

F A L L 2 0 1 4

# SSP Learning Center



Welcome Vanessa!  
Thank you United Way!

SSP Learning Center is excited to be partnering with the United Way Success By Six Program again! We saw many great results from last year's collaboration. We are exceptionally proud of our ECE students!



United Way for Greater Austin

**Students showed incredible gains: 86% advanced in counting ability, 77% advanced in pattern recognition, 71% in reading comprehension, 86% in phonological awareness, and 78% in alphabetic principle!**

Our new Americorps Member, Vanessa, is working with our Early Childhood Education students by providing supplemental lessons in math and literacy. Vanessa shares the following "I love working with the SSP children, especially during our small group activities. Each child is different and I enjoy watching each of their different approaches to the different activities I introduce every week." Together with United Way, we are making a positive impact in the future of the children in Central Texas.

## It's Official!

We have received our tax-exempt status letter and we could not be more thrilled - We are officially a recognized 501c3 tax-exempt organization!

All contributions can still be mailed to:

SSP Learning Center  
200 Brushy Street  
Austin, TX 78702





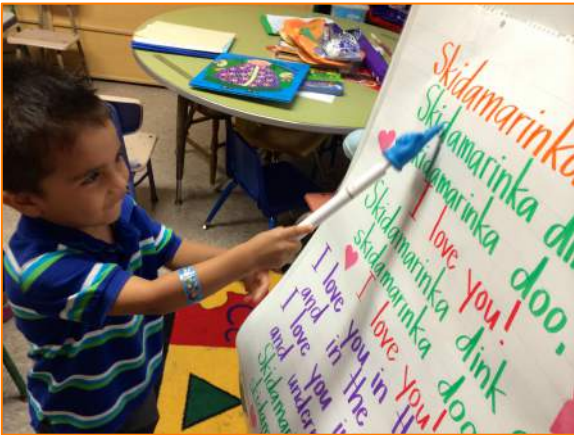
## I'm Thankful For...

"...everything, but especially the time, effort, and dedication that SSP gives to my daughter and for the opportunity that SSP gives to us – the mothers – to learn while our children also learn." – Elena, ESL Student & Mother

## We're Thankful For...

SSP has so much to be thankful for this year – especially for our amazing partners. This year we are partnering with The Literacy Coalition by hosting PALS. The Play and Learning Strategies (PALS) program was founded by the Children's Learning Institute and is designed as a preventive intervention program to strengthen the bond between parent and child and stimulate early language, cognitive, and social development. SSP families have been actively benefiting from these workshops since September!

SSP Learning Center and staff is extremely grateful for the kindness of friends who continue to help support our cause. We are happy to announce that **SSP Learning Center has been awarded a matching grant from the Tapestry Foundation in the amount of \$25,000.**



## FAMILY MATTERS

In the six years that SSP has been in operation, we have had the privilege of working with many families in Central Texas. This year we realized that we were experiencing a new first: We are currently providing services to **5** different women from the same family, as well as their **6** children. Additionally, **2** other children have graduated from our program. That means we have directly impacted **13 members of one family!** Incredible! When we approached them about taking their photo, they quickly agreed and even seemed eager to have it taken. And as we watched them sit down together with their children, they seemed confident and proud...and happy with the brave choices they have made: to learn a new language, to meet new people, to entrust their children to us, and to have new experiences - together.

The first family member that enrolled with us was Fabiola. She attended classes at SSP 4 years ago with her first son, Ivan. Ivan "graduated" from SSP and now attends KIPP. Fabiola reenrolled at SSP last year with her then two-year-old son, Daniel, and three-year-old niece, Lizbeth. Fabiola shares, "Me and my children have benefited from this program. When I go somewhere and they only speak English, I now try talking back in English and it's easier. My son is also more confident and independent and will be more prepared for Pre-K."

