



IMPACT REPORT

FY 2023-2024

**92 Home Visits Per Child Help
Our Program Children Grow By Leaps And Bounds!**



**2018 Church St Georgetown SC 29440
PO Box 1007 Georgetown SC 29442 843-436-7200
www.missrubyskids.net schoolsuccess@missrubyskids.net**

OUR PROGRAMS

PARENCHILD+

MRK provides families with gifts of high-quality books and educational toys which are the curricular materials used in twice-weekly home visits to encourage positive parent-child verbal interaction and support the development of children's school readiness skills.



MENTORING

MRK ParentChild+ Graduates are assigned a volunteer mentor once they enter school. Mentors visit the children once a week and provide much needed support for them as they progress in their educational journey.



HOME-BASED CHILD CARE

Early Learning Specialists build relationships with home-based child care (formally FCC) providers to give professional learning support that is individualized to capitalize on their talents. Over the course of the program, providers receive 48 home visits and acquire a library of books and educational toys.



LITTLE RUBY'S LIBRARIES

Miss Ruby's Kids supports community libraries located in targeted areas of Georgetown County to provide free age-appropriate, culturally-relevant books for children to take home and keep.



OUR COLLABORATIONS



Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

Miss Ruby's Kids serves as the Local Program Partner for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. The Imagination Library provides a hand-selected, age-appropriate, high-quality book each month to registered children from birth to age five.

Triple P Positive Parenting Solutions

Miss Ruby's Kids staff are trained Triple P Facilitators. Triple P is a parenting and family support system designed to help children to realise their potential. It is designed to be with parents on every step of their journey, providing help and guidance to families when they need it.

OUR STORY

OUR MISSION

Miss Ruby's Kids provides our community with early literacy education and mentoring using evidence-based practices, curriculum and parental coaching to ensure all Miss Ruby's Kids enter school with an equal start.

OUR VISION

It is our vision that all families in Georgetown County will have an equal educational start for their children. Parents/Caregivers will be equipped to confidently engage in their children's education and foster a lifelong love of learning.



OUR PURPOSE

Miss Ruby's Kids uses education to break the cycle of poverty for in-need families. We engage early in life and help toddlers and their parents access a path to possibility. Through our programming we provide not only early literacy and school readiness support, but most importantly early opportunity.

Miss Ruby's Kids is named for Ruby Middleton Forsythe (1905-1992), an African-American educator from Charleston, South Carolina. In 1937, she began teaching with her husband in a one-room schoolhouse in the Pawleys Island community. "Miss Ruby," as she was affectionately known by her students, played an active role in the school until shortly before her death. Ruby Middleton Forsythe died in 1992, but her dream of equal educational opportunities for all children continues through this program.

Because of MRK's work with families and the relationships that they build, parents are comfortable sharing concerns, and staff are able to observe children and, if necessary, make the appropriate referral to assess developmental delays. Their relationship with the Georgetown County School District and other Early Intervention Systems allows children to receive the help they need early on.

*Reanna Cohens Preschool Transition Specialist, GCSD

OUR IMPACT NUMBERS FISCAL YEAR 2023

ParentChild+

53 Families Served
2,778 Home Visits
• 2,136 In-Person Visits
• 642 Virtual Visits
695 Children's Books
694 Educational Toys

HBCC

Home-Based Childcare
63 Visits
12 Children In-Care
54 Educational Books
9 Educational Toys

Mentor

Education Mentor
53 Mentees
29 Mentors
3,816 Volunteer Hours

LRL

Little Ruby's Libraries
16 Libraries
419 Steward Hours
8427 Free Books

Events

6 Program Family Events
24 Community Events
• 500 Books Gifted
3 Fundraising Events

Get Involved

Looking for ways to give back to the community?
Check out our website for volunteer opportunities.

MRK is a great resource for families of very young children, empowering parents to be the "first teachers" of their children. Early access and opportunity is a best practice for success in education and life. By combining love, time, energy and resources, MRK is impacting and empowering present and future generations in Georgetown County.

- Luann C. Mezzatesta, MSP CCC-SLP Senior speech-language therapist for Tideland Health Center for Pediatric Development
-



OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

For families in Georgetown County, Miss Ruby's Kids (MRK) is more than just an organization. It's a beacon of hope, a partner in education, and a catalyst for change. We've been instrumental in bridging the achievement gap and breaking down barriers to school success. Our focus on school readiness, coupled with coaching and community connection for parents and caregivers, has made a tangible difference. We're there for children as they take their first steps towards school success, and we support our local childcare heroes in their noble endeavor. Through the gift of books, we aim to open doors to new worlds and experiences.

Today, we need to proactively prepare for the future by investing in early childhood education programs, such as those provided at Miss Ruby's Kids. This investment will enable Miss Ruby's Kids to offer children engaging learning opportunities and high-quality learning materials. The return on investment from early childhood education programs is remarkable and will have a lasting impact on the youngest learners in Georgetown. Research has shown us:

- If families and caregivers can provide quality early childhood development, children will enter school ready to learn.
- If children start school ready to learn, they are more likely to read at grade level by 3rd grade.
- If children read at grade level by 3rd grade, they're more likely to graduate high school.
- If children graduate from high school, they are more likely to go on to higher education.

Every child deserves an equal start, and it's our collective responsibility as a community to ensure this. Your support for early childhood education is not just a donation, it's an investment in the future of our community. Can we count on you?

Natasha Brockington



Executive Director Natasha Brockington at the 2023 Annual Event- On Cloud Wine!

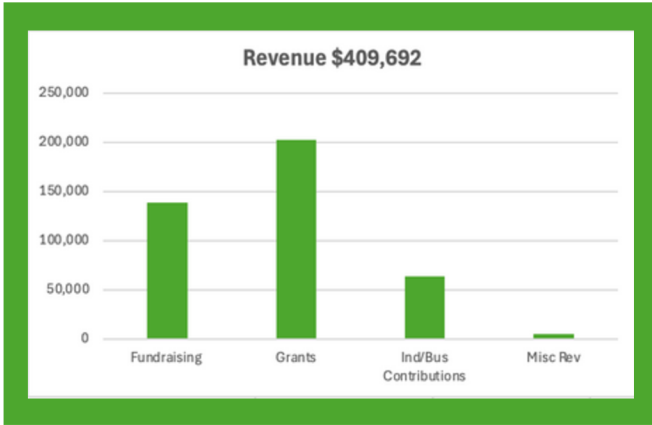
From Our Replication Partner:

ParentChild+
Equal Possibilities From The Start

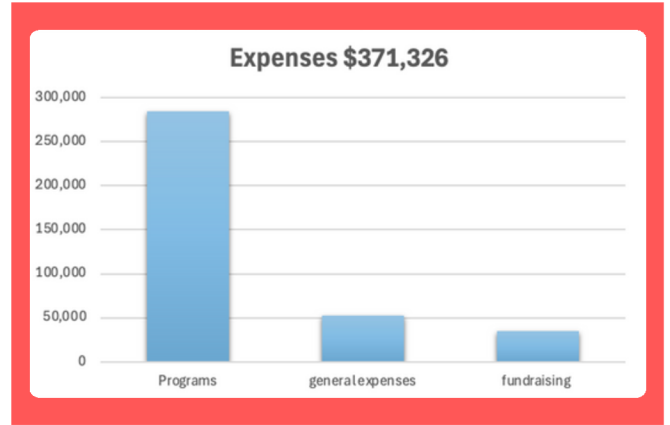
Our Impact and Research:
Children have only 1,800 days from birth to the start of kindergarten. Each of these days is critical to their school readiness and success. For over 50 years, ParentChild+ has been leveling the playing field, ensuring that vulnerable children start school and life ready to succeed. Our research proves it.

FINANCIALS FISCAL YEAR 2023

Gold
Transparency
2023
Candid.



| Revenue | Fundraising | Grants | Ind/Bus Contributions | Misc Rev |
|---------|-------------|---------|-----------------------|----------|
| 409,692 | 138,504 | 202,387 | 63,582 | 5,219 |



| Expenses | Programs | General Expenses | Fundraising |
|----------|----------|------------------|-------------|
| 371,326 | 284,713 | 52,107 | 34,506 |

**Join our other
Education Encouragers!**
Become a recurring monthly donor. Your monthly donations help us set financial goals for our programs.

WAYS TO SUPPORT MRK



Scan here to donate electronically.



Host a book drive, donate your "gently loved" baby to 3rd grade level books, or purchase new books from our amazon wish list for our free community libraries.



OUR BOARD CHAIR

Nancy has been actively involved with the Education Mentor program since 2012. After retiring and settling in Georgetown, she learned about the program from her neighbors. During her time with Miss Ruby's Kids, she has worked with three students, each with different strengths: one excels in reading, another is great at math, and the third is strong in both subjects. Throughout her experience, Nancy has made numerous observations about the children. They become more verbal, confident, and comfortable navigating their schools. While part of this progress is due to natural maturation, much of it can be attributed to identifying their strengths and having an external mentor who makes improving weaknesses enjoyable. "As a mentor, I am committed for the long haul.

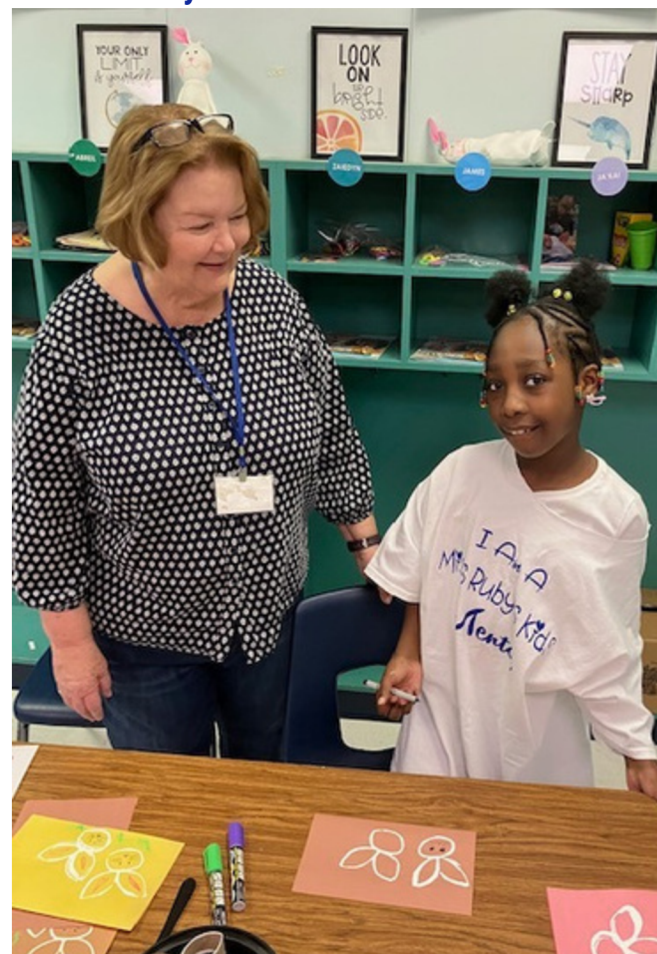
I don't just want them to progress from grade to grade, but to look beyond that," she notes. Nancy looks forward to their high school graduations and discusses future plans from day one.

The organization's vision is to ensure that parents are prepared to confidently engage in their children's education and to foster a lifelong love of learning. The connection with parents is just as important as the relationship with mentees. Early on the organization forms partnerships with parents, and mentors help to keep communication open. Nancy has encountered several wonderful families. Life isn't always easy for them, but they remain connected with her. She's met parents, grandparents, aunts, cousins, uncles, and other key support figures who uplift our mentees. The parents of her mentees serve as positive role models and provide excellent care for their children.

Mentors are required to visit their mentees at school at least once a week. Nancy cherishes her experience and always leaves the school with a smile and a spring in her step. She finds mentoring rewarding and believes it's a two-way street; both mentors and mentees learn from each other.

In addition to her role as a mentor, Nancy now serves as the Board Chair for the organization. She believes in the importance of what Miss Ruby's Kids is doing to help families prepare their young children for school, and she is eager to raise awareness about the four distinct programs the organization offers. With the program's growth, the needs of the community are evolving, and geographical boundaries are expanding. As Board Chair, Nancy aims to ensure that Miss Ruby's Kids remains sustainable and encourages others to step up and contribute, just as she did.

Nancy and her current Mentee



2023 FY Board Members (L to R), Doug Patton, Vaudrien Forsythe Ray, Nancy Patton, Founder's Emeritus Betsy Marlow and Jo Fortuna, 2021-2024 Board Chair Elisabeth Litvin, Amanda Cohens, and Brantay Q Cohen





Evelen Alarcon - Espinoza
Attending K&K Academy



Ariel Beckman
Attending HGTC



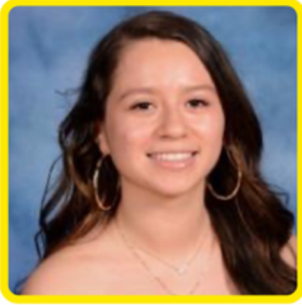
Jerridan Burgess
Attending Denmark College



Isaac Trejo Garcia
Attending Midlands Tech



Camari Hutchinson
Attending Winthrop University



Yasmin Lara
Certified Nail Technician



Jeremiah Lee



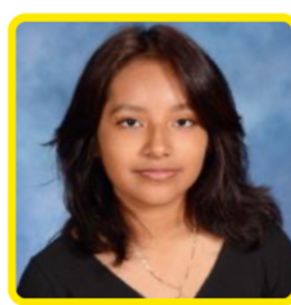
Angel Madrigal
Attending HGTC



Melanie Mezquite
Attending HGTC



Justin Myers
Attending South Carolina State



Carla Betzaida Nunez Merino



Angel Medina Olguin
United States Air Force



Daniel Garcia Puntos
Attending HGTC



Kayla Reed
Attending
Winston-Salem State University



Carlton Rutledge
Attending Midlands Tech



Tanashia Steele
Attending Clemson
University



Ky'essa White
United States Air Force

**CONGRATULATIONS PARENCHILD+ PROGRAM
GRADUATES CLASS OF 2024!**



Victoria Zasimovitch
Attending HGTC