

How You Can Help Us

There are many ways you can join us in helping our Miss Ruby's Kids and their families achieve a more secure future:

Share your Time

- ♥ Volunteer as an Education Mentor.
- ♥ Bring a friend to our Learners for All Seasons friend-raising events.
- ♥ Invite a representative from Miss Ruby's Kids to speak at your book club, church or civic group or a neighborhood event.

Share your Talents

- ♥ Join one of Miss Ruby's Kids support committees.
- ♥ Are you a former educator? The Program Committee might interest you.
- ♥ Do you have a marketing or public relations background? The Development Committee can use your expertise.
- ♥ Do you like planning events? Help us organize our annual Garden Party.

Share your Treasure

- ♥ Become a Friend of Miss Ruby's Kids by making an annual contribution.
- ♥ Underwrite a year of books and toys for one or more of Miss Ruby's Kids.
- ♥ Support a year of Home Visits to a participating family.
- ♥ Sponsor one or more children for a year in the Home Visitor Program.

Miss Ruby's Kids is a non-profit organization that enables parents lacking in resources to become their child's first and best teacher by promoting literacy skills to increase their child's chances of success in school and in life.

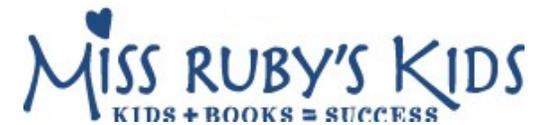


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Enabling Parents to Inspire a Passion for Learning in their Children



Recruiting Mentors to Ensure School Success



Our Inspiration

Mrs. Ruby Forsythe, a passionate teacher on the Waccamaw Neck in Georgetown, South Carolina, for over 50 years, inspired the founding of Miss Ruby's Kids. Beginning in 1937 until shortly before she died, Miss Ruby's dedication and limitless energy were devoted to the children who attended the one-room school, which still stands today in Pawleys Island. Graduates of Miss Ruby's School are among the leading citizens of Georgetown County and remember her high standards not only in what they learned but also in how they conducted themselves.



Our Model

Miss Ruby's Kids is a local replication of the Parent-Child Home Program, an early childhood *family based* literacy program that operates across the United States and internationally. For more than 40 years, the Parent-Child Home Program has prepared two and three-year-old children for success in school and followed them throughout their academic careers. Over eighty percent of the children who participate in this program graduate from high school.



Our Method

One of the goals of Miss Ruby's Kids is to encourage and teach parents how to become their children's first and best teachers. This is accomplished through trained Home Visitors who make two visits a week to the homes of at-risk two and three-year-olds who qualify. One requirement is that a parent and/or adult family member must be present at and participate in these visits. The Home Visitor brings a book or a toy, which is left for the child, and models for the adult the various ways to develop interest in and enthusiasm for learning through reading, playing, listening and talking using appropriate language.

Another goal is to continue to be present in these children's lives when they leave the Home Visitor Program. Once children "graduate" at the age of four from Miss Ruby's Kids and enter elementary school, volunteer Education Mentors, recruited and trained by the Program Coordinator, offer encouragement and support as the children progress through school. This component of Miss Ruby's Kids relies on local residents who are interested in having a direct influence on improving the educational opportunities for these children.

Our Challenge

The number of disadvantaged families and at risk children in Georgetown County far exceeds the resources and the reach of Miss Ruby's Kids. We have taken this condition as a challenge. Our goal is to increase the number of children and families served by our Home Visitors and Education Mentors each year. We can only do this by broadening support for our program throughout the community.



Our Mission

Miss Ruby's Kids offers economically and educationally disadvantaged families the opportunity and the skills to support their children's success in school. Our program enables parents to become their children's first and most important teacher by showing them how to develop literacy and comprehension skills in children as young as two years of age. As a home-based program, Miss Ruby's Kids reinforces the message that education is a *family* endeavor and that children whose family members encourage and support their academic efforts will thrive throughout their school years.