

# ELPM BUILDING BLOCKS

## *Building a Future*

A Quarterly publication for our partners, supporters, and friends

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### *Dear Partners, Supporters and Friends,*

As we wind down 2010 and approach a new year, all of us at ELPM would like to take a moment and wish each of you a very happy holiday season. We send special thanks to all of our partners and supporters for the generous contributions and continued support to the early learning initiative. With our precious children filling the centers with their voices and laughter, we are reminded what is truly important in our lives. With wishes to everyone for a joyous season and a prosperous 2011.

*Kara Portnell, Executive Director*



For questions about  
child abuse, contact:  
tiffanys@gacfca.org  
or visit:

www.georgiacenterfor  
childadvocacy.org

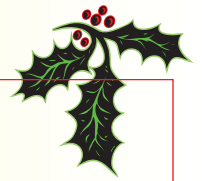


## Easter Seals North Georgia Expands Early Head Start Program

*Donna Davidson, President/CEO, Easter Seals North Georgia*

Easter Seals North Georgia is pleased to announce that it was recently named the Head Start Replacement Grantee for the Early Head Start Program serving both South and North Fulton Counties. Easter Seals began providing services to 96 children ages 6 weeks to 3 years in two additional locations. Fifty-six of the children are being served by Easter Seals North Georgia in NAEYC accredited space at Minnie Howell Premier Academy, 399 Macedonia Road, Atlanta, and providing Early Head Start services to 40 children in a new location at 1240 Warsaw Road, Roswell, Georgia. Easter Seals North Georgia is very excited about this new opportunity. These additional slots are desperately needed as the Head Start/Early Head Start program in Roswell currently has a long waiting list. Easter Seals North Georgia provides comprehensive Head Start and Early Head Start services to 1,348 children at 13 locations in Fulton County and Northeast Georgia.

For additional program information please visit  
www.northgeorgia.easterseals.com



## MINNIE HOWELL CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER “PEACE for Pre-K Day”

*Cindra Taylor, Executive Director, Premier Academy, Inc.*

Premier Academy, Inc. – Minnie Howell Child Development Center was one of three centers in Atlanta selected by Grow Kids, Inc. to participate in the PEACE for Pre-K Day on December 7. This emotional awareness program that promotes Safe Space for small kids was Atlanta’s first concurrent literacy program. The theme for the event was “Hands Are Not for Hitting”. The event focused on discussing with young children other ways to resolve conflicts, avoid fighting and how to handle bullying. Local celebrities, business owners and elected officials participated by reading the book entitled Hands Are Not for Hitting by Martine Agassi, Ph.D. After the readings, each child was given the book Hands Are Not for Hitting and a Grow Kids T-Shirt. Children were also engaged in activities that allowed them to express their feelings through art and music movement. For program information please visit [www.premier-academy.org](http://www.premier-academy.org).



Adults pictured: (Left to Right) Travis Townsend, Townsend Lockett & Milfort, LLC, Brian Miller, Sole Plus, Tonja Cameron, Pre-K 2 Teacher & Pre-K 2 Class



Adults pictured: Karli Harvey (front), Brandi Harvey (rear left) - daughters of Steve Harvey, actor/comedian/radio host, Stacy Evans (rear right) State Representative Elect & Pre-K 1 Class



## GOVERNOR’S OFFICE FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES AWARDS GRANT

*Julie Michaelson, DPEL Project Manager*

The Governor’s Office for Children and Families recently awarded a fifteen month grant in the amount of \$272,054 to the DeKalb Partners for Early Learning and DeKalb County to implement a System of Care for 100 children and their families in two DeKalb communities: Scottdale and Clarkston. The DeKalb System of Care brings together major DeKalb agencies and groups around a common goal of ensuring that children are ready and prepared for success in school. The DeKalb System of Care will use Parents as Teachers (PAT), an evidence-based national home visiting program, as the primary strategy to bundle services and support for children and their families, in addition to school transition and parent leadership strategies. Rather than creating a new program, the System of Care maximizes and builds on existing resources, identifies barriers, and strengthens the partners’ abilities to collaborate.

Four DeKalb County early learning programs will implement the System of Care: Refugee Family Services and Scottdale Child Development & Family Resource Center will implement the primary PAT programs, and Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church Children’s Program and Kids Quarters Learning Center will assist with recruitment and parent engagement activities. The System of Care seeks to form linkages with partner agencies such as DeKalb County Board of Health, Head Start, Pre-K, DeKalb County Public Schools, DeKalb County Library, and United Way, among others.

The System of Care is governed by the DeKalb Partners for Early Learning, a voluntary collaborative representing critical stakeholders, including agencies and organizations in or serving DeKalb County who are committed to working together to share resources and information to ensure that all children in DeKalb County are ready and prepared for success in school. The DeKalb Early Learning and School Readiness Commission, chaired by DeKalb County Commissioner Larry Johnson, acts as DeKalb Partners for Early Learning accountability partner, which garners the support of public and private leaders who recognize the importance of investing in early learning for the County’s future success. The Governor’s Office for Children and Families award is renewable for up to three years. DeKalb Partners for Early Learning seeks to sustain the pilot and scale its most successful strategies to other areas of the County. For more information about the DeKalb System of Care email [dekalbpartners@gmail.com](mailto:dekalbpartners@gmail.com).



# Happy Holidays! From Your friends at ELP M



Dean Rusk YMCA Head Start Academy



D. Scott Hudgens, Jr. Early Education Center



College Heights Early Childhood Learning Center



Chattahoochee YMCA Head Start Academy



Mansell Easter Seals Child Development Center



Paulding YMCA Early Learning Academy



Tendercare Preschool & Daycare Academy



Beacon of Hope Renaissance Learning Center



Guice Easter Seals Educare Center



Minnie Howell Premier Academy Child Development Center



Brookvalley Easter Seals Child Development Center



Sylvan Hills Easter Seals Child Development Center



## "It's All Good" 4th Annual College Heights Early Childhood Learning Center PTA Auction

Suzanne Kennedy, Principal, College Heights Early Childhood Learning Center

Make plans now to attend the 4th Annual College Heights ECLC PTA Auction. The event will be held on **Friday, February 25th, 7pm** at the Solarium in historic Oakhurst. Inspired by Pete the Cat, our theme this year is **"It's All Good!"** This event really is all about the good of the children, the staff and the school. All of the money raised will support PTA sponsored events and programs. Examples of what the PTA funds at College Heights are in-house field trips, the Pre-K music program, teaching team grants, and the school garden. You are sure to have a good time while listening to great music, bidding on wonderful donated items, enjoying food and drinks, and socializing with parents and teachers all while supporting a great cause. We hope to see you there!

For more information please visit [www.eclc.cityschoolsofdecalur.com](http://www.eclc.cityschoolsofdecalur.com)

### Early Learning Property Management 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.



### ELPM CENTER LOCATIONS

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

**E**arly  
**L**earning  
**P**roperty  
**M**anagement, **I**NC.

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Atlanta, GA 30329

TO:

**Our Partners, Supporters and Friends**

