



Family Care

Relationships

May 2025

Support/ Resources

Welcome to the May Family Care Newsletter!

We welcome all new and current members of the Fannin County Family Care Program! If you are a grandparent caring for your grandchildren, any other non-biological child, or relatives in your home, you may want to participate in the Fannin County Family Connection Family Care Program.

Family Care exists when relatives step up to raise children when their parents cannot care for them. If you find yourself in this situation and feel you need support, please join us every 2nd Thursday in the Meeting Room at FCFC at 1 pm.

It is a confidential and safe environment in which to share community resources and learn together through shared experiences. Sometimes it takes only a listening ear, and we at Family Care are here for you.

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April was a busy month at Fannin County Family Connection Family Care Program, beginning on April 2, 2025, with another trip to the Foster Care Support Foundation in Roswell, GA. 13 children and 11 adults participated, renting another 15-person van in addition to our two vans. Once again, our kids were able to replenish their Spring wardrobes, toys, and books. Following lunch at Chick-fil-A, we returned safely to Blue Ridge at 4 pm, a tired but happy group.



Our monthly Family Care Support Meeting was held on April 1, 2025. Special guests Stacie Hamlin, McKenzie Harris, and Sally Masters gave a program on Fostering Fannin. Fostering Fannin The child welfare system in our community serves and supports children in Foster Care and Kinship Care, and those at risk of entering the child welfare system in our community. Fostering Fannin will be collaborating with Fannin's Family Care Program. Fostering Fannin has also provided half of the cost of a trumpet for one of our Foster kids to help with the price of a trumpet.

Some of their current projects are:
--providing safety equipment for children

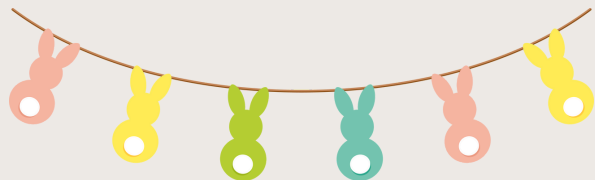
--providing birthday funds for every Foster child

--summer camp sponsorships

--meeting the needs of children that are not met by the state

--school supply donations

--dance lesson assistance

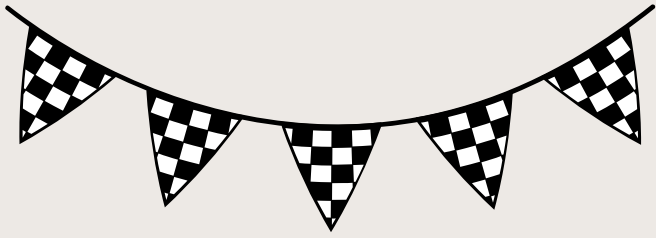


Gaitway Farm

On Saturday, April 19, 2025, Gaitway Farms in Morganton, GA, hosted the Fannin County Family Connections Family Care group for a fun afternoon of farm events. This is the second year they have sponsored this event, and words can't express our appreciation. Including grandparents, staff, and 13 kids, we had a total of 26 participants. We hardly had anything to do except show up. A hot dog, a chip, and a cookie provided the kids' lunch, and a delicious Chicken Salad with balsamic vinaigrette for the grandparents and adults to eat. Chicken coop and chickens were provided for the kids to visit, and one of the stars of the show, Duke the Donkey! His job was to stand still while the kids painted him with non-toxic paint. He even had a red mohawk/mane painted on with non-toxic paint. The horses were also a highlight, especially the laughing one.

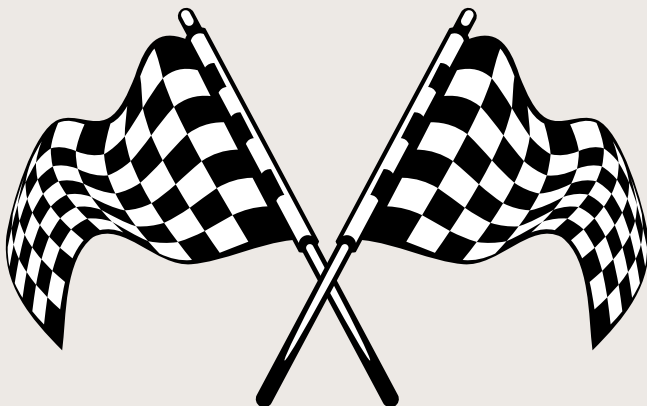
Watching our kids racing from the barn to go Egg hunting was like seeing the beginning of the Kentucky Derby. It was great! IT WAS A VERY CHOCOLATEY DAY!!





Soap Box Derby

There was a great turnout for the Annual Blue Ridge Soap Box Derby on Saturday, April 26, 2025. 9:00 am brought hundreds of spectators to support their favorite drivers! Admission was free, as were the food, drinks, and games offered. Sixty-three drivers were signed up to participate, and around 40 sponsors made the races possible. The Marine Corps grilled hot dogs and kept the ice cream dilly bars coming. Hot dogs and ice cream were donated by Dairy Cream. Powerade and water were donated. Cotton Candy, popcorn, spin art, and corn hole were a few more of the offerings. There was an impressive showing of law enforcement vehicles present. The fire department provided a safe "Touch-a-Truck" where kids could learn about fire safety.



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