MTSS RUBY'S KTGS Every Child Deserves An Equal Start www.missrubyskids.net



















2023 MRK HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES



OF BUILDING BRIGHTER FUTURES. 2003-2023

Our Mission

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.

FINANCIAL REPORT 2022-2023



Rachel Martinez always envisioned a life filled with success. She came to America as an immigrant for better opportunities. As the daughter of teachers, Rachel knew the importance of education. Her parents always told her she could learn to do anything she wanted. This approach to life helped her as she navigated life in a new country and strived to be an exceptional parent.

Rachel came across a Miss Ruby's Kids flyer at St. Cyprian church, where she attended services with her family. She didn't know that one of our talented Home Visitors, Claudia, also attended St. Cyprian. Claudia was our first bilingual Home Visitor. She was critical to Miss Ruby's Kids connecting and fostering relationships with Hispanic families in Georgetown County. Claudia remembers being excited to share our program benefits with Rachel, who immediately enrolled her son in Miss Ruby's Kids ParentChild+ program. She loved that the home-based program prepared children for school and the visits could be in English and Spanish, because raising her children in a multilingual home was essential.

Rachel has had two of her four children participate in the ParentChild+ program. Simon completed the program in 2009 and graduated high school in 2023, while Valerie completed the program in 2020 and is currently in 3rd grade. They entered the program a decade apart but had similar experiences once they entered school. Simon excelled throughout school, often making the Principal's Honor Roll and being active on the Academic Challenge Team. He graduated high school in June '23 with honors and is currently attending Horry Georgetown Tech, where he is studying Cyber Security. Valerie is in the third grade and following in her big brother's footsteps. She is no stranger to the Principal's Honor Roll. She does great in all content areas, but math and science are her favorites. Valerie is also a talented artist. Last school year, she received the Superintendent's Art Award.

Through our Education Mentor program, we have kept in contact with Rachel and her family. When Simon and Valerie graduated from our ParentChild+ program, they were both assigned mentors. Simon's Mentor, Miss Linda, mentored Simon until he graduated from middle school. She visited him weekly at school and maintained a relationship with the family, often attending sporting events and celebrating Simon's academic accomplishments. Valerie regularly meets with her Mentor, Akiva. They are both artists, so they enjoy creating together. Akiva enjoys her time with Valerie and says that Valerie is flourishing.

Education is a priority for Rachel and her husband. They encourage reading, exploring hobbies, and they give their children loving support. Simon is successfully adjusting to college life. Valerie, the last child to start school, is settled and doing well. Now Rachel is actively pursuing her own goals. While her older children graduated from high school, Rachel did not. Life happened and she had to enter the workforce. She is now enrolled in the Georgetown County School District's GED program, already passing her math assessment. Because English isn't her first language, she has had to put in extra study time for the Language Arts assessment. Rachel's experience with Miss Ruby's Kids helped to prepare her for her current journey She knew the importance of reading, so she made sure to always have books at all levels in the home. She reads daily. It is sometimes difficult for her, but she won't give up. "My kids have made me so proud. They are doing great things. They make me smile. Getting my GED is so important to me because I want my kids to know that they really can do anything. Just look at me."

PC+ GRADUATES







































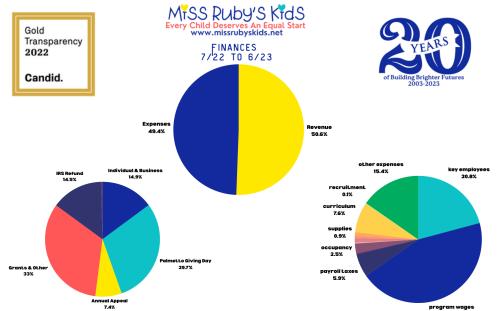












Revenue	
Individual & Business	43,848.00
Palmetto Giving Day	87,576.00
Annual Appeal	21,939.00
Grants & Other	97,380.00
IRS Refund	42,746.00
Misc	1,322.00
total	294,811.00

		program wages
expense breakdown	total	
key employees	\$	60,020.00
other wages	\$	128,028.00
payroll taxes	\$	17,032.00
accounting	\$	800.00
occupancy	\$	7,200.00
travel	\$	356.00
depreciation	\$	3,488.00
insurance	\$	1,623.00
supplies	\$	2,736.00
curriculum	\$	21,878.00
recruitment	\$	405.00
postage	\$	238.00
other expenses	\$	44,223.00
total	\$	288,027.00

PROGRAM NUMBERS



ParentChild+ Program

60 Families Served 1652 Visits 720 Children's Books 660 Educational Toys



Mentor Program

51 Mentees 26 Mentors 3672 Volunteer Hours



Home-Based Child Care Program

96 Visits 12 In Care 72 Children's Books 12 Educational Toys



Little Ruby's Libraries

15 Libraries 11,326 Books 8 Stewards Over 22K books since 2020 537 Volunteer 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 NOTE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We celebrate our 20th year of providing services in Georgetown County this year. Anniversaries always serve as a great time of reflection. A chance to intentionally think about what you've done and plan for the future: today, we are celebrating a successful year. We thank you for being on this journey with us. You may be a new friend or someone who has been a friend for some time. Either way, we thank you for valuing early childhood education and supporting us in many ways.

We do not take our work or your support lightly. We are the first education program that many children enter in Georgetown County. With that comes great responsibility. Empowering parents to be active participants and advocates in their children's lives is a job that must be handled correctly and can only be successful if relationships are nurtured and built on respect and understanding. The Martinez family is one of many successes that we have seen. We started in 2003 serving five families, and last year, through our various programs, we served 122 children and families. Each family is unique, but all have a shared desire to see their children prepared to be successful when they enter school.

Through partnerships with organizations such as South Carolina First Steps and with your most generous support, we have increased our efforts to have a greater impact. Students are performing well academically and are graduating from high school. We have had 40 Miss Ruby's Kids Graduates graduate from Georgetown County Schools. Every day, we see just how important it is for kids to get off to a great start academically. As we move into 2024, we will continue to be intentional and move with purpose. We hope you will continue to support our efforts as we work diligently to provide every child with an equal start.

Please consider a generous contribution to the success of Georgetown County's children.



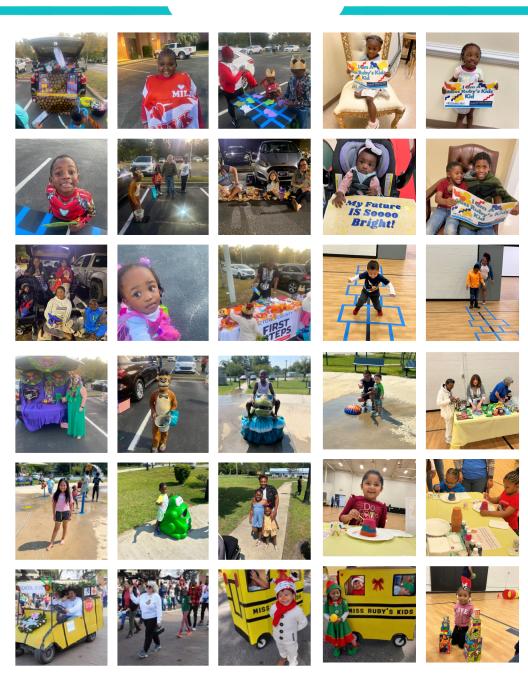
Our Work 2003-2023

- Over 500 ParentChild+(PC+) program participants
- 385 PC+ Graduates
- 160 PC+ Graduates received Mentoring Services
- 152 Volunteer Mentors
- 24 Family Child Cares (FCCs) served
- 220 children served through our FCC program
- 14 Little Ruby's Libraries
- Over 20k books distributed through Little Ruby's Libraries since 2020
- 100% of ParentChild+ Graduates who remained in Georgetown County School District have graduated from high school.



Natasha Brockington, Executive Director

EVENTS WITH OUR FAMILIES



This year our families enjoyed various events including, educational seminars and family fun days such as Splash Bash, MRK Growing Day, Trunk or Treat, and participating in the Andrews and Georgetown Christmas Parades.

OUR INFO

FOUR CORE PROGRAMS

PARENTCHILD+

MRK provides families with gifts of high-quality books and educational toys which are the curricular materials used in twice-weekly home visits to encourage positive parent-child verbal interaction and support the development of children's school readiness skills.



MRK ParentChild+
Graduates are assigned
a volunteer mentor once
they enter school.
Mentors visit the
children once a week
and provide much
needed support for them
as they progress in their
educational journey.

HOME-BASED CHILD CARE

Early Learning Specialists build relationships with home-based child care (formally FCC) providers to give professional learning support that is individualized to capitalize on their talents. Over the course of the program, providers receive 48 home visits and acquire a library of books and educational toys.

LITTLE RUBY'S LIBRARIES

Miss Ruby's Kids supports community libraries located in targeted areas of Georgetown County to provide free ageappropriate books for children to take home and keep.









HOW TO HELP

JOIN OUR BOARD

Serving on the MRK Board is a terrific way to be an agent of change in our community. Adding your knowledge and time to our early education programs can be very rewarding, personally and professionally. We have positions on our Board for anyone passionate about early education and community service.

FUNDRASING COMMITTEE

Do you enjoy planning and executing events or putting together the perfect donation appeal? Are you good at asking for sponsorships, donations, and donated items to raise money for the future of our community? Do you believe in the positive effect of early education on a community? Join our fundraising committee today!



Assist the Treasurer in financial planning and oversight to ensure the organization has adequate financial resources and reserves. Ensure the organization follows finance guidelines and conflicts of interest policies while assuring donors and funders that all financial practices are sound and appropriate.



Become a hero and confidant for a MRK ParentChild+ program graduate. Commit to at least 30 minutes a week to visit your mentee at school working on reading, puzzles, homework, math or just talking and connecting. A few minutes of your time can mean a world to a child.









Donate here



To donate electronically visit our safe pay portal. Scan here to visit directly or

go to www.missrubyskids.net and click the top right "donate now" button.

OUR TEAMS

MRK Staff

Natasha Brockington, Executive Director
Lisa Haas Miller, Director of Finance
Laura Kopchynski, PC+ Program Coordinator
Amanda Oliver, Mentor Coordinator
Samantha Saber, HBCC ELS
Lisset Martinez, Bilingual ELS
Jennifer Williams, ELS
Moesha Brown, ELS
Erica Kinloch, ELS

Valorie Johnson-Fulton, ELS ELS=Early Learning Specialist (Home Visitor)

Finance Committee

William Kidd 2020

MRK Mentors

Natasha Brockington Robert Checkaneck John Chiesa **Ernestine Chisom** Eliza Cumbee Stella Dravton Susanne Drennan Nikki Ewing Cary Farrow Vicki Foertschbeck Linda Ford Donna Fountain Melissa Harper Linda Hoffman Christine Hughie Bruce Mallick, Jr. Lisa Miller Amanda Oliver Nancy Patton Teresa Peterson Dianna Rhue Samantha Saber

Akiva Tucker

Dennzon Winley

Diane Wright

MRK Board

Elisabeth Litvin, Chair 2021-current
Vaudrien Forsythe Ray 2018-current
Amanda Cohen 2020-current
Brantay Q. Cohens 2023-current
Doug Patton 2023-current
Nancy Patton- 2023-current
Cyphy Elliott 2023- current
Dr. Manuel Salazar 2021-2023
Leona Joy Bonds 2020-2023
Leigh Ann Carter 2020-2022

Amanda Keith 2020-2022 **Library Stewards** Pat Gadek 2020 Alice Sullivan 2020 Nancy Fellinger 2020 Rita McTaggart 2020 Mary Watkins 2020 Carol Lee Bryant 2020 Peta Dabowski 2022 Reta Schaap 2022 Sue Zeddun 2022 Marrianne Gill 2023 Joan Swenson 2020-2023 Nancy Rudd 2020-2023 Karen Cavanaugh 2021-2022 Edie Sandsbury 2020-2021

Fundraising Committee

Nancy Patton
Doug Patton
Reenie Flowers
Suzanne Christian
Amanda Cohen
Alyce Eason
Jan Chandler
Judy Phelan
Nancy Peele

