



Hope for Children and Families News from Onslow County

Welcome to this month's edition of the One Place newsletter—your go-to source for the latest updates on our programs, services, and all things early care and education. We've got helpful resources, inspiring stories, and upcoming events to keep you connected and informed.

Stay in the loop! Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#) to see behind-the-scenes photos and catch real-time updates on what's happening throughout One Place.

Preschool Programs-Apply Today!

Even though the school year is underway, our preschool programs accept new applications all year long.

- Research shows that state Pre-K programs have positive impacts on children's cognitive skills, including both pre-reading and pre-math skills.

- Children who attended Pre-K usually have a higher grade point average and are more likely to graduate high school and college.

- Fundamental skills like eye contact, self-confidence, work efficiency, attention span, and control of temper are developed during early childhood and are enriched in Pre-K.



Want to set your child up for success in school? [Click here](#) to apply for preschool today.

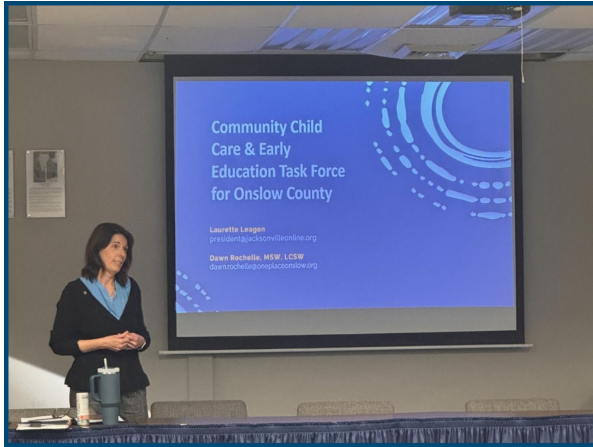
Onslow County is Facing a Child Care Crisis

Onslow County is considered a “child care desert” with an average of one licensed child care slot available for every five families.

One Place and the Jacksonville Onslow Chamber of Commerce convened a task force to address the current state of child care in the community. The initial meeting of the core group included representation from Jacksonville Onslow Chamber of Commerce, Coastal Carolina Community College, City of Jacksonville, Onslow County Schools, Marine & Family Programs, New River YMCA, NC Military Affairs Committee, Carobell, the One Place Board, and the local business community.

"The crisis isn't getting better, and our children need more," said One Place CEO, Dawn Rochelle. "This is a business, workforce, and community matter. To have any solution, we have to have government, advocacy, philanthropy, and the business

community at the table. That's the way that this community has moved so many needles in the past, and it's the way we continue to show up to be able to be the best community for children in North Carolina."



The task force will host round table meetings over the next six months to gather information and feedback from identified groups impacted by the child care crisis, including members of the following groups:

- Business leaders
- Faith community
- Child care & early educators
- Military community
- Parents of young children
- K-12 educators & administrators

Want to share your input? One Place and the Jacksonville Onslow Chamber of Commerce have created surveys to gather community information from various populations affected by the current child care challenges.

Employer/Business owner survey:

[Click to Complete the Employer/Business Owner Survey](#)

[Click to Complete the Parent/Caregiver Survey](#)

[Click to Complete the Child Care Center/Family Child Care Home Survey](#)

Additional surveys for other audiences will be available soon.

To learn more about the task force, contact [Stacey Knox](#).

Domestic Violence Impacts the Whole Family

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

At the One Place Child Advocacy Center, we regularly see the impact domestic violence has on children—and we are committed to providing compassionate care, advocacy, and specialized services to help them heal and thrive.

"One young girl had tears streaming down her face when she described taking the phone into a closet to call 911 when her parents were fighting because she thought her dad was going to kill her mom." -Susan Jensen, medical provider at the One Place Child Advocacy Center

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report that in homes where domestic violence occurs, there is a 30%-60% chance of co-occurring child abuse, a rate more than 15 times higher than average.

Children who have experienced child abuse and witnessed domestic violence need specialized treatment to ensure they can heal and lead successful lives as adults.

Our forever home, [the SECU Hope Center](#), has expanded space in the Child Advocacy Center to allow us to serve multiple children simultaneously, reduce wait times, and provide critical mental health services to children who have witnessed domestic violence or are victims of child abuse/neglect.

[Click here](#) to read more about domestic violence and how it impacts children.



**WHAT ARE THE
LONG-TERM EFFECTS
OF DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE OR
ABUSE ON CHILDREN?**

Children who experience domestic violence in the home are at greater risk for repeating the cycle as adults by entering into abusive relationships or becoming abusers themselves.

 **ONE
PLACE**
CREATING HOPE FOR FAMILIES

Blogs

In case you missed the blogs we shared on social media this month, check them out:

- [Back to School Safety: Protecting Children from Traffickers This School Year](#)
- [How Early Head Start Can Benefit Your Family](#)

One Place in the News

- [Onslow County forms task force for child care and education](#)