



FAMILY SUCCESS ALLIANCE

Strengthening the pipeline of success for children and families in Orange County

ISSUE 2 - March 2016



Updates & Events

Focus on past and future news, events, and updates

Resources & Tips

Helpful/practical information

Spotlight

Highlighting FSA families and partner organizations

About the Family Success Alliance

We are a group of caring and proactive community members, organizations, and local government agencies working together to ensure children in Orange County, whose families struggle to make ends meet, have the opportunity for a healthy, safe, and productive life.

We are strengthening the pipeline of success for children from cradle-to-college and career.



Meet our Zone Navigators

by Meredith McMonigle, Program Coordinator
Family Success Alliance

A unique feature of the Family Success Alliance is our zone navigator program.

The Navigator program provides peer social supports, resources and coaching to FSA parents and caregivers to create a culture of academic achievement for children, with the long-term goal of ensuring that our children are ready for college and a career.



Our navigators are natural leaders and change agents who understand the strengths and struggles of families trying to make ends meet. They provide important links between families, our FSA community providers and local government agencies. Learn more about each navigator by reading their bios [here](#).

In their words:

Click on the name of each Zone Navigator for a short video response to the questions "Why did you want to be a Zone Navigator?" and "What is a recent success you have seen through FSA?"

[Angela](#), Zone 4

[Alizarina](#), Zone 4

[Mariela](#), Zone 6

[Beatrice](#), Zone 6

Updates & Events

Mark your calendars

Camps

[Girl Scouts of North Carolina Coastal Pines Summer Camps](#)

FSA partner, Girl Scouts of North Carolina Coastal Pines, offers fabulous day and residential summer camps. Scholarships are available. This is a great opportunity for your daughter to have fun and be a girl leader.

[Click here](#) for more information.

[Orange County KidsPlex Summer Camp](#)



- **Registration is open!**

- Half-day and full-day options available
- Day camps and weeklong camps
- Open to rising Kindergarteners and up
- Three separate weeks of Preschool Camp
- Low base price with a menu of add-on options
- Not just childcare! Options include learn to swim, learn to skate, fitness classes, build leadership skills, and more.
- 12 weeks of camp beginning June 6th
- Specialty Camps such as Bricks4Kids, Pokemon, and Safe Sitter
- Sportsplex Leadership Academy for rising 6th-10th graders
- ***Check out our Summer Camp Brochure***



Events

Free Tax Preparation

Mondays between February 8 - April 11 - FSA partner organization, Compass Center, is partnering with Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) to provide FREE federal and state tax preparation to low-to-moderate income individuals and families who meet eligibility guidelines.

Location: Chapel Hill Public Library

Time: 9:00AM - 4:00PM

Appointments Required

To schedule an appointment ***click here*** or call (919) 968-4610

If needed, ask about interpretation availability.

Citizenship Classes

Ongoing - Orange Literacy offers free citizenship classes to legal, permanent residents of the U.S. who will be applying for citizenship soon. For more information contact Orange Literacy at 919-914-6153 or ewood@orangeliteracy.org

Clases de Ciudadanía ¡Gratis!

Los estudiantes deben ser residentes legales permanentes (tarjeta verde) y solicitando para la ciudadanía dentro de poco. ¿Interesado? Llame o envíe correo electrónico

Orange Literacy: 919-914-6153 ewood@orangeliteracy.org

Career Explorers: Summer Youth Employment Program

Ongoing - The Family Success Alliance proudly sponsors EmPOWERment's summer youth employment program, Career Explorers. Through an application and interview process the program hires youth ages 16 to 21 that live in Zones 4 and 6. The program pairs local business owners with youth to create meaningful summer work opportunities. We are looking for companies looking to hire good employees and young people that are ready to work for a good employer. More details about the program can be found on the EmPOWERment website www.empowermentinc-nc.org or by email: empowermentincnc@gmail.com.

Faith ID Registration

March 19 - The next Faith ID drive will be held on Saturday, March 19th beginning at 7:30AM at St. Thomas More in Chapel Hill. 200 Faith ID's will be given.

Writers for Readers

April 5 - Orange Literacy invites you to their 9th annual Writers for Readers Book and Author Event.

About the event: Put four mystery and thriller writers together in a room and there's bound to be a little drama, a lot of intrigue and a few red herrings. Join us on April 5th for a conversation moderated by Daniel Wallace



(author of *The Cat's Pajamas*) with special guests #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Sandra Brown (author of *Friction*) and Tim Johnston (author of *Descent*), along with two authors to be revealed soon. Our panelists will explore the whos, whats, whys and hows of great suspense writing.

Price: \$20

Location: The Friday Center, 100 Friday Center Drive, Chapel Hill

For more information [click here](#)



Job and Rsource Fair

April 6 - Job seekers are encouraged to print your resume, dress for success and prepare to make a positive first impression with more than 75 potential employers.

Location: Hillsborough Commons, 113 Mayo Street, Hillsborough

Time: 10:00AM - 2:00PM

Orange County Government Resource Fair

April 8 - Orange County government agencies will be gathered to share the many resources and services available to the community.

Location: University Place (formerly University Mall) in Chapel Hill

Time: 10:00AM - 2:00PM

Race Forward: On the Move for Racial Justice 5K Run/ 2.2 mile walk - Fundraiser

April 9 - *Let us know if you want to walk with the FSA*

team. Downtown Durham will come alive with runners, walkers, musicians and community activists showing their commitment to racial justice on Saturday, April 9, during the 5K Race Forward run/2.2 mile solidarity walk. The goal of the walk is to support racial justice organizing in the Triangle.

Partnering with E.K. Powe Elementary, the race's course will wind its way through Old West Durham, Walltown and Trinity Park, circling Duke East Campus and guiding runners and walkers through areas of the city tied to its racial history.

[Click here](#) to learn more about the race/walk.



Family Play Days

April 16

Event: **Gateway Family Play Day**

Date: Saturday April 16, 2016

Time: 11:00AM – 1:00PM

Location: Gateway Village Apartments - 401 Lakeside Dr. Hillsborough

Come enjoy food, entertainment, dental screenings and activities for the whole family.

Estes Park Family Play Day

Date: Saturday April 16, 2016

Time: 2:00PM – 5:00PM

Location: Estes Park Apartments - 306 Estes Dr. Ext, Carrboro

Come engage in various safety activities while enjoying food, entertainment and activities for the whole family.

Tasting Local: Celebrating Families - Fundraiser

April 30 - FSA partner, KidScope is hosting a fundraiser to benefit their early intervention and family support services to local children and families in need. You are invited to join them for delicious food, silent and live auctions, local music, and a raffle with door prizes.

Time: 6:00PM - 8:30PM

Location: Extraordinary Ventures, Chapel Hill

Tickets: \$40

[Click here](#) to learn more.

Kindergarten Readiness

We are busily planning our summer kindergarten readiness programs. This year we will be offering kindergarten readiness at New Hope Elementary and Carrboro Elementary in July. Registration will begin in May. Please direct any questions to [Meredith McMonigle](#) or (919) 245-2071.



Volunteers Needed

Many FSA partner organizations rely on volunteers. Currently, we know that the need for mentors is especially high with the following organizations:

- [Volunteers for Youth](#)
- [Compass Center for Women and Families](#)
- [Orange Literacy](#)

Why does mentoring matter? According to a study by Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Canada, children with mentors were more confident and had fewer behavioral problems. In general, young people showed increased belief in their abilities to succeed in school and felt less anxiety related to peer pressure.

Mentoring is particularly beneficial to disadvantaged teens. A study conducted by NC State University showed that youth from disadvantaged backgrounds are twice as likely to attend college when they have a mentor.

Consider being a mentor for kids in our community.

Note: There is an especially high need for Spanish speaking mentors.

Data source: [Psychology Today](#)

Resources & Tips

Helpful Hint



To promote your child's emotional well-being create a routine of screen-free times and screen-free days where ALL screens are off and away and fill that time with family fun and relaxation.

Try family stretching or exercises, family dance time, family sing-a-long or go outside and play time!

Healthy Cooking on a Budget

Roast Chicken with Potatoes and Butternut Squash

Makes: 4 servings

Total Cost: Approximately \$6.48

Cost per Serving: \$1.62



Source: www.myrecipes.com

Ingredients:

- 2 Tbsp minced garlic, divided
- 1 tsp salt, divided
- 3/4 tsp freshly ground black pepper, divided
- 1/2 tsp dried, rubbed sage
- 1 (3 1/2 pound) roasting chicken
- Cooking spray
- 12 ounces red potatoes, cut into wedges
- 1 1/2 cups cubed, peeled butternut squash (about 8 ounces)
- 2 Tbsp butter, melted



Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 400°.
2. Combine 1 1/2 tablespoons garlic, 1/2 teaspoon salt, 1/2 teaspoon pepper, and sage in a small bowl.
3. Remove and discard giblets and neck from chicken.
4. Starting at neck cavity, loosen skin from breast and drumsticks by inserting fingers, gently pushing between skin and meat. Lift wing tips up and over back; tuck under chicken.
5. Rub garlic mixture under loosened skin.
6. Place chicken, breast side up, on rack of a broiler pan coated with cooking spray.
7. Place rack in broiler pan.
8. Combine potatoes, squash, butter, 1 1/2 teaspoons garlic, 1/2 teaspoon salt, and 1/4 teaspoon pepper. Arrange vegetable mixture around chicken.
9. Bake at 400° for 1 hour or until a thermometer inserted into meaty part of thigh registers 165°.
10. Let stand 10 minutes.
11. Discard skin

Family Spotlight

Family members:

Mom - Alecia
 Kids - Jeremiah, 2nd grade
 Tre - Kindergarten

Dreams for my children:

Alecia hopes her sons grow up to be good citizens, who are successful in school and receive as much post-secondary education as they can.



Goals we are working on as a family:

Alecia is working hard to get her nursing degree and support her family. As a family, they are working on improving her sons' literacy skills.

Fun fact:



The family enjoys the new fitness craze called CIZE. Alecia and her sons spend time doing the dances and being active together.

Partner Organization Spotlight



About Orange Literacy: Orange Literacy is an independent, community-based, volunteer-driven organization dedicated to making literacy available to all. They provide free, individualized literacy instruction to adults who would like to improve their reading, writing, basic math, or English language skills.

Orange Literacy works at a variety of locations throughout Orange County, including: El Centro Hispano, The Seymour Center, UNC Chapel Hill, UNC Hospitals, Efland-Cheeks Elementary School, New Hope Elementary School, Grady Brown Elementary School, the Orange Correctional Center, and their offices in Carr Mill Mall. Programs include:

- ABE/ GED
- English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)
- Family Literacy
- Creative Writing Workshops
- Peer-to-peer tutoring in shelters (Sheltered Learning)

[Click here](#) to learn more about Orange Literacy.



About Compass Center: The Compass Center for Women and Families helps individuals and families prevent and end domestic violence and become self-sufficient.

Services include:

- Domestic violence crisis services
- Career and financial education
- Assistance with legal resources
- Support Groups
- Adolescent empowerment programs

[Click here](#) to learn more about Compass Center

Ways To Get Involved

- Volunteer with one of our partner organization or with the schools
- There is a high need for mentors with our partner agencies, there is an especially high need for Spanish speakers
- Make a tax deductible donation via the Orange County **Community Giving Fund**, look for and select the Family Success Alliance fund
- Be part of our online community on **Facebook** and **Twitter**

Contacts:

Program Coordinator:

Meredith McMonigle - (919) 245-2071 or mmcmonigle@orangecountync.gov

Zone 4 Navigators

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