



The Head Start Herald

From the ACHR Child Development

Program - 950 Shelton Mill Rd,



Volume 19 Issue 7 & 8

July-August 2019



July Happenings

- 23 Darden Children bring home "Healthy & Strong" Booklet
- 26 Darden Children Bring home "DRAIN" necklace Practice "DRAIN" at home
- 29 Children's Height & Weight Screenings Begin - Darden Head Start and Early Head Start
- 30 Focus First Vision Screenings— Darden HS and EHS PLEASE SEND CHILD ON THIS DAY!
- 31 Focus First Vision Screenings— Darden HS and EHS PLEASE SEND CHILD ON THIS DAY!

August Happenings

- 1 Focus First Vision Screenings— Edelman EHS PLEASE SEND CHILD ON THIS DAY!
- 2 Darden Children bring home "Pretzel" necklace—Practice "Pretzel" at home
- 2 Bus Evacuation & Pedestrian Safety Training day for Darden HS Children receive Bus Booklet (See page 2)
- 12 ALL CENTERS CLOSED (HS/EHS/WRAP) Staff Training
- 13 ALL CENTERS CLOSED (HS/EHS/WRAP) Training
- 21 King/Edelman HS Children First Day

Policy Council Corner

Please see page 2 for more information about Head Start Policy Council and Center committees. We hope you will consider becoming a part of these important service areas. "Like" us on Facebook (ACHR-Alabama Council on Human Relations). Look for our logo. We communicate via Face book/newsletter and informational handouts sent home with your children. Don't miss important messages about Head Start and ACHR.

Sunshine Shop

The Sunshine Shop is open BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. NO walk-in appointments. You must have a referral from your Family Engagement Advocate, Home Based Parent Educator, or Case Manager. No more than one shopping trip a month per family. Appointments can be re-scheduled IF we were notified in advance the first appointment time had to be cancelled.

Shopping is for HS/EHS parents/guardians only; please bring ID. When the amount of goods allow we will also accept referrals from our community partners.

Appointment times will be scheduled beginning on the hour as follows: Mon., Weds, and Fri. 9-12 & 1:00—3:30. Sunshine Shop is behind Darden) at 301 Avenue E, Bldg. B. (With a referral, call 821-8336 ext. 352 to schedule an appointment or if you would like to make a donation.

Welcome to Head Start/Early Head Start



We are so excited that you are allowing us to give your child a HEAD START. To returning parents, **WELCOME BACK!** We hope that one of your goals for this year will be to increase your participation by 10% over what you did last year.

To new parents, **WELCOME!** We are so happy that you choose Head Start for your child development and family engagement provider. You know we will be doing some exciting things with your children but did you know we do exciting things with parents also? Well we do! Watch for workshops with topics of interest to you; activities for fathers and parent meetings with topics on health issues, education and things you need to know if your child is transitioning to the public school system, to name a few.

Each of you is important to us. All that we do or have planned to do was done with you in mind.

Things You Need To Know

- School hours are 8 a.m.-1:00 p.m. (to 2:00 pm for EHS). Please have your child in the center on time. Children MUST be in class no later than 8:15 a.m. (children are considered late at 8:15, but will be accepted until that time.)
- Dress your child in simple, washable clothing. Shoes should fit securely on your child's feet for safety (no flip-flops or mules).
- Every child needs a change of clothing appropriate for the season. This includes underwear. Please label and then leave these items with your child's teacher—just in case. If your child returns home in that clothing with a bag of damp clothing, please be sure to send another set.
- Attendance is **very** important. Our aim is 100% attendance each day. Children should be present unless they are sick.

Check your parent handbook, "Hand In Hand" for more things you need to know. Again, welcome to the Alabama Council on Human Relations, Inc. (ACHR) Head Start/Early Head Start family. We believe that this partnership will be rewarding for you, your child and ACHR.



HAVE A GREAT IDEA FOR OUR NEWSLETTER?

PLEASE SHARE IT!

If you would like to send a short general interest item (about twice the size of this box!) for publication in ACHR'S *Head Start Herald* please email alma.gholston@achr.com to share your idea. We welcome ideas and articles from parents!

Health Topics (Health Nutrition/Dental/Safety/Disabilities/Mental Health)



When you see “Health Notes” each month, the column will be about any of the topics listed above.

For July and August the focus is on **safety** — safety in school buses, and safety in this heat. We are continuing to have *extremely* hot weather. Please be careful. Be sure you and your child drink plenty of water every day. (Not soft drinks).

Use fans or air conditioning to keep air circulating in your home. Wear loose fitting, light weight, light-colored clothing.

Don't leave a child, pet or elderly person in a car, even for just a “few minutes.” Use seat belts but be careful when the car has been in the sun. The buckles get hot and can burn.



IMPORTANT BUS EVACUATION PLANS

In this day of heightened awareness of safety, each of us realize that transporting very young children is a risk (but so is a bath!). Both parents and our staff need to be aware and to help the children learn and to use some basic transportation rules.

We will have at least three bus evacuation drills for all our children and staff this year whether or not they currently ride the bus. We want children to know what to do to get off the bus in case of an accident. Young children need repetition. Also, sometimes children enter the program later in the year and they need to be included.

You are asking, “What can I do about bus evacuation?” A booklet will come home with your child on the day that your child participated in the first evacuation practice. Take time to listen to & talk about what your child learned. In the booklet, you will find some words that should be familiar. Talk about how important it is to listen and do what adults on the bus say to do when they practice bus evacuation. Please keep the booklet and read it again and again.

Buses must evacuate if there is fire, accident, flat tire, etc. For young children, knowing that adults will help them follow an escape plan keeps down fear. You knowing that adults and children are practicing and that a plan is in place will help you talk with your children about helping keep themselves and others safe by listening and following what they practiced.

Each drill will include information and practice about the location, use and operation of emergency exits, doors & fire extinguishers & the proper way to get off the bus quickly and safely. Each time your child practices, s/he will be learning new words. Our first Bus Evacuation Practice for Darden Center is August 2. All centers will practice in early spring.

Things to Know, Remember and Do

2019 Back to School Sales Tax Holiday

July 19 - July 21, 2019



Alabama will hold its 14th annual sales tax holiday, beginning Friday, July 19, 2019 at 12:01 a.m. and ending Sunday, July 21, 2019 at 12 midnight. This gives shoppers the opportunity to purchase certain school supplies, computers and clothing free of state sales tax. Local sales tax may apply. For more information view Alabama's Department of Revenue – Back to School Sales Tax Holiday brochure <https://revenue.alabama.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/STHolidayQuickRefSheet19.pdf>

Back to School Bash

July 26, 2019 10:00 AM until 1:00 PM

Covington Recreation Center
213 Carver Ave. Opelika, AL



Children of all ages are invited to Covington Recreation Center for one last day of summer. The event is FREE and food and fun will be provided! A limited number of school supplies will be given away.

Sponsored by Opelika Parks & Recreation

9th Annual Back 2 School Bash

August 17, 2019 9:00 AM until 1:00 PM

Airport Plaza (same shopping center as Mikata)
323 Airport Road Suite Auburn, AL

Sponsored by Cornerstone Family Chiropractic and The Big House Foundation. Bring your friends and family to enjoy an outdoor carnival. Enjoy FREE food, games, entertainment, shopping and Aubie the Tiger! Proceeds go to the Big House Foundation charity.

Members for Center Committees & Policy Council Needed!

Would you like to play an important role in Head Start/Early Head Start? You can do that by accepting a position on the Center Committee or on the Policy Council. Center Committees consist of parents with children presently enrolled in the program. They work with the center staff and Family Engagement Advocates on center needs. The Policy Council consists of parents and community representatives who work on issues related to the program. Groups meet once a month at 5:30 p.m. on a day agreed upon by members. Members will be elected to both groups at the first Parent Meeting at each center. Parent Meetings for each center will start in September – check upcoming newsletter for dates. We look forward to seeing you there!



Job applications being accepted at ACHR for

Teachers—MUST have 4 yr degree in ECE or HDFS with infancy & preschool, or AA in Child Development and reliable transportation.

Teacher Assistant—MUST have CD Certificate or CDA

Intern—Must be in college working toward CDA, CD Certificate, or AA/Child Development

Bus Aide—Must be at least 19 years old, with high school diploma or GED. Must be able to get on and off bus several times each morning and afternoon & love to assist young children.

Accountant—Three + years hands-on experience in general ledger accounting., budget preparation, financial statements, some payroll experience. Must have degree in field, preferably accounting.

Applications can be picked-up at all centers - return to main office (Frankie B. King Center) at 950 Shelton Mill Road (back of building; far left). EOE.