



## Hope for Children and Families News from Onslow County

It's been a busy March at One Place! With Social Worker Appreciation Month, Women's History Month, and our Read Across America campaign, we've celebrated many of the incredible women leaders who make a difference in our community—while promoting literacy and early childhood education.

Don't forget to follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#) for updates and photos from our upcoming events!

---

### Happy Women's History Month!



Originally started as a Women's History Week celebration in California in 1978, the concept eventually spread across the country. In 1980, a consortium of women's groups and historians lobbied for national recognition. In February 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued the first Presidential Proclamation declaring the first week of March as Women's History Week.

Today, Women's History Month is an important time to highlight the contributions of women and celebrate the incredible women in our organization who make an instrumental difference in the lives of children and families.

*Pictured above: Women on One Place's leader team!*

### **Meaningful Partnerships**

One partnership we're particularly grateful for is the women of the Carolina Pine Needle Quilters Guild. This organization partners with One Place's Child Advocacy Center to donate quilts for victims of child abuse. [Learn more about it here.](#)

**Fun fact:** Did you know that 96% of the One Place team is female? We're proud to have so many amazing women working to strengthen children, connect families, and end child abuse in Onslow County.

### **Celebrating Dawn Rochelle's 23rd Year Leading One Place**

There's no better time than Women's History Month to celebrate Dawn Rochelle, One Place's Chief Executive Officer, on 23 years of inimitable leadership. We're grateful for Dawn's tireless dedication to service.

[Read more about Dawn's journey here →](#)

**Happy Social Worker Appreciation Month!**

**SOCIAL WORKERS**



**Empowering  
Others** *Changing*



March is not only Women's History Month—but Social Worker Appreciation Month! Since the very first social work class was offered in 1898 at Columbia University, social workers have played an instrumental role in developing organizations to serve people in need.

This month, we celebrate the contributions that social workers in our community and on the One Place team make in the lives of children and families in Onslow County. We are so thankful for the work you do in Onslow County every day!

We are especially proud to partner with you to support victims of child abuse and neglect through the One Place Child Advocacy Center, helping them begin their journey of hope and healing.

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." — Helen Keller

## Read Across America!



Each year, the National Education Association (NEA) launches Read Across America—the nation’s largest celebration of reading. Countless schools, libraries, and communities participated in the nationwide event.

This year One Place collaborated with Onslow County Public Library to create a virtual story time featuring community partners:

[Watch the reading of "Green Eggs and Ham" by Dr. Seuss here →](#)

### **Diversity and Inclusion in Children's Books**

The theme of Read Across America is celebrating diversity in early childhood literature. In 1985, less than 1 percent of children’s books spotlighted Black characters—but by 2019, more than 12 percent of U.S.-published children’s books featured Black characters, a significant improvement.

[Read more about how Onslow County child care centers put racial equity into action →](#)

### **Other Ways You Can Help Support Early Literacy**

One Place is a leader in early childhood literacy, offering several key programs to prepare children for lifelong success.

Your gift today will help us fund our transformative literacy programs—giving children the tools they need to thrive:

- **Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library:** A book gifting program for children from birth to age 5 that mails high-quality, age-appropriate books to the homes of registered children
- **Story Walks at the Park:** One Place collaborates with Onslow County Parks and Recreation to maintain permanent Story Walks at local parks
- **Little Free Libraries:** One Place maintains over 55 Little Free Libraries throughout the county to provide access to books for our community
- **Community Book Drives:** One Place coordinates with local businesses to collect and distribute more than 125,000 books

[Give Your Gift Today and Support Early Literacy →](#)

---

### **Read Our 2023 Annual Report**

2023 was a busy and transformative year at One Place—from breaking ground on our forever home, to serving nearly 800 children through our preschool programs.

Dive into our Impact Report and learn more about how we made a difference in 2023.

[Read it here →](#)

---

## Don't Forget: Diamonds and Denim!



Join us on Saturday, September 21st, for an evening of networking, dancing, and celebrating—all while raising critical funds to support children and families and end child abuse in Onslow County.

[Become a sponsor today →](#)

---

### Your Support Makes One Place Possible

Your donation today is an investment that provides hope and strengthens the lives of children and families in Onslow County.

We are grateful for our partnership with caring, reliable supporters like you.  
Thank you for believing in our mission.

[Donate Now](#)

---