Miss Ruby's Kids

Every Child Deserves An Equal Start

A ParentChild+ Replication Site

A Year in Review























Ruby's Kids PC+ Program class of 2008!



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The Legacy Continues A Letter From Benezena Wallace

The impact of Miss Ruby Forsythe lives on. One does not have to venture too far into the community before hearing a story about just what it was like in Miss Ruby's one-room school on the campus of Holy Cross Faith Memorial Episcopal Church. You may have heard about Miss Ruby's small stature but stern demeanor. I'm sure that you also heard how she was an effective educator who many parents on the island trusted to help shape the minds of their young children.

Benezena Wallace remembers her first experience in a school setting was in Miss Ruby's school. Benezena said, "Now, when I think back to that school, I know it was a special place. There were so many things that happened there and so much love. Miss Ruby was thoughtful and kind. When students wouldn't bring their lunch, she always had food available - no questions asked. She provided us with what we needed, which often entailed more than schooling. Miss Ruby got me started on my education journey, and in many ways, what I learned from her helped shape me into the person I am today.

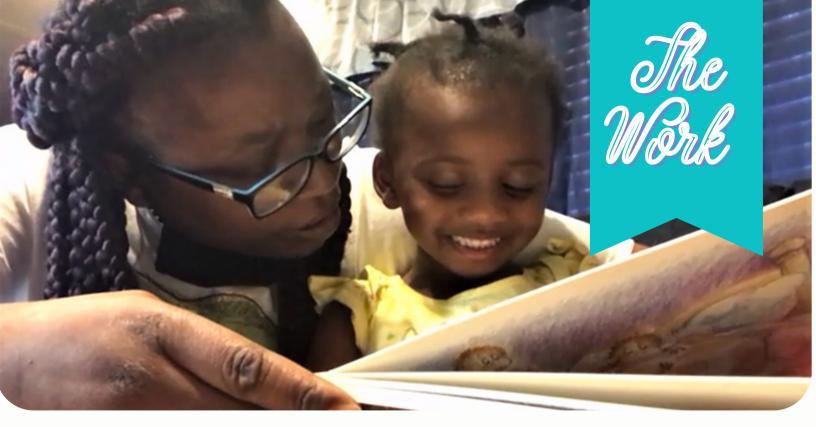
As a parent, my dedication to being my child's first, best teacher led me to sign her up for Miss Ruby's Kids. I want to always take advantage of the opportunities available to me. Especially the ones that are for my children's betterment and will have lasting positive effects.

I signed Ziyah up when she was 2yrs old. She formed an immediate connection with her Early Learning Specialist (Home Visitor) Samantha. I knew that by placing Ziyah in the ParentChild+ program, she would receive a high-quality early childhood education that would support her physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development in an environment that is nurturing, our home. I am so glad that I signed her up for the program.

Today, Ziyah is currently in Pre-K. Her teacher often comments on how prepared she is for school. She is counting and recognizing numbers and letters and working on sounds. Ziyah's future is bright. She loves learning, and thanks to Miss Ruby's Kids, she has the most caring mentee anyone could hope for, and she's gained more skills to help build her school readiness. I'm grateful that my passion for education that was birthed in that one-room school is now being instilled in my children as they grow up to be future leaders."

Ziyah is doing such an awesome job in school and came in so prepared! I can tell Miss Ruby's Kids was an asset in getting her school ready!

Ms. YonkerS, GCSD Teacher











ParentChild+ **Program**

48 Families 1.639 Virtual Visits 4,917 Hours 576 Books 528 Toys

In-Home Family Child Care Program 5 In-Home Centers

240 Visits

2,160 Hours

28 In Care

198 Books

30 Toys

Mentor Program

32 Mentors

53 Mentees

Served

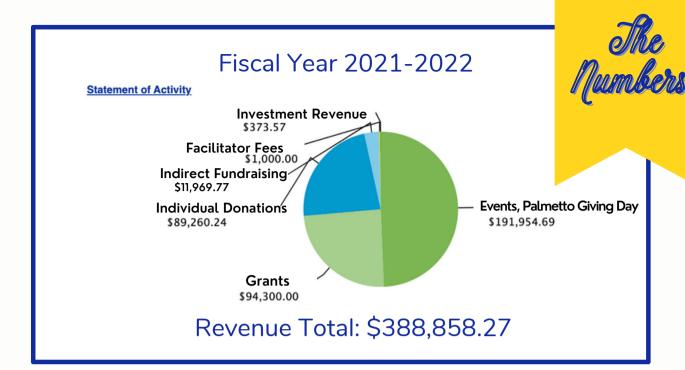
1,680 Hours Spent w/

Mentees

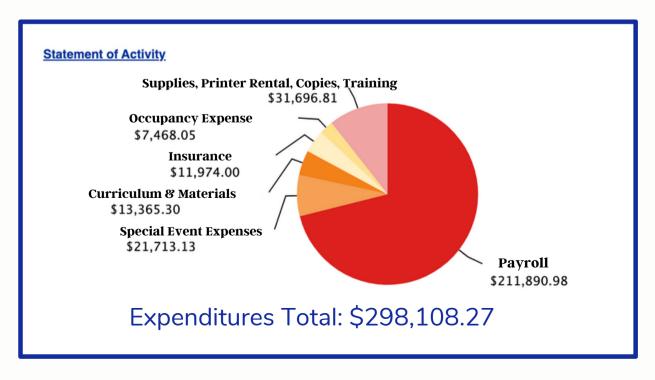
Libraries

13 Libraries 15 Stewards 10.270 Books Hours

It is our vision that all families in Georgetown County will have an equal educational start for their children. Parents/caregivers will be equipped to confidently engage in their children's education and foster a lifelong love of learning.









A Letter From Betsy Marlow, Co-Tounder Emerita

It's hard to believe that 20 years ago, my sister Jo and I began looking for a way to address the poor school performance of some of Georgetown County's most vulnerable children. These children often came from homes impacted by poverty, limited education, language barriers, and other obstacles to school success. So, we began to research the best way to address these issues in Georgetown County. The Parent-Child Home Program (now ParentChild+) addressed family literacy and was just what we needed in Georgetown County. In February 2003, we applied to the Parent-Child Home Program to open a replication site in Georgetown. Thus, was born Miss Ruby's Kids. Miss Ruby's Kids is named for Ruby Middleton Forsythe (1905- 1992), an educator from Charleston, South Carolina, who dreamed of equal opportunities for all children.

Since 2003 Miss Ruby's Kids has worked with parents/caregivers and their 2-4-year-old children as they support the children's healthy development and literacy skills through 2 years of twice-weekly visits. For many of the families we work with, we are the first stop in their young child's educational journey.

Fifty-seven years of research across the United States have shown that children in families that complete the program are 50% more prepared for kindergarten than their socio-economic peers and that they enter school performing well above their chronological age. Long-term educational results for ParentChild+ graduates are also impressive. ParentChild+ graduates have 30% higher graduation rates than their peers. Locally, we have had nearly 300 program graduates, and we are beginning to see our program participants successfully earn their high school diploma. Our 25 high school graduates have joined the military, entered the workforce, and are now working towards obtaining a degree or certificate.

Miss Ruby's Kids has grown in number and services since its inception. In addition to the home visiting program, MRK works with home-based childcares, has a school-based mentoring program for "graduates" of the ParentChild+ program, and has 13 free community libraries.

Our success over the years has always been made possible by the generous support of community members like you. Now, our vulnerable families struggle with the same obstacles that were present 20 years ago, in addition to the aftereffects of the pandemic. Today, your gifts will enable Georgetown County parents to set the foundation for their child's academic future. Please consider a generous contribution to the success of Georgetown County's children.

Miss Ruby's Kids provides our community with early literacy education and mentoring using evidence-based research, curriculum and parental coaching to ensure all Miss Ruby's Kids enter school with an equal start.



From birth a child only has 1,500 days before entering kindergarten, days that are critical to early brain development and school readiness. For two years we have adjusted our models to ensure that we are supporting families in powerful and creative ways critical to their children's well-being and healthy development. Miss Ruby's Kids have a bright future. Support the children by supporting Miss Ruby's Kids.

Natasha Brockington, Executive Director

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MTSS Ruby'S KTdS Every Child Deserves An Equal Start

Keep me in the know about events, projects, volunteer opportunities & MRK News!

Name	
Address	
City, State, Zip	
Phone	
Email	

For more information about volunteering or mentoring visit- www.missrubyskids.net













