Connecting higher education resources to community identified needs and opportunities.
WHERE WE WORK

COMMUNITIES
- Washington
- Hart
- Sumter
- Pulaski
- Whitfield
- Grady
- Habersham
- Candler
- Colquitt
- Glynn
- Clayton
HOW WE DO OUR WORK

ORGANIZED AROUND A LOCAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND ISSUE WORK GROUPS

Executive Committee Members
- City government
- County government
- Board of Education
- Hospital system
- Chamber of Commerce
- Development Authority
- Private industry
- USG institutions
- Technical colleges
WHAT WE DO

Connecting the university with Georgia’s communities to address the state's critical economic development needs through

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

HEALTHY WORKFORCE

EDUCATION

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

QUALITY OF LIFE

ENHANCING TEACHING AND RESEARCH WHILE HELPING COMMUNITIES IDENTIFY NEEDS AND IMPLEMENT SOLUTIONS
WHITFIELD COUNTY’S APPROACH

Economic Development
Healthy Workforce
Leadership Development
Quality of Life

EDUCATION IS OUR BEST CHANCE OF TRANSFORMING OUR COMMUNITY FOR THE LONG HAUL
CORE BELIEF 1:

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES SUPPORT EDUCATION FROM BIRTH TO WORK
CORE BELIEF 2:

TEACHERS ARE EVERYWHERE, NOT JUST IN THE CLASSROOM
CORE BELIEF 3:
EARLY INVESTMENTS HAVE A HIGHER RETURN
CORE BELIEF 4: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IS ESSENTIAL
EXAMPLES OF OUR WORK
EXPLORING OPTIONS FOR AFFORDABLE PRENATAL CARE

• MANY RESIDENTS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE PRIOR TO DELIVERY

• MANY RESIDENTS DO NOT UNDERSTAND IMPORTANCE OF PRENATAL CARE

• BABIES BORN BEHIND FROM THE BEGINNING

• EXPLORING PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN DOCTORS, HEALTH CLINICS, HOSPITALS, CHURCHES, AND NON PROFITS
PROVIDING QUALITY FAMILY EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES
PILOT SIX WEEK SATURDAY ACADEMY

IMPACT

Kindergarten Readiness Skills

- PARENT-CHILD PRESCHOOL CLASS
  - Pre_K_Read: 14.2
  - Post_K_Read: 23

- FAMILY LITERACY CLASS
  - Pre_K_Read: 12
  - Post_K_Read: 27

- STORY AND CRAFT TIME CLASS
  - Pre_K_Read: 11
  - Post_K_Read: 12.5
PILOT SIX WEEK SATURDAY ACADEMY

IMPACT

Home Literacy Environment Parent Survey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Pre_Survey</th>
<th>Post_Survey</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PARENT-CHILD PRESCHOOL CLASS</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>30.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAMILY LITERACY CLASS</td>
<td>26.25</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STORY AND CRAFT TIME CLASS</td>
<td>25.8</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Significant Changes in Home Literacy Environments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Preschool</th>
<th>Family Literacy</th>
<th>Control</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increased number of rhyming and picture books</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Increased Areas of Parents Helping Child at Home:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Help child learn how to rhyme</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Read to child before 1st birthday</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Help child write their name and letters</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teach child new words daily</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Improved Parent Perception of Themselves:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent perception of being a ‘good’ reader</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent perception of having a ‘large’ vocabulary</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PARENT COMMENTS

• “This was an amazing program.”
• “The classes help a lot.”
• “I didn’t think I could commit to 6 Saturdays, but now I am sad that it is over.”
• “You must do these classes again and make it bigger so more families can participate.”
• “My favorite part was learning about math.”
• “This helps my whole family. What my 3-year-old is learning here will help my 1-year-old daughter eventually.”
• $5,000: FUNDING TO DATE

• 2: PEDIATRIC PRACTICES

• 10,000+: FAMILIES REACHED
COMMUNITY BOOK NOOKS

White’s Pediatrics

City of Refuge

Sponsors: DSC Athletics

Dental Clinic
SUMMER LEARNING

Summer Literacy Celebration

Dalton Public School’s Big Red Reads

Library Summer Reading Program
MESSAGING ABOUT IMPORTANCE OF LITERACY

Local Billboards Designed by Local Church; Funded by Chamber of Commerce
Alondra Flores, 12, hangs her head in disappointment as the wooden car she made loses in the third round of the D.E.M. camp races at the Career Academy.
Matt Hamilton/The Daily Citizen

Todd Derham, left, uses compressed air to fire two student-made wooden cars down a track at the conclusion of the D.E.M. camp at the Career Academy. Matt Hamilton/The Daily Citizen

Cars students created during camp.
CAREER EXPLORATION

Sadoth Fraire works on painting part of the set for the Snow Queen during his Explore Experience at the Creative Arts Guild. His mentor, Bradley Wilson, looks on.

Pictured are seven of the eight students who enjoyed their Explore Experience at Shaw Industries. Students shadowed in departments of their career choice. Areas included engineering, customer service, accounting, nursing, video, risk management, information technology and international business.

Amber Stephens relaxes in one of the donor chairs at Blood Assurance where she completed her Explore Experience. Amber wants a career in phlebotomy.
QUESTIONS?