

Greenwood Forest Children's Center is getting an upgrade!

Greenwood Forest Baptist Church (GFBC) has long been engaged in a process of reimagining its campus to better serve two of the greatest needs in our local community, affordable childcare and affordable housing. GFBC is looking to be part of the solution by transforming our campus into a multi-use center for housing, childcare, and more. On our renovated campus, GFCC will be reconstructed on the ground floor of a new multi-story building that will meet even more families' needs. Alongside GFCC will be offices for the homegrown Cary non-profit The Carying Place (TCP) and above it will be housing units for working families. Finally, the new campus will allow GFCC to partner with the Taylor YMCA to expand its offerings to more families in the future, including extended day hours, summer programming, and eventually an option for full day care.

With enrollment for the GFCC '25-'26 school year approaching, the time to prepare for change is upon us. Construction for this project does not have a start date at this time; however, a number of factors and decisions will be made over the next 6-9 months that have the potential for construction to start after the GFCC school year begins. In order to ensure our school year is not disrupted, we are planning to vacate our current space this summer and begin the 2025-2026 school year in a different section of GFBC classrooms. There are still many unknown details, but please be assured that as plans move forward, GFCC and GFBC leaders are committed to keeping GFCC safely operational during a season of transitions. We will continue to provide updates as the project and plans for the future progress. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns.

We're excited for this new future that meets our community's needs!

Project Partners

Greenwood Forest Children's Center:

GFCC will continue to provide its excellent programs and inclusive environment for early childhood education.

Greenwood Forest Baptist Church: GFBC will continue to support its children's center as an inclusive, secular space for early childhood education.

DHIC: DHIC will provide affordable living on the upper floors of the new building.

The Carying Place: TCP will provide housing for working families with children above the GFCC and TCP's offices on the ground floor of the new building.

Town of Cary: The town of Cary has purchased land adjacent to us to help with this effort.

Taylor YMCA: Our local YMCA will offer more programming for your children on site.

Will this impact the remainder of the '24-'25 school year?

C & A

The current school year will not be impacted. Moving and setting up new classrooms will not begin until summer 2025.

How will this impact 2025-2026 enrollment options?

The relocation will affect the number of spaces available in some classes or agegroups; however, <u>we guarantee an opening</u> for every current student who wants to move <u>up to their next age-level.</u>

We may have fewer spaces available to the public.

Will GFCC programming change next year?

The "where" will look different, but the "what" and "why" of GFCC will remain the same. There will be notable differences in many operational aspects of GFCC when we relocate to a different part of the building, i.e., sharing hallway bathrooms, having fewer storage spaces, etc. The majority of those differences will be felt by GFCC staff, not your children. The level of love, learning and care will be unaffected.

How will ongoing construction impact the logistics and safety of GFCC operations?

The renovated space will exist within the current GFCC footprint. The double doors that separate GFCC and GFBC's daily operations will be the point where one building becomes two. Construction will be happening next to us but not in the building where we will temporarily reside. We will still have the capacity to keep the building locked during school hours. As we make plans, safety will remain our priority.