

Hope is faith holding out
its hand in the dark.

George Iles



ASHE COUNTY
Partnership For Children

Creating hope. Together.

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These words describe the core of what Ashe County Partnership for Children provides to the community through classes, programs, and resources. As our mission states, the Partnership *nurtures an active, supportive community that provides choices, opportunities, and encouragement for all children and families in Ashe County to become healthy, educated, and self-reliant.*

Our community services include:

- Smart Start programs to benefit children from birth through age 5 and their families.
- Domestic Violence prevention and awareness services, including a shelter.
- Family Literacy program with transportation, child care, and support.
- Family Support Services offering playgroups, parenting support, and education.

Child Care Resource And Referral

A one-stop resource for child care information for parents, child care providers, and the community. The program provides support for:

PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS

- Referrals to area child care facilities.
- Collaboration with Child Care Subsidy for qualifying families.
- Tips on recognizing quality child care, including understanding the *North Carolina Star Rated Licensing system.*

CHILD CARE PROVIDERS AND TEACHERS

- Assistance in becoming a licensed child care program, including on-site technical assistance for the *Star Rated License*, environmental rating scales, and accreditation.
- A lending library of materials for child care programs.
- Workshops and in-service training opportunities.
- Collaboration with the professional development incentive program offering annual compensation for eligible providers.

THE COMMUNITY

- Child care resources and support.
- Assistance developing family-friendly workplace policies.



Ashe Family Literacy

Offers classes, workshops and one-on-one sessions to help entire families improve reading and writing skills, and reach their education goals.

Classes and instruction, free of charge, for:

- Adult Education (GED and ESL)
- Early Childhood Education
- Parent and Child Together Time (PACT)
- Parent Education
- Home Instruction

Ashe Family Literacy is an Even Start program funded through Ashe County Partnership for Children, Wilkes Community College and the Ashe County School System.

Family Support

Provides a host of activities and workshops designed to bring the family together, including:

COOPERATIVE PLAY CENTER

Filled with fun, educational, developmentally appropriate toys for children from birth to 6 years of age, the Cooperative Play Center provides young children a safe, fun, creative place to play - free of charge.

PARENT EDUCATION

The Partnership offers a variety of classes designed to help families work together. Topics include child development, parenting styles, creating routines, effective ways to discipline and much more. Classes range from one-on-one interaction with an instructor to video series and workshops.

All workshops are free of charge. The Partnership provides free child care for children 12 and younger, plus dinner for participants.



A Safe Home For Everyone (A.S.H.E)

Provides services and support for victims of domestic violence to help them escape and recover from abusive environments. Creates greater awareness of domestic violence prevention through community outreach and training.

Services include:

- 24-hour crisis assistance
- Shelter for families in crisis
- Court advocacy and accompaniment
- Support groups for adults and children
- Counseling services
- Educational programs and training
- Financial assistance for survivors to become self-sufficient
- *Threads of Hope* thrift store



The image is a composite of two photographs. The top half shows a vibrant rainbow arching over a landscape with mountains in the distance and a valley below. The bottom half shows a family of three—a man, a woman, and a young girl—walking away from the camera on a grassy hill, holding hands. The man is on the left, the girl is in the middle, and the woman is on the right. The background is a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. The entire image is overlaid with large, semi-transparent geometric shapes in shades of orange, yellow, and blue.

Get Involved

Much of the success of Ashe County Partnership for Children comes from its dedicated staff and volunteers, and gracious donations from the community.

- **Volunteer:** From reading with a child to being a guest speaker for a workshop, we have dozens of volunteer opportunities—including one that is right for you.
- **Donate:** We welcome monetary donations, as well as the donation of goods and services. Through our *Threads of Hope* store, your new or gently used furniture, household goods, clothing, toys and more will provide a new beginning for someone in need.

Ashe County Partnership for Children is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Contact your tax advisor for gift deductibility.



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A.S.H.E.: 982-8851

Child Care Resource & Referral: 982-8870

Family Support/Family Literacy: 982-4311

Volunteers/Donations: 982-4588

Threads of Hope: 246-4673

Visit our website for more information on all of our programs, services, current job openings, staff, board of directors, volunteer opportunities, and ways to give.

ashechildren.org

Ashe County Partnership for Children programs are funded in part by Smart Start.

