



ALPHA CHI NEWS



September-December 2023



Basileus' Corner

Welcome my Alpha Chi Sorors to this New Sororal Year. It is my distinct honor to serve as your Basileus. With your continued support, we will achieve the ideals of our Beloved Founders. We have an awesome opportunity to make a difference in the lives of the young people in our classrooms and community. We have that same opportunity to make a difference in the lives of our Youth group.

A special thank you to all committees who used our Retreat time to map out plans for this sororal year. May you stay focused on reaching our goals as we demonstrate the best of our great organization. Let's let our light shine so that we may become a beacon in the community. Our spirit of sisterhood will be our guide as we move forward to a successful year ahead.

Children & Adult Benefits

Alpha Chi Sorors began the new sororal year providing school supplies to the REACH Program and with the help of Portsmouth Mayor Shannon Glover, welcomed students, and faculties "Back to School" at Lakeview and Westhaven Elementary Schools.



Children & Adult Benefits

"Apples for the Teacher," presented to Faculty & Staff at Adopted School for American Education Week.



Children & Adult Benefits

Alpha Chi Chapter donated Thanksgiving Dinner Food Items to the Oasis Ministry in Portsmouth, Virginia



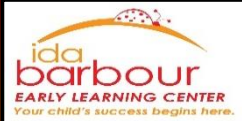
**Youth Group
Xinos, Kudos, Hub Parents**



**Induction of
New Members**



**Community
Service**



Preparing each child for success,
in school, in the community and in life.

Local Educator of Yesteryear



The History of Ida Barbour Early Learning Center

The late Miss Ida B. Barbour, a native of Portsmouth, Virginia, founded Miller Home and Day Nursery in 1910. Miss Barbour attended Philadelphia's Institute for Colored Youth (now Cheyney State University) which was headed by Fanny Jackson Coppin. Miss Barbour returned to Portsmouth and was a teacher at the Chestnut Street School (now I.C. Norcom High School). After learning of her neighbor's death, Miss Barbour and her elderly mother took in the neighbor's five small children who were left with no one to care for them. As time passed, her family of homeless and neglected children grew. Miss Barbour operated with minimal finances and the support of the Women's Sewing Circle. Together they provided food, clothing and shelter for her children.

In 1917, a group of social workers merged with Miss Barbour and the Women's Sewing Circle to provide a more unified service for children. In the same year, the group incorporated Miller Home and Day Nursery and established a Board of Directors. On July 6, 1925, Miss Barbour died, but services for children in need continued without cost to them. Many organizations, citizens, and doctors offered their generous support and services.

In 2004, the Board of Directors voted to change the name of Miller Home and Day Nursery to Ida Barbour Early Learning Center, in honor of its founder. The center has had various locations in Portsmouth throughout the years but has continued to maintain the heritage of its original organization. The center is in the United States Library of Congress Archives as one of the oldest daycare establishments in the state of Virginia. The members of the Board of Directors remain inspired and continue to serve the community and is licensed by the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Education.

Ida Barbour Early Learning Center continues to operate and maintain the 112 years old legacy of Miss Barbour to provide a safe and nurturing environment for children in our diverse community and prepare them with the tools needed to be successful in school and life.

Ida Barbour Early Learning Center
1400 Camden Ave
Portsmouth, Virginia 23704
757-397-3097
idabarbourearlylearningcenter.org
lbelc.1400@gmail.com



Life-long Learning at Conferences, Conclaves & Cluster Meetings



Sisterhood/Bonding





Birthdays-July-December

Vanessa Johnson-July 5th
Bernita Johnson-July 20th
Harriette Riddick-July 22nd

Lea Tonja Sallee -October 7th

Pamela Shearin-August 4th
Sandra Forrest-August 31st

Alischia Mattix-November 6th
Nicole Paige-November 13th
Marian Carey-November 20th

Queen Malone-September 6th
Carolyn Stiff-September 30th

Tracey Pierce-December 15th
Linda Keys-December 28th
Sherry Johnson-December 29th

Sick and Shut-ins

Carolyn Eason

Mildred Simms

