

Inspiring caring adults to guide a child's school successs.

A charity's annual report should provide a summary of how the organization performed during the previous year. Many charities have lofty goals and noble purposes but if they don't make meaningful progress towards those goals and purposes do they really deserve your donations? Can the charity show that it accomplished its objectives? Was it effective with the use of its funds? Did it have a real, measurable impact on the people it served?

I am proud to report that Miss Ruby's Kids can answer "Yes" to those questions. Part of the vision of MRK is that the children in our program will enter school prepared to learn. The children who entered our program in 2013 only scored in the 29<sup>th</sup> percentile compared to other two-year olds on a standardized language development test. When they graduated in 2015, they scored in the 57<sup>th</sup> percentile compared to other four-year olds. Language skills of a four-year old significantly affect the readiness of a child to learn when they get to school. A 28% movement on this scale indicates a tangible improvement!

Part of the mission of MRK is to "help prepare parents to be their child's first, best teacher". The Parent-Child Home Program (PCHP) model which MRK uses focuses on changing the behavior of the parents which in turn affects the learning of the child. Even though MRK has only been in existence for 13 years, the PCHP has been tracking its graduates for over 50 years. Children who graduate from the program have a 30% higher graduation rate from high school than their peers, show a statistically significant increase in IQ assessments as well as a statistically significant reduction in the need for special education classes. This can be directly attributed to changes in the parent's behavior which lasts throughout the child's school career.

Nationally, high school graduates earn \$10,836 more than non-graduates<sup>1</sup> and their unemployment rate is 3.9% lower than non-graduates<sup>2</sup>. Locally, every time we prevent a child from repeating a grade, we save the taxpayers of Georgetown county \$10,399<sup>3</sup>. More productive citizens, lower unemployment, and lower school costs are all measurable ways that MRK benefits the community.

These are important results but we take even more pride in the way that MRK affects the lives of the families we touch. Our staff can tell you about parents who are more active in the school life of their children, who are motivated to continue their

> education, and who have gotten better jobs as a result of increased confidence they've gained. They could write a book about the improvements they've observed in the children. These changes may be harder to quantify but they are no less real.

> > Continued on page 2

We couldn't do this without the help of our donors, volunteers, and supporters and we are extremely grateful for each of you. We are excited about the coming year and the lives we will touch. With your help we will continue to make a difference in Georgetown County.

Thank you for your continued support,

eff Wildes

Jeff Wildes Board Chair

<sup>1</sup> Levenstein, P., Levenstein, S., Shiminski, J. A., & Stolzberg, J. E. (1998). Long-term impact of a verbal interaction program for at-risk toddlers: An exploratory study of high school outcomes in a replication of the Mother-Child Home Program. Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology; 19, 267-285.

<sup>2</sup>U.S. Census Bureau (2013)

<sup>3</sup>U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (December 2015)

<sup>4</sup>South Carolina Department of Education State Report Card – Georgetown County (2015)

### Check out the Donor List on our website www.MissRubysKids.net



## **Parent-Child Home Program (PCHP)**









60 children & their families, including 6 Spanish-speaking families, spent a minimum of 1,380 hours of uninterrupted time interacting with their children with the assistance of a trained Home Visitor at

> 2,760 home visits

# Family Child Care Model (PCHP)

" Miss Ruby's Kids has helped me learn new ways to use the books and toys I never knew."

#### ~ Family Child Care Provider





Distributed 483 books & toys



Served **21 children** in



## **Education Mentor Program (EMP)**



~ MRK Mentor





When asked if their Mentors knew more about them, all but one said yes. She said "There is nothing my Mentor doesn't know about me"



60 volunteer mentors served 68 mentees in 11 different schools Volunteer mentors spent close to **2,160 hours** with their mentees

HULLOW

"It's fun to just be us."

~ MRK Mentee

# Finances

Fiscal Year 2015 July 1, 2014–June 30, 2015



		<u> </u>
ASSETS		
	Cash	\$108,377
	Short-term Investments	\$115,143
	Accumulated Depreciation	\$2,657
	TOTAL ASSETS	\$226,177
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Equity	c .	
Temporarily Restricted Assets		\$17,500
Unrestricted Assets		\$208,677
	TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$226,177
Expe		Revenues
(\$281,967)		\$319,284)
	Education Mentor Program (EMP) 16% 21	Events %

**Thank you** to the program children and families, volunteers, staff, donors, business partners, area churches, foundations, Georgetown County School District, and the members of the community for making 2015 a great year! We look forward to the future and watching our families our families grow.



It is our vision that all children in Georgetown County will enter school prepared to learn, supported by their families, and will graduate from high school as productive citizens of their community.

# **Go GREEN!**

Miss Ruby's Kids has gone GREEN! What does this mean? We will now send our newsletters out electronically. If you would like to continue keeping up with what's happening at MRK and upcoming events, please sign up at our website <u>www.missrubyskids.net.</u> to **Subscribe TODAY so we can leave these children a better planet.** 





## Website: Same Name! New Look!



The MRK website includes new features that will allow us to continue to communicate effectively with our friends and supporters. On our website, you will receive Dining For A Cause announcements, get information and purchase tickets for upcoming events, and donate to Miss Ruby's Kids through PayPal.



### 2015 Board of Directors

Jeff Wildes, Chair

Anne Mountford Reta Schaap Sue Tonzola Suzette Wright

Sue Zeddun

Joyce Santopietro, Secretary

Rob Ruark, Treasurer

Dr. Michael Cafaro

Fedrick Cohens

James Dan Green

## 2015 Administrative Staff

Betsy Marlow, Executive Director (Retired ~ June 2015)

Kristen Laga, Executive Director (Current)

Ashley Baker, PCHP Coordinator

Traci Butler, Office Manager

Renee Howard, Assistant (part-time)

De'Essence Cox, VISTA Member (temporary)

### 2015 Home Visitors

Katie Ball Crystal Geathers Amanda Oliver Olivia Standridge Natty Toscano Jenny Walsh Karen Winns Loretta Wright Miss Ruby's Kids is a non-profit organization (based in Georgetown County) that enables identified parents and caregivers to inspire a passion for learning in their children. We help prepare parents to be their child's first, best teacher and support both parents and child throughout the child's school career.

#### Miss Ruby's Kids is a 501 (c)(3) organization.



#### Donations can be made:

- Online ~ www.missrubyskids.net/donate
- By check ~ Mail to PO Box 1007, Georgetown, SC 29442

Mailing:

PO Box 1007

Georgetown, SC 29442

Phone: 843-436-7197



Physical: 2018 Church St. Georgetown, SC 29440 success@missrubyskids.net



Miss Ruby's Kids PO Box 1007 Georgetown, SC 29442

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Leading Children to Literacy