

Nationally Recognized

- ★ National Head Start Association Program of Excellence
- ★ Finalist for Managing for Excellence Award by The Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta
- ★ Engaging Diverse Families model program of the National Association for the Education of Young Children
- ★ A model program in The Annie E. Casey Foundation's Human Services Workforce Initiative
- ★ Noted for innovative work by the Harvard Family Research Project
- ★ An exemplary program in the Center for the Study of Social Policy's Strengthening Families initiative for the prevention of child abuse and neglect

Sheltering Arms Headquarters,
Sheltering Arms Georgia
Training Institute
and Model Teaching Center
Atlanta, GA

East Lake Center
Atlanta, GA

Longview Center
Douglasville, GA

Cobb Center
Marietta, GA

Dorothy Arkwright Center
Atlanta, GA

Welcome All Center
Atlanta, GA

East Point Center
East Point, GA

Sheltering Arms at
the Mansour Center
Marietta, GA

Early Learning & Literacy
Center at Dunbar Elementary
Atlanta, GA

International Village Center
Chamblee, GA

Carl Rhodenizer Center
Jonesboro, GA

Norcross Center
Norcross, GA

Stonewall Tell Center
College Park, GA

Buford Drive Center
Lawrenceville, GA

Oakley Township
Center
Union City, GA

Lillian Webb Center
Lawrenceville, GA

Sheltering Arms

EARLY EDUCATION AND FAMILY CENTERS

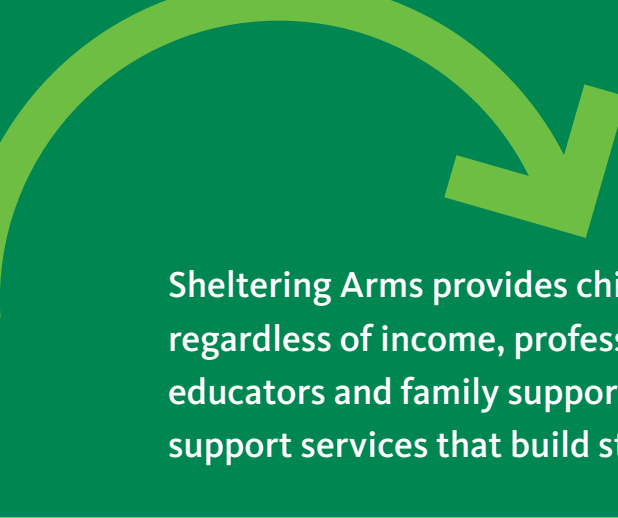
The power of education begins here.™

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Visit us at www.shelteringarmsforkids.com or on Facebook



“We’ve got to remember that we either invest in our children on the front end or pay dearly on the back end.”

– Glenda Hatchett, former judge for Georgia’s Fulton County Juvenile Court



Sheltering Arms provides child care and early learning to families, regardless of income, professional development to early childhood educators and family support staff, and comprehensive family support services that build stronger families and communities.

The Importance of Learning Early

Neuroscience and behavioral research now shows what Sheltering Arms’ founders understood from the beginning; early experiences can have a lasting impact on a child’s later learning, behavior and health.

Some 700 new neural connections are formed every second in the first few years of life with 85% of a child’s brain structure developed by age 3. Supportive relationships and environments help shape the developing brain and influence later success in school and in life.

Serving Families since 1888

Sheltering Arms was founded in 1888 by concerned citizens who discovered a young girl tied to a bedpost so her mother could keep her safe while working long hours at a textile mill.

The first center was located in an old railroad box car and provided child care for the working poor and weekly meetings for the families.

Today, the box car has been replaced with 16 [Sheltering Arms Early Education and Family Centers](#) in 6 metro Atlanta counties and a nationally-recognized training institute that are changing communities and touching thousands of families a year.



Young children – especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds – are more successful in school when they are part of early learning programs with stable, well-trained, experienced staff, low teacher-to-child ratios, quality facilities and family support.

Centers of Success

Sheltering Arms centers operate year-round, 12 hours a day, Monday through Friday, for families of all incomes with children from 6 weeks to age 5. After school and summer camp programs serve children through age 8.

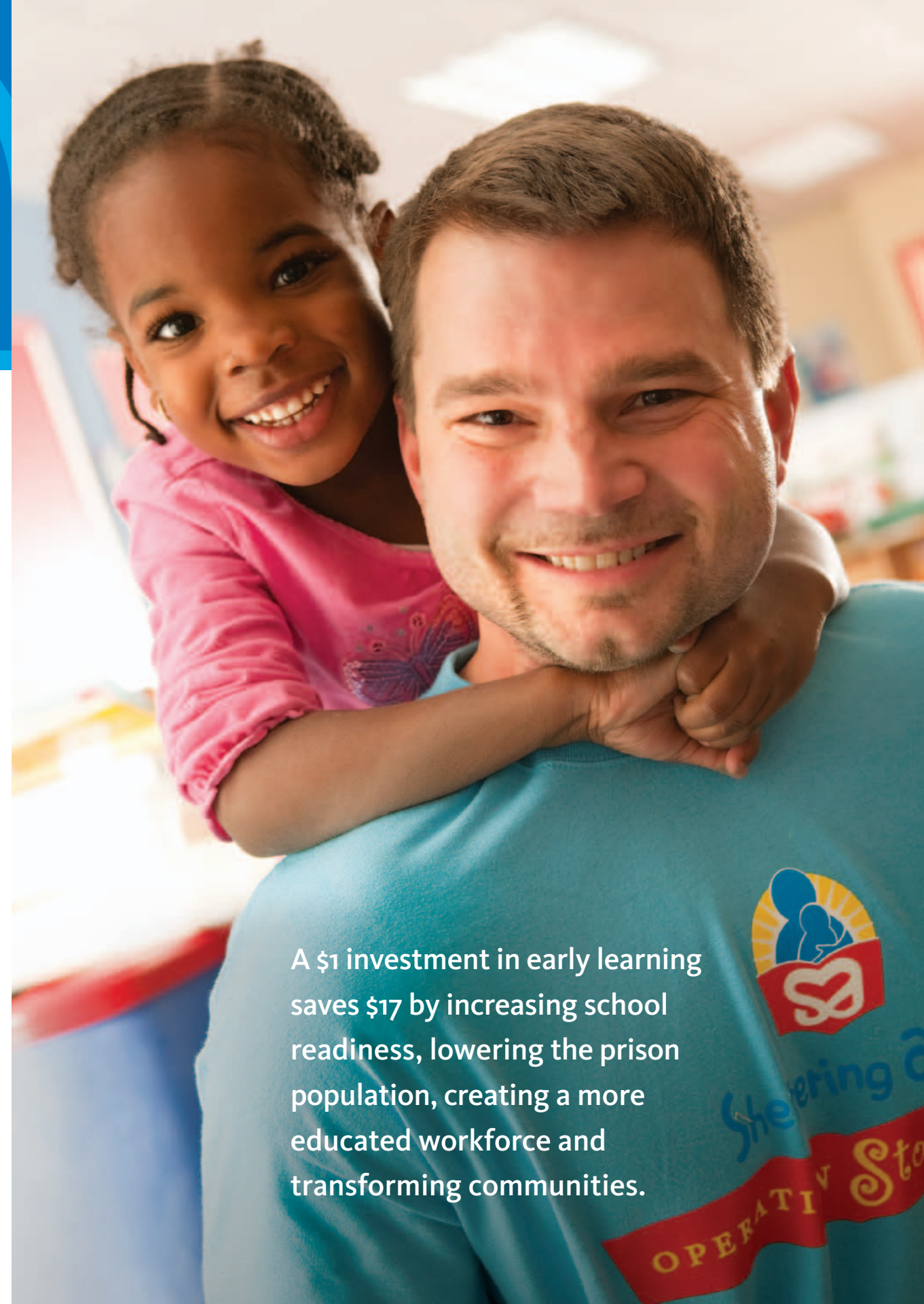
Every child receives developmental and social-emotional assessments and daily instruction using a research-based, developmentally-appropriate school readiness curriculum. Sheltering Arms children become successful readers and lifelong learners.

On average, every child meets or exceeds 96% of milestones for each stage of development. Children with special needs receive coordinated services and learn in fully inclusive Sheltering Arms classrooms.

Stable and Supportive Relationships

Educated, experienced and engaged teachers who remain with the same children during their early formative years are one of the most important predictors of healthy child development and success.

The [Sheltering Arms Georgia Training Institute \(GTI\)](#) helps build a more effective team of early learning and family support staff at Sheltering Arms and across the Southeast by offering credentialing, community-based training and an on-site, accredited early childhood laboratory school to more than 6,000 professionals each year.




A \$1 investment in early learning saves \$17 by increasing school readiness, lowering the prison population, creating a more educated workforce and transforming communities.



“I teach the children of parents I went to school with in this community, and now my children are here.”

– A parent, teacher and GTI grad at the Early Learning & Literacy Center at Dunbar Elementary




When families can work without sacrificing the care and education of their young children, and when they can work or function as a stronger family unit because they have access to the support networks they need to succeed, then the entire community benefits.

A Community of Support

There is a feeling that anything is possible. Sheltering Arms families are connected to resources they need to succeed including counseling, educational advancement and job training.

Centers are anchors for neighborhood revitalization, sharing facilities and working alongside schools and other public and private organizations to strengthen families and communities.

Families do not have to choose between quality child care and early learning and putting food on the table. Nearly 90% of Sheltering Arms families receive public child care subsidies and/or tuition scholarships to help cover the average annual tuition of \$11,000 per child.

Teach Today  Reach Tomorrow is a Sheltering Arms campaign to secure the future stability of a nonprofit organization dedicated to serving working families for nearly 125 years.

Help Us Teach Today Reach Tomorrow

Your donation will help Sheltering Arms serve even more working families, especially in tough economic times, by funding these critical needs.

- **Tuition Scholarships** for low-income, working families who don't qualify for federal aid, but can't afford full tuition.
- **Teacher Development and Retention** for a well-educated, experienced and stable staff vital for healthy child development and success.
- **Capital Support** for expanded, best-in-class facilities with child development environments that meet stringent health and safety requirements, inspire learning and enrich communities.