

## ATTENTION KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS

# JOIN COUNTDOWN TO KINDERGARTEN

Countdown to Kindergarten is a relationship-based, home visitation program that pairs rising kindergartners with their future teachers during the summer before school entry.



**Do you want more students to begin the school year feeling confident and excited about kindergarten?**



**Do you want more parents to keep in touch with you throughout the school year and support your teaching and behavior management practices?**



**Do you want your parents to have a better understanding of kindergarten expectations?**



**Do you want more parents to effectively work with their children at home in activities that improve kindergarten academic skills?**



**Do you want free quality early learning materials (\$150 value) provided to each of your families at no cost?**



**Do you want to earn up to \$1920 of extra income this summer – all on a flexible schedule?**

Participating teachers complete six visits with each family that are centered around classroom and content expectations. The first five visits take place in the families' homes and the final visit is an orientation and celebration at the school to introduce families to their new school and classroom.

## THE BENEFITS

### PARENT INTERVIEWS SHOW:

- » 100% are glad they participated
- » 94% saw it made their child more excited to begin kindergarten
- » 94% saw it prepared their child academically for kindergarten

### TEACHER SURVEYS SHOW:

- » Parents had an increased awareness of kindergarten expectations
- » Children received needed quality educational materials
- » Parents, teachers, and children had positive relationships, assuring a smooth transition to school and better communication throughout the year.

Building relationships is one of the most important things to make the kindergarten year a success.”

– Tammy Medlin  
Countdown to Kindergarten teacher, Lancaster SC



# HOW IT WORKS

- » Sign up with your school to become a Countdown to Kindergarten Teacher. You will receive instructions on the specifics of the program with your school and with your First Steps County Partnership.
- » Decide how many of your future kindergarten students you want to serve. Choose between one to ten children. Earn \$192 for each child served (5 hour-long home visits @ \$32 each + 1 hour-long school orientation at \$32 each). If the maximum of 10 children is served, you will earn \$1920 plus \$50 (approximate) per child as travel reimbursement.
- » Work with your school and/or local First Steps County Partnership to finalize child/family participants, contact parents, receive curriculum and other materials, arrange for training, etc.
- » Take the online training before beginning the home visits. The training is available on your schedule (start and stop as you go) and from the convenience of your home computer. The material includes a comprehensive overview of the Countdown to Kindergarten curriculum – which is aligned with current SC Kindergarten Learning Standards, guidance on home visitation, information on the importance of resiliency to support children, families, and yourselves, etc.
- » During Summer 2020, provide the home visits (5 for each family) and final school orientation/celebration at your school.
  - Home visits follow the Countdown to Kindergarten curriculum but allow for flexibility based on your perception of the child's and his/her family's needs.
  - You earn \$32 for each hour-long home visit.
  - You earn \$32 for each family's school orientation/celebration (TIP: Hold one school orientation for all participants; the children and families are introduced to one another and you still earn \$32 per family!)
  - Additional payment for mileage to the families' homes is available. Talk to your school or First Steps Partnership for specific instructions.
- » Tell us what you think! After your visits, you will be required to complete a brief online survey to give us feedback on the Countdown to Kindergarten program and how it benefited your teaching.

## CONTACT INFO

