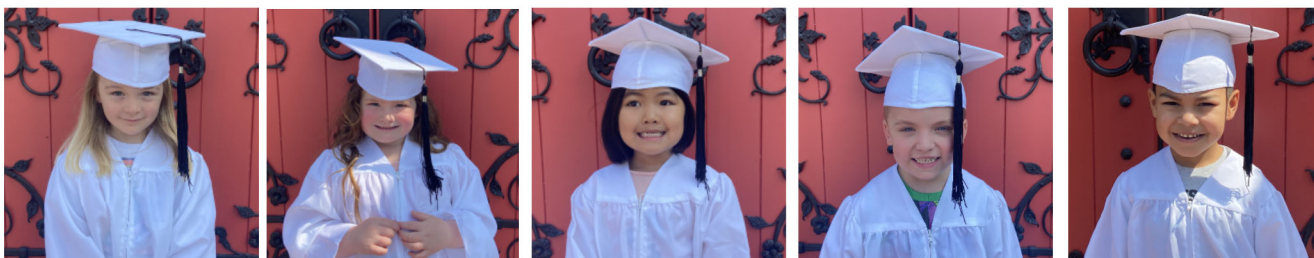


Bright Ideas



HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER: Fall 2023: www.highlandscommunitychildcare.org

Congratulations to our Graduates...
Now Kindergarten Bound!



To Friends of HCCDC,

HCCDC'S new classrooms at Church of The Incarnation are rated as a 5 out of 5 stars preschool! That's pretty remarkable since this was the first time the classrooms have been reviewed for ratings! In the past, we have elected to be satisfied with a 4-star rating in an effort to be able to serve more children and families (there are teacher to student ratio's that pose limits at each star rating level). But, with the opening of the two new classrooms, we have the ability to both serve more children and get a 5-star rating. We couldn't be more proud of the work our staff and teachers put forth to make this happen for our community!



And that's the good news!

Unfortunately, a 5-star rating doesn't close the gap between what it costs us to run the Center versus what we take in from tuition and grants. Our budget for 2023 estimates the annual costs to operate the Center will be \$1.3 million. Tuition will cover less than 40% of those costs and grants less than 20%. That leaves us roughly \$520,000 to raise for the year.

That's where all of us, as members of the Highlands community, should step up. And here's why:

- Without a high quality, reliable preschool in our community, businesses lose capable employees and can't hire new staff.
- High quality early childcare/education is associated with better employment and health outcomes for children, as they mature.
- HCCDC is the only day care center in the area that takes infants.
- HCCDC provides high quality care, education and enrichment, not just babysitting, for infants, toddlers and pre-K children.
- HCCDC strives to be available when parents need us to be, so we are open year round, not just when schools are in session.

You may be thinking this is just another nonprofit looking for financial support. But, as you can see above, in this case your financial support not only keeps HCCDC alive and thriving, it also supports the businesses we all rely upon in our community and supports Highlands' future by investing in the children who will be community and business leaders in the years to come.

Come over and take a tour of the Center. We'd love you to see for yourself where the future begins!

-Cathy Manning, HCCDC Board President
czmanning53@gmail.com



Fall Update from HCCDC Director Pat Hedden

Congratulations to HCCDC at Incarnation on getting a 5 Star licensing rating. The staff worked hard preparing for this. They need a big shout out.

Sept. is almost here and with that it brings a new start here at HCCDC. We have 15 children leaving for kindergarten Aug. 28th. This means that we will be changing our classrooms around, moving children into different rooms and enrolling new children from our waiting list.

We have also hired a new staff person to help with preparing our children for kindergarten. We will be working with Highlands School to help the transition into school run more smoothly. We welcome Chandler Houser to our team. Chandler and Ryan have a child that already attends our preschool.

*Interested in seeing
HCCDC?*

*Contact us to set up a
guided tour of our main
facility and our new
Pre-K classrooms.
(Call 828-526-8905)*

Staff Spotlight: Janice Mathis

Janice has been at HCCDC for 12 years and is the lead teacher of Preschool 2 at the new classroom in the Church of the Incarnation. Janice is a native Highlander - she was born in Highlands and attended Highlands School. Currently she is working on her degree in Early Childhood Education at SCC. Janice loves to see her students light up when they accomplish something they have been struggling with. She loves to watch her "kids" grow, and seeing them do well in life is one of her greatest joys. In her free time, Janice loves to read and go to the movies with her daughter Isabella. Family is very important to her.



A Special Visit to the New Fire Station



Three through five year olds were treated to a tour of the new Highlands Fire Department building on Tuesday, July 18. Chief Ryan Gearhart and his staff showed the children the new building, let each of them shoot a fire hose at a cone and check out one of the fire trucks.



A Welcome and a Goodbye

Welcome to Charlotte Muir to our Board of Directors as our Parent Representative replacing Katie Cooke. Thank you, Katie, for all your hard work. We are glad you will still be around to lend your expertise!

HCCDC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cathy Manning	President
Ann Flynn	Vice President
Elizabeth Martin	Secretary
Walter Wingfield	Treasurer
Frances Oakley	Endowment Chair
Charlotte Muir	Parent Representative
Ruth Claiborne	Cathy McIntyre-Ross
Diane Dickey	Hilda Patrick
Slocum Howland	

HCCDC Mission Statement

The mission of the Highlands Community Child Development Center is to provide high quality child care and early childhood education to promote cognitive, physical, emotional, and social development in a safe and loving environment to young children and their families regardless of race, color, national origin, gender, age, disability, religion, or financial status.

Annual Tea Party Celebration

Students had their annual tea party on Monday, July 31, 2023. What a yearly favorite this event is! Staff, students, as well as many parents and grandparents participated in this fun tradition.



SUPPORT HCCDC

***Gifts of any size can impact
a child's life.***

\$25

can provide craft supplies for a classroom

\$50

provides meals for a child for one week

\$75

pays Continuing Education for our teachers

\$100

will buy a new tricycle or similar playground toy

\$250

purchases seeds, pots, and plants for
Demonstration Gardens

\$1000

buys a new crib, bedding, and rocking chair

\$2500

provides partial scholarship for a child

Thank you for your generosity!

*there is a 3% charge for credit card transactions

Name _____

Donation amount _____

Mailing address _____

Email address _____

HCCDC is a 501(c)3 organization.
All gifts are fully tax deductible.

Our mailing address is:
P.O. Box 648
Highlands, NC

For more information call 828-526-8905 or visit
our website: www.highlandscommunitychildcare.org

