

# Child Care News

A quarterly newsletter from The Children's Resource Center, Catawba County's Child Care Resource and Referral Agency

Volume X, Issue 1

Winter 2010

## WHAT IS THE CRC?

It comes to my attention occasionally that it may not be clear to the community exactly what we do at The Children's Resource Center. You may know that we lend books for classes, or that we provide training for child care teachers, but you may not be aware of some of the behind the scene things that we do on a daily basis.

The Children's Resource Center is Catawba County's Resource and Referral Agency. Our primary funding comes from the Catawba County Partnership for Children (Smart Start) and the Division of Child Development. Just as you, we have many, many goals, guidelines and entities to which we answer. We are part of a regional, state, and national organization designed to help provide the best quality centers and homes possible while assisting and teaching families how to find good quality care. This is all done in a personal yet prescribed, unbiased way.

Through the Division of Child Development we are part of a regional approach. We are part of Region 8 which includes Cleveland, Catawba, Gaston, and Lincoln counties. This is the reason we have easy access to their classes, and are able to provide you with 3 Regional Specialists: an Infant-Toddler Specialist, a Behavior Specialist, and a School-age Specialist. We are unable to use Smart Start funds for older children, but our affiliation with the Division of Child Development allows us to be provide some limited services to before and after school programs as well.

The mission of The Children's Resource Center is to ensure that all children and their families in Catawba County have access to quality, reliable child care and developmental opportunities. Child Care Resource and Referral agencies across the nation are required to offer 5 core services to the community:

- Consumer Education and Referral
- Professional Development
- Technical Assistance
- Data Collection, Analysis, and Dissemination
- Public Awareness

The National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies reports that:

- CCR&Rs provide more than 5 million child care consultations and referrals to families each year.
- CCR&R agencies train and provide technical assistance to approximately 500,000 child care providers a year; and
- Create 450,000 new child care spaces annually.

Child Care Resource and Referral works to help provide the bridge between parents, providers, community leaders, and policy makers. CCR&R, along with our many partners in Catawba County, works to ensure that all children arrive at kindergarten ready to succeed. Thank you for being our partners.

Monica Thomas-Director

Winter 2010 Newsletter

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THE CHILDREN'S  
  
RESOURCE CENTER

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*Catawba County  
Ready Schools*

**TO:** Catawba County Child Care Provider  
**FROM:** Catawba County Ready Schools Task Force  
**RE:** Lists of Entering Kindergartners

The Catawba County Ready Schools Task Force is working closely with our public schools to help smoothly transition children into kindergarten. We need your help to find out which children in your program will be going to kindergarten in 2010-2011! Our goal is to get lists to each school by mid-February so that these families can be invited to special school activities before the end of the school year. We hope that this kind of connection will help the child and the family experience a better transition into "big school!"

Please allow the parents in your 4-year-old room(s) the opportunity to share their child's name, birthday, address, phone number, and what elementary school they plan to attend. Please fax your list to **828-328-4551** by **Monday, February 1, 2010**. We'll take care of sorting the children and sending the lists to the elementary schools. This is VERY important work and we really appreciate your efforts to help out these families and schools.

In early March, each child on your list will also receive a "Kindergarten is Something to Smile About" brochure, which has very important information about upcoming screening days, parent orientation meetings, and beginner's days.

Thank you for helping us to meet the needs of all of our "kindergarten-bound" children! If you have any questions, please feel free to call the Partnership for Children at 828-695-6505.

The above letter was mailed to all child care providers serving four year old children during the week of January 11 to January 15, 2010. Please call the Partnership for Children if you did not receive this form. Thank you.



### Thank You for Your Understanding

Occasionally the CRC will find it necessary to cancel a scheduled class. We try very hard not to do this unless there is limited enrollment or some unforeseen circumstance occurs. In these difficult economic times, we simply cannot afford to open the building, pay for staff and teachers, and pay for materials when only a couple of folks enroll for a particular class. I am sure that you can understand this problem from running a child care center or balancing your own household account. Our funding has been cut as well. Thus, we are trying even harder to work as efficiently and effectively as possible to provide services to our county child care programs, parents, and general community. We will try to make the decision to cancel a class at least 3 days prior to the event. This should give you time to look at our scheduled classes for the next several months to make sure that you have your classes in order. You may go on our website at any time ([www.childrensresourcecenter.org](http://www.childrensresourcecenter.org)) to register for a class with the CRC and then plan your training for the upcoming months. If you have a particular need, call us. We may be able to put you in a class in a surrounding county. Again, thank you for your patience and understanding. Our aim is to help our county provide the very best care and services possible to young children and their families.

The Children's Resource Center

### Parents And Providers Access to Recalled Items From The Division of Child Development Website

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), among other federal government agencies, periodically issue recalls of items that may be used or consumed by children. From time to time, items of particular note and possible danger may be highlighted through DCD, but all government recalls are not posted by the Division. While the Division of Child Development supports providers in being informed about recalls, it is important for parents and child care providers to be able to access recall information directly. Parents and providers can be immediately informed about recalled items that may pose a health or safety concern to children by signing up for the e-mail alert services below:

<http://www.fda.gov/opacom/7alerts.html>

This web site allows you to sign up to receive e-mail alerts about food and drug items recalled by the FDA.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/>

This web site allows you to sign up to receive e-mail alerts about toys, clothing, and other consumer items recalled by the CPSC.

<http://www.recalls.gov/>

This website provides a central location to sign up to receive e-mail alerts about products and learn more about items recalled by various government agencies including the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Environmental Protection Agency, and others.

Please visit [www.ncchildcare.net](http://www.ncchildcare.net) for other links for families and providers.





# **“I’m Responsible for my Actions?!?”**

by Karen Darby / Region 8 School Age Specialist



## **“I’m Responsible for my Actions?!?”**

### *Positive Behavior Strategies and the School Age Child*

One of the most challenging hurdles in working with school age children is behavior. Some of the behaviors that induce the most frustration include, but certainly not limited to time management, self-discipline, remaining on task, and a disrespectful attitude. Typically ranging from ages 5-12, all of these children need rules and guidance to help them learn the appropriate behavior and expectations. These children will also comprehend the meaning for establishing and enforcing rules if they learn from experience rather than idly listening to the reason.

Rules should be clearly stated and their importance initially stated. Each rule should have a consequence, whether it is a natural or a logical consequence. Consequences help children learn that they are accountable for their actions. In order to truly understand the rules and consequences, children should be allowed to make an age-appropriate choice regarding their behavior and then to live with the consequences that follow as a result of their decision.

Logical and natural are the two types of consequences that follow a decision. A logical consequence, is usually determined by the adult or group of children, is a rational result of a particular behavior. The American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry states that “consequences should be fair and appropriate to the situation and the child’s age.” For example—if you throw food on the floor, you will have to sweep it up. Enforcing the consequence helps children learn self-direction. If a child or children do not like the outcome (the consequence) they are highly motivated to behave differently to avoid the undesired outcome. If a child is breaking a rule, calmly tell them the rule that they are breaking, state the outcome of breaking this rule and then allow the consequence to happen. This may be difficult at first as children learn that they must live by their choices, but it will be beneficial in the end.

A natural consequence relates to the laws of nature. For example—an older child (11 or 12) who stays up late at night playing his Nintendo DS will suffer the natural consequence of being tired the following day or a child that insists on wearing shorts and a t-shirt even though the weather report and his afterschool teacher have told him that he will need a jacket. He will suffer the natural consequence of being cold when playing outdoors, although he may not admit it. Natural consequences are a highly effective teaching tool and should be allowed, within reason, to happen in child guidance. Resist the urge to nag children to follow the rules and allow natural consequences to happen as long as no one is in danger.

Another important element of child guidance is to reinforce positive outcomes to keep the child motivated to continue the expected and appropriate behavior that you desire. These outcomes must have meaning to the child or be something that the entire group strives to achieve. For example, a teacher recently told me that he was going to reward his group once they could walk down the hallway quietly with being able to walk down that hallway acting like they were flying. This is an outcome that the entire group enjoys and is striving to achieve. The consequence is that until they are quiet in the hallway, pretending to be an animal, superhero, sleuth, etcetera is not going to be permitted.

Children need afterschool teachers who say what they mean and follow through consistently. The children will learn to trust the adult as well as realize that they are important and valued but at times their behavior is not. It is important to remember when dealing with challenging or frustrating behaviors that afterschool teachers should refrain from nagging or repeatedly stating the rule to the child, set a clear consequence that is related to the behavior and allow the consequence to happen without rescuing the child from the impending outcome.

*\*Adapted from “Parenting Power in the Early Years” by Brenda Nixon.*



## Stay Fire Smart! *Don't Get Burned*

Your local fire departments would like to offer the following safety tips to prevent burn injuries:

- **Keep hot foods & liquids away from the edge** of tables and cabinets to prevent them from falling.
- Have a **3-foot "kid-free" zone around anything hot**, such as portable heaters, stoves, fireplaces and grills.
- Teach children about **what's hot and what's not!**
- **ALWAYS KEEP MATCHES AND LIGHTERS OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN!**
- Make sure your water heater is not set higher than 120°F.
- ALWAYS test the water before placing a child or yourself in it!
- **TREAT A BURN IMMEDIATELY** by running cool water on it. Seek immediate medical attention if the burn is severe.
- Make sure your smoke alarms are tested once a month and that batteries are changed when the time changes! If your alarm is more than ten years old, replace it!
- Have and practice an escape plan for your family. You need two ways out of every room in the house and have a home fire drill once a month.

When cooking never leave food unattended. If you have to leave, turn the stove off. **Cooking is the #1 of residential fires!**

*For more information, or fire extinguisher or safety training, contact the following:*

Catawba County Fire Marshal's Office at 828-465-8230  
Conover Fire Department at 828-464-1295  
Hickory Fire Department at 828-323-7521 or 828-323-7522  
Newton Fire Department at 828-695-4334

If you have questions for fire inspectors or educators, contact Terri Byers at  
828-323-7521, or email: [tbyers@ci.hickory.nc.us](mailto:tbyers@ci.hickory.nc.us)

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## *Coming Soon: Safe Kids USA*

ATTENTION CHILD CARE PROVIDERS: This is a neat program, helps to save lives and schools can win money!

A fire safety contest for pre-school teachers. By doing some of the exercises with their classes CHILD CARE PROVIDERS can become eligible to win cash prizes of up to \$500 for educational material.

For more information online please visit the following website:

[http://www.usa.safekids.org/tier3\\_cd\\_2c.cfm?content\\_item\\_id=27911&folder\\_id=301](http://www.usa.safekids.org/tier3_cd_2c.cfm?content_item_id=27911&folder_id=301).

This is a great opportunity for teachers to educate people in the community about fire safety and to also get some money to help their schools...a double win! The deadline is February 26.

Terri Byers  
Fire Education Coordinator  
Hickory Fire Department  
19 2nd Street Drive NE  
Hickory, NC 28601  
Phone: (828) 323-7521  
Email: [tbyers@ci.hickory.nc.us](mailto:tbyers@ci.hickory.nc.us)





# Workforce Change of Information Form

## North Carolina Division of Child Development Workforce Change of Information Form (DCD.0120)

<b>DCD Use Only</b>
WFID#

Complete and submit this form to the Workforce Education Unit when you have a change of information in name, address, facility of employment and/or educational status. You would also submit this form to request an education evaluation for a different child care position(s) after you had submitted an original Education and Equivalency Form. **Please print or type.**

<b>Required Fields</b> (Complete all fields in this section)	SSN (Last 4 Digits Only):	Email Address:		
Date of Birth (mm/dd/yy): / /	Current Legal Name (First, Middle Initial, Last):			
Current Home Mailing Address:		City:	State:	Zip Code:
Home Phone #: ( )	Cell Phone # (If Applicable): ( )	County of Residence:		
<b>A. Change of Name</b> (Complete this section if your legal name has changed)	Date Current Name Effective: / /			
Previous Legal Name (First, Middle Initial, Last):				
<b>B. Change of Address</b> (Complete this section if your mailing address has changed)	Date Current Address Effective: / /			
Previous Home Mailing Address:		City:	State:	Zip Code:
<b>C. Change of Employment</b> (Complete this section if your facility of employment has changed)	Date Employed at this Facility: / /			
Name of Current Facility:	Facility ID # (on license):	Facility Telephone #: ( )		
Address of Current Facility:		City:	State:	Zip Code:
Name of Previous Facility:	Facility ID # (on license):	Date Employment Ended: / /		
<b>D. Change of Educational Status</b> (Check one or both options)	Attach all <b>NEW college level</b> official transcripts which have not been previously submitted to the Division of Child Development, Workforce Education Unit.			
<input type="checkbox"/> I have completed additional early childhood education college coursework since I last submitted an official transcript(s).				
<input type="checkbox"/> I have completed and been awarded a certificate, diploma and/or degree since I last submitted an official transcript(s).				
<b>E. Change of Child Care Position</b> (Check one or multiple positions)	Attach all paperwork which is required to meet the education standards to qualify for the checked position(s).			
<input type="checkbox"/> Lead Teacher <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher <input type="checkbox"/> Family Child Care Home Provider <input type="checkbox"/> Group Leader <input type="checkbox"/> Program Coordinator				
<b>Note:</b> If the change of child care position is for an Administrator, then you must submit an original NC Education and Equivalency Form for Child Care Administrators (DCD.0173) to be evaluated for qualification as an Administrator.				

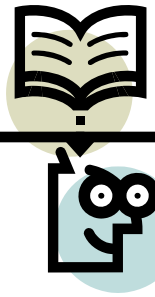
**Mail to:** NC Division of Child Development  
Workforce Education Unit  
2201 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-2201

**Questions:** Call the Workforce Education Unit  
919-662-4567 or 1-800-859-0829

**Website:** [www.ncchildcare.net](http://www.ncchildcare.net)

Comments:

DCD.0120 – Revised 8/01/09



**Education! Education! Education!**  
**Transcripts! Transcripts! Transcripts!**

This is just a reminder for directors to make sure that at the end of **each** semester you are submitting your staff's transcripts to the Workforce Section in the Raleigh office. You will need to submit transcripts for any staff that has an increase in their education.

When you submit a transcript for a new staff that has not previously had education information submitted, you will need to complete the Education and Equivalency for Child Care Providers form. You can find this on the Division of Child Development's website: [www.ncchildcare.net](http://www.ncchildcare.net). If you are just updating staff education on a staff that is already in the system, you will just need to indicate that with a note on the transcript.

The Division has developed new procedures for submitting transcripts, and they are putting the full responsibility on you as directors/operators. Your Licensing Consultants will no longer submit transcripts for any center or family child care home.

Workforce is currently about 16 weeks out from evaluating transcripts. This means that what is submitted today will probably not be evaluated for 16 weeks. This is why it is so important for these to be submitted at the end of each semester. **When it is time for your reassessment of your license or if you decide to apply for a higher star rating, then we will look at education in the system and take what is in the system at that time. We will not wait for transcripts to be evaluated.**

Please make sure to keep copies of everything that is submitted and indicate the date when it was mailed.





**STAFF**

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*Provider Support  
Coordinator*

Patty Ehrnsberger  
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Leonor Tobar  
*Latino Community  
Specialist*

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# ***FACE Fun Fair a Success!***

On behalf of the Foothills Association for Childhood Educators (FACE) and The Children's Resource Center, we would like to thank all of you for participating in our Agency and Vendor Fair on January 11 here at our new facility at the Sweetwater Early Childhood Education Center. We were very excited to have 147 child care teachers and administrators participate in this event designed to bring to you information on agencies and vendors that provide services to you in the child care community. In addition to the participants, we had 14 agencies and 14 vendors represented. We understand that we were a little crowded, but we thank you for your patience and excitement. We wanted you to see our new facility and know how to connect with us in the future.

Thank you also to the FACE committee that designed this event. In addition to CRC, we had Amanda and Aubrey from the Sandbox as well as Don Penland from Footsteps providing guidance for the directors.

We would also like to extend a special thank you to all of the vendors and agency representatives that gave up their evening to attend this event. Weren't the door prizes grand? As always, we take your comments and suggestions seriously for our future planning. Call us if we can help you in any way.

*The mission of The Children's Resource Center is to ensure that all children and their families in Catawba County have access to quality, reliable, child care and developmental opportunities. All services, programs, activities and employment practices of The Children's Resource Center are available to all people regardless of race, color, religion, age, national origin, sex, handicap, or political affiliation.*

Return Service Requested

www.childrensresourcecenter.org  
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RESOURCE CENTER



THE CHILDREN'S

Catawba Valley Child Care  
Resource and Referral Service

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