

# Monthly Family Newsletter

## February 2022



### HAPPY BLACK HISTORY MONTH!

Black History Month, celebrated February of every year, is a fantastic opportunity to teach children about world history, social studies and modern politics. It is the celebration of Black history, contributions, and achievements. Families, this is a great opportunity to educate and honor the traditions of Black culture and history. Celebrate at home by watching a read along by black authors, illustrators, and readers on YouTube as a family, attend a local Black History virtual event, or watch an African American Film Series. We encourage you to engage and learn with us about traditions and black history.



### From Our Executive Director

JA'NEL JAMERSON

We are proud to recognize the many vital contributions Black Americans have made to U.S. history and culture during Black History Month. The continued national reckoning on racial equity and justice makes this year's Black History Month all the more relevant, as the spirit of activism in the face of oppression is central to the story of Black people in America. As we continue our work of preparing Flint's next generation of young and gifted leaders, we are taking time to honor the legacy of a few of our community's Black history-makers who paved the way. Be sure to follow our social media platforms to stay up-to-date on how our students and staff are celebrating Black History Month.

### Meet the Educare Family!

CHAIKA STRIBLING

Chaika Stribling is a Early Childhood Specialist at Educare Flint and has been with us for 4 years as of December 4th of 2021. She loves the color purple and her favorite book is Oh the Places You'll Go by Dr. Seuss. She loves any delicious food especially seafood, she loves lobster and crab legs with lots of lemon and a little butter. She has a deep passion for theater and loves all four seasons as they each bring something enjoyable to her life. If she has a superpower, it would be the ability to sense one's needs and state of emotion with the resources to fulfill them.

*"I love the familial environment. I have watched and experienced genuine care for everyone in the building. We really know how to come together to support not only our families, but also one another. You do not get that everywhere. I am grateful to have a work family who genuinely cares."*

### From Our Parent Navigator

KATY NUNN

While celebrating Black History Month, it's easy to notice a commonality among many of the amazing people we are celebrating, which is advocacy! Black History is full of powerhouse individuals who recognized the dire need for change and fought tirelessly for it.

As a parent and member of this community, what would you advocate for?

Consider joining our Parent Ambassador cohort where some of our core topics of learning include advocacy & leadership, racial equity & inclusion, and civics. Come learn the tools that will help you effectively advocate for what's important to you!

**If you're ready to get started, scan the QR code to take you to the application now.**



EDUCARE FLINT

1000 Gladwyn, Flint, MI 48504 | 810-600-5400 | [www.educareflint.org](http://www.educareflint.org)

©2020 Educare Flint. All rights reserved.



## Mark Your Calendars:



### Important Dates

- **February 3 Parent Café 9:30AM - 11:00AM**
- **February 11 & 18 Half Days**
- **February 10 - Market Pick-up**
- **February 22 Head Start Parent Policy Council Meeting 9:30AM - 11:30AM**
- **FAME from 930AM to 1030AM on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6PM to 7PM**

## From Our School Director

JODI RAMOS

What does your family do during the holidays? How important do you think it is to establish traditions for your family that become memories? Experts believe that healthy traditions are beneficial to children's health.

**Establishing family traditions can be beneficial to families for a variety of reasons:**



• **Traditions give children a sense of security**

• **Traditions build a bond between family members**

• **Traditions remind everyone they are connected to a bigger story**

• **Traditions are a strategic opportunity to communicate the value of family**

No matter how big or small your family traditions maybe, it is important for your family to establish some to create even more memories together. It is even if not more important to create traditions that are just between you and your kids. This can be how and when you say "I love you", how you spend your Saturday mornings, or what you do when you tuck your kids into bed at night. We encourage families to think about what traditions they can start implementing into their family's life such as making breakfast together as a family on the weekends, or doing something special for the holidays each year, as they can have a positive effect on your family and your child's health.

Scan this QR code to complete the health check survey each morning.



f in @EducareFlint

## From Our Family Engagement Coordinator

MIKE KILDEE

### Hello Educare Family!

Our country is very fortunate to have people of many different cultures and backgrounds giving us all an opportunity to experience traditions, music, literature, food and much more that has been passed down from generation to generation.

The month of February is designated as a time to celebrate the amazing contributions that Black Americans have made to benefit those of us here in the United States and around the world.

Please take the time to share with your children the stories of so many Black Americans who have made our country a better place for everyone through their hard work and sacrifice.

Also, you may have stories within your own family that will teach children how to respect themselves and others through a better understanding of our history.

The internet is a great resource for learning about the contributions Black Americans have made to our country. A fun and meaningful activity for your family during February is to search the internet for an individual who you would like to learn about as a family.

**Examples could be:**

- **Ruby Bridges**
- **Frederick Douglass**
- **Rosa Parks**
- **Maya Angelou**
- **Martin Luther King**
- **President Barack Obama**

**... and many, many more!**



**THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING US TO BE A PART OF YOUR FAMILY!**