

# EDGECOMBE COUNTY DSS

## NEWSLETTER



### *From the Director*

Greetings,

The arrival of spring brings about many changes, some good and some not so good. We get a chance to get away from the cold weather which allows us to put away our

coats, hats, and gloves. With the shift to warmer weather the trees begin to bloom. As a result the pollen, causes irritant to allergies such as headaches, sneezing, runny eyes and other health issues. We welcome rain every time it comes during this period, to help wash away the pollen. With all of the inconvenience the change of season brings, we adjust and keep moving.

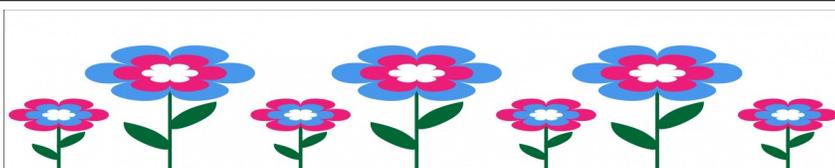
Just like spring, life brings about changes some good and some not so good. But, if we don't give up, we will be able to look back at those things that were once challenging, and realize that it was only an interruption that made us stronger, wiser, and often times victorious!

Recently while talking with one of our newest worker Glenn Vines Jr. he made this statement, "Butterflies don't know their true colors." So true! Each one of you is making a difference in the lives of the citizens you serve in Edgemcombe County. There may be days that you get frustrated with the NC FAST system, or you get upset that a mother would allow her child to be abused, or perhaps because there is not enough money available to assist clients who are having a difficult time in life. But, be reminded that your kind words, your smiles, your patience, your ability to seek out other resources, and just being understanding; can completely change an individual or a families' life forever. Let's celebrate the good things we do!

Just like that butterfly, allow your beautiful colors to show in all that you do. Ms. Betty Battle, Deputy Director and I thank you for all of your hard work and for the service you provide to mankind.

A special thanks to the Editor, Mrs. Jessica Pittman for an EXCELLENT job in putting together our Spring/Summer Edition of the Edgemcombe County DSS Newsletter!

*-Marva G. Scott*



### April is National Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month



### Great childhoods: the foundation for successful communities

Child development is community development. As children grow the experiences they have with the adults in their lives literally shape how their brains are built. Growing up in safe, stable, nurturing homes and communities builds a strong foundation for healthy brain architecture and future success. During April, Child Abuse Prevention Month, we recognize efforts across our state to help every child grow up in these supportive, nurturing environments.

In proclaiming April as Child Abuse Prevention Month, Governor Pat McCrory, invites us to celebrate North Carolina's efforts to support families and help all children have great childhoods. Over the past decade North Carolina has made an intentional effort to implement high quality, evidence-based family strengthening programs in communities all over our state. These programs have significantly improved protective factors proven to prevent child abuse and neglect among families who attend the programs.

"Preventing child abuse and neglect is one of the best things we can do to ensure the future prosperity of our state," said Wayne Black, director of North Carolina Division of Social Services. "It's not a job any one agency or professional can do alone. We must all take our responsibility as adults seriously and work together to make sure North Carolina's children grow up in safe, healthy environments that foster their growth and development."

For more information, visit  
[www.preventchildabusenc.org](http://www.preventchildabusenc.org) or  
[www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/preventionmonth/](http://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/preventionmonth/)

# WELCOME! New Staff



Yazmin Kasem  
Food & Nutrition-Rocky Mount



Venus Naylor  
Food & Nutrition-Rocky Mount



Stephanie Jenkins  
F&C Medicaid-Rocky Mount



Miriam Smith  
F & C Medicaid-Rocky Mount



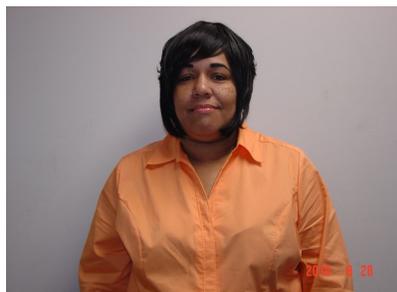
Denike Davis  
Children Services Team I-Tarboro



Sheritha Shivers-Moore  
F & C Medicaid-Rocky Mount



Sheena Lambert  
Child Support Agent-Tarboro



Brenda Ricks  
Universal IMC II-Adult Medicaid



Lakeisha Whitaker  
Universal IMC III-Adult Medicaid



Francene Williams  
Universal IMC II- Adult Medicaid



Pamela Battle  
Universal IMC II-Adult Medicaid



# CONGRATULATIONS!



## DISTINGUISHED SOCIAL WORKER OF THE YEAR SHAWN BRITT (Center)

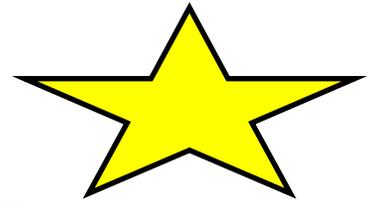
### Outstanding Unit Social Workers (from left to right)

Team III	Chester Brown Jr.
Intake	Georgia Kamp
WFFA	Narkeisha Bryant
Adult Services	Shawn Britt
Team IV	Amanda Weathington
Daycare	Bensanee Pittman
Team I	Lynette Weaver
Team II	Elizabeth Beasley

**"At this very moment, there are people only you can reach...and differences only you can make." -Mike Dooley**



# Shining Employees



These employees have been recognized by either clients, staff or someone in the community for their hard work and dedication in serving clients of Edgecombe County.



Sandra Jones, Child Support  
January 2015



Samia Smith, Fiscal Unit  
January 2015



Jessica Pittman, Director's Unit  
January 2015



Marie Goodloe, CPS Team I  
February 2015



Kathy Brown, Adult Medicaid  
February 2015



Bobbie Williams, IM Administrator  
February 2015



Brenda Ricks, Triage Unit  
March 2015



Francene Williams, Triage Unit  
March 2015



Sierra Evans, Adult Medicaid  
April 2015



Deloris Council, Adult Services  
April 2015



## A Special Thank You to Ms. Margaret Wiggs, Child Support Clerk, Rocky Mount office



Margaret purchased and donated these items to our foster children. Thank you Margaret for your acts of kindness and generosity!!



### *Earth's Angels*

Meet Mr. Ray Parrisher owner of the Snack Shack in Tarboro. Mr. Ray has a community initiative called Earth's Angels. Earth's Angels strive to help families who may be struggling during the Christmas season to have gifts for their children. Last year Earth's Angels helped make 50 children's Christmas brighter from our agency! He also helped an **additional 75** children in the Edgecombe County community. All gifts are donated by his patrons, friends and others who follow him on Facebook! If you see Mr. Ray let him know how much you appreciate his efforts!



# Community Events



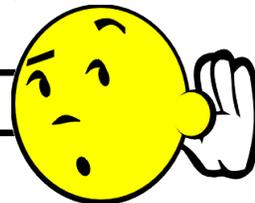
The Twin Counties Domestic Violence Task Force Event was hosted by both Edgecombe & Nash County DSS. We had games, food and Telisha Richardson from My Sisters House spoke on domestic violence at the event. We had 54 children and 66 adults attend. Thanks to the Task Force Members and both DSS staff for making this event a huge success!



New Destiny Outreach Ministries hosted their annual **Senior/Community Resource Fair** on March 12th. Latanis Hinton from the Adult Services Unit represented our agency with a table of helpful information for the community and our aging population.



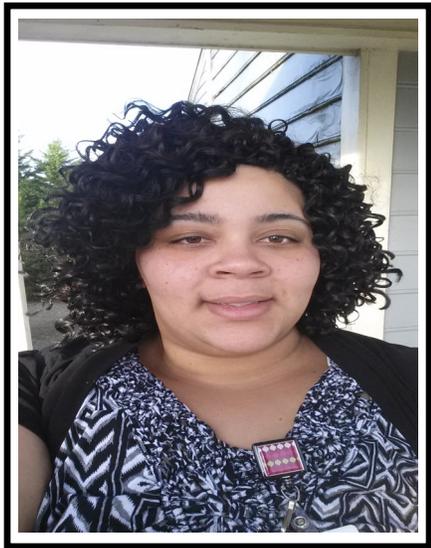
# Staff Corner



**Let's Hear what's going on in your unit!!**

**From Tiffany Lee, SW Supervisor Team II:**

- Children Services has completed 4 agency adoptions. Four youth now have forever families!!!!!!!
- Children Services Team II will set up a foster parent/adoptive recruitment booth at Ribeyes on April 14<sup>th</sup> (lunch time) & May 12<sup>th</sup> at Zaxby's from 5:00pm until 8:00pm.
- Children Services Team II will set up a foster parent/adoptive recruitment booth at the Blue Ribbon Kids Day at Vidant Edgecombe on April 18<sup>th</sup> and at the Child Abuse Prevention Event at Sunset Park on April 25<sup>th</sup>.
- We will have our annual Foster Parent Banquet in May 8, 2015 from 6:00-9:30 pm at the Double Tree by Hilton in Rocky Mount.
- June 19<sup>th</sup>-Eastpointe Collaborative will sponsor the annual Youth Forum at the East Carolina Ag. Center on Kingsboro Road, Rocky Mount, NC from 8:30 am until 2:00pm.
- We will have our annual "Graduation Cookout" in June to celebrate our LINKS youth who will graduate from high school. So far we have one graduate who has been accepted into Winston-Salem State University for the fall 2015 school year. GO RAMS!



**FROM THE EDITOR:**

Please submit any of the following events to have posted in the next newsletter.

- Weddings
- Births
- Graduations
- Anniversaries (wedding or agency)
- Positive things going on in your unit
- Any helpful information you would like to share

# UPCOMING EVENT

## Edgecombe County DSS Fatherhood Initiative

Please come out and join us on June 20<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 a.m. for our first annual Fatherhood event. We're excited to have the opportunity to present this community forum to raise awareness and educate non-custodial parents about our county's child support program. There will be food, door prizes and valuable information. Our Keynote speaker is Mr. Marion Frazier of Second Chance Recovery.



Department of Social Services & James McFarlin Community Development, Inc

A colorful graphic for the "Show Me the Way" Fatherhood Event. It features a large rainbow arching across the center. Various topics are written on the rainbow's bands: "Legal Questions" (blue), "Why Fathers Matter" (yellow), "Building Stronger Relationships" (purple), "Temporary Agencies Onsite" (light blue), "DNA" (green), and "Visitation Questions" (red). The text "1ST ANNUAL 'Show Me the Way' FATHERHOOD EVENT" is prominently displayed in the center. Below the title, the location "1175 KINGSBORO RD ~ ROCKY MOUNT, KINGSBORO INDUSTRIAL PARK" is listed. A silhouette of a man and a child is shown to the right of the location. The phrase "Food, Door Prizes &amp; Valuable Information" is written in a bold font. At the bottom right, the date and time "SATURDAY JUNE 20TH 2015 10 AM UNTIL" are provided. Two photographs are included: one of a man and a young girl on the left, and another of a man being kissed on the cheeks by two children on the right. The entire graphic is set against a white background with a blue border on the right and bottom.

Legal Questions

Why Fathers Matter

Building Stronger Relationships

1ST ANNUAL

# "Show Me the Way"

## FATHERHOOD EVENT

1175 KINGSBORO RD ~ ROCKY MOUNT,  
KINGSBORO INDUSTRIAL PARK



**Food, Door Prizes & Valuable Information**

SATURDAY  
JUNE 20TH  
2015  
10 AM UNTIL

Temporary Agencies Onsite

DNA

Visitation Questions