

Sandbox Newsletter

Erin Newcomb

Southern Pines Director

As Director, it is my pleasure to welcome everyone back for another great year at SCC! I am so delighted that you are part of our amazing learning community. I welcome and value your positive energy and dedication to excellence in education, and I look forward to working with you and your children. All signs point to another incredible and productive school year. Our skilled and devoted staff have been planning and preparing for your child(ren).

I grew up in Florida and graduated from Florida State in 2001. I received my Master's from ECU in 2012 in Special Education. I taught kindergarten and 1st grade before joining SCC in 2006. I taught in a preschool classroom here until I became Director in 2014. I have two children, Ty, who is entering 10th grade, and Taylor, who will be in 9th grade this year at PHS. When time permits, I enjoy yoga and traveling. It remains an honor and privilege to serve as your Director. Please stop by and say hello. Together, I know we will make this school year one of growth and achievement for all children.



Jennifer Decker

Rockingham Director

Hello, and welcome to another school year at SCC. I look forward to the year ahead and getting to know each family individually. We are truly honored that you have chosen us to be a part of your child's early education experience.

I currently live in Chatham County with my fiancé and our two dogs and two cats. In my free time, I enjoy traveling with my family.

I began my career in education as a Teacher Assistant with Asheboro City Schools. During this time, I attended Greensboro College, where I received my BA in Birth-Kindergarten Education. I accepted a lead teacher position with Chatham Child Development Center (CCDC) in August 2009. CCDC is a Developmental Day Center similar to SCC. I remained with CCDC as a lead teacher until 2015, when I became the Director. I stayed in that position until recently, when I accepted the role of Program Director at SCC.

I know that together we will have a fantastic and successful school year. Please stop by and say hello anytime.

Dr. Kim Bullard

CEO

Hello Parents,

I would like to welcome everyone to the new school year and share some information about Sandhills Children's Center and our administrative team. I hope that you find this information interesting and useful.

I received my undergraduate in Elementary Education and have taught Kindergarten, Fourth grade, and Exceptional Children. I received my Master's in School Administration and my Doctorate in Educational Leadership with a concentration in Prek-12 administration. I have served as an Assistant Principal, Principal, and Director for Exceptional Children's Services with Moore County Schools. I retired from the school system when I accepted the CEO position at the Center. My husband and I have two sons, Alex and Neil. Alex is a Project Manager with an environmental engineering firm in Raleigh, and Neil is a senior at ECU.

I am thrilled to be part of an organization that's mission is to provide high-quality services for children with and without disabilities. Our teachers and therapists are dedicated to ensuring every child's success. It is fantastic to see the progress that our children can achieve daily.

Sandhills Children's Center is a 501 (c)3 private, non-profit organization governed by a volunteer Board of Directors. The 2022-2023 operating budget, approved by our board, is \$4,608,074.00. This is the total budget for the Southern Pines and Rockingham campuses. This budget covers care for approximately 132 children at the Southern Pines campus and approximately 104 children at the Rockingham campus. The center has 100 employees at this time.

Please know that my door is always open if you have suggestions or concerns. I am grateful that you have entrusted your child with Sandhills Children's Center and look forward to getting to know you and your child. I know that it will be a fantastic year!

Kelly Altman

Billing, Southern Pines

I've been working at Sandhills Children's Center for nine years. I have been associated with this beautiful establishment since 1990 when my son began attending the developmental day program. I feel fortunate to work in such a warm and caring environment and enjoy seeing the kids daily.

I received my degree in Business Administration from UNC-Charlotte and have worked in different business-related fields since graduating.

As we begin this new school year and welcome new families, don't hesitate to contact me with any billing questions.

Families enrolled in **Child Care Aware**, the military subsidy program, please note the renewal date on your certificate, so there is no lapse in payments. I am looking forward to a great year!

Robin Duff

Communications and Events Manager

I've been at Sandhills Children's Center since October 2014 and in my current position since January 2022. I hold a Bachelor of Arts in public relations from Campbell University.

As communications and events manager, I am responsible for external communications between the Center and various media outlets and serve as the primary grant writer. I also plan and execute the fundraising events that benefit the Center. Sponsors, volunteers, and designers are wanted for the 26th Annual Festival of Trees on November 16-20 at The Carolina Hotel in Pinehurst. Visit the website for more information – www.FestivalofTrees.com.

Victoria Landers

Social Media Strategist and Events Assistant

I started at SCC this past May, and I am so thankful for how the staff and students have welcomed me! I graduated from UNCG in 2020 with a BFA in Visual Arts and have worked with local nonprofits and the Moore County school system for the past three years.

My job is to strengthen the ties between our community and SCC through social platforms and printed media. I also assist Robin with various tasks for fundraising events. I work behind the scenes but am always here to help with anything I can. I am excited about what this new school year will bring!

Cassie Staufenberger

Auxiliary Service Manager

I have been at Sandhills Children's Center for seven years and in my current position as Auxiliary Services Manager since January 2019.

One of my duties is to manage the food program. I will send out food program forms that we have to update annually. Please return them promptly.

Please let me know if you need a fob, and I can get one. They are 10 dollars each. If anyone is having trouble with their fob, please let me know so I can fix them. Thank you!

I hope everyone has a beautiful school year.

Cathy Pierce

Enrollment

Four years at SCC -where has the time gone? It's been such a pleasure witnessing the growth and development of all the children we can serve. I received my master's in early childhood education from UNC-G and am thrilled to use it to benefit SCC. On a personal note, I am the proud grandmother to 4 (6 months - 4 years) and spend whatever time we are not with them on the golf course.

A large portion of my job involves record-keeping for the students. Please review your information in Brightwheel to ensure that we have the most updated information - it is critical that all persons authorized to pick up your child in your absence be documented in Brightwheel. Please send me updated copies of your child's records as they receive updated immunizations as required by the state. At this time, Covid and Flu shots are not tracked by our licensing division.

Thanks to you all for entrusting their care to us! As I continue to work most days remotely, feel free to contact me via phone, email, text, or Brightwheel at any time.

Faye Quick

Assistant Director, Rockingham

I am the Assistant Director at the Rockingham Campus. I have an associate degree in Early Childhood Education from Richmond Community College. I have worked for Sandhills Children's Center since 2013. I started my career as a Lead Teacher in the one-year-old room and moved to the two-year-old classroom before moving to the front office in 2016.

My job at the center includes working with NC Fast, Smart Start, and QuickBooks, collecting immunization records, substitute scheduling, and child enrollment. My job can sometimes be challenging, but I enjoy a challenge.

If I can help you with anything, call me at 910-997-7160.