

# SUCCESS IS A JOURNEY

Navigating early education in Georgetown County, SC



MISS Ruby's KidS  
Every Child Deserves An Equal Start

2024 Fiscal Year End Report



## A Letter from the Executive Director

At Miss Ruby's Kids, we know that success is a journey that begins long before a child steps into a classroom. Every day, our team walks alongside families in Georgetown County, helping parents prepare their children to thrive in school and in life.

This year, our home visitors traveled 30,395 miles across Georgetown County visiting homes, sharing resources, and strengthening the foundations of early learning. Along the way, we were able to serve 215 children and parents through our programs. Each visit, each mile, each family reached represents progress and proof that together, we are moving our community forward.

The impact you will see in these pages is the result of partnership. It is the result of people like you who believe that every child deserves the chance to learn, grow, and dream big. Because of your support, families across Georgetown County are building stronger beginnings and brighter futures. The journey continues, and we are deeply grateful to have you with us.

Thank you for believing in the power of early education and for ensuring that Miss Ruby's Kids can continue to go the distance for our children and families.



Our Team Left to Right

Natasha Brockington Executive Director, Miriam Salinas Bi-Lingual Early Learning Specialist (ELS), Amanda Oliver Education Mentor Program Coordinator, Kay Pulliam ELS, Valorie Johnson-Fulton ELS, Lisset Martinez Bi-Lingual ELS, Laura Kopchynski ParentChild+ Program Coordinator, Samantha Saber HBCC ELS, Lisa Miller Director of Finance

*"But I have promises to keep, and miles to go before I sleep, and miles to go before I sleep."*

*Robert Frost*

**61 Families Served  
3,677 In Person Visits  
106 Virtual Visits  
946 Children's Books  
870 Educational Toys**

**ParentChild+  
Program**

**54 Mentees  
23 Mentors  
15 Schools Served  
3,160 Volunteer Hours**

**Mentor Program**

**145 Hours  
36 In-Home Visits  
12 Reviews**

**17 Community Libraries  
8081 Children's Books  
290 Volunteer Hours  
40,560 books since 2020**

**Home Based  
Child Cares**

**Little Ruby's Libraries**

**Fiscal Year 2024**

**Extra Endeavours:  
6 Family Events, 18 Community Events,  
500 Books Gifted at Events,  
4 Positive Parenting Workshops Hosted**



# MRK 2025 High School Graduates



Diego Martinez



Adriana Sanchez



Cesar Ocampo



Khi-Dre' Drayton



Dymere Myers



Kamaury Green



Ja'Aire Lawrence

## Our Mission

Miss Ruby's Kids builds strong foundations  
in early literacy and lifelong learning for  
Georgetown County's children  
to enter school ready to succeed.

MRK ParentChild+ Graduates that reside  
in Georgetown County have a 100%  
High School Graduation Rate.



## Income



## Expense



**MRK ELS's traveled  
30,395 miles over  
Georgetown County**

### Join our Circle and Keep Every Child's Journey Moving Forward

For more than 22 years, Miss Ruby's Kids has helped children and families in Georgetown County build strong foundations for lifelong learning. But that work depends on steady, reliable support from people like you.

**When you give \$50 each month, you keep the journey moving forward:**

- Children enter school ready to learn,
- Parents have the tools to nurture their child's growth, and
- Mentors can walk beside families year-round.

**Your monthly gift fuels progress, stability, and hope one family at a time.**

Join the Miss Ruby's Kids Giving Circle today with a \$50 monthly gift or choose the amount that's meaningful to you. Every monthly donor strengthens the circle and helps every child's journey move forward.

Gold  
Transparency  
2024

Candid.



Follow this link to set up a  
secure monthly donation

# Our Programs

## **ParentChild+ Program**

MRK provides families with gifts of high-quality books and educational toys which are the curricular materials used in 92 twice-weekly home visits to encourage positive parent-child verbal interaction and support the development of children's school readiness skills.

## **Home-based Childcare Program**

Early Learning Specialists build relationships with home-based child care (HBCC) 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.



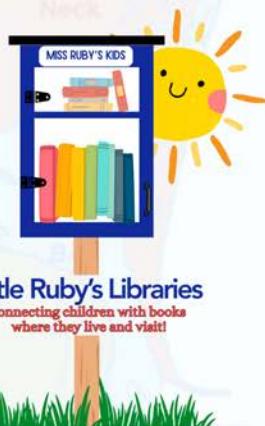
HBCC ELS Samantha Saber with our latest in-home provider graduate

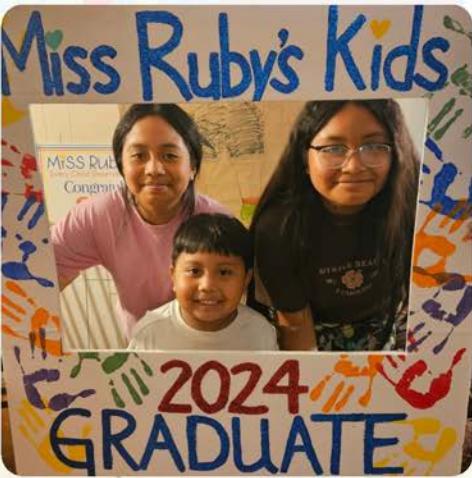
## **Education Mentor Program**

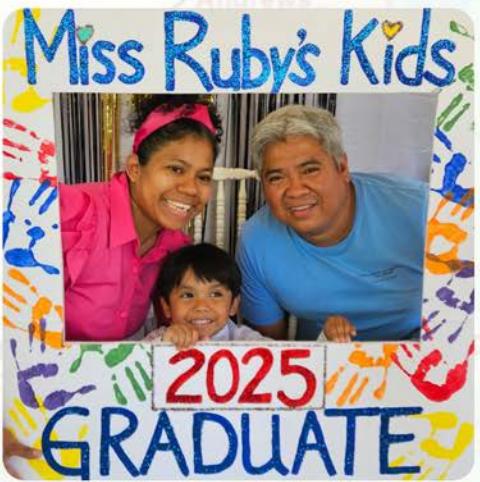
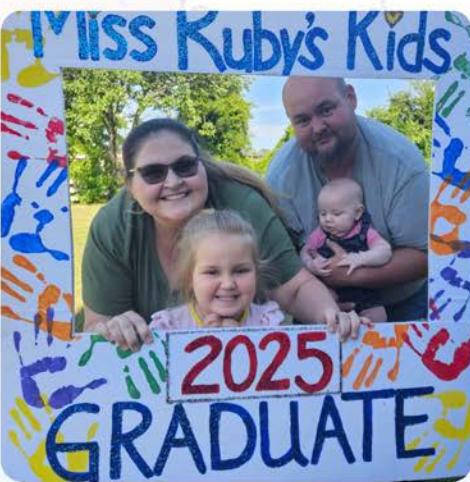
MRK ParentChild+ Graduates are assigned a volunteer mentor once they enter school. Mentors visit the children once a week and provide much needed support for them as they progress in their educational journey.

## **Little Ruby's Libraries**

Miss Ruby's Kids supports community libraries located in targeted areas of Georgetown County to provide free age-appropriate, culturally-relevant books for children to take home and keep.







## A Family's Path to Success



When Jhustyn and Jhourdyn were just two years old, their mother learned about Miss Ruby's Kids from a friend who had participated in the program. A firm believer in the power of education, she wanted to give her twins every opportunity to start strong. "I've always been big on education and wanted to start them on the right path," she said.

At that time, the twins were in an in-home daycare setting, and she was eager to nurture their curiosity early. The ParentChild+ program gave her the tools and confidence to do just that. The home visits quickly became a highlight for the family. "The twins loved the days when new books or educational toys were introduced," she recalled. "Their faces lit up." Those moments turned learning into something joyful and strengthened her confidence as a parent. "The visits helped me learn different ways to teach them and the methods they enjoyed most."

As the twins entered elementary school, their journey with Miss Ruby's Kids continued through the Education Mentor program, where they were assigned to Tom and Lynn. What began as a mentoring relationship soon grew into something much deeper. "They became family," their mother shared. "The twins absolutely adored them. They were present for everything — even Grandparents Day at school."

The steady encouragement and guidance the twins received gave them a lasting sense of pride and motivation. "They knew they always had extra people rooting for them," their mother said. "That support made them more motivated to do well in school, stay on the honor roll, and keep striving for excellence."



Now, years later, Jhustyn and Jhourdyn are thriving young leaders. Jhourdyn is a member of the Praise Team at Mt. Zion Baptist Church and runs track at Waccamaw High School. Jhustyn plays on the Varsity Football and Track Teams. Both are college-bound students with 3.8 GPAs. They are well-rounded, confident, and determined. "They're positive leaders and do a great job of separating themselves from things that don't seem right," their mom said with pride.

Even though time has passed, and Tom and Lynn have moved away, the bond with their mentors remains strong. "We still communicate and miss them dearly," she shared. "The kids and I text and talk with them on Facebook." Now juniors, Jhustyn and Jhourdyn remain active participants, engaging regularly in group mentoring at Waccamaw High School.

For her, the connection between her family and Miss Ruby's Kids goes beyond a program — it's a foundation for lifelong success. "They are walking success stories because of the foundation that was started through Miss Ruby's Kids," she said. Their love for learning was enhanced at a young age. They are great in school and in life."

**And for the people whose generosity makes that possible, she offers heartfelt gratitude:**

"This is an invaluable program and an excellent base for early childhood development through high school for both the child and the parents. MRK provides educational supplies, tools, and guidance for many families to help boost a child's love for learning. I can't even imagine life without it. I strongly recommend this program to everyone and will forever be grateful for everyone who played a role in helping me get and keep my children on the right path."



# Fueling The Journey



Every day in Georgetown County, children's futures are being shaped by the opportunities and support around them. Some begin with every resource they need. Others face barriers that make the road ahead harder. Miss Ruby's Kids exists to close that gap and to ensure every child has the chance to reach their fullest potential.

Each day, our team is out in the community meeting families where they are, sharing tools for learning, and helping parents become their child's first and best teacher. This year alone, 215 children and parents have grown, learned, and discovered new possibilities through our programs.

That progress is powerful but it can't continue without you.

When you give to Miss Ruby's Kids, you fuel the journey for local children. Your donation provides the books, home visits, and guidance that spark a lifelong love of learning. You make it possible for families to build strong foundations that last far beyond preschool.

We need your support today to keep this momentum going and reach even more families in the year ahead. **Please use the enclosed envelope or visit [www.missrubyskids.net](http://www.missrubyskids.net) to make your gift.** Together, we can ensure that every child in Georgetown County has the chance to thrive. Let's keep the journey moving forward one gift, one child, one future at a time.

With appreciation,

*Natasha Brockington*

Natasha Brockington  
Executive Director



Learn More or  
Donate  
Electronically

**PO Box 1007 Georgetown SC, 29442  
2018 Church St Georgetown SC, 29440  
843-436-7200**  
**nbrockington@missrubyskids.net**  
**[www.missrubyskids.net](http://www.missrubyskids.net)**

# 17

Little Ruby's Libraries across Georgetown County! With the support of our community, grant partners, and dedicated library stewards, we're putting free books into the hands of children.

