

# Edgecombe County DSS Newsletter -Spring Edition 2010



From the Director  
- Marva G. Scott

## *Spring ...*

*the time of year when all around us we see renewed growth and energy. It's hard to believe a quarter of the year has already passed by. Take a few minutes to reflect on the goals we set at the beginning of the year. What progress has been made? Have we accomplished a quarter of the goal? If not, what changes do we need to make?*

*2009 was a very challenging year for families in Edgecombe County! We saw many new faces due to the economy which required staff to work harder to meet their needs.*

*Stimulus dollars have allowed us to hire additional staff as well as given our clients an opportunity to become employed. We are a great team (family) at Edgecombe DSS.*

*I'm proud of the things we have been able to accomplish over the past year and I look forward to even greater tomorrows as we strive to be an "Agency of Excellence".*

Obstacles are those frightful things you see when you take your eyes off of your goal.—Henry Ford



## **April is National Child Abuse Awareness Month!**



The month of April is "National Child Abuse Prevention" month. April has been designated Child Abuse Prevention Month in the United States since 1983. The acknowledgement of the month of April as Child Abuse Prevention is symbolized by the Blue Ribbon. Designation of the month of April and wearing the Blue Ribbon brings about awareness of Child Abuse.

During the fiscal year of 2008-2009, approximately 1,180 Children were assessed for abuse, neglect and dependency in Edgecombe County. Our social work staff provided social work services to approximately 59 families and filed 76 non-secure custody orders of 76 children. At the end of the 2008-2009 fiscal year we had 142 children in the custody of our agency.

In recognition of Child Abuse Prevention month we participated in the BLUE RIBBON KIDZ DAY with Heritage Hospital on Saturday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, which was held on the grounds of Heritage Hospital. We have displayed BLUE BOWS at the Health Department, County Administrative Building and Heritage Hospital.

Child Abuse is an issue for all of us as it not only affects children during their childhood but can affect the physical, emotional and social being of children as adults. Therefore, we look to the DSS Family, Community Partners, our local and state leaders to continue to provide new and creative avenues to the Prevention of Child Abuse!

## **Congratulations! ...**

To all the Work First Staff for successfully passing their first State Monitoring of the Work First Subsidized Employment Program with a rating of "Fantastic"!

Furthermore, congratulations to Linda Williams. The Subsidy Employment Monitors applauded her 6904 comment section referencing Subsidized Employment. The agency will be using her format as a model.

# CONGRATULATIONS!



## Distinguished Social Worker of the Year Hope Bethea

### OUTSTANDING SOCIAL WORKERS

Families for Kids Team I	Bobby Heath
Families for Kids Team II	Maurice Smith
Families for Kids Team III	Paula Dickens
Families for Kids Team IV	Temesha Williams
Families for Kids Support Team I	Tianna McDonald
Adult Services	Shawn Watson
Child Care Unit	Tawana White
Employment Services	Jonah Williams
Employment Services	Teresa Rountree

# CONGRATULATIONS!

## EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

### FEBRUARY

Families for Kids Team I  
Families for Kids Team II  
Families for Kids Team II  
Families for Kids Team III  
Families for Kids Team IV  
Families for Kids Support Team I  
Adult Services  
Employment Services  
Employment Services  
Child Support  
Child Support  
Food & Nutrition Services  
Food & Nutrition Services  
Fiscal  
Medicaid

Bobby Heath  
Candy Jones  
Maurice Smith  
Paula Dickens  
Temesha Williams  
Tianna McDonald  
Lakesia Everette  
Quinatona Watson  
Kenisha Wiggins  
Sharon Burgess  
Stephanie Bottoms  
Ella Lane  
Pat Woodard  
Annie Godwin  
Shirley Cotton

### MARCH

Families for Kids Team I  
Families for Kids Team II  
Families for Kids Team III  
Families for Kids Team IV  
Families for Kids Support Team I  
Adult Services  
Employment Services  
Employment Services  
Child Support  
Child Support  
Child Support  
Child Support  
Food & Nutrition Services  
Food & Nutrition Services  
Fiscal  
Medicaid  
Medicaid  
Medicaid  
Medicaid  
Medicaid  
Day Care Unit

Jewel Gray  
Trudy Hawley  
Pam Karaam  
Anna Davis Perry  
Tiffany Lee  
Milika King  
Linda Williams  
Edith Cowan  
Darnise Bradley  
Beverly Clark  
Sylvia Hinton  
Carolyn Davis  
Malinda Ingram  
Cheryl Bynum  
Pat Drewery  
Latosha Everett  
Angela Farmer  
Charlotte Lyons  
Rita Hagans  
Shaqwan Sherrod  
Clara Dundas

# Welcome!

## New Staff



Michell Mason  
Subsidized Employment Coordinator  
Rocky Mount



Derrick Manning  
Maintenance—Rocky Mount



Keshalla Mabry  
Office Support Clerk  
Work First, Tarboro



Ebony Murphy  
Clerk/Greeter—CPS, Tarboro



Jessica Wombles  
Clerk—FNS, Tarboro

# CLIENTS GAINING EMPLOYMENT



Clients names and employers are placed on stars and added to the board above which hangs in the office of Michell Mason, Subsidized Employment Coordinator.

As of today 70 Work First Clients or those meeting the 200% of Poverty Level have gone to work through the Edgecombe County Subsidized Employment Program that started in March.

Hats off to Assistant Director Betty Battle, Income Maintenance Administrator Bobbie Williams, Subsidized Employment Coordinator Michell Mason, and the Work First Employment Supervisors and Staff for a job well done!



**WE SALUTE YOU!**





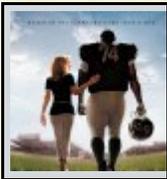
**NCSSA AND EXECUTIVE  
MANAGEMENT ARE PROUD TO  
ANNOUNCE  
EMPLOYEE  
DEVELOPMENT  
DAY**

**Guest Speaker:  
Dr. Evelyn Johnson**

**Feature:  
The Blind Side**

**Monday, April 19th**  
Tarboro Annex Conference Room  
**Times: 9:15-12:00  
2:15-5:00**

**Tuesday, April 20th**  
Rocky Mount Conference Room  
**Times: 9:15-12:00  
2:15-5:00**



**Congratulations!**  
Congratulations to Kristopher Washington on being selected as a NC Teaching Fellows Scholar. Donna Barnes thanks everyone for their prayers and words of encouragement.

 **Flapjack Fundraiser at Applebee's!**  
**Sat. - May 8, 2010 - 8:00-10:00a.m.**

The DSS Relay Team invites everyone to participate in our flapjack fundraiser! Participants will receive flapjacks, sausage, coffee or juice all for \$6.00! Tickets must be purchased in advance. Please see your Relay Team Members. Thank you in advance for your support!

**NCSSA Silent Auction**  
The NCSSA is sponsoring a Silent Auction. The items for auction are on display in the Rocky Mount office. The auction will close on Monday, May 3rd at 10:00 a.m. Your support is greatly appreciated!





*Kimberly Dickens*  
*expresses her sincere*  
*Thanks to You*

I am pleased to announce to you that I was crowned 2010 Basketball Homecoming Queen for Phillips Middle School. Maybe you gave me a donation, maybe you came to the event, maybe you prayed for my success . . . Thank you for your support.

**Thank You**  
**Thank You**

**Your support meant the world to me!"**

\*Kimberly is the Daughter of Brenda Dickens—Child Support - Rocky Mount\*









United Way Tar River Region, serving Edgecombe and Nash Counties, presented Edgecombe County Department of Social Services with an Appreciation Patrol visit on March 30th, where the employees were presented the Honorable Mention Award for per employee giving of \$45.53. The Department was also recognized for its total United Way contribution of \$7467.32 for the 2009-10 United Way Campaign. The award was presented by Community Development Manager, Shannon Barker, and Executive Director, Ginny Mohrbutter. Also, as part of the presentation, the employees were presented a bouquet of balloons and Girl Scout cookies. United Way Tar River Region also thanked the Edgecombe County Department of Social Services for being part of the collective efforts of our community surpassing the fundraising goal of 1.2 million.



Luncheon Celebration  
Wednesday, April 21,  
2010  
Stack's of Tarboro  
1800 Western Blvd.  
11:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.



The 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Foster Parent Banquet will be held on Thursday May 20, 2010 at 6:00 pm at Stack's Restaurant in Tarboro. The guest speaker at the banquet this year will be Carolyn McLaurin, and our theme will be "Foster Parents Rock"

**Administrative Professionals Week ...**  
Was established as an effort to recognize secretaries for their contributions in the workplace, and to attract people to secretarial/administrative careers.  
- From Cheryl Bynum



From Janet Johnson:  
Just wanted the Agency to know that Barbara Thompson's sister and her mother-in-law both passed on Thursday the 8th of April. Barbara seems to be quite well.

From Georgia Kamp:  
Mrs. Hope Bethea was awarded the distinguished Social Worker of the Year through CPS. She displays excellence in helping clients throughout Edgecombe County. Not only are the families saying they are receiving quality services but community agencies request Hope Bethea to be assigned to their cases!  
Congratulations to Hope!



# "The Prom Closet"

An outreach effort providing less fortunate Teenage Girls and Boys the opportunity to experience and enjoy a once in a lifetime event

**Prom Gowns**  
**Tuxedos**  
**Shoes and Accessories**

**The Prom Closet Is here to help!!!**

**FREE OF CHARGE**

**While inventory last**

**For more information**  
**Please call 985-0078, Mon-Fri 9-3**  
**Ask for Ms. Debbie**

