



T.E.A.C.H. TALK

July-September 2019



Voices from North Carolina

“Voices from North Carolina” features what you and your peers are saying about topics related to the field. Each edition contains quotes from around NC about the importance of formal education and its effects on early care and education. The following testimonial was provided by Ashley Marlow, owner/director of Little Blessings Center, Transylvania County and T.E.A.C.H. scholarship recipient.

I was a young mother that struggled to find quality child care in my area so I could find employment. With no education or experience I went to work at a child care program so I could be close to my children. Unfortunately, that child care center closed 6 months after I began working there, leaving me with no job and no child care. I knew that our community needed quality child care so I took a chance and took over the program. Because I was a young mother, I didn't believe I would ever have a college degree. Because of the T.E.A.C.H. program I learned it was possible.

I am a T.E.A.C.H. recipient and the owner/director of a 5-star child care center. I spend most of my working hours teaching in a pre-school classroom. With the help of the T.E.A.C.H. scholarship I have almost completed my Bachelor's Degree in Early Education. I feel that I am now better able to meet the needs of the children in my classroom than I was before receiving my education.

Nelson Mandela once said, *“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”* Early educators are teaching our children and our future during the most important years of their development. Our early educators are changing the world, which is why they need to be equipped with the right tools. I strongly believe that our early educators can obtain these tools by furthering their education. I have learned in my 15 years of experience that my teachers having more education means that the children in our program are receiving better care. Furthering their education helps my teachers understand the development and needs of children under the age of 5.

I have had several employees obtain their education thanks to the T.E.A.C.H. program. Even if my employees move on to other programs, the children of Transylvania County are benefiting from their education. Because of T.E.A.C.H., I am able to make sure that the teachers in my child care program's classrooms have more education. I have learned that more education means that the children in our program are receiving better care. Without T.E.A.C.H. many of my teachers wouldn't have been able to afford college and the children would have missed out on an enhanced educational experience.

What's New?

- T.E.A.C.H. now offers a degree attainment bonus to recipients who graduated after July 1, 2019. You must send in proof of degree to be eligible.
 - Associate graduates will receive \$1,200.
 - Bachelor's degree/Birth through Kindergarten graduates will receive \$2,000.
- Effective July 1, 2019, the T.E.A.C.H. CDA Assessment Scholarship will discontinue its deferred billing arrangements for sponsors. T.E.A.C.H. will now reimburse for 85% of the assessment fee. This change is due to the new YourCouncil protocols that cannot be supported by T.E.A.C.H.'s internal policies and procedures.
- Shaw University and Brevard College have been added as partnering higher education institutions for the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® NC Bachelor Degree, Birth-Kindergarten Licensure, Practicum Only, Working Scholars and the Early Care and Education Community Specialist Scholarship Program.
- Due to Stanly Community College changing over to a third-party book seller, recipients will no longer be able to charge textbooks. Recipients and/or employers who rent or purchase textbooks as an out-of-pocket expense should seek reimbursement from T.E.A.C.H. by submitting Form B and an itemized book receipt.



Facility Spotlight

My name is Rochelle Davis and my mother is Rosetta Campbell. We are the owners of Gods Little Angel's 1&2 Childcare. We opened our centers in 1999 in Laurinburg, NC. Both centers have 4 stars and the T.E.A.C.H. scholarship program has been a real asset for us, as it allowed a way to send our teachers back to school to earn formal education. Our employees can take the necessary classes to increase their education and not have to worry about the financial cost. We have five recipients on T.E.A.C.H. scholarships and have had numerous staff use the program in the past to further their education. We appreciate programs like T.E.A.C.H. because they give us the ability to increase the education of our staff while providing quality care for children in our facility.

A Note from T.E.A.C.H. NC Staff

We would like to thank all of those who participated in the survey evaluation this year. Approximately 520 surveys were completed and returned by recipients and sponsoring facilities. We would like to congratulate Allison Corpuz, Tenay Singletary, and Mary Vun-Cannon who won the raffle for participating in the survey.

Did You Know?

- Did you know that your scholarship counselor may have changed as of July 1, 2019?

Higher Education Spotlight



*Seated: David Joyce, President, Brevard College; Laura Leatherwood, President, Blue Ridge Community College
Standing, left to right: Dr. Betsy Burrows, Dir., Teacher Education, Brevard College; Glenda McCarson, Assoc. VP, Transylvania Campus, Blue Ridge Community College; Brenda Blackburn, Dean, Business and Service Careers, Blue Ridge; Kelsey Holt, Early Childhood Education student; Kathy Allen, VP, Instruction, Blue Ridge; Tracy Pace, Early Childhood Education student; Scott Sheffield, VP, Academic Affairs, Brevard College; Mildrienne Best, T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Counselor III*

On July 11, 2019, Brevard College and Blue Ridge Community College entered into articulation starting in Fall 2019. Brevard College is one of our newest higher education institutions offering a Bachelor of Arts in Childhood Education with a concentration in Early Childhood Education (Birth-Kindergarten

Recipient Spotlight



My name is Mary Bass and I am an assistant director with Children's World Learning Center in Greenville, NC. I am a 47-year-old mother of four and grandmother of seven. I thought my lifetime goal of obtaining a college degree was over, but because of T.E.A.C.H. and the encouragement from family and friends, that goal becomes more real every day. I have been a T.E.A.C.H. scholarship recipient

for about two years. My T.E.A.C.H. counselor has assisted me in so many ways. She not only reminds me of what is required each semester in order for my scholarship to remain active, but she calls me regularly to check on me. She is my cheerleader and gives me words of encouragement when I need it the most.

T.E.A.C.H. is more than financial assistance, it's guidance through a once perceived difficult process. I feel truly blessed and honored, as an early childhood educator, to receive this scholarship. It has allowed me to continue this path in order to enhance my early childhood education. My deepest appreciation goes out to T.E.A.C.H. and my counselor, Tomonica Rice-Yarborough. Thank you so much for helping me achieve my goals which allows me to be the best teacher and assistant director I can be!

Licensure or Non-Licensure). This agreement allows students at Blue Ridge Community College for an Associate in Early Childhood Education the chance to continue their education toward a bachelor's degree with Brevard College. Brevard College is fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Articulation between Brevard College and Blue Ridge Community College demonstrates the commitment and dedication to educate and promote the importance of having a degreed workforce working on behalf of children and families in the communities they serve. T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® North Carolina is able to support both programs through its scholarships offered at the Associate, Bachelor, and Birth-Kindergarten Licensure level. Mildrienne Best, who is the scholarship counselor for both schools was able to attend the signing of the articulation agreement along with staff from Blue Ridge Community College and Brevard College. Tracy Pace, a current scholarship recipient attending Blue Ridge Community College was just admitted to Brevard College for the Fall 2019 semester.

Students who want to take full advantage of this opportunity should apply for admittance into Brevard, making sure to follow the admission process. Once students have been accepted into the college they should apply to T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® North Carolina with all supporting documents to accompany scholarship application.

Semester Reminders

- Submit grade reports at the end of each semester. If you graduated, we need a copy of your degree or final transcript.
- Update your user name and/or password for your online portal with a T.E.A.C.H. counselor if it has changed.
- Contact a T.E.A.C.H. counselor if you need an adjusted/renewal contract or contract addendum for the Fall 2019 semester.
- Send in a copy of your class schedule and contract addendum to request your Fall 2019 stipend (T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Associate Scholars model only).
- Pre-Authorization Request forms need to be submitted if you need a charge authorization sent for your tuition and/or books.
- Make sure your school's identifying information is shown on the documents you are sending from the school. This is especially important for transcripts and grade reports.
- Tuition and Book Documentation Form (Form B) MUST be accompanied by itemized tuition receipts and itemized book receipts (if applicable).
- Remember that reimbursements, bonuses, and stipends can take 8-12 weeks to be mailed.
- Sponsoring centers must submit Release Time Claim Forms for your eligible employees.
- Make sure that T.E.A.C.H. and/or college invoices are paid in a timely manner. Past due invoices may affect future scholarship activity.
- Contact T.E.A.C.H. within 10 days of any employment changes.
- Encourage recipient(s) to return all phone calls/emails from their T.E.A.C.H. scholarship counselor.
- Remember response time from T.E.A.C.H. may be 24-48 hrs.

Congratulations and Acknowledgments

This section is dedicated to our Spring 2019 graduates that have not been recognized previously. What you have accomplished is no small task. We are so proud of you. Take a bow!

Associate Degree Graduates

Chanel Austin
 Tori Boyd
 Taylor Branks
 Maria Clark
 Reese Crudup
 Samantha Darling
 Kati Dautun
 Mary Devenny
 Terra Flint
 Kimberly Lunsford
 Valecia Marshall
 Arielle Maitin
 Yanina Matute-Quesada
 Gladys Monsalve
 Summer Moore
 Stacey Myrick
 Star Nowlin
 Sarah Orbison
 Julieanne Page
 Jennifer Pruden
 Tracey Ray
 Samantha Reddish
 Betty Reeves
 Ashley Reynolds
 Shannon Rhem
 Tabitha Riddick
 Regina Robinson
 Tashanda Smith
 Tracy Stevens
 Jenny Taylor
 Jennifer Turbeville
 Jasmine Waters
 Amberly Walton

Bachelor's Degree Graduates

Belinda Allen
 Shannon Brookman
 Connie Day
 Melisa Greene
 Sonya Kotila
 Nancy Lehman
 Shevon Lyons
 Starr McArdle
 Mia Newton
 Tonya Small
 Megan Sorrell

B-K Licensure Graduates

Shannon Brookman
 Lauren Caviness
 Betsy Fox
 Misty Honbarrier
 Randy Laws
 Mackela Marable
 Jessica McCauley
 Megan Owens
 Vanna Rae Townsend-Skipper

Master's Degree Graduates

Aimee Allen
 Susan Armstrong
 Jamesa Bitting
 Elizabeth Delk
 Rochelle Maignan
 Amy Whitcomb Phillips
 Robin Sink
 Brenda Vankoughnett

T.E.A.C.H. NC Team Member Spotlight

Name: Kathy Thornton

Position: Administrative Quality Control Manager

Education:

- Doctor of Education, Liberty University (expected graduation 2020)
- Graduate Certificate, Management & Leadership, Liberty University (2016)
- Master of Education, Teaching and Learning, Liberty University (2016)
- Graduate Certification, Preschool, Liberty University (2015)
- Master of Arts, Liberty University (2013)
- Certificate of Management, American Management Association (2012)
- Bachelors Degree in Child Development and Family Relations, North Carolina Central University (2004)

Experience in the classroom: 12 years

Years with T.E.A.C.H.: 15 years

Primary Counselor: Haywood Community College



Meet Your T.E.A.C.H. NC Team!



(top to bottom, left to right)

Mildrienne Best, Scholarship Counselor III

Amy Duffy, Program Manager

Edith Locke, Division Vice President

Kathy Thornton, Quality Control Systems Coordinator

Pam McGowan, Scholarship Counselor III

Marsha Baldwin, Scholarship Counselor II

Brittany Alston, Administrative Assistant II

Kimberly Bynum, Program Manager

Tomonica Rice-Yarborough, Field-Based Outreach Coordinator

Christie Warren, Administrative Assistant II

Schquita Battle, Administrative Dept. Manager

Cindy Villani, Scholarship Counselor II

Monica Livingston, Administrative Assistant II



United Way
of the Greater Triangle
Certified Community Impact Partner



T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® North Carolina
Scholarship Program
PO Box 231 Chapel Hill, NC 27514
Phone: 919-967-3272 Fax: 919-967-7040