



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
TENNESSEE  
HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER.

# Community Promotion of Child and Family Resilience Panel

**Toni M. Whitaker, MD**

Moderator

Professor, Division Chief Developmental Pediatrics

UTHSC and Le Bonheur Children's Hospital

# Panel representation

- LENA - University of Memphis
- Literacy Mid-South
- Neighborhood Christian Center
- First 8 Memphis
- All Kids Academy
- CDC's *Learn the Signs. Act Early.*

# LENA - University of Memphis

**Loretta Rudd, PhD**

Clinical Professor and Program Coordinator  
Child Development and Family Studies  
The University of Memphis





## Facilitating Social and emotional Development in Young Children

Dr. Loretta Rudd  
Office: MAN 422  
Phone: 901-678-4407

THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**MEMPHIS**

# Facilitating Social & Emotional Development in Young Children

- Warm responsive care
  - Birth to 1 year
    - Immediately
    - Every time baby cries
    - Builds a sense of trust
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> year
    - Reassure child with comforting voice
    - Provide opportunities to explore safe environment and complete simple chores
    - Builds a sense of trust





## Social Emotional Development and “school readiness”

- Social emotional development is the foundation for development in other domains
- S/E development is vital for
  - Life-long learning
  - Social skills and emotional self-regulation
  - Prevention is more effective than remediation
- Attention and working memory
- Peer acceptance—school engagement
- Curiosity, creativity, persistence



- Talk builds babies' brains
- Conversational turns
- Conversational turns are predictive of metrics of child outcomes
- [Research indicates conversations are key to building babies' brains](#)



You can inform parents of young children in your care of the necessity to engage in conversational turns and book reading to build brains and facilitate social emotional development.

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# Literacy Mid-South

**Sam O'Bryant, III**

Executive Director  
Literacy Mid-South





# About Literacy Mid-South

- Since 1974, LMS has worked to improve the quality of life in Memphis and Shelby County through literacy support.
- Literacy is the skill and disposition that empowers, supports, and positions individuals to **recognize**, **respond to**, and **redress** conditions that deny access to quality life opportunities.
- “Once you learn to read, you will be forever free.” - Frederick Douglass
- **Our vision is 100% literacy for the Mid-South.**
  - Programs across the lifespan, supporting the whole family



# DIVERSITY IN CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2018

Percentage of books depicting characters from diverse backgrounds based on the 2018 publishing statistics compiled by the Cooperative Children's Book Center, School of Education, University of Wisconsin-Madison: [ccbc.education.wisc.edu/books/pcstats.asp](http://ccbc.education.wisc.edu/books/pcstats.asp)



23 BOOKS **1%**  
**American Indians/ First Nations**

170 BOOKS **5%**  
**Latinx**

218 BOOKS **7%**  
**Asian Pacific Islander/Asian Pacific American**

301 BOOKS **10%**  
**African/African American**

864 BOOKS **27%**  
**Animals/Other**

1,558 BOOKS **50%**  
**White**

Illustration by David Huyck, in consultation with Sarah Park Dahlen  
 Released under a Creative Commons BY-SA license: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>

The CCBC inventory includes 3,134 books published in 2018. This graphic would not have been possible without the statistics compiled by the CCBC, and the review and feedback we received from Edith Campbell, Molly Beth Griffin, K. T. Horning, Debbie Reese, Ebony Elizabeth Thomas, and Madeline Tyner. Many thanks.

# Neighborhood Christian Center

**Ephie Johnson**

President/CEO

Neighborhood Christian Centers, Inc.





## OUR team

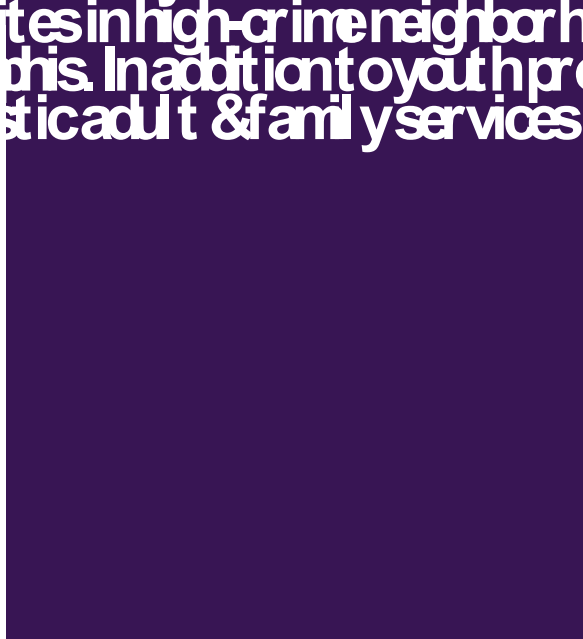
- Site-based Services
- Youth Empowered to Succeed (YES)

## OUR supporters

- Churches
- foundations
- Corporations
- Individuals

## OUR students

NCC serves severely under-resourced children and youth across 11 sites in high-crime neighborhoods in Chicago. In addition to youth programs, NCC provides therapeutic adult & family services.



## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

### AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMMING

- Adventures with Reading (3 days/week)
- Primary TRUTHseekers (1 day/week)
- YMCA Lunches (5 days/week)

### SUMMER PROGRAMMING



- 8-Week program at NCC sites
- (M-F) 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
- 2 meals provided
- Field Trips
- VBS with partner churches



## MIDDLE SCHOOL

### AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMMING

- Junior TRUTHseekers (1 day/week)
- YMCA Lunches (5 days/week)
- 5 Week Seminars

### SUMMER PROGRAMMING



- 5-Week program
- (M-F) 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- 2 meals provided
- Field Trips
- Red Carpet Premiere Event



## HIGH SCHOOL

### AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMMING

- Senior TRUTHseekers (1 day/week)
- YMCA Lunches (5 days/week)
- Volunteer Opportunities
- 5 Week Seminars

### SUMMER PROGRAMMING

## COLLEGE & Arts

- 8-Week program
- (M-F) 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- 2 meals provided
- 3 College Credit Hours
- Field Trips
- College & Arts Tour
- Scholarships & Stipends



## COLLEGE

- TRUTHseeker Scholarship
- Mentorship & Guidance from NCC Staff
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Summer Employment Opportunities

## EVENTS & SERVICES

- Spring Jam
- Easter Fest
- Trunk & Treat
- Block Parties
- Christmas Incentives
- Financial Literacy
- Overnight Camp
- College Tours
- Off-Site Field Trips
- Gang Prevention Initiatives
- Truancy Reduction Support



# 5 WEEK SEMINARS

- ***Lineage***
  - program focused on individual & family ancestry and legacy
- ***Car Facts 101***
  - program focused on car purchasing and maintenance
- ***Biz Opps***
  - program focused on business fundamentals, job readiness, and an introduction to youth entrepreneurship
- ***Art of Thank You***
  - program focused on etiquette, manners, and showing gratitude



# First 8 Memphis

**Kandace Thomas, MPP, PhD**

Executive Director

First Eight Memphis







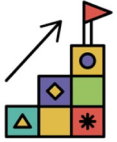
# FIRST EIGHT MEMPHIS

Success in the **first 8** years.  
Success for a lifetime.

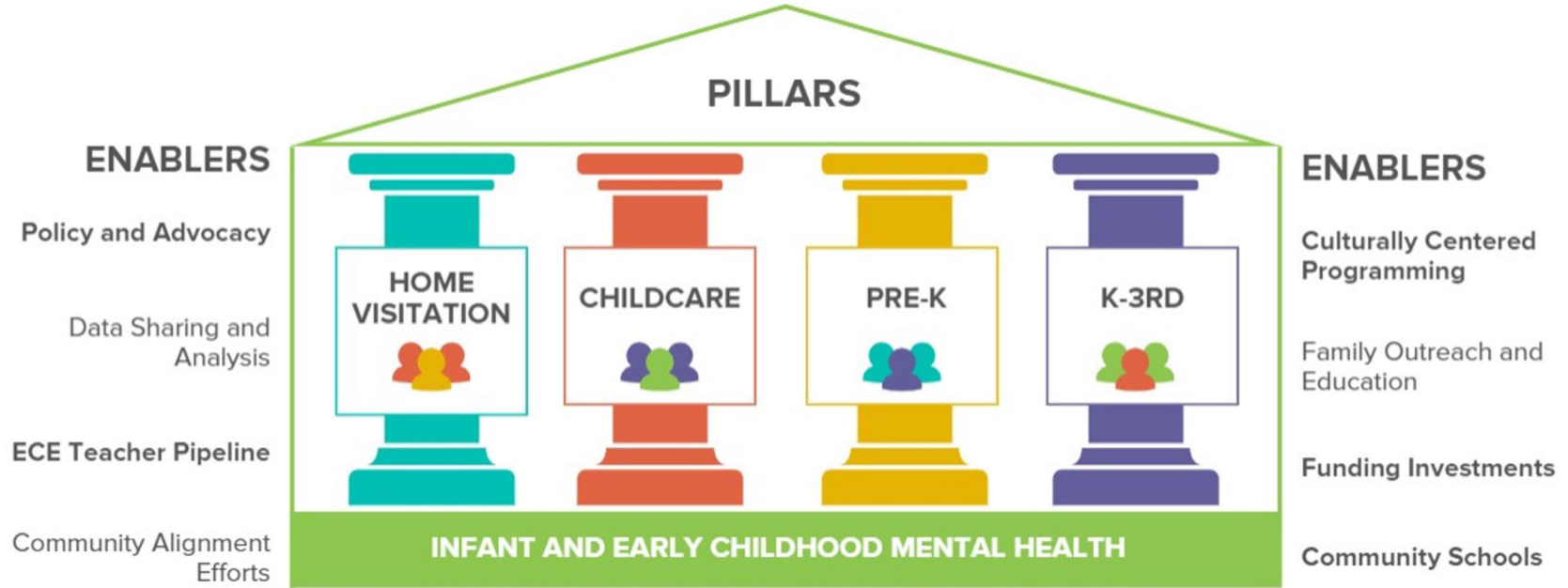
*UTHSC College of  
Medicine Norfleet Forum  
April 12, 2024*



*January 19, 2024*



# Memphis and Shelby County ECE System



by focusing on

Quality



Alignment



Access



Advocacy & Awareness





***Visit our website!***

[Subscribe to F8M Newsletter](#)

[Parent & Partner Resources](#)

[Board Meetings, News & Events](#)

[Pre-K Partners & Registration](#)

***First8Memphis.org***

# All Kids Academy

**Toni M. Whitaker, MD**

Professor, Developmental Pediatrics

Representing leaders from

University of Tennessee,

Le Bonheur, and

University of Memphis





# A Hospital-Based Internship Program for Future Educators

**Sandra Cooley Nichols**

Chair, Instruction & Curriculum Leadership, College of Education, University of Memphis

**Terri H. Finkel**

Associate Chair, Pediatrics, Le Bonheur Children's Hospital and the University of Tennessee Health Science Center

**Sandy Guntharp**

Assistant Clinical Professor of Child Development and Family Studies, College of Professional and Liberal Studies, University of Memphis

**Danielle Keeton**

Senior Director Rehabilitation and Developmental Services, Le Bonheur Children's Hospital

**Erin Lasley**

Coordinator, Family Resource Center and All Kids Academy, Le Bonheur Children's Hospital

**Jessica Liles**

Director of Volunteer and Family Services, Le Bonheur Children's Hospital

**John Tubbs**

Program Evaluator, Methodist-Le Bonheur Community Outreach, Le Bonheur Children's Hospital

**Toni M. Whitaker**

Chief, Developmental Pediatrics, Le Bonheur Children's Hospital and the University of Tennessee Health Science Center



All Kids Academy





# Early Childhood Learning and Development

All Kids Academy pairs personalized learning with personalized medicine



- Harnesses the **power of scale** to support **learning and development** of children experiencing **prolonged hospitalizations**
- Brings together affiliated
  - **University of Memphis and University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC)** faculty and students,
  - **Le Bonheur** staff and
  - Our **Memphis community**
- AKA launched in July 2023, funded by Urban Child Institute with in-kind support by our key stakeholders and contributions from UTHSC LEND program, CDC Act Early program, and philanthropic donors.

All Kids Academy



# A Program Designed to Meet these Needs...

**Purpose:** To nurture every child's educational potential, in sickness and in health

**Program Goal #1:** With faculty from the University of Memphis College of Professional and Liberal Studies, to train student **interns** to educate Le Bonheur infant, toddler, and preschool **patients** who are experiencing **prolonged hospitalization**

**Program Goal #2:** With faculty from the University of Memphis College of Education, to train student **interns** to educate Le Bonheur kindergarten through 3rd grade **patients** who are experiencing **prolonged hospitalization**

All Kids Academy



**CDC's *Learn the Signs. Act Early.***

**Toni M. Whitaker, MD**

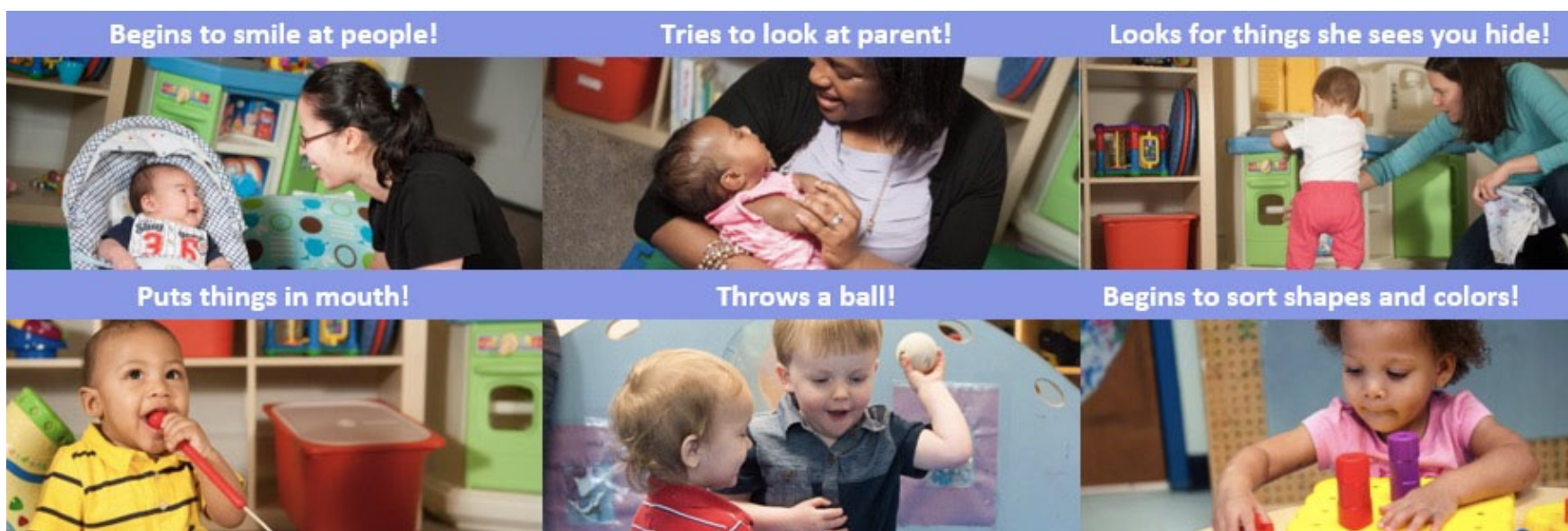
Professor, Developmental Pediatrics  
Act Early Ambassador to Tennessee





# So Many Milestones to Celebrate!

- Monitoring milestones helps every parent and caregiver support their child's development

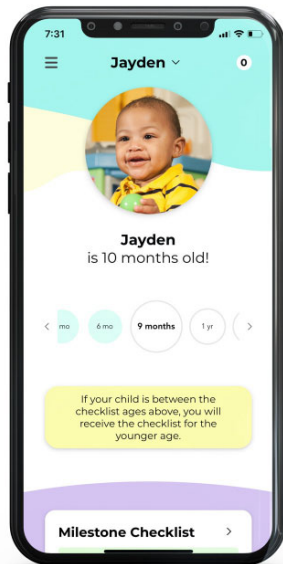


- CDC's *Learn the Signs. Act Early. Milestones in Action* [Photo and Video Library](#) shows what each milestone looks like in real-life situations



# CDC's Milestone Materials

## Free Tools for Monitoring Children's Development



### Your child at 15 months

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Child's Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Milestones matter! How your child plays, learns, speaks, acts, and moves offers important clues about his or her development. Check the milestones your child has reached by 15 months. Take this with you and talk with your child's doctor at every well-child visit about the milestones your child has reached and what to expect next.

**What most children do by this age:**

- Social/Emotional Milestones**
  - Copies other children while playing, like taking toys out of a container when another child does
  - Shows you an object she likes
  - Claps when excited
  - Hugs stuffed doll or other toy
  - Shows you affection (hugs, cuddles, or kisses you)
- Cognitive Milestones (learning, thinking, problem-solving)**
  - Tries to use things the right way, like a phone, cup, or book
  - Stacks at least two small objects, like blocks
- Language/Communication Milestones**
  - Tries to say one or two words besides "mama" or "dada," like "ba" for ball or "da" for dog
  - Looks at a familiar object when you name it
  - Follows directions given with both a gesture and words. For example, he gives you a toy when you hold out your hand and say, "Give me the toy."
  - Points to ask for something or to get help
- Movement/Physical Development Milestones**
  - Takes a few steps on his own
  - Uses fingers to feed herself some food

**Other important things to share with the doctor...**

- What are some things you and your child do together?
- What are some things your child likes to do?
- Is there anything your child does or does not do that concerns you?
- Has your child lost any skills he/she once had?
- Does your child have any special healthcare needs or was he/she born prematurely?

**You know your child best.** Don't wait. If your child is not meeting one or more milestones, has lost skills he or she once had, or you have other concerns, act early. Talk with your child's doctor, share your concerns, and ask about developmental screening. If you or the doctor are still concerned:

1. Ask for a referral to a specialist who can evaluate your child more, and
2. Call your state or territory's early intervention program to find out if your child can get services to help. Learn more and find the number at [cdc.gov/FindEI](http://cdc.gov/FindEI).

For more on how to help your child, visit [cdc.gov/Concerned](http://cdc.gov/Concerned).

Don't wait. Acting early can make a real difference!

Download CDC's Free Milestone Tracker app. Available on the App Store and Google Play.

American Academy of Pediatrics  
RECOMMENDED BY THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS

### Milestone Moments

**Milestones Matter!**

Look inside for milestones to watch for in your child and tips for how you can help your child learn and grow from birth to age 5.

Download CDC's Free Milestone Tracker app. Available on the App Store and Google Play.

American Academy of Pediatrics  
RECOMMENDED BY THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS

[www.cdc.gov/ActEarly/Materials](http://www.cdc.gov/ActEarly/Materials)

# LENA Start - University of Memphis

## **Melinda Staples**

LEND parent graduate, LENA Facilitator  
The University of Memphis

## **Sonja D. Randall, MALS, IMH-E®**

Coordinated Effort to Enhance Development (CEED) Project Manager  
College of Professional & Liberal Studies | CDFS  
The University of Memphis





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