Legislators To Recognize Two Lehigh Valley Children's Centers Inc. Sites Move-up To High Quality

By Jan Schwartz

CARBON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA — On Friday, September 29, 2023 state Senator David Argall (R-District 29), along with state Representative Doyle Heffley (R-District 122) will present staff at Lehigh Valley Children's Centers Inc. certificates recognizing two of their centers in Carbon County achieving the highest quality designation in the state, a Keystone STAR 4.







The legislators will also read to a classroom of Pre-K Counts

students. The students at these sites have families earning less than 300 percent of the federal poverty level. Through the PA Pre-K Counts grants, the preschool education offered by Lehigh Valley Children's Centers Inc. comes at no cost to qualifying families.

Start Strong PA launched in 2019 to support healthy child development, working families, and the economy by increasing access to and affordability of high-quality child care programs for young children. Learn more at www.startstrongpa.org

Pre-K for PA is an issue campaign supported by individuals and organizations across Pennsylvania who believe that investing in our children is the right choice and an



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urgent necessity. Our vision is that every 3- and 4-year-old in Pennsylvania will have access to high-quality pre-k. We will not endorse nor oppose candidates, but rather we will advocate on behalf of this vision for Pennsylvania's children, schools and communities. For more information www.prekforpa.org.

Free Basic Construction Methods & Operations Training for Northampton County Residents

By Brittney Waylen

EASTON - County Executive Lamont G. McClure and Northampton Community College (NCC) announce that NCC will be providing free training for Northampton County residents to enhance the skills of current home construction employees or prepare new employees for employment, thanks to a grant provided by the Northampton County Department of Economic Development.

The training program will include hands-on instruction in basic construction methods and operations, including hand and power tools, framing and applications of trim, drywall and wall repairs, door and window installation, ladder and scaffolding safety, and building code awareness.

"Concern for safety on the job has been one of the hallmarks of my Administration. We are so fortunate to have an institution of higher learning like NCC to partner with to make sure we can continue to realize that vision in Northampton County," said County Executive Lamont G. McClure.

Candidates successfully completing the program will earn an OSHA 10-Hour Outreach Training for Construction card. An employer day will also be included so participants will have the opportunity to network and interview with potential employers. Interested participants must attend a Mandatory Information Session on Wednesday, Oct. 4, 2023, 10-11am or 2-3pm at the Fowler Family Southside Center, Room 103. The 6-week training program will be held Monday-Thursday, Oct. 23 - Dec. 7, 2023, from 9am-4pm.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth appropriated federal funds from the COVID-19 Response Restricted Account to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development for the Whole-Home Repairs Program. The Whole-Home Repairs Program will provide funding for Northampton County homeowners to address habitability and safety concerns, provide measures to improve energy or water efficiency, and make units accessible for individuals with disabilities in owner-occupied, primary residences. Responsibilities of an approved governmental entity under the grant agreement must invest in workforce development programs that will connect trainees to jobs through committed employer partnerships related to improving the habitability and performance of homes.

Northampton County residents interested in registering should email Heather Ehritz at hehritz@northampton.edu for the information session and questions. Participants will be qualified once the requirements are met and following the interview process.