



# PARTNERSHIP PRESS

News and Info about Smart Start in Lincoln & Gaston Counties



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### OFFICERS

Robert Weeks, Chair, Gaston Family Health Services  
Cathy Davis, Vice-Chair  
Erma Deen Hoyle, Secretary, Lincoln Co. Parks & Recreation  
Carrie Minnich, Treasurer, Gaston Co. Schools

### BOARD MEMBERS

Rev. Paul A. Brintley, Sr., Christian Fellowship Assembly  
Lou Burgess, Lincoln Co. Health Department  
Nelson Connor, Pathways, Inc.  
Chris Dobbins, Gaston County Museum of Art & History  
Maggie Dollar, Lincoln Co. Health Department  
David Fogarty, Gaston Co. Cooperative Extension Service  
Annie Geerken, Kenlin Academy  
Linda Greer, Gaston College  
William Gross, Gaston Co. Health Department  
Carolyn Harbinson, Gaston Community Action  
Forlanda Harvey, Blessings Family Day Care  
Melinda Houser, Lincoln Co. Cooperative Extension Service  
Sandy Johnson, Retired Educator  
Tammy Kane, Truliant Federal Credit Union  
Cathy Kenzig, Alliance for Children and Youth  
Susan McCracken, Lincoln Co. Department of Social Services  
Adrian Miller, City of Belmont  
Carrol Mitchem, Lincoln Co. Commissioner  
Cindy Moose, Gaston-Lincoln Regional Library  
Yerby Ray, United Way of Lincoln County  
Sherry Reinhardt, Lincoln County Coalition Against Child Abuse  
Jenny Sigmon, Lincoln Co. YMCA  
Amy Simmons, The Grace School  
Ginger Thompson, Lincoln County Schools  
Cynthia Truett, Gaston Co. Department of Social Services  
Wanda Whetstone, Gaston Co. Department of Social Services

## PFCLG SPOOKTACULAR IS BACK!!!



On Saturday, October 30, 2010 the Partnership for Children will hold the second annual Family Spooktacular at the WoodMill Festival Grounds in Vale. The fundraiser is geared toward families with young children and will help raise awareness of the Partnership for Children's funded projects.

The event will be held from Noon to 4 p.m. at the WoodMill Festival Grounds, located at 1350 WoodMill Winery Lane.

There will be something to do for children of all ages. Activities include a costume parade, a bounce house, a petting zoo, a cup cake walk, and trunk or treat. A fire truck, police car and ambulance will be on site for the children to view. A FREE hotdog lunch will be provided! There will also be a silent auction for adults.

## inside

PAGE ONE 2010 Spooktacular  
PAGE TWO Parent University  
PAGE THREE Outdoor Play  
PAGE FOUR Staff Listings & Contact Info



# parent university

## What Is Parent University?

Parent University is a collaborative effort of Gaston and Lincoln County organizations designed to provide parents, grandparents, and guardians with opportunities to build their parenting skills and confidence through educational seminars and workshops. Parent University will serve as a one-stop shop for linking parents to local resources.

## Cornerstones of Parent University

Parents are a child's best teacher.

Parents are empowered through personal growth and self discovery opportunities.

Parents who are supported, knowledgeable and empowered develop close and meaningful relationships with their children.

Effective parenting strategies are linked to school readiness, school achievement and healthy physical and emotional outcomes for their children.



# KICKOFF

SEPTEMBER 25, 2010 • 9 AM - 1 PM  
GASTON COLLEGE • MYERS CENTER

For more information please call 704-922-0900 or visit

[www.gastonlincolnparentuniversity.com](http://www.gastonlincolnparentuniversity.com)

SHARE YOUR NEWS AND INFORMATION IN OUR QUARTERLY  
NEWSLETTER, PARTNERSHIP PRESS! CALL 704-922-0900

## PFCLG ANNOUNCES PARENT UNIVERSITY KICKOFF

If you are a parent in Gaston or Lincoln Counties you will want to take part in the Gaston-Lincoln Parent University Kickoff. This free event will take place on September 25, 2010 at Gaston College. Parent University is a collaborative effort of Gaston and Lincoln County organizations designed to provide parents, grandparents, and guardians with opportunities to build their parenting skills and confidence through educational seminars and workshops. Parent University will serve as a one-stop shop for linking parents to local resources. Parents will learn ways to enrich their children's growth and development, learn new parenting strategies and find new ways to communicate effectively with their children. You may attend up to three of the more than 30 workshop sessions offered the day of the event. Topics to choose from include internet safety tips, potty training, talking to your kids about drugs and alcohol, paying for college and how to handle tantrums. The event will take place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event and workshops are free. Check out the new website [www.gastonlincolnparentuniversity.com](http://www.gastonlincolnparentuniversity.com) for a list of workshops and to register. Registrations will be taken the day of the event as well. The Gaston County Family YMCA will provide child care and children's activities at no charge. Some of the many local network partners for the Gaston-Lincoln Parent University include the Alliance for Children and Youth, Gaston College, Truliant Federal Credit Union, Partnership for Children of Lincoln & Gaston Counties, Lincoln County Schools, Gaston County Schools, Gaston County Family YMCA, Gaston-Lincoln Regional Library, Lincoln County Coalition against Child Abuse, Gaston County Museum and the NC Cooperative Extension.

For more detailed information please visit the website, [www.gastonlincolnparentuniversity.com](http://www.gastonlincolnparentuniversity.com) or call 704-922-0900.

## RIBBON CUTTING AND OPEN HOUSE

A Joint Ribbon Cutting & Open House was held by the Gaston Regional Chamber & Montcross Area Chamber of Commerce to celebrate our new location at 120 Roechling Street, Dallas. Cutting the ribbon is Steve Eaton, PFCLG, Executive Director. Included in picture are Lewis Carter, President of Röchling Engineering Plastics; Cathy Davis, PFCLG, Vice-Chair of Board of Directors; Tracy Zimmerman, NC Partnership for Children, Communications & Development Director and Bill McLucas, Lincolnton-Lincoln Co. Chamber, Chair of Board of Directors. Also included are elected officials, staff and Gaston Regional and Montcross Chamber members. The event was a huge success with over 100 people in attendance!



## OUTDOOR PLAY MAKES KIDS HEALTHY



One in five four-year-olds are obese in the United States. Regular active play during childhood is one of the perfect ways to combat the obesity epidemic. One way to encourage this is nature play, allowing children time to play outdoors. An outdoor play environment should promote development of the child, physically and intellectually. It should also offer experiences that will provide an environment for active learning. An outdoor environment is important for children so they can play with elements such as plants, sand and water. A vegetable garden is also popular. Pick items that are easy to grow such as sugar snap peas, radishes, corn, carrots and potatoes. Try a butterfly garden. Plant flowers like milkweeds and coneflowers. Throw in parsley and dill for caterpillars to eat! Many child care centers in the area, like Precious Moments Childcare Center in Gastonia, are picking up on the trend of nature play. Crystal Davis, Director of Precious Moments said starting a garden was one of the best things that could have happened to the children as well as the staff. "Our hard work really paid off by learning the steps it took, to take care of something

we love doing," Davis said. "We really enjoyed watching the food grow and eating the fresh food that came out of the garden. Our goal is to continue to do a year round garden for the family and staff of Precious Moments Childcare Center." For more information on nature play visit Green Hearts, Institute for Nature in Childhood at [www.greenheartsinc.org](http://www.greenheartsinc.org).



## PARTNERSHIP STAFF

**STEVE EATON**  
Executive Director

**TORY L. BORNE**  
Program Manager

**ELIZABETH S. CARROLL**  
Administrative Assistant

**MARNITA CAUSBY**  
Office Assistant

**SHERRI HEFFNER**  
Contracts Assistant

**DIANE HINES**  
Early Childhood Education Director

**CHRYSTAL HOYLE**  
Technical Assistant

**CRISTINA LOZANO**  
Parent Information Assistant

**ERIN PATTERSON**  
Research Assistant

**REBECCA POWELL**  
Parent Information Assistant

**ROSALIND RICHARDSON**  
Technical Assistant

**DAWN RIPPY**  
Contracts Manager

**CAROL STEPHENSON**  
Technical Assistant

**DEIRDRE SYKES**  
Technical Assistant

**VICKI TIMMONS**  
Finance Manager

**AMY WADSWORTH**  
Public Information Coordinator

**KIMBERLY WARD**  
Technical Assistant

## OUR MISSION

To serve as a leading advocate and financial resource, in collaboration with other community agencies, to provide affordable access to high quality services for young children.

## OUR VISION

A community where young children will reach their full health and educational potential.

## CONTACT US

Now you can receive our newsletter by, US Mail or Email.

If you want to receive our newsletter, please contact:

Amy Wadsworth at  
704-736-9008 or 704-922-0900,  
or send an email to  
[publicinfo@pfclg.com](mailto:publicinfo@pfclg.com).

120 Roechling Street  
Dallas, NC 28034  
[www.pfclg.com](http://www.pfclg.com)



120 Roechling Street  
Dallas, NC 28034  
[www.pfclg.com](http://www.pfclg.com)  
Phone: 704-922-0900  
Fax 704-922-0996

Non-Profit Organization  
US Postage Paid  
Dallas NC  
Permit #29