

# Classroom Training for Providers Non-partisan Voting Project

Sept. 10, 2020

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MISSISSIPPI LOW-INCOME CHILD CARE INITIATIVE

# Enhancing the learning environment (1)

- Touching lives: children, parents, staff and community
- Theme building

Participants will learn how to "effect change" by bringing the voting concept into the childcare classroom.

1. Provide fun, age-appropriate activities that will help children gain an understanding of how the voting process works.
2. Create a classroom environment where children can learn about the voting process naturally through their daily activities while developing social/emotional, cognitive, and language skills.
3. Provide opportunities for parents to aid their child's discovery about voting by providing them with opportunities for active participation in an activity with the child.
4. Educate parents about child care issues and provide them with opportunities for developing skills that will help them become effective advocates for their children.



# Enhancing the learning environment (2)

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Theme: Voting**

## Learning Center Activities

### Music & Movement:

1. Vote for Me by the Children of Selma
2. November 3<sup>rd</sup> is Election Day (Tune: London Bridge Is Falling Down)
3. Red, White, Blue (Freeze) – Teacher turning in her own space saying red light, white light, blue light until she says freeze.
4. If You're Going to Vote Today Clap Your Hands (Tune: If You're Happy and You Know It Clap Your Hands)
5. We're Driving to the Voting Poll (Tune: Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush)
6. Cast Your Vote and Drop It In (Tune: London Bridge Is Falling Down)
7. Get Out and Vote for The Best Plan (Tune: Reach Out and Touch Somebody's Hand)
8. Jump and Say Letter Recognition (Teacher holds up letters associated with voting. Child jumps in place; "V is for vote.")
9. People Voting (Tune: Are You Sleeping)
10. Vote for Me (Tune: Are You Sleeping)

### Books:

1. Otto Runs For President by Rosemary Wells; Voting vocabulary word recognition.
2. Max for President by Jarrett J. Krosoczka; Voting vocabulary word recognition.
3. The Day Gogo Went to Vote by Elinor Batezat Sisulu
4. Homemade Book: Look for pictures to go along with the story pages. Put them together to make a book.

### Math/Manipulative:

1. Cut and paste family read along book
2. Voting memory game; Counting stars.
3. Vote and Tally: Favorite color, food, letters in child's first name, number of family members

### Art:

Create American flag. Draw self-portraits on the front of construction paper card for the handprint poem. Red, white and blue art. Decorate voting booth/table. Creative art.

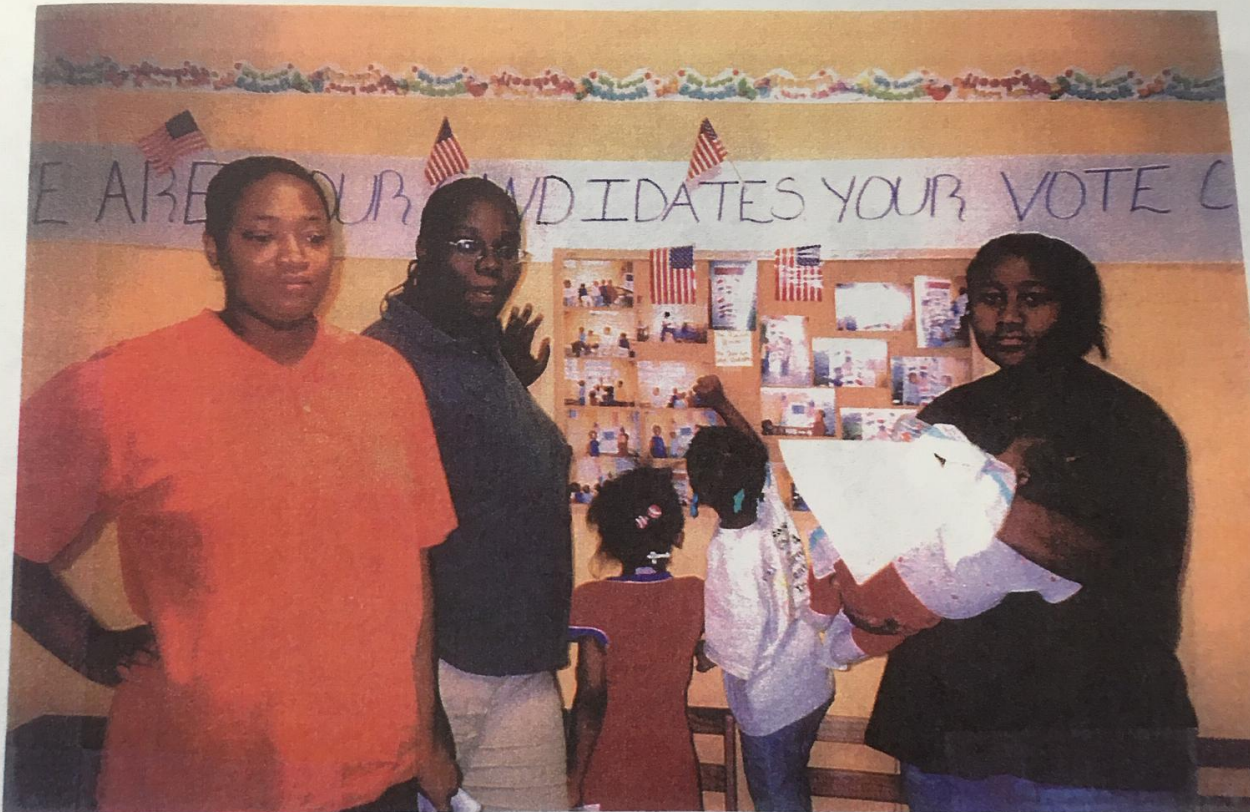
# Story: The Day The White House Turned Pink

## **The Day That the White House Turned Pink**



# Parent Engagement

## PARENT ENGAGEMENT



A child shares the bulletin board display of the children candidates with a parent & care giver. Slogan: "Show Up, Show Out! Your Vote Count!"

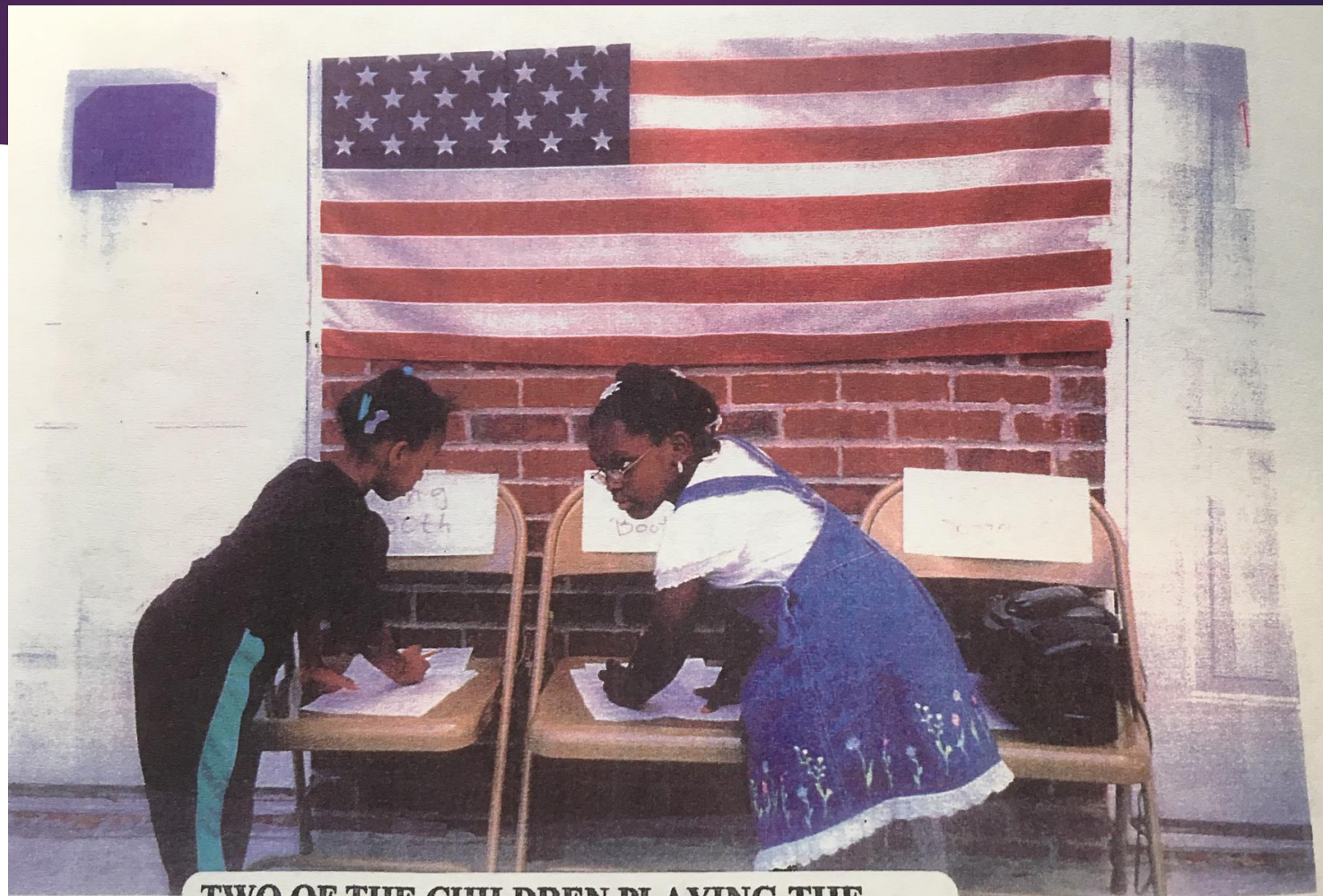


A parent is casting her vote at the parent meeting. The meeting was hosted by the staff and children the night before the election.

# Parent Engagement

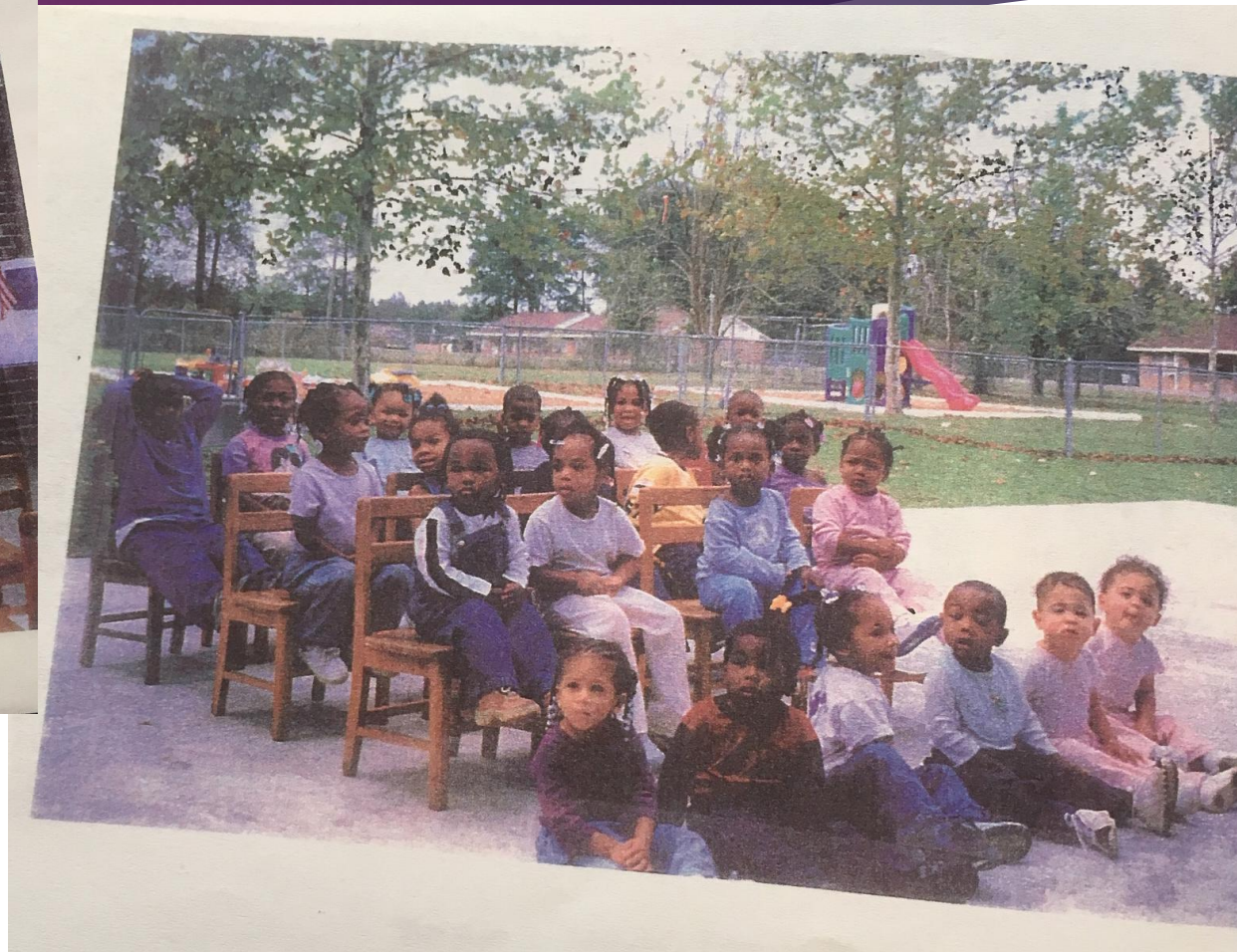
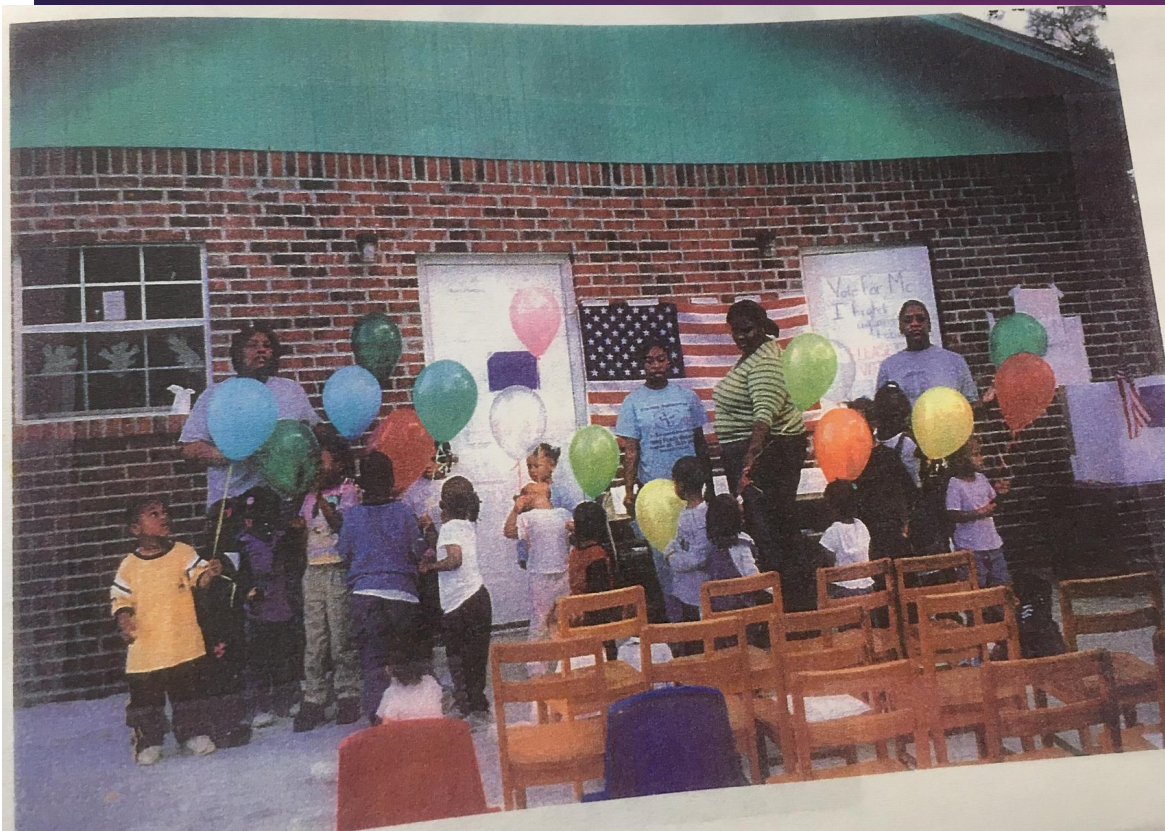


# Dramatic Play



**TWO OF THE CHILDREN PLAYING THE  
ROLE OF CANDIDATES CAST THEIR VOTE  
AT THE “mock” VOTING PRECINCT.**

# Campaign After-Party & Celebration





# Parent Activities (1)

## Parent Engagement Events

**Goal: To provide opportunities for parents to aid in their child's discovery about voting by providing them with opportunities for active participation in center activities with their children. To educate parents about child care issues and provide them with opportunities for developing skills that will enable them to become effective advocates for their children. October 5<sup>th</sup> is the deadline to get people registered for the election.**

### **Get Out The Vote Drive Through Registration – September 22, 2020**

- Host a community-wide voter registration drive via the center's driveway or street if city permits.
- Contact your local city official to get permission to block off the street to your child care center.
- Contact your local radio and television stations to announce which Saturday, date and time frame that the drive through voter registration will happen at your center.
- Get volunteers that are registered voters to assist in getting people registered.
- Have masks and sanitizer on hand.
- Have bottled water available.
- Create **"VOTE for ME"** refrigerator magnetic sign.

### **Child Care Matters Post Cards For Parents – September 8 – 30, 2020**

- Provide post cards to parents to write to family and friends reminding them to register and vote using social distancing standards. (Provide stamped post cards for anyone willing to write at least 3 cards at the center.)
- Show appreciation of parents for being advocates for children.
- Provider take registrations applications to local Circuit Clerk's Office.

### **Child Care Matters Cell Phones for Child Care Campaign -September 8 – 30, 2020**

- Set up phone tree parent partners in each classroom. (2 parents at each end of the table six feet apart)
- Encourage parents who are not able to come in to make calls from home.
- Set up phone tree for employees to make calls from home.

# Parent Activities (2)

## **Child Care Matters Across The State Campaign (Outside Activity) October 24, 2020**

- Host a “Child Care Matters” Awareness Campaign.
- Invite the media, parents to share their experiences, and advocate for children, using social distancing safety practices.
- Solicit parents that would be willing to share their story about the ways affordable child care help them to be able to work & the difference it makes in the lives of their children.
- Develop and implement the plan of action.

## **Parent Promise Campaign – November 2, 2020 (Why vote? The issues)**

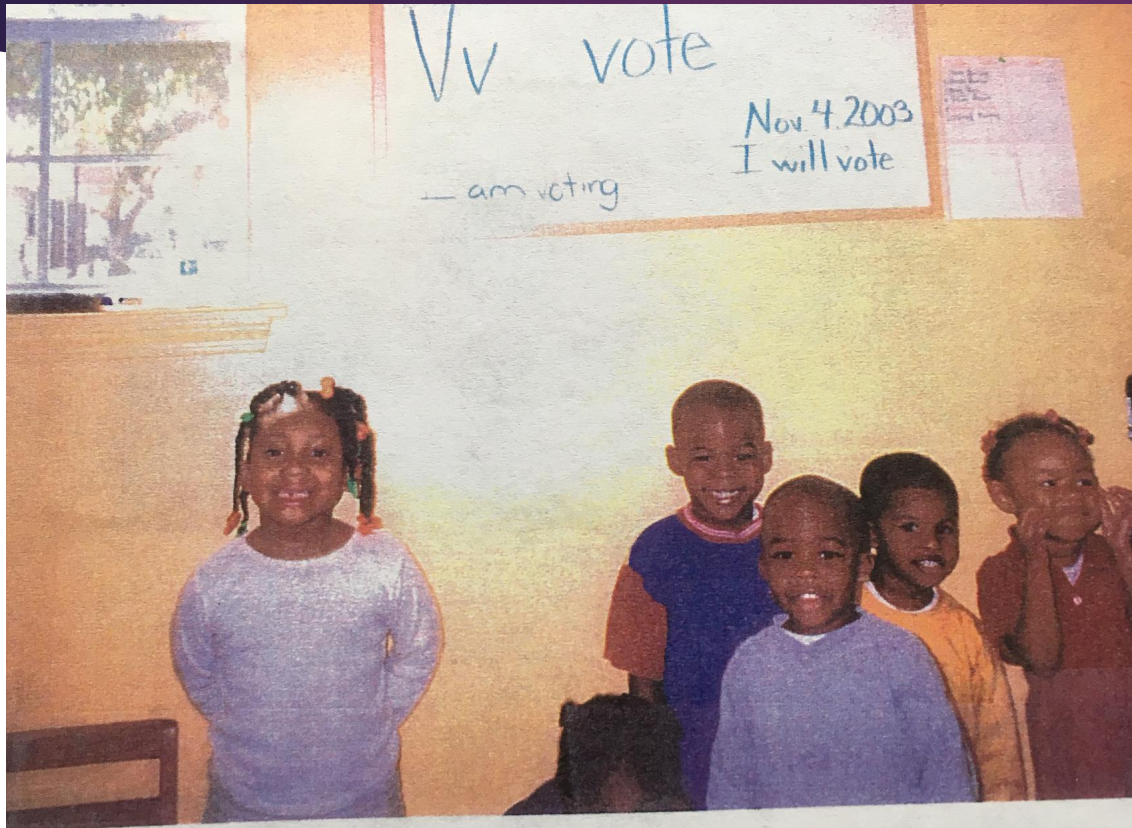
- Set up voting booths and ballot boxes outside or in a classroom where a parent and child can cast a vote.
- Allow each child to present their parent with the magnetic handprint poem and “I Promise to Vote” sticker.
- Create “**I Promise to Vote**” stickers and allow child to draw a **self-portrait** on the back of the **handprint**.
- Advise parents to take older children with them to vote Tuesday. Provide a treat for the children.

### **Handprint Poem**

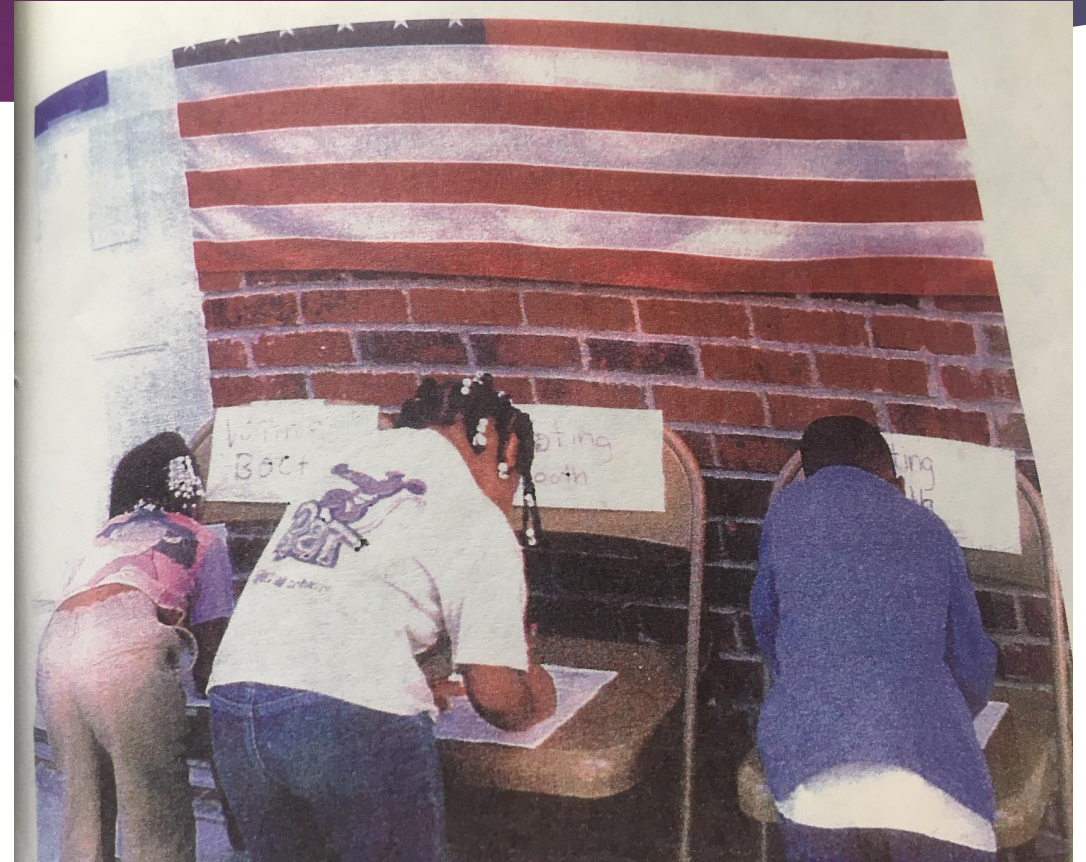
Dear Mom,  
I’m giving you my handprint  
Because I am so small  
To remind you to go “vote for me”  
On election day this fall.

Your vote is very important  
And it counts in so many ways  
But most of all it helps you pay  
For my meals and child care each day.

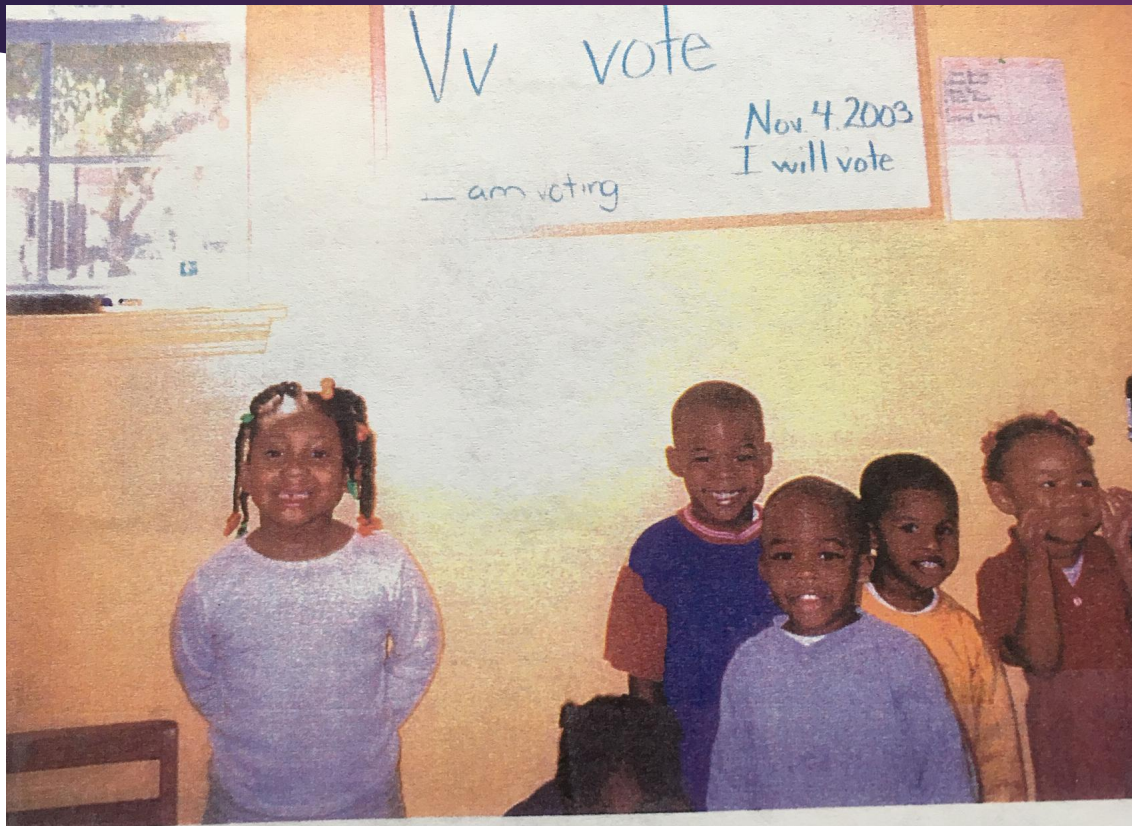
# V is for Vote: Engaging the children



The letter "V" took on a new meaning for children at the center this year.  
**"V" IS FOR VOTE!**



# V is for Vote: Engaging the children (2)



**The letter “V” took on a new meaning for children at the center this year.  
“V”IS FOR VOTE!**

Breaking the cycle of voter apathy must be **intentional**. Children must see us **valuing** our **role and voice** in the political process so they can grow up valuing their own role and voice in the political process. Some might ask, “why should we be concerned with introducing the voting concept to children at such an early age?” The answer is simple – children begin to emulate behaviors of significant adults at an early age. Much of what children see, hear and observe they internalize and except as their own, (*More Is Caught Than Taught*). Exposing children to the voting process on a level they can understand increase our chances of ridding our communities of “voter apathy.”

# Song: Voting is your responsibility

## **Voting Is Your Responsibility**

*Soloist: Marcus Fuller*

I'm just a little child you say  
I don't know what's going on in the world today  
But when I see the little children cry  
I have to ask the reason why.

I would like to bring about a change  
But I'm too young to play the voting game  
Won't someone please hear my plea  
And go to the polls and vote for me.

I'm crying mother, father take a stand  
Vote for me until I can  
Sister, brother take my hand  
Vote for me until I can  
Teacher, doctor, preacher man  
Vote for me until I can

Voting is more than a right you see  
Voting is your responsibility

Voting is more than a right you see  
Voting is your responsibility to me.

# Voting Project Classroom Recap

- Recording will be sent out via email
- Learn more about classroom voting engagement:  
Jearlean's Contact Info:  
(228) 234-3343  
[josborne@mschildcare.org](mailto:josborne@mschildcare.org)
- Roberta's project update:
  - # of centers participating
  - # of packets mailed out
  - Weekly flyers for parents

# Voting Project Stats

- **154 Child Care Centers** (Members of the Child Care Leadership Team) were called by 8 Student Interns from Tougaloo and JSU. Thanks to Jearlean Osborne who reached 42 of the Centers
- **6 Centers** indicated they had already Registered staff and parents to Vote
- **124 Centers** agreed to participate in the Non-Partisan Voting Project
- **4,175 Voter Registration Applications** were mailed to the participating Child Care Centers with a stamped envelope
- Thanks to all MLICCI staff who helped with getting out the Voter Registration Packages and 3 volunteers from the League of Women Voters.

# Voter Application

Last Day to send voter registration is Oct. 5!

Any questions?

Recording will be shared with you!

## MISSISSIPPI MAIL-IN VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION

- You can use this form to: register to vote in Mississippi or change your name and/or address.
- If you are registering for the first time in Mississippi and DO NOT have a Mississippi driver's license or social security number, you must send with this application a copy of a current and valid photo ID or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or other government document that shows your name and address in this county.
- An application for voter registration must be postmarked or hand delivered to the Circuit Clerk's Office located in the county of your voting residence no later than 30 days before an election.
- You may not register to vote if you have been convicted in a Mississippi state court of any of the following crimes: voter fraud, murder, rape, bribery, theft, arson, obtaining money or goods under false pretense, perjury, forgery, embezzlement, bigamy, armed robbery, extortion, felony bad check, felony shoplifting, larceny, receiving stolen property, robbery, timber larceny, unlawful taking of a motor vehicle, statutory rape, carjacking or larceny under lease or rental agreement.
- If you live in an area without house numbers or street names, please include a drawing of your location to enable us to identify your appropriate voting precinct.
- Photo ID Required to Vote:** You will be required to present an acceptable form of photo identification when you vote at your polling place on Election Day or by absentee ballot in your Circuit Clerk's Office, unless exempted by law. For more information, go to [www.MSVoterID.ms.gov](http://www.MSVoterID.ms.gov) or call (844) 678-6837.

<b>Check One:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> New Registration <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Information	Are you a citizen of the United States of America? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>			
	Will you be 18 years of age on or before Election Day? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>			
	<i>NOTE: If you checked 'No' in response to either of these questions, DO NOT complete this form.</i>			
	Would you like to serve as an Election Day poll worker? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>			
<b>Name:</b>	Last Name	First Name	MI	Suffix
<b>Physical Home Address (Where you live):</b>	Number and Street/Road/Dorm/Apt #			
	City	County	State: MS	Zip
<b>Mailing Address (If different from above):</b>	Street or Post Office Box			
	City	County	State:	Zip
<b>Date of Birth:</b>	Month	Day	Year	MS Driver's License Number or Last 4 Digits of your Social Security Number
<b>Phone #:</b>	Home ( )	Work ( )		
<b>Previous Registration:</b>	Name	Address		
	City	County	State:	Zip

### VOTER DECLARATION- Read and Sign

I swear/affirm, under penalty of perjury, that:

- I am a U.S. citizen.
- I will be 18 years of age on or before the next general Election Day.
- I am a resident of Mississippi, this county and this city for at least 30 days.
- I have not been adjudicated as mentally incompetent.
- I have never been convicted of voter fraud or any other disenfranchising crime OR, if convicted, I have had my voting rights restored as required by law.
- The address listed above is my legal place of residence.

WARNING: Giving false information to register to vote is a felony punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 or imprisonment for not more than 5 years, or both. Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-17.

X \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature (or mark) of applicant

X \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
If applicant is unable to sign, the person who assisted the applicant

Address \_\_\_\_\_