

# ELPM BUILDING BLOCKS

## *Building a Future*

A Quarterly publication for our partners, supporters, and friends



### PREPARING YOUNG CHILDREN FOR SCHOOL SUCCESS

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The whole  
purpose of  
education is  
to turn mirrors  
into windows.

*Sydney J. Harris*

As children move into the preschool years, parents' worries often shift to whether or not they are doing all they should to help their children be successful once they reach school age. A quick search of the Internet will produce a variety of lists with very specific school readiness skills for young children. These can run the gamut from the fairly simple skill of counting from one to ten to the sometimes daunting ability to tie shoes unassisted or sit still for lengths of time.

However, early childhood experts, such as those with the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAYCE), as well as preschool and kindergarten teachers say the skills that help children do well in school are not necessarily the ones that make the lists. They aren't even ones that children achieve at the same rate or by the same age. Instead, early childhood teachers say the best skills are those that come naturally from children's daily activities, such as going to the grocery store with their own list, mailing a drawing they have made to Grandma and Grandpa or going for a swim with a friend. These include:

- **Good health and physical development** - Adequate rest, nutrition, and rest.
- **Emotional development** - positive encouragement from parents and other important adults in their lives.
- **Strengthening of muscles in early childhood** - refined motor skills, making eye contact, sit for lengths of time when learning such skills as reading and writing.
- **Social development** - playing with children their own age.
- **Language development** - evolves when children use words to communicate, have their needs met and enjoy themselves, such as with reading.
- **An understanding of the world in which they live.**

For full article, please visit: [www.guiderlandschools.org](http://www.guiderlandschools.org)

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[www.elpm.org](http://www.elpm.org)

# NEWS AROUND THE BLOCK

## BACK TO SCHOOL



Ready & Eager to Learn!



New Art Supplies!

Ms. Sharon  
Sylvan Hills  
Pre-k  
Class-  
room



Sylvan Hills Special Needs Room

Sylvan Hills Child Development Center is in its third year of the TEACCH Program. It has added an assistant teacher who comes with specialized training in working with children with autism. TEACCH is an evidence-based service, training, and research program for individuals of all ages and skill levels with autism spectrum disorders.

[www.northgeorgia.easterseals.com](http://www.northgeorgia.easterseals.com)



Minnie Howell



Beacon of Hope



Guice

## TenderCare Preschool & Day Care Academy Greensboro, GA

**T**enderCare Clinic, Greensboro, GA, moved into a beautiful new 12,000 square foot facility in December, 2008. The clinic, adjacent to TenderCare Preschool, has twelve medical examination rooms, six dental suites, a surgical suite and a full service retail pharmacy. TenderCare continues to broaden its services with the addition of Dr. Dennis Spencer, OB/GYN and Dr. Leroy Loving, Oral Surgeon. With a growing Hispanic population, TenderCare has also brought Hector Cornejo on board as a full-time translator. In the new facility, TenderCare patients have a comprehensive medical home with access to all primary care specialties including pediatrics, internal medicine, women's health including obstetrical, prenatal and mental health. TenderCare serves families and patients in 52 different zip codes and in a sixty mile radius. The preschool is currently undergoing NAYCE accreditation which is expected to be completed by the end of the year.



**W**ithin the past 12 months, TenderCare has seen a 176% growth in the utilization of their services. TenderCare will be kicking off a fund-raising campaign in the fall to assist with the increasing numbers of un-employed and un-insured families and children that are served.

For further information on TenderCare, please contact Lisa Brown at (706) 453-1201 ext. 5118.

## Mansell Child Development Center Welcomes New Director



**Tinu Agboola**

**A**s a child born and raised in Nigeria, I always had a dream of being a teacher, so I pursued my passion by making Education my discipline at school. When I had the opportunity to come to the United States, I enrolled and attended the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, where I earned a Bachelor's Degree in Education in 1980.

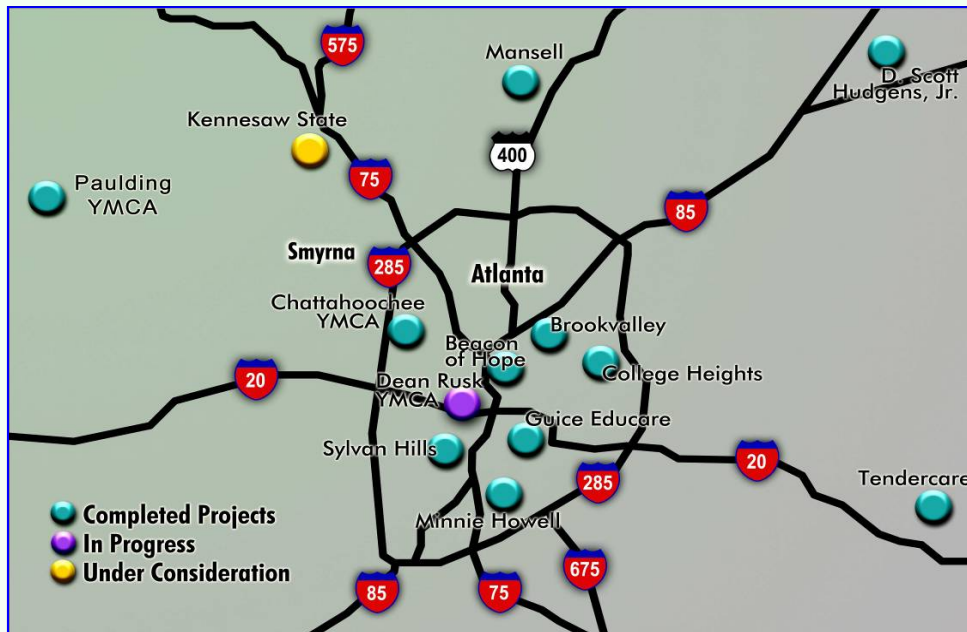
**A**fter my husband and I completed our degrees in Tennessee, we moved our young family to Atlanta in 1981, where I immediately started teaching. I soon enrolled and completed the Master's Program in Educational Administration and Supervision at Clark Atlanta University. My passion has led me to remain in the field of education until today.

**I** have been a proud member of the Easter Seals North Georgia family since October 2002.

[www.northgeorgia.easterseals.com](http://www.northgeorgia.easterseals.com)



**National Grandparents Day** is Sunday, September 13, 2009. Let's remember these special persons who have been a source of nurturing and learning to their grandchildren before pre-kindergarten and child development centers were around. This holiday was originated by Marian McQuade, a housewife from West Virginia. Her primary motivation was to champion the cause of the lonely and elderly in nursing homes but she also hoped to persuade grandchildren to tap the wisdom and heritage their grandparents could provide. In 1978, President Jimmy Carter proclaimed that National Grandparents Day would be celebrated every year on the 1st Sunday after Labor Day.



**ELPM CENTER LOCATIONS**  
For ELPM center program information, please visit [www.elpm.org](http://www.elpm.org)

**Mission Statement**

To support and promote early childhood learning and development by providing safe and adequate facilities where early learning programs and activities can be conducted.



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