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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Chambliss Center for Children Pre-K Graduation Celebrates a New Class of Rising Kindergarteners

Chattanooga, TN . . . Parents, family members, friends, and staff filled the gymnasium at Chambliss Center for Children on Friday, May 20th for the Early Childhood Education Center’s Pre-K Graduation.

Every year, Chambliss Center for Children’s Pre-K teachers coordinate an impressive graduation program to showcase all the children have learned in preparation for Kindergarten. Dressed in blue caps and gowns, the children marched in and led the Pledge of Allegiance. President and CEO Katie Harbison then welcomed guests and introduced Director of the City’s Department of Early Learning and Hamilton County School Board Member, Ms. Karitsa Jones who continued the ceremony by thanking the graduates’ families, praising the teachers and staff of Chambliss Center for Children for their hard work, and speaking directly to the graduates about believing in themselves.

“You are amazing!” Jones said directly to the rising Kindergarteners. “Don’t let anyone tell you that you aren’t amazing because you have to know that you are. Just like the Little Engine That Could, you can do anything!”

Following her remarks, the children proceeded to sing educational songs, showing off their skills with letters, numbers, and days of the week, before accepting their diplomas and dancing while they exited the gymnasium.

“This is a very special day at Chambliss Center for Children,” said Sumer Arispe, Executive Director of Extended Childcare Programs for Chambliss Center for Children. “These bright young minds can be whatever they aim to be, and I am honored that their families shared their children with us.”

For more information about Chambliss Center for Children, please visit www.chamblisscenter.org or call 423-698-2456.

About Chambliss Center for Children

Chambliss Center for Children is a local non-profit organization that has been caring for this community’s children 24-hours-a-day, 365-days-a-year for 150 years. The mission of the agency is to preserve family unity and to help prevent the dependency, neglect, abuse and delinquency of children by responding to the community’s child care needs. This is done by providing affordable, accessible and quality care for over 750 children every day through an Early Childhood Education and Extended Child Care Program, as well as a Residential Program, which recruits and trains foster families and operates a Transitional Living Program. The newest addition to the Residential program, the Isaiah 117 House at Chambliss Center for Children, is currently in development and will provide a welcoming space for children and teens awaiting foster placement. The agency also manages six off-site childcare centers and educates and cares for the children of teachers in several Hamilton County Schools. For more information about Chambliss Center for Children, please visit www.chamblisscenter.org or call 423-698-2456.



The graduating class began the ceremony by leading the audience in The Pledge of Allegiance.



District 5 School Board Member and Director of Chattanooga's Department of Early Learning, Karitsa Jones addresses the rising Kindergarteners.



Laythan, who received the superlative for Best Manners, receives his diploma from his teacher NaQuita Lester.



Recent graduate Delaney is pictured here with her proud sister during the reception.

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