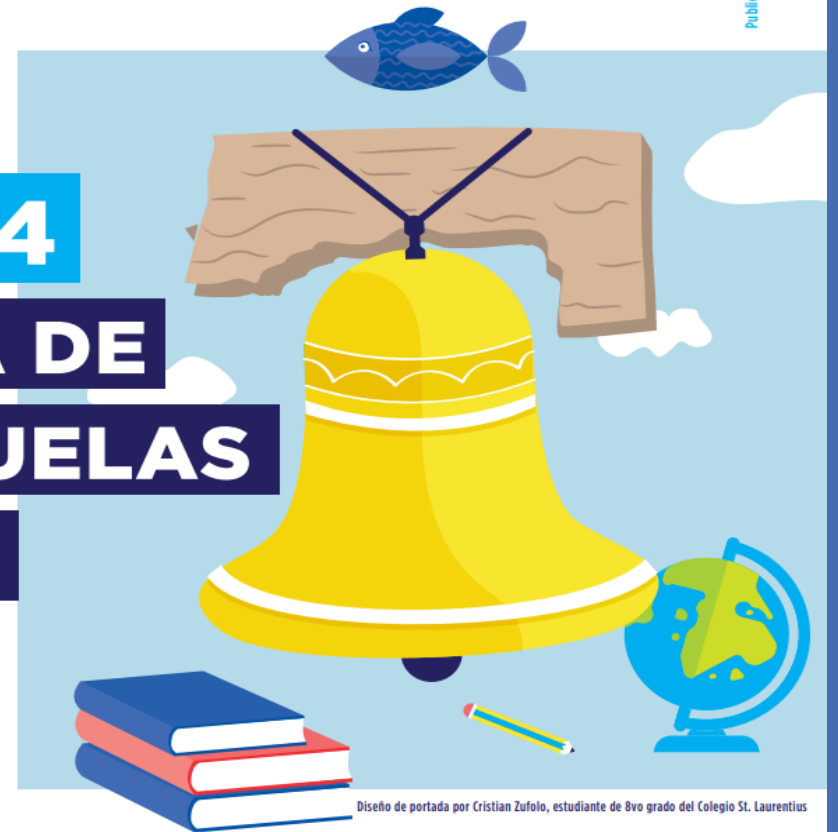
Cover design by Cristian Zufolo, 8th grade student at St. Laurentius School

**GREATPHILLYSCHOOLS.ORG**

**great**  
**PHILLY**  
**SCHOOLS**  
*find your great school*

Publicado en septiembre de 2023

**2024**  
**GUÍA DE**  
**ESCUELAS**  
**K-12**



Diseño de portada por Cristian Zufolo, estudiante de 8vo grado del Colegio St. Laurentius

**GREATPHILLYSCHOOLS.ORG**

**great**  
**PHILLY**  
**SCHOOLS**  
*find your great school*



**Champions for Early Education**

---

ROSANNA MATOS

EARLY LEARNING PROGRAM  
ENGAGEMENT SPECIALIST

[ROSANNA.MATOS@FIRSTUP.ORG](mailto:ROSANNA.MATOS@FIRSTUP.ORG)

# Kindergarten

HERE I  
COME!



ACTIVITIES TO DO  
WITH YOUR  
PRESCHOOLER

Each month, receive tips and information to help your preschooler prepare for Kindergarten  
<https://papromiseforchildren.com/kindergarten-here-i-come/>

# First Up

Champions for Early Education



## Will your child be ready for kindergarten?

Teachers are looking for 30 skills in five areas:

- Social and emotional
- Language
- Math
- Approaches to learning
- Physical development

You can help your child get ready, and work on all five areas during many different daily activities:

- In the kitchen
- At the playground
- On a bus ride
- Going to bed
- At the store
- In the waiting room



GettingReady  
FOR Kindergarten!

Study after study shows that early learning of letters and numbers is not enough to help children succeed at school. But there is a lot you can do to increase your child's chances for success.

You can ALWAYS:

- Show your own curiosity as a learner and be curious about your child.
- Listen for what your child thinks, knows, or wants to know.
- Tell your child what you notice they are good at; offer challenges based on their strengths.
- Show your love, stay close, say three positives for every one negative.
- Talk about your own learning joys and challenges.
- Limit screen time and encourage open-ended play.

You play a critical role in getting your child ready for kindergarten!

# In the kitchen.



Helping your child in 5 areas: Social and Emotional, Language, Math, Approaches to Learning and Physical Development

Ask your child to choose the prep/cooking/cleaning task they enjoy the most.

Have a conversation about the activities of the day.

Invite your child to draw and tell you the story of their picture as you cook.

As you are measuring, talk about what is more and what is less.

Make sandwiches into different shapes and have your child name the shapes.

Help your child stick with it when things get hard.

Talk together about all the steps that go into preparing a meal.

Invite your child to sort and arrange small forks and spoons.

**You can ALWAYS:**

Show your own curiosity as a learner and be curious about your child.



GettingReady  
FOR Kindergarten!

Ayudar a su hijo en estos 5 áreas Social y emocional, lenguaje, matemáticas, enfoques al aprendizaje y el desarrollo físico.

Pregunte sobre las partes del parque que prefiere su hijo, y por dónde va a empezar.

Mientras interactúa con otros niños, invite a su hijo notar sus emociones, y anime a responder con cuidado.

Quando hay conflicto en el parque, sugiera soluciones sencillas o anime a su hijo encontrarlas.

Invite a su hijo contar una historia de un tiempo favorito del parque en el pasado, o imaginar una aventura emocionante.

Quando están en camino, adivinen cuántos niños estarán, y cuenten cuantos hay. Cuenten los niños en partes diferentes del parque, y hablen sobre cuáles partes tienen más.

Note cuales actividades de todo el cuerpo hacen bien su hijo y dígame cuales son; anime a probar algo nuevo y ayúdele tener éxito.

## En el parque

**SIEMPRE se puede:**

Escuchar los pensamientos de su hijo, lo que sabe o quiere saber.

## En el autobús



Recuerde a su hijo sobre las normas de seguridad de viaje, y note las cuales ha aprendido.

Juegan un juego de rimas, escuchando las partes iguales y diferentes.

Cuenta la cantidad de personas que suben y bajan en cada parada. Noten cuando el bus tiene más o menos personas.

Habla sobre cada posición, dónde están sentadas las personas, en el frente, al lado, detrás.

Busque números de 1 a 10 en las señales y nómbralos.

Invite a su hijo hacer una lista de los que pueden ver y nombrar fácilmente, y ayúdele intentar los que son más difíciles.

Sea curioso y anime curiosidad en él ("Tal vez alguien subirá en la parada siguiente." "¿La próxima luz será verde o roja?")

Juegan juegos de dedos, como emparejar pulgares y otros dedos en cada mano.

**SIEMPRE se puede:**

Decir a su hijo lo que hace bien; ofrezca retos basados en sus fuerzas.



GettingReady  
FOR Kindergarten!

Ayudar a su hijo en estos 5 áreas Social y emocional, lenguaje, matemáticas, enfoques al aprendizaje y el desarrollo físico.



# How is my child doing?

Skills that kindergarten teachers are looking for:

| Social and emotional   | Not yet | Sometimes | Usually |
|--|---------|-----------|---------|
| 1. Expresses feelings appropriate to the situation                 |         |           |         |
| 2. Knows own preferences and abilities                             |         |           |         |
| 3. Can suggest simple solutions to conflict                        |         |           |         |
| 4. Can follow rules and routines                                   |         |           |         |
| <b>Language</b>  |         |           |         |
| 5. Recognizes 3-5 letters (upper case and lower case)              |         |           |         |
| 6. Recognizes name or other words in print                         |         |           |         |
| 7. Makes beginning sounds in short words                           |         |           |         |
| 8. Matches 6-10 letters with their sounds                          |         |           |         |
| 9. Remembers details from stories                                  |         |           |         |
| 10. Uses cover and pictures to talk about a book                   |         |           |         |
| 11. Writes own name, with most letters correct                     |         |           |         |
| 12. Plans and tells, draws, or writes a story                      |         |           |         |
| 13. Speaks in understandable sentences                             |         |           |         |
| 14. Responds appropriately to directions and questions             |         |           |         |
| 15. Talks with familiar adults and peers                           |         |           |         |
| 16. Uses good English in conversation                              |         |           |         |
| <b>Math</b>  |         |           |         |
| 17. Counts to 20   |         |           |         |
| 18. Knows written numbers from 1 to 10                             |         |           |         |
| 19. Understands simple addition and subtraction                    |         |           |         |
| 20. Names squares, circles, triangles and rectangles               |         |           |         |
| 21. Describes the order of objects (first, next to)                |         |           |         |
| 22. Compare two objects (bigger, taller, heavier)                  |         |           |         |
| 23. Sorts, counts and compares quantities                          |         |           |         |
| <b>Approaches to learning</b>                                      |         |           |         |
| 24. Shows interest in new experiences                              |         |           |         |
| 25. Acts out familiar story lines, gives out and/or takes on roles |         |           |         |
| 26. Sticks with chosen activities, even when they get hard         |         |           |         |
| 27. Breaks tasks into steps and does them one at a time            |         |           |         |
| <b>Physical development</b>  |         |           |         |
| 28. Tries to solve problems in different ways, gets needed help    |         |           |         |
| 29. Handles small objects  |         |           |         |
| 30. Moves whole body with confidence                               |         |           |         |

# ¿Cómo está mi hijo?

Habilidades que buscan los profesores del kindergarten:

| Social y emocional  | Aún no | A veces | Normalmente |
|---|--------|---------|-------------|
| 1. Expresa sentimientos apropiados a la situación                                 |        |         |             |
| 2. Conoce sus propias preferencias y habilidades                                  |        |         |             |
| 3. Puede sugerir resoluciones sencillas al conflicto                              |        |         |             |
| 4. Puede seguir reglas y rutinas  |        |         |             |
| <b>Lenguaje</b>   |        |         |             |
| 5. Reconoce 3-5 letras (mayúsculas y minúsculas)                                  |        |         |             |
| 6. Reconoce su nombre u otras palabras escritas                                   |        |         |             |
| 7. Hace los sonidos de comienzo con las palabras cortas                           |        |         |             |
| 8. Empareja 6-10 letras con sus sonidos   |        |         |             |
| 9. Recuerda detalles de las historias   |        |         |             |
| 10. Usa la cubierta y las fotos para hablar sobre un libro                        |        |         |             |
| 11. Escribe su propio nombre, con la mayoría de las letras escritas correctamente |        |         |             |
| 12. Planea y cuenta, dibuja o escribe una historia                                |        |         |             |
| 13. Habla en frases entendibles   |        |         |             |
| 14. Responde apropiadamente a preguntas e instrucciones                           |        |         |             |
| 15. Habla con adultos familiarizados y pares                                      |        |         |             |
| 16. Usa buen inglés en conversación   |        |         |             |
| <b>Matemáticas</b>  |        |         |             |
| 17. Cuenta a 20   |        |         |             |
| 18. Conoce números escritos de 1 a 10   |        |         |             |
| 19. Entiende adición y sustracción sencilla                                       |        |         |             |
| 20. Nombra cuadros, círculos, triángulos y rectángulos                            |        |         |             |
| 21. Describe el orden de los objetos (primero, luego)                             |        |         |             |
| 22. Compara dos objetos (más grande, más alto, más pesado)                        |        |         |             |
| 23. Clasifica, cuneta y compara las cantidades                                    |        |         |             |
| <b>Enfoques al aprendizaje</b>  |        |         |             |
| 24. Muestra interés en nuevas experiencias  |        |         |             |
| 25. Actúa historias familiarizadas, da o toma papeles                             |        |         |             |
| 26. Permanece con alguna actividad, incluso cuando se pone difícil                |        |         |             |
| 27. Separa las tareas en pasos y los hace uno por uno                             |        |         |             |
| 28. Intenta resolver problemas en maneras diferentes, busca ayuda necesaria       |        |         |             |
| <b>Desarrollo físico</b>  |        |         |             |
| 29. Maneja objetos pequeños   |        |         |             |

# Getting Ready for Kindergarten

Will your child be 5 before September 1, 2024?

If so, join us to learn about:

- WHAT TO EXPECT IN KINDERGARTEN
- HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE TRANSITION
- WHEN AND HOW TO REGISTER
- NAVIGATING THE REGISTRATION PROCESS
- AND MORE!

## Upcoming Virtual Sessions

Wednesday, January 17, 2024  
1:00 - 1:30pm

[REGISTER HERE](#)  
or scan below!



PRESENTED BY

**First Up**  
Champions for Early Education

Wednesday, January 17, 2024  
6:00 - 6:30pm

[REGISTER HERE](#)  
or scan below!



# Preparandonos para entrar a Kinder

¿Su hijo/hija cumplirá 5 años antes del 1ro de  
septiembre del 2024?

Si es así, únase a nosotros para aprender sobre:

- QUÉ ESPERAR EN EL JARDÍN DE INFANTES
- CÓMO PREPARARSE PARA LA TRANSICIÓN
- NAVEGAR POR EL PROCESO DE SELECCIÓN DE ESCUELAS
- CUÁNDO Y CÓMO REGISTRARSE
- ¡Y MÁS!

Próximas sesiones virtuales:

Miércoles, 17 de enero, 2024  
1:00 - 1:30pm

[Register Here!](#)



PRESENTED BY

**First Up**  
Champions for Early Education

Miércoles, 17 de enero, 2024  
6:00 - 6:30pm

[Register Here!](#)



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# COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Rosanna Matos  
First Up

Adamary Sosa  
Xiente

Monica D'Antonio & Eileen Hallstrom  
Literacy Council of Norristown





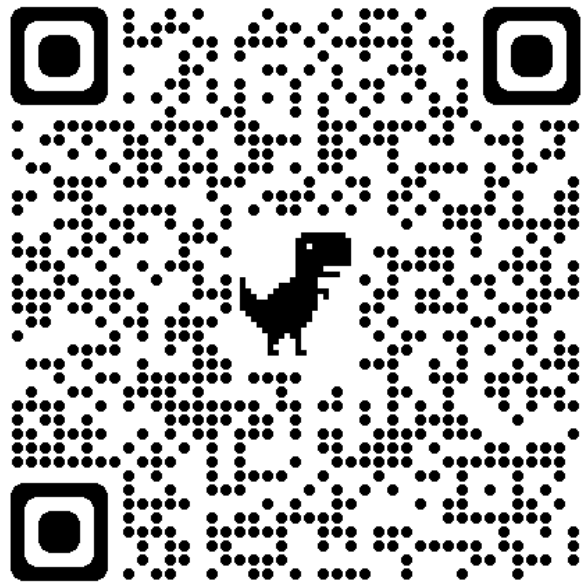
**Champions for Early Education**

Rosanna Matos

Early Learning Program  
Engagement Specialist

[rosanna.matos@firstup.org](mailto:rosanna.matos@firstup.org)

# Hispanic ECE fellowship



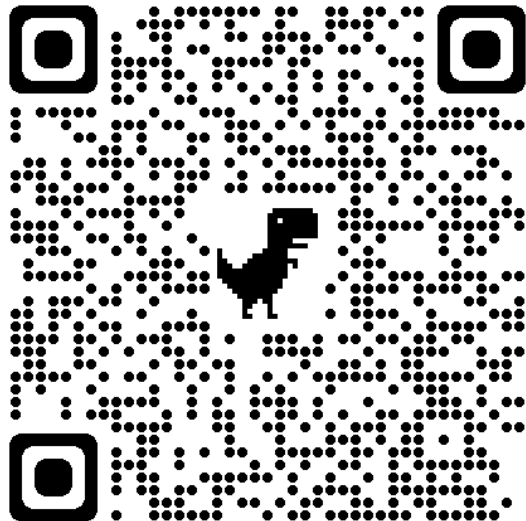
**Now taking  
applications!**



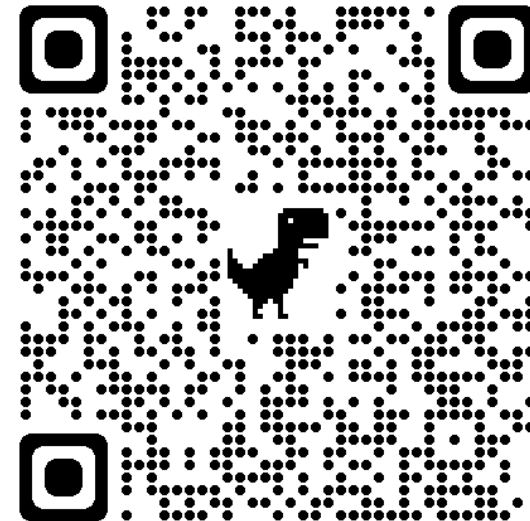
**Hispanic ECE Fellowship  
Program**

For more details on the Hispanic ECE Fellowship, join us at one of the information sessions / Para más información.

Monday, January 22 at 1pm

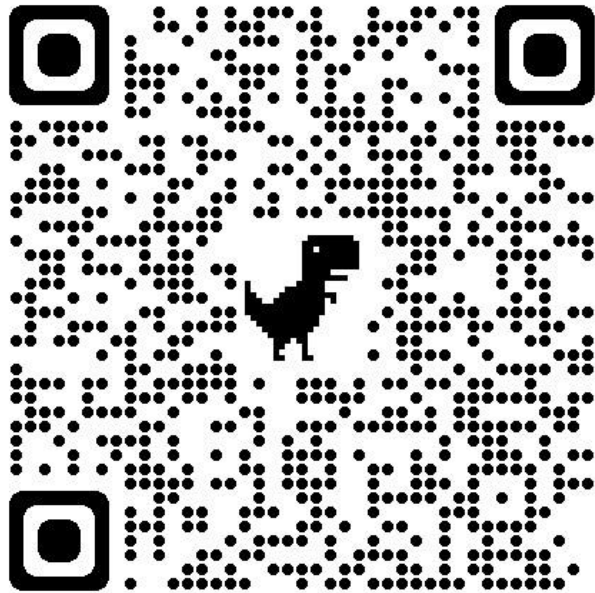


Wednesday, January 24 at 6pm



Your Interests, your topics!

Next meeting: Jan.  
18th 1pm



 **First Up**

Presents/presenta

E.C.E. Latinos

## Open Provider Roundtables

Mesa de Colaboración Abierta

En colaboración con Latinos Educando Juntos

The purpose of these roundtables are to identify barriers, empower knowledge, create collaboration and build sustainability. / El propósito de estas mesas redondas es identificar barreras, potenciar el conocimiento, crear colaboración y construir sostenibilidad.

\*These sessions are intended to be delivered in Spanish, if interested in an English forum please connect with one of the organizers for further resources/ Estas sesiones serán impartidas en español

# MOBILE PRESCHOOL

Partner with Xiente's mobile preschool,  
the **1st** on the East Coast!

- Increase **kindergarten readiness** skills
- Enhance families **economic mobility**
- Enhance the **quality** of informal care providers

Call /Email: [info@xiente.org](mailto:info@xiente.org)  
215-426-8734



**xiente.**  
FORMERLY NORRIS  
SQUARE COMMUNITY  
ALLIANCE

# BUSESITO



Enhancing Early Childhood  
Education in underserved  
communities





INTRODUCTION



**xiente.**  
FORMERLY NORRIS  
SQUARE COMMUNITY  
ALLIANCE

EMPATHY · PEOPLE



HEARTS

+

MOVING FORWARD



> ARROW

+

DIGITAL



CONNECTING POINTS

+

CONEXIÓN



LETTER X





**Xiente** formerly known as NSCA is partnering with parent child plus to introduce **Busesito**. A groundbreaking bilingual mobile preschool program aimed at transforming early childhood education in underserved communities, with a focus on enhancing the quality of Family, Friends and Neighbors (FFN) providers, increasing kindergarten readiness skills in preschool age children, and enhancing their families' economic mobility.



# Sneak Peak of Busesito



# PROGRAM CONTACT

| Title                   | Name                              | Email                          |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Lead Teacher            | Sarah Clemency                    | sarah.clemency@xiente.org      |
| Program Assistant       | Claribel Frias                    | cfrias@xiente.org              |
| Director of Education   | Ana Munoz                         | amunoz@xiente.org              |
| VP of Economic Mobility | Adamary Sosa                      | asosa@xiente.org               |
| Parent Child+           | Malkia Singleton<br>Ofori-Agyekum | msingleton@parentchildplus.org |



# MISSION & GOALS

**Our mission is to uplift the educational landscape in underserved communities.**

**Our objectives are to:**

- **Elevate the quality of care provided by Family, Friends, and Neighbors (FFN) Providers.**
- **Foster kindergarten readiness in preschool-aged children.**
- **Improve the economic mobility of participating families.**
- **Advocate for policy changes in the ECE field.**

# PRESENTING BUSESITO

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# PRESENTING BUSESITO

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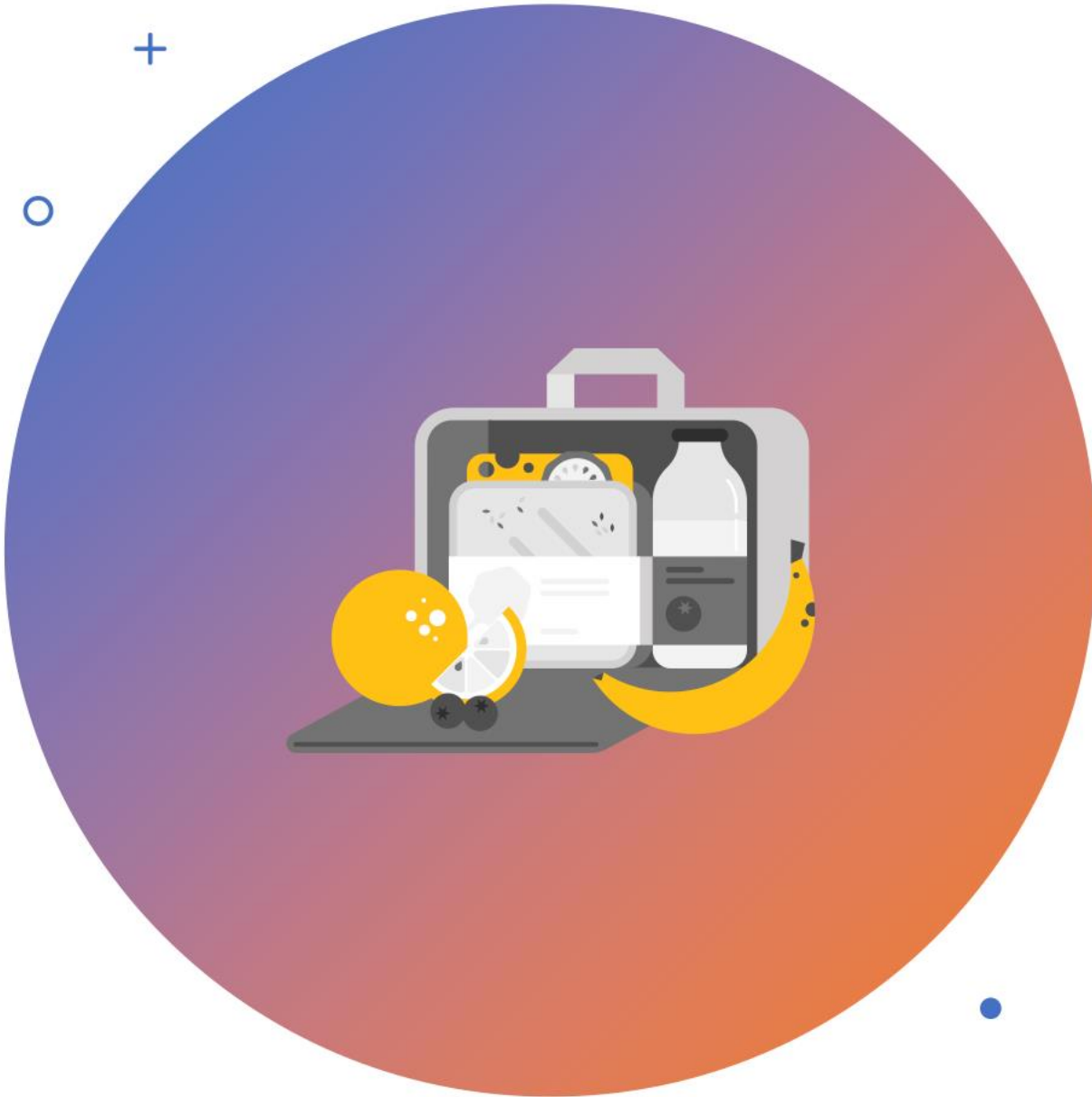
**OUTSIDE VISUAL**



**INSIDE VISUAL  
THE BACK**



**INSIDE VISUAL  
THE FRONT**



# Program Information

## Targeted Audience

Family, Friends, and Neighbors (FFN) providers are informal caregivers who play a crucial role in early childhood education.

FFN providers can be relatives, neighbors, or close family friends.

FFN providers are at the core of our initiative.

They provide a nurturing and educational environment for preschool-age children.

## Duration

Providers are expected to commit to the program for a duration of six months.

The commitment involves providing access to provide preschool education for 2.5 hours, twice a week.

regular attendance is required to maximize impact.

## Benefits

**Educational Materials:** Access to a wide range of educational resources and materials for children in your care.

**Professional Development:** Opportunities for continuous learning and improvement through professional development sessions.

**Networking Opportunities:** Connect with other providers to share experiences and insights.

**Business Development:** Time allocated for providers to work on their childcare businesses while children are on the bus.

**Resources for Future Families:** Gain access to resources that can enhance their services for future enrolled families.



- **+ Partnership between  
○ ParentChild+ &  
Xiente**



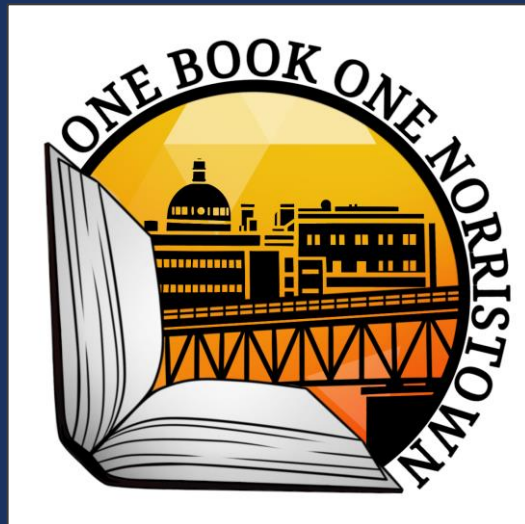
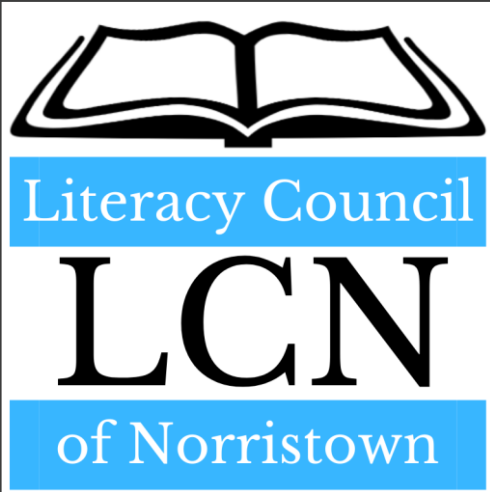
- ParentChild+ will provide comprehensive technical assistance to the providers actively participating in the mobile preschool program, primarily through the "Windows, Mirrors, and Doors" initiative. The objective of this technical assistance is to enhance the overall school readiness of preschool children in the program.
- The Windows, Mirrors and Doors six-week workshop series gives Family Childcare Providers the opportunity to reflect on the importance of diverse representation in books for young children, and the impact of representation on the well-being and social-emotional development of children. Additionally, participants will be introduced to ParentChild+'s Book Content Analysis and Anti-Bias Checklist and given opportunities to apply the checklist to books reviewed during each workshop.
- Participating Family Childcare Providers will demonstrate increased knowledge in the following areas : The impact that representation has on the well-being and social-emotional development of children.
- The importance of having diverse books in early childhood education. August 2022
- Tangible ways to get books with characters of color into the classrooms and homes of more children.
- ParentChild+'s Book Content Analysis and Anti-Bias Checklist and how to use it.

Thank you



xiente.

DISRUPTING  
INTERGENERATIONAL  
POVERTY



Eileen Hallstrom,  
Executive Director Literacy  
Council of Norristown  
[executive.director@lcnlit.org](mailto:executive.director@lcnlit.org)

Monica D'Antonio, Coordinator  
One Book One Norristown and  
Norristown Area Literacy  
Collaborative  
[monicadantonio15@gmail.com](mailto:monicadantonio15@gmail.com)

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# Literacy Council of Norristown (LCN)

The mission of the Literacy Council of Norristown is to improve lives and strengthen families in Greater Norristown and Montgomery County by providing adult literacy and English language programs.

Programs:

- Adult Basic Education (ABE): Reading, Writing, and Math
- GED Preparation & Testing – English/Spanish
- English Language Classes
- Citizenship Tutoring
- Tutor Training
- Digital Literacy
- Family Literacy
  - Dolly Parton Imagination Library
  - Bi-monthly family literacy events at NPL

---

# One Book One Norristown (OBON)

OBON is an annual arts and literacy initiative that promotes reading and arts appreciation through a shared community experience focused on the work of a featured author.

## Programs:

- Author visits
  - 2022 - Lorene Cary
  - 2023 - Daniel José Older
- 2023 OBON/NASD Mural Arts Project
- Book clubs/discussion groups (adults/teens)
- Book distributions/"Book Bombs"
- All books, events, and programs are FREE to the community

---

# Norristown Area Literacy Collaborative (NALC)

NALC is a collective impact group whose aim is to strengthen intergenerational literacy and kindergarten readiness in the Norristown Area community. This group is a collaboration between LCN, MC-Norristown Public Library, Early Learning Resource Center, CHOP, Reach Out and Read, Norristown Area School District, and other local community non-profit organizations.

## Programs:

- Literacy tool kits for families to promote literacy in the home
- Investment in literacy curriculum for childcare centers (Heggerty)
- Customized professional development opportunities for childcare teachers
- Reading specialists on retainer to support childcare center teachers

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# QUESTIONS? FEEDBACK?



**Eileen Hallstrom**

**Monica D'Antonio**

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- **30-Second Exit Survey** to provide feedback on the effectiveness of today's meeting:

<https://forms.gle/cQYbDm8q8xNZBP2X6>



- **Upcoming Meetings:** February 20  
(12:30 – 2:30pm)      March 19

- **Meeting Registration Links** on First Up/SEPECC  
Webpage: <https://www.firstup.org/sepecc/>

MEETING  
WRAP UP





Advancing quality early care  
and education in Bucks, Chester,  
Delaware, Montgomery and  
Philadelphia Counties

## 2023 SEPECC COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS

### **Steering Committee**

Damaris Alvarado-Rodriguez (Co-Chair)  
Zakiyyah Boone (Co-Chair)  
Laverne Cheeseboro  
Latonta Godboldt  
Mary Graham  
Jackie Groetsch  
Kim Heuschkel  
Shineal Hunter  
Sim Loh  
Sharon McClafferty  
Minette Taylor

### **Advocacy Workgroup**

Laverne Cheeseboro  
Nicole Dyson  
Jowanna Gordon  
Shirlee Howe  
Shineal Hunter  
Jacob Kurtz  
Eleanor Levie  
Elizabeth Ozer  
Monique Roye  
Shawn Towey

### **Advisory Council**

Norma Finkelstein  
Diane Getzinger  
Pamela Haines  
MaryKay Mahar  
Maddy Malis  
Elizabeth Ozer  
Khadijah Sabir

### **Social Media Workgroup**

Eleanor Levie  
Jowanna Gordon  
Sim Loh  
Shawn Towey

Sept. 2023