DCCAA & Community Reminders

| Apr.  2 | First Steps Diva Den at 3:30 |
| Apr.  8 | DCSD Board Meeting          |
| Apr.  9 | First Steps Diva Den at 3:30 |
| Apr. 15 | Policy Council Mtg. at 5:30  |
| Apr. 16 | First Steps Diva Den at 3:30 |
| Apr. 18 | DCCAA Board Mtg. at 5:30    |
| Apr. 20 – 26 | Spring Break – No School   |
| Apr. 22 – 26 | SCCAP/SCSHSA Conference   |
| Apr. 23 | First Steps Diva Den at 3:30 |
| Apr. 30 | First Steps Diva Den at 3:30 |

Head Start Health and Safety: Please remember to hold your child’s hand upon arrival and departure.

Access your agency email here! Contact Q for help! Like us on Facebook! View our website here!

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**DCCAA is on the Move!**

**Youth Leadership Program!**

Miss Janiyah Rush, Youth Leadership Program participant has been nominated for The Congress of Future Medical Leaders in Boston, Massachusetts. As an honor student at Darlington High School, Janiyah, a junior, has been afforded the opportunity to join students from across the country to attend this three day event in June 2019 sponsored by The National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists. Richard Rossi, Executive Director of The Academy states, “Focused, bright and determined students like Janiyah are our future and she deserves all the mentoring and guidance we can give her!”

Congratulations Janiyah!

*Ms. Pamela Stevenson, Outreach Worker*

**Health & Fitness Day!**

The South Carolina Department of Social Services held its 6th Annual Health and Fitness Day on Sunday, March 3, 2019 at Colonial Life Arena in Columbia, SC. The purpose of the event is to promote healthy food and physical activity for young children and their families. Parents, students and St. Joseph Head Start Center staff (pictured on left) enjoyed themselves as the South Carolina Lady Gamecocks took on The Mississippi State Lady Bulldogs.

~*Ms. Monica Davis, St. Joseph Center Manager*
“Week of the Young Child!”

Week of the Young Child is an annual celebration to spotlight early learning, young children, their teachers, families and communities. Activities this year include:

**Monday** – “Music Monday”

**Tuesday** – “Tasty Tuesday”

**Wednesday** – “Work Together Wednesday”

**Thursday** – “Artsy Thursday”

**Friday** – “Family Friday”

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Teacher Grants Available!!

Teacher Grant Applications are now available for Darlington County Educators. Two teachers will be awarded $500 each for use in their classroom based on need. Applications are available now and are due by July 1st! Visit http://www.womensleagueofhartsville.com to complete your application!

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Harvest Hope Food Bank

The mission of Harvest Hope Food Bank is to provide for the needs of hungry people by gathering and sharing quality food with dignity, compassion and education. If you are in need or know someone in need of food assistance, please have Harvest Hope at 843-661-0826 or find assistance with local partners by clicking here.

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Darlington County CAA Invites You to Celebrate with Us!!

**Attention Community Partners!!!!**

April 12, 2019

Our program will be celebrating **Week of the Young Child!**

10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Byerly Park

Field 1

700 Russell Road, Hartsville, SC 29550
Dani learned to braid hair when she was just seven years old. She went from doing her cousins’ hair to braiding everybody’s hair in the community during her high school years after moving to New Haven, CT.

After moving back to South Carolina, Dani felt stagnant. She was dating her boyfriend, had birthed two children and was even taking college courses, and doing hair, but still didn’t seem fulfilled. Her boyfriend would try to encourage her and tried to persuade her to go to cosmetology school, but Dani never listened. Discouragement began to set in as Dani was turned down for job after job or couldn’t make it to work because she didn’t have a babysitter.

Dani prayed that God would order her steps and show her the path he designed for her. Joshua and Raielle were enrolled in school and RaYona in Head Start. Her now husband and other family and friends continued to encourage her as she enrolled herself in the cosmetology program at Kenneth Shuler in January 2017.

Although Dani felt like she was now on the right path, she really had no clue about what she had signed up for. Dani found herself falling asleep in class and failing test after test because the task of being a wife, mother and student was more challenging than she fathom. Dani admits she cried, became angry and eventually felt depressed, but the encouragement of her husband and family helped her remain tough.

Dani graduated from Kenneth Shuler in February 2018. Although she did hair her entire life, she never thought being a licensed cosmetologist would actually be her career. Dani didn’t stop there though. On December 29, 2018, Dani held the grand opening of her own hair salon, Dynamics Hair Salon!

Danielle Mack-Miller knows that her husband, children, family and friends are the reasons that she was able to not only dream big, but also achieve her dreams. Although she does not credit herself as a success story as of yet, Darlington County Community Action Agency Head Start acknowledges her prosperity and we encourage each of you to dream, dream big. . . so that you too can live your dreams!

~ Mr. Albert Wingate, Family Services Spec. Lead
FREE ELECTRONIC FILING INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE!!

Receive Refund in seven (7) days (direct deposit) or 14 days (mail) once return is accepted by IRS.

Why Are You Paying to Have Your Taxes Completed?  
Do You Have Money to Burn???????

Call for Appointment!  
DARLINGTON COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY  
904 South 4th Street, Hartsville, SC  
(843) 332-1135  
Monday, Wednesday & Thursday  
10 am – 4 pm

Required Items:

- Valid picture identification.  
- Social Security cards for self, spouse and ALL dependents.  
- Correct birth dates for self, spouse and ALL dependents.  
- Form W-2 Wage & Tax Statements from all employers.  
- All Form 1099’s including interest, dividends, pensions, unemployment, state tax refunds, miscellaneous income, Social Security Benefits Statements, if applicable.  
- If using Direct Deposit, a bank document showing the Bank Routing Number and Account Number.  
- Form 1095A Health Coverage (The Market Place).  
- If claiming child and dependent care expenses, the amount paid and the care provider’s name, address and identifying number.  
- If itemizing, a list of all deductible expenses.  
- NICE TO HAVE: Copy of last year’s Federal and State Returns.  
- Additional information may be requested by DCCAA.

FILE YOUR TAXES FREE ELECTRONICALLY!!
Wellness Corner

April is National Stress Awareness Month!

Keep Stress at Bay:

- Keep a positive attitude.
- Relinquish things you can’t control.
- Exercise regularly.
- Learn and practice relaxation techniques.
- Eat healthy, well-balanced meals.

Science teaches children about the world around them and how to relate to real-life situations.

Remember our children should get at least 60 minutes of physical activity each day!

Music and movement helps develop and refine social skills in children.

Staff Celebrations

April Birthdays

Asha Allen, Edna Pettigrew, MG Burno, Sebrina McGee, St. Joseph

April Employment Anniversaries

Lisa Bess, St. Joseph (1 year), Brand Samuel, Central Office (1 year)

Thank you for your dedication and years of service to DCCAA!

Thank you for your newsletter contributions! Please remember to get your submissions in by the 20th of the month. If you have any ideas, articles, suggestions or contributions, please feel free to email Q at lgoodman@dccea.net. We will make sure your input is acknowledged. Our newsletter is only as good as we make it so don’t hesitate to let your voice be heard!