



Southside Family Nurturing Center News

April is Occupational Therapy Month

SSFNC's early childhood education program includes various therapeutic interventions to address developmental delays early. Many children in our program receive occupational therapy (OT). SSFNC has two Occupational Therapists through RehabCare: Anna Hansmann and Kari Walderich. Anna, shares how OT helps children in our program. She says, "OT helps children improve their cognitive, physical, sensory and motor skills. This in turn enhances their self-esteem and sense of accomplishment. For children in our program, OT promotes functioning in everyday routines and activities of daily living such as self-care: dressing, eating, rest and sleep as well as play, education, and social participation. All of this promotes healthy development and overall growth." OT is just one of a number of therapeutic interventions SSFNC offers.

Staffing Updates: Goodbye, Congratulations, and Welcome!

We say goodbye to SSFNC's bilingual home visitor, **Lauren Hickman**, as she moves on to pursue graduate studies at St. Thomas. Laurant is well-loved by our Spanish speaking families and will be greatly missed. We wish her all the best.

Congratulations to **Ruby Machuca** who has accepted a promotion to the bilingual home visitor position open by Lauren's departure. Ruby has been an assistant preschool teacher at SSFNC for many years and she is a trusted and supportive advocate for families in our program. We are fortunate to have her fill this important role.

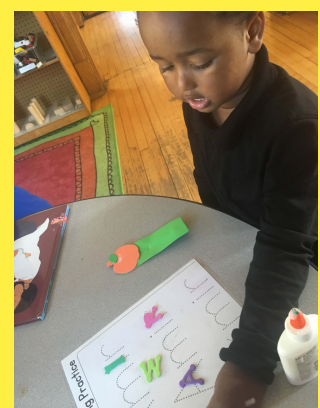
Welcome to **Rashann Goodwin** our new assistant toddler teacher. Rashann has many years of experience working as a teacher's aide at various childcare centers both as a high school

Save The Date!

SSFNC's 3rd Annual Fall Fundraiser at Surly Brewing!

Sunday, September 30th
at 5:30pm

Details forthcoming



student and throughout college. Rashann enjoys "being able to help young children learn new skills while being in a nurturing environment." He also says, "I am excited to be working for an organization that has been a staple in the community for decades. It was an honor to be asked to join the team." We are delighted to welcome Rashann to SSFNC!

Return on Investment for ECE

ECE advocate and friend of SSFNC, Art Rolnik, shares about the return on investment for assuring all children have access high-quality early learning. Read the [full article](#) in the StarTribune.



Your gift provides vital, dual generation support to families in the Phillips Community, including therapeutic early learning and intensive home visiting.

Donate needed supplies and materials for our classrooms from our [Amazon Wishlist](#).