Why I Serve

The Learning Collaborative is about helping ensure exceptional opportunities for all students. Children growing up in Grier Heights and other low-income areas of Charlotte often don't have access to high-quality early childhood education. As a result, they tend to start kindergarten academically and socially behind their more affluent peers – and an achievement gap often widens from there.

I'm a native Charlottean, and I've long been familiar with the mission and accomplishments of TLC. When I graduated from college, I taught in under-resourced Title I middle schools for several years. Many of my very bright sixth grade students struggled with simple addition and subtraction when they should have been solving for variables in algebraic equations. Their potential and intelligence weren't the issue - they suffered from the impact of missed educational opportunities.

Now I am raising my own children here in Charlotte. Every day my five-year-old son shares anecdotes from his day at kindergarten. As I look through his eyes at the big bright world he sees before him, I am more passionate than ever about TLC and the work we are doing to increase opportunities for Charlotte's highest-need students and families.

- Katherine Porter Hunter, Secretary
The Learning Collaborative







FALL-WINTER 2019

SOWING SEEDS

The Learning Collaborative newsletter

TLC's School Year Is Off & Running!

TLC kicked the year off with a notable achievement. In August, Executive Director Judy Carter celebrated her 20th anniversary with TLC. She was recognized and honored by the board of directors for her deep expertise, commitment to children, passion for education and leadership. Ms. Carter has truly shaped TLC into a strong, results-focused preschool and parent program through years of tireless dedication. Congratulations Ms. Carter!



Our NC Pre-K classrooms are thriving, full of returning and new students. This year, our two NC Pre-K classes are led by Ms. Vanessa Goodwin & Ms. Dominique Moore, and Ms. Nicole Welch & Ms. Tawanda Everett.

Preschool I & II for our three-year-olds are led by Ms. Shonda Alston & Ms. Shavontae Harris, and Ms. Teresa Watkins and Ms. Cherry Goodwin.

This marks the first full year of our newest classroom for two-year-olds called Growing Early Learners, led by Ms. Carolyn Williamson & Ms. Toni Luckas.

We will serve 72 children and 125 parents/caregivers in 2019-2020, always staying true to our mission and focused on school success. To learn more or schedule a tour, call us!

THE
HOLIDAYS
ARE COMING!

WILL YOU BE READY?

Make a holiday gift to honor your loved ones. TLC sends a beautiful, personalized card letting honorees know of your thoughtfulness.

12/16 is cut-off to ensure
Christmas or Hanukkah
delivery.

TLC 's mission is to prepare underserved children and their families to succeed in school by providing a tuition-free, high-quality preschool education through a unique partnership with our children, families, parents, staff and community.

Our vision is that children & parents working together can overcome at-risk beginnings through an early educational intervention, paving the way for success in kindergarten and beyond, inspiring a love of learning, confidence in the themselves, and hope for the future.









HighScope - 50 years of research

MAKING SYSTEMIC CHANGE

TLC is the only preschool in our region using the HighScope teaching method, developed in the 1960's to study if access to high-quality education could have a positive impact on preschool children and the communities where they live. A 50-year study, called the Perry Preschool Project, has recently shared the systemic changes for the children (now adults) served.

In the first study, 123 children with risk factors of failing in school were randomly divided into two groups. One group entered a high-quality preschool program based on HighScope's active learning approach, and the other group received no preschool education. The initial study led to a longitudinal documentary to follow Perry Preschool Project participants throughout their lives - the findings of which have greatly influenced early educational practices for an at-risk population. TLC follows the HighScope method to fidelity, knowing that evidence-based program has increased school and life success for preschool children living in poverty.

By age 40, participants who experienced the high-quality preschool:

- had fewer teenage pregnancies
- were more likely to have graduated from high school
- were more likely to hold a job and have higher earnings
- committed fewer crimes
- owned their own car and home

As time went on, the study continued, and these same positive effects were seen in the children of the participants – even if the next generation did not attend a high-quality preschool. Researchers found that children who participated in the Perry program "had better home environments and parental attachment during childhood, which are potential sources of the observed long-lastina treatment

(educational) effects."

At TLC, we often say we are proud to be part of the solution. Our approach is intentional and focused on supporting the whole child, through education and school readiness, as well as the crucial parent involvement in a child's educational success.

For more on the Perry Preschool Project and research, visit www.proliteracy.org and www.highscope.org Search for 'Perry Preschool Project'

2019-2020 Board of Directors

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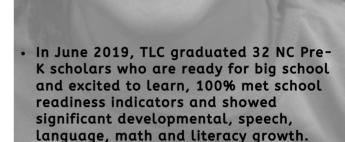
Pam Gray, CFRE Development Director pgray@tlccharlotte.org

Veronica Smith Family Support Specialist vsmith@tlccharlotte.org



TLC sows the seeds that cultivate a bright future for those we serve.

2018-2019 Results



- Across all domains in developmental tests, 70% of children moved from At-Risk to Moderate or Strong Progress from fall 2018 to spring 2019.
- TLC parents completed 1,625 volunteer hours through our Family Involvement program, becoming more engaged in their child's school and educational growth.

Support TLC today!

To Donate Use envelope provided, visit www.tlccharlotte.org, walk in, or mail your gift. Call if you would like stock gift instructions.

Monthly Giving Call to arrange a recurring gift through TLC or set up through your PayPal account.

To Volunteer in the Classrooms Call us, the children love & greatly benefit from Reading Buddies, Letter Buddies and Number Buddies.

The Learning Collaborative is only able to provide an early educational intervention and parent program because of community partners, donors, and advocates who stand behind the work we do.

Thank you for believing in our mission.

Peggy Thies, Co-Chair Chris Van Dyke, Treasurer Julie Wentz Clay Williams