

Early Childhood Community Engagement In Fulton County

Quality early learning is so important to your child's future!

About 90% of our brains develop before we reach kindergarten. What children experience before age five can affect the way their brains develop! Pennsylvania's Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) and its partners throughout the commonwealth offer many early learning initiatives that can help your child reach his/her promise. For more information on how to access these programs visit www.papromiseforchildren.com.

Young children learn best when

- They have proper health and nutrition;
- A safe and stable family and home life; and
- Activities that stimulate creativity, curiosity, and all the skills they will need to succeed in school and in life.

Child Care Works


Child Care Works subsidized child care program provides financial help to pay for child care for families who meet work and income requirements. To be eligible, families must earn 200% of the federal poverty level or less, such as a family of four earning \$42,400 a year, and meet certain work requirements. Parents can apply online or at their Child Care Information Services (CCIS) agency. CCIS agencies also offer parents a wealth of resources on how to find the best care for their child.

Keystone STARS

Keystone STARS promotes quality in child care and Head Start programs. Programs that participate in Keystone STARS earn a STAR 1 to STAR 4 level based on quality standards. When looking for child care, ask if they participate in Keystone STARS.

Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts

Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts provides high quality pre-kindergarten opportunities to three and four year olds at no cost to families. Children from age three until the entry age for kindergarten are eligible to apply. PA Pre-K Counts is targeted to children at risk of school failure, either because of income, language (English is not the first language), or special needs issues.

COPE


Community Outreach Prevention Education

COPE is a program focused on increasing the awareness of abuse risk factors and prevention methods for parents and community

COPE is an outreach program that provides parents with child development information, parenting guidance, and information on how to COPE with life's everyday stresses.

- Provides trainings, specific curriculum, assessment tools to create & support effective parenting.
- Brings help, support, and strength to families
- Parents identify & build on their ability to deal with stress, expand social support & develop expectations for themselves and their children.
- Children's programs show improvements in children's self esteem, behavior & social interaction.
- Monthly group meetings co-led by parents and a facilitator.

PHONE 485-4417



Fulton County Center For Families

22438 Great Cove Road,
Suite 106
McConnellsburg, PA 17233

Helping Families
Help Themselves

Early Head Start Program

Early Head Start (EHS) is a comprehensive program available to low income families from pregnancy until children reach 3 years of age. Families of children with special needs are eligible regardless of income.

Child Care Services

The Family Center currently offers child care services through two programs:

Pre-School Age Child Care (PACC) – Our facility is located in the Overly-Raker Building located on RT 522, North of McConnellsburg.

School Age Child Care (SACC) – This program is located in McConnellsburg elementary school and serves children ages 5 to 12. SACC offers children a chance for social interaction, home-work help, and fun activities.


Parents As Teachers (PAT)

PAT is a parenting program available to Fulton County Parents - from pregnancy until children reach 5 years of age.

PHONE 485-5038

Early Intervention

For Children Age Birth to 3 Years



Early Intervention is service and support designed to help families with children with developmental delays. We offer information, education and intervention, ideas and a plan designed to help you enhance your child's growing and learning.

Who is eligible for Services?

Children from birth to the age they begin school who have:

- A significant delay in one or more areas of development compared to children of the same age
- A delay that does not show up on standardized assessment tools
- A known physical or mental condition which has a high probability for developmental delays.
- A need for special education and related services


For more information, please contact

Franklin/Fulton County MH/MR Developmental Disabilities Program
218 North Second Street • Chambersburg, PA 17201
717-709-4321 or 1-800-841-3593

Are you concerned about your child's development?

The Tuscarora Intermediate Unit (TIU) Early Intervention Program identifies young children, ages 3-5, who have a delay or disability. The following services may be provided within the Early Intervention (EI) Program:

- Developmental Instruction
- Speech Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Vision Support Services
- Hearing Support Services
- Psychological Services



Children are evaluated in all developmental areas, and if a 25 percent delay is present in any area, the child qualifies for EI services. Services are provided in the child's home, child care center, preschool program, head start center, or a specialized classroom run by the TIU.

Services are provided at no cost to the family.
Call the Tuscarora Intermediate Unit II
2527 US Highway 522 South
McVeytown, PA 17051-9717
(814) 542-2501 or (717) 899-7143

LOCAL INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL (LICC) Opening Communication Between Community & Families

The LICC is a group of parents, professionals and other community members working together to support quality early intervention services for families and children.

- Involve parents in planning and delivery of early intervention services
- Coordinate workshops and other events for parents and service providers.
- Educate the community about early intervention.

BE INVOLVED! Parents interested in attending LICC meetings please call 717-485-5038, 717-485-5137, 717-485-3155 or 814-623-2167

Fulton County Head Start Allegheny Lutheran Social Ministries It's Fun! It's Free! It's Educational!

Group Activities	Learning Parenting Skills
Health Screening	Sharing Experiences
Book & Video Library	Individualized Home Visits
Healthy Snacks	Family Support

We want to help you give your child a great Head Start beginning today.
Call 1-877-ALSMKID or 814-624-3200 or email children@alsm

Do you Want your GED? or Want to further your education?

TIU 11 Even Start Family Literacy Program offers:

- GED Preparation
- Job Readiness Training
- Distance Learning through Mail or Internet
- Day and Evening Classes (Center or Home Based)

In addition to Adult Education, we offer Family Focus

- Parenting Tips, Support and Resources!
- Early Childhood Classroom
- Involvement in your child's education
- Evening event, incentives and more!

All classes/Activities are FREE
Call 717-485-4998

Is your child up to date with his/her shots?



Do you know the recommended immunization schedule for children ages 0-6?

Vaccines are available at your family physician's office or the Fulton County State Health Center, 717-485-5137

Child Care Information Services CCIS

Child Care Subsidy Program

For parents who work and meet income guidelines, a program to help pay child care expenses is available

[Resource & Referral Service](#)

[Resource Lending Library](#)

Call 717-263-6549 or 1-800-682-5702

The Parent Child Home Program is a home based literacy program for children ages 2-3.

Trained home visitors meet with families twice a week for one half hour.

Each home visitor leaves a free book or toy that the family can keep. The program runs from October thru May.

The TIU Parent Child Home Program serves Fulton, Mifflin & Juniata counties.
Fulton County office is 485-4998.

FULTON COUNTY LIBRARY McConnellsburg & Hustontown Branch

- Family Place Parent Workshops
- Summer Reading Programs
- Preschool Story Hours at McConnellsburg, Hustontown and Needmore
- Books and other materials for parents, educators, and daycare providers

Libraries play an important role in helping children learn to read & provide adults with life-long learning opportunities.
717-485-5327 & 717-987-3606

FULTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL

Central Fulton School District
McConnellsburg Elementary
151 Cherry Street, McConnellsburg, PA 17233
717-485-4438
Principal · Alicia Mellott

Forbes Road School District
Forbes Road Elementary
159 Red Bird Drive, Waterfall, PA 16689
814-685-3865
Principal · Byron Helsel

Southern Fulton School District
Southern Fulton Elementary
13083 Buck Valley Road, Warfordsburg, PA 17267
717-294-3400
Principal · Kendra Trail

Get peace of mind.

Find out how affordable health insurance can be through the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) brought to you by Capital BlueCross.



Do you have an uninsured child or teen?

Call us today:
1-800-KIDS-101
www.capbluecross.com/CHIP



Health care benefit programs issued or administered by Capital BlueCross and/or its subsidiaries, Capital Advantage Insurance Company® and Keystone Health Plan® Central. Independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association, through a contract with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Communications issued by Capital BlueCross in its capacity as administrator of programs and provider relations for all companies. The HMO is issued by Keystone Health Plan Central and the PDS is issued by Capital Advantage Insurance Company.

Fulton County Community Engagement Team A Few SUCCESSES from 2007-08

- 1. Community Outreach**
 - Much progress connecting with local community leaders, particularly members of the Fulton County Partnership which includes: school district administrators, county commissioners, human service agencies and health providers.
 - Additionally, our CE Team does have access through schools to many parents which we utilize to share our message. Information about PA Promise and Keystone STARS has been shared with many parents through child care providers, Early Head Start, Head Start and other parent education programs.
 - CE Team members have attended many of the local community fairs and events with displays to promote increased awareness of the ECE efforts throughout PA.
- 2. School and Early Learning Linkages/Transitions:**
 - Child to School**
 - All children registering for PreK or K in FC Schools are provided with school-readiness kits which include materials specifically chosen to encourage skill building in the areas of literacy and mathematics.
 - Family to School**
 - All families registering children for school are provided with a rich assortment of parent education materials informing them of strategies to ensure school success. The materials include those from No Child Left Behind, NAEYC and school-readiness skill card sets developed by the CE Team in conjunction with the local school district faculty.
 - Annually CE Team cooperates with FC LICC to conduct a "Children's Fair" designed to provide families with information about community resources while providing the children with a variety of screenings, including vision, hearing, speech, developmental and dental. Members of the CE Team along with Family Center staff conduct school-readiness skill stations to help demonstrate to parents ways to encourage learning and prepare children to learn.

School to School

- Child Care staff has observed in the local school district PreK and Kindergarten programs.
- School faculty have assisted CC staff in developing activities and materials to use in the CC Center to help with the orientation process.
- Fulton County Center for Families PreSchool Child Care achieved Keystone STAR 2 designation

Community

- During WOYC 2008, PreK staff visited with both licensed child care centers and registered and non-registered providers and elementary schools to read the PA One Book, "Up, Down and Around" with follow-up activities. CE Team members read to 37 groups of children during the week; 5 family providers are included in this group.
- CE Team has assisted CC Centers in identifying and implementing developmental screenings to assist in earlier identification and referral of children with possible delays.
- FC Center for Families has been chosen as 1 of 2 PA programs to serve in a national SpecialQuest Professional Development project. SpecialQuest is designed to promote community involvement in providing quality services and supports to children identified with disabilities and their families.

To learn more about Fulton County Community Engagement Team please call Jamie Taylor at 717-485-5038.