

Early Childhood Education Partnership



BREVARD COLLEGE
BREVARD, NORTH CAROLINA





4 Key Program Areas:

- **Early Childhood Education**
- **Housing Assistance**
- **Older Adults Services**
- **Transportation**



The need in Transylvania County:

- Shortage of licensed childcare centers resulting in over 130 families on the waiting list for care for ages 0-5 years.
- Shortage of trained early childhood education teachers
- Brevard College interested in starting Birth-Kindergarten Experiential Learning Program to help ECE and Education Majors hone their teaching skills
- WCCA interested in opening new early childhood education center



*Made possible through
funding provided by:*



Transylvania Childhood Education Project

Two Goals:

1. Establish 4 or more paid internships for Early Childhood Education majors and interested students that offer a practical, in-classroom teaching experience in a professional environment surrounded by experienced teachers to help develop skills.
2. Develop architectural plans for the future construction of an 8,500 sq. ft. Early Childhood Education Center to serve the children and families of Transylvania County.



Goal #1

Establishing the Internships

BREVARD COLLEGE
BREVARD, NORTH CAROLINA



Transylvania Childhood Education Project Team



Elizabeth Fuller
*Adjunct Instructor
Elementary & Early
Childhood Education*



Betsy Burrows, EdD
*Professor of Teacher
Education*



Margrethe Onderdonk
Staffing Specialist



Amy Smith
*Head Start / NC Pre-K
Program Services Mgr.*



Lavonna Ruth
Education Coordinator



Megan Keiser, EdD
*Associate Professor of
Elementary Education*



Linda Carter
*Director of
Children's Services*

Internship Program Highlights:

- Brevard College's Top ECE and Education students recommended by their instructors. Student alumni and other majors also considered.
- WCCA Hiring process, 16-hour Orientation + 30 hours training
- \$13.00/hour pay up to 29 hours per week
- Interns work at WCCA's Hillview Children's Center and other Henderson County childcare facilities
- Integrated into WCCA Center family and staff
 - Paired with teaching teams
 - Receive in-class observations and reflective supervision
 - Participate in professional development
 - Included in monthly staff meetings
- 5 Interns recruited



Lessons Learned:

- ✓ Interns reported the experience increased their interest in early childhood education and chosen career path
- ✓ Different age groups come with different responsibilities and teaching approaches
- ✓ Interns are gaining confidence in working with peers, children and families
- ✓ These internships are providing valuable life lessons about being dependable/reliable, on-time, responsible, and maintaining confidentiality with child/family info



Goal #2



Childcare Center Building Plans