



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
June 20, 2008

**CONTACT**  
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(803) 734-0867

**Now enrolling! Free 4-year-old kindergarten for low-income children**

More than 40 private and non-profit preschools are now accepting applications for state-funded 4-year-old kindergarten for the 2008-09 school year. Qualifying families pay no tuition as part of the S.C. Child Development Pilot Program, which was created by the S.C. General Assembly. Now in its third year, the program seeks to extend 4-year-old kindergarten opportunities to at-risk children living in the school districts involved in the state's school funding equity lawsuit.

To qualify, a child must:

- **Be 4 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2008.**
- **Be eligible for free/reduced lunch or Medicaid.**
- **Live in one of the following school districts:** Abbeville, Allendale, Bamberg 1, Bamberg 2, Barnwell 19, Barnwell 29, Barnwell 45, Berkeley, Chesterfield, Clarendon 1, Clarendon 2, Clarendon 3, Dillon 1, Dillon 2, Dillon 3, Florence 1, Florence 2, Florence 3, Florence 4, Florence 5, Hampton 1, Hampton 2, Jasper, Laurens 55, Laurens 56, Lee, Lexington 4, Marion 1, Marion 2, Marion 7, Marlboro, McCormick, Orangeburg 3, Orangeburg 4, Orangeburg 5, Saluda or Williamsburg.

The 4-year-old kindergarten program runs the full school year (180 days), and classes are held for 6.5 hours per day, five days per week. All programs utilize research-based curricula. Parents are encouraged to contact participating local providers in their area for more information:

| <b>Provider Name and Address</b>  | <b>County</b> | <b>Phone</b>   |
|---|---------------|----------------|
| <b>Bedford's Stay-n-Play</b><br>140 Carolina Ave., Barnwell, SC 29812                               | Barnwell      | (803) 541-7704 |
| <b>New Jerusalem AAA Daycare Center</b><br>9303 Marlboro Ave., Barnwell, SC 29812                   | Barnwell      | (803) 541-6007 |
| <b>Sunshine House #106</b><br>1102 Dennis Blvd., Moncks Corner, SC 29461                            | Berkeley      | (843) 761-8738 |
| <b>Sunshine House #29</b><br>2145 NAD Road, North Charleston, SC 29406                              | Charleston    | (843) 553-0328 |
| <b>West Ashley Learning Hub</b><br>1099 Playground Road, Charleston, SC 29407                       | Charleston    | (843) 766-2229 |
| <b>Foster's Child Care Center, Inc.</b><br>2260 Otranto Road, Charleston, SC 29418                  | Charleston    | (843) 569-3914 |
| <b>Giggles and Wiggles Academy</b><br>726 N. Arant St., Pageland, SC 29728                          | Chesterfield  | (843) 672-3030 |
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church Child Development</b><br>211 S. Maple St., Pageland, SC 29278 | Chesterfield  | (843) 672-2111 |

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| <b>Wee Academy Learning Center</b><br>625 W. Huggins St., Manning, SC 29102                       | Clarendon     | (803) 435-2071 |
| <b>Prosperity Childcare, Inc.</b><br>528 Cartersville Hwy., Lamar, SC 29069                       | Darlington    | (843) 326-8842 |
| <b>Little Treasures Christian Learning Center</b><br>1612 Commerce Drive, Dillon, SC 29536        | Dillon        | (843) 774-8102 |
| <b>Pee Dee CAP Head Start (Hamer)</b><br>428 Elkins Road, Dillon, SC 29536                        | Dillon        | (843) 841-3116 |
| <b>Pee Dee CAP Head Start (Whittaker)</b><br>2624 Worship St., Whittaker, SC 29536                | Dillon        | (843) 841-3116 |
| <b>Angel's Inn Child Care</b><br>2030 N. Cashua Dr., Florence, SC 29501                           | Florence      | (843) 665-4540 |
| <b>Excellent Learning Preschool, Inc.</b><br>807 N. Irby St., Florence, SC 29506                  | Florence      | (843) 679-5386 |
| <b>Melva's Day Care</b><br>817 W. Main St., Lake City, SC 29560                                   | Florence      | (843) 374-2198 |
| <b>Pee Dee CAP Head Start (Lake City)</b><br>209 Graham Road, Lake City, SC 29560                 | Florence      | (843) 394-5466 |
| <b>Pee Dee CAP Head Start (RN Beck)</b><br>1001 Sumter St., Florence, SC 29501                    | Florence      | (843) 679-6765 |
| <b>Pee Dee CAP Head Start (Thelma Brown)</b><br>304 N. Alexander St., Florence, SC 29501          | Florence      | (843) 678-3417 |
| <b>The Gail and Terry Richardson Center for Child</b><br>4822 E. Palmetto St., Florence, SC 29501 | Florence      | (843) 661-1630 |
| <b>The Sunshine House #30</b><br>2009 Second Loop Road, Florence, SC 29501                        | Florence      | (843) 669-1997 |
| <b>Zion Canaan Child Development Center</b><br>612 S. Hill St., Timmonsville, SC 29162            | Florence      | (843) 346-0499 |
| <b>Rainbow Child Care Center</b><br>552 Oatland Road, Georgetown, SC 29440                        | Georgetown    | (843) 527-6131 |
| <b>Little Smurf's Child Development</b><br>903 Martin Luther King, Andrews, SC 29510              | Georgetown    | (843) 264-3262 |
| <b>Children's Keeper Learning Center</b><br>103 N. Hoover St., Hampton, SC 29924                  | Hampton       | (803) 914-0008 |
| <b>Mellon Patch</b><br>103 First St., Hampton, SC 29924   | Hampton       | (803) 943-5055 |

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| <b>Bishopville Lee Child Care</b><br>118 E. College St., Bishopville, SC 29010                        | Lee           | (803) 484-6800 |
| <b>Lynchburg-Elliott Child Development Center</b><br>101 McIntosh St., Lynchburg, SC 29080            | Lee           | (803) 437-2447 |
| <b>Agapeland Day Care Center</b><br>304 Huggins St./613 Dunlop St., Marion, SC 29571                  | Marion        | (843) 423-2077 |
| <b>McGill's Bundles of Joy</b><br>608 Dunlop Ext., Marion, SC 29571                                   | Marion        | (843) 423-6561 |
| <b>Troy-Johnson Learning Corner</b><br>106 Gapway St., Mullins, SC 29574                              | Marion        | (843) 464-8565 |
| <b>Pee Dee CAP Head Start (Nichols)</b><br>406 Old Stage Road, Nichols, SC 29581                      | Marion        | (843) 526-2670 |
| <b>Pee Dee CAP Head Start (Springville)</b><br>2513 Springville Road, Marion, SC 29571                | Marion        | (843) 423-7593 |
| <b>Pleasant Grove Academy</b><br>1333 Penderboro Road, Marion, SC 29571                               | Marion        | (843) 423-2096 |
| <b>Happyland Child Development</b><br>335 Murray Road, Orangeburg, SC 29115                           | Orangeburg    | (803) 533-1281 |
| <b>Kids in Motion Day Care Center</b><br>2371 Russell St., Orangeburg, SC 29115                       | Orangeburg    | (803) 531-9447 |
| <b>SC State University Child Development/Learning Center</b><br>300 College St., Orangeburg, SC 29117 | Orangeburg    | (803) 536-7150 |
| <b>ABC Academy</b><br>405 N. Wise Road, Saluda SC 29138   | Saluda        | (864) 445-7999 |
| <b>Graham's Enhancement</b><br>1384 Eastland Ave., Kingstree, SC 29556                                | Williamsburg  | (843) 382-2115 |
| <b>Kindale Park Day Care</b><br>1185 Kindale Park Road, Kingstree, SC 29556                           | Williamsburg  | (843) 382-3667 |
| <b>Little Miss Muffet Day Care</b><br>1006 Wilkerson St., Kingstree, SC 29556                         | Williamsburg  | (843) 355-7013 |
| <b>Nesmith Community Day Care</b><br>2774 Turkey Creek Road, Nesmith, SC 29580                        | Williamsburg  | (843) 382-3241 |
| <b>Wilson's Daycare and Learning Center</b><br>501 Lawrence St., Kingstree, SC 29556                  | Williamsburg  | (843) 354-6270 |

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| <b>Doodle Bug Academy</b><br>4400 N. Williamsburg County Hwy., Lake City, SC 29560 | Williamsburg | (843) 210-7529 |

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*South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness is a comprehensive, results-oriented statewide education initiative to help prepare children to reach school healthy and ready to succeed. Public and private support are combined through county partnerships to enable individual communities to address the unmet needs of young children and their families.*

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