

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**SPOTS OPEN FOR NO-COST GED, ESL CLASSES**  
***Family Literacy Program Offers Adult and Child Education Classes***

**Jefferson, NC** – Ashe County Partnership for Children announced today that it has several openings for adult students and their children in its family literacy program Ashe Family Literacy. Through this Even Start program, Ashe Family Literacy in collaboration with Wilkes Community College provides adult education, early childhood education for the children of the adult students, parenting education, and parent and child together (PACT) time.

By providing focused education to the adult students and their children, the Ashe Family Literacy program offers a unique approach that research shows is most successful in promoting literacy for both adults and children.

The adult education component includes classes for GED, Adult High School Diploma, and Adult Basic Education, for any Ashe County resident 16 and over. It also includes English as a Second Language (ESL) for residents who need to improve their English skills. All classes, including those for the children, are completely free of charge. The program even offers a monthly home visit to provide further support to both the adult student and child.

“We offer support for parents in a comfortable setting with a developmentally appropriate curriculum and environment for children,” explains Ann Canon, Family Support Director. “We approach parenting information in a fun, interactive way, using activities and projects that our adult students and their children can enjoy together.”

Ashe Family Literacy holds classes on Monday through Thursday from 8:15am to 2:30pm at Family Central. The program can also help transport parents and their children to and from class if they do not have transportation.

It is not required to have a child to participate in the family literacy program. It is open to anyone who is an Ashe County resident who does not have a high school diploma and who wishes to further their education.



Ashe County Partnership for Children is a non-profit organization that provides programs and services for families and children in Ashe County. They fund or directly run various programs such as: Smart Start programs to benefit children ages birth through five and their families; Domestic Violence prevention and awareness services, including shelter services; a Family Literacy program with transportation, child care and family support; and Family Support Services offering playgroups, parenting support and education.

If you or someone you know needs adult education classes, or if you would like more information, please contact Ann Canon at (336) 982-4311 ext. 227. For more information about Ashe County Partnership for Children and their programs, visit [www.ashechildren.org](http://www.ashechildren.org), or call (336) 982-4588.

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