

PRESS RELEASE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



WNCSOURCE PLANS GROUNDBREAKING FOR NEW COLUMBUS CHILDREN'S CENTER

Newspaper Copy:

WNCSource is holding a groundbreaking ceremony for its new Columbus Children's Center this Friday, March 10, 2023 at 11AM on the campus of Thermal Belt Outreach Ministry. The Hendersonville-based nonprofit is excited to begin construction on the 7,500 square foot state of the art childcare center that will provide Early Head Start programs to 24 children (birth to 3 years old) and pregnant women who qualify for services. Construction on the \$2.54 million project is expected to take about a year. WNCSource hopes to license and open the new center by June 2024.

WNCSource first began serving Polk County families in 2010 at a childcare center at 2060 Lynn Rd. in Columbus. Unfortunately, torrential flooding in February 2020 and again the following May permanently closed the facility. WNCSource helped their families find other childcare arrangements in neighboring Henderson and Rutherford counties. As the only provider of Early Head Start programs in Polk County, WNCSource began looking for another commercial space to lease, but could not find a suitable location.

That's when the property at Thermal Belt Outreach became available. WNCSource purchased the 2.6-acre parcel of land in 2021 and started raising funds to build the new childcare center. Support from the Federal Office of Head Start, the Dogwood Health Trust, the Town of Columbus and others have helped make the new childcare center possible!

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WNCSource is a 501(C)(3) nonprofit based in Hendersonville, NC that assists low income and underserved people in Western North Carolina. Our programs include Children's Services, Transportation, Housing and Older Adult Services. Working together with our communities and partners, WNCSource improves people's lives by creating pathways to self-reliance and healthier living. For more information, please contact: Terri Bowman, TBowman@WNCSource.org or call (828) 693-1711.

The New Columbus Children's Center



- 7,500 Sq. Feet
- 5 Classrooms
- Commercial Kitchen
- Office & Storage Space
- Outdoor Learning Environments
- Laundry Room
- Conference Room
- Reception Area

