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Division Tribute: Remembering Chief Fire Marshal Child Care Licensing Franklin "Frank" Delano Maples, Jr.



We are deeply saddened to announce that Franklin Maples, 57, passed away on July 28, 2021. Frank was member of our DSS family for over 10 years as our Chief Fire Marshal for Child Care Licensing in the Division of Early Care and Education. Before joining Child Care Licensing at DSS, Frank served many years, first as a Fire Fighter, and then later as a Fire Marshal with the Columbia Fire Department. Frank retired from the City of Columbia Fire Department in 2009. Frank was also employed with the State Fire Marshal Office where he was an investigator.

Under Frank's leadership as the Chief Fire Marshal for Child Care Licensing, his team was able to provide great customer service by providing not only an inspection of their facilities but also a great education relating to keeping children safe. He and another key individual helped developed the fire marshal inspection initiative at a time when provider's inspections were being delayed significantly. Because of him and his team working together, and despite a vacancy, there are no delays for inspections. He had a knack for developing great working relationships with others. He will truly be missed across the state. Frank enjoyed hunting, fishing, golf and was an energetic and avid Clemson Fan. His coworkers enjoyed Frank's full of life spirit and his great sense of humor. We will cherish the years that we had working with Frank. He was a true advocate for children by ensuring they were safe in all South Carolina childcare facilities.

Our condolences go out to Frank's family, friends, co-workers, and the many providers he serviced through the years.



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Federal Grant Supports DHEC Program for Lead Testing at Qualifying Schools, Day Cares



The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) is the recipient of a grant, the WIIN grant, from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to implement a "Lead Testing in School and Child Care Program Drinking Water Program. DHEC is excited to partner with the South Carolina Department of Social Services (DSS) in the implementation of this grant. The united goal of this program is to protect and promote the health and well-being of children, who are among the most vulnerable to the health effects of lead exposure.

Please click <u>HERE</u> to enroll in this voluntary program by completing the **Lead Testing Facility Survey**. After you complete the Lead Testing Facility Survey, DHEC will contact you to schedule a *virtual* visit to your center to determine where water sampling should be conducted.

You can visit the WIIN Grant website at http://www.scdhec.gov/WIINGrant for a wealth of information about the lead testing program, FAQ Videos, as well as resources for learning more about lead, its impact on children, EPA's 3T's program, and more.

The WIIN Grant program is ready to help you test your drinking and cooking water for lead!



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We Need to Hear From You!



If you are the parent/caregiver of a young child (ages 0-5), please take a few minutes to complete this online survey about your experiences and needs. The survey is offered in English and Spanish—the choice of language is located on the upper righthand

side of the survey. Your responses are anonymous and will help inform strategies and programs for young children and their families in South Carolina. We are looking for ways to improve services that support children and families. Survey will be open until September 1, 2021.

To complete the survey, please click here.

Need DSS Credit Hours?



The SC Endeavors Registry provides:

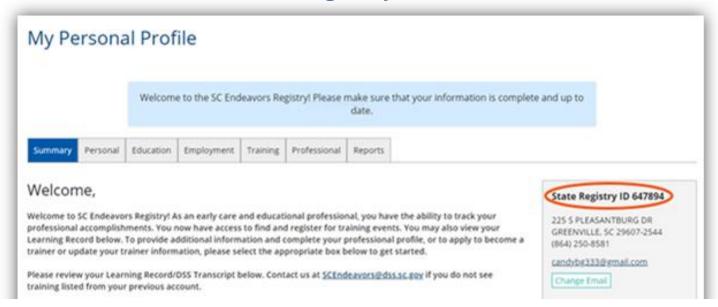
- A central and comprehensive list of training classes and easy signup and tracking of classes attended
- Opportunity to create a
 Professional Profile to highlight
 your accomplishments, education,
 experience, credentials and
 certifications

To search for trainings, please <u>click here</u>.



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Know Your State Registry ID/Student Number!



Easily document your DSS training hours using the SC Endeavors Registry system. The system uses a State Registry ID/student number to track your hours. Each person has their own unique 6 digit number. If you had a State Registry ID/student number in the previous system, you may continue using that number.

If you do NOT have a State Registry ID/student number, you must go to the SC Endeavors website and create an account to be assigned a State Registry ID/student number. This number is very important to use as you register for training sessions and for instructors to add your credit hours for training sessions you attend. You can go to www.scendeavors.org and click on "Registry Login" to create an account or login to locate your State Registry ID/student number.



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Earn A Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care Designation



Benefits to earning the designation include:

- Healthier children
- Better daily attendance
- Higher parent satisfaction
- And more public recognition

Supporting breastfeeding families will improve the health of mothers and babies in our state *at a time when we need good health the most*.

During this global pandemic, we can prioritize actions that enhance our immune response and overall health. Breastfeeding is a proven health advantage. We know from breastmilk carries antibodies from Mom to Baby. Research shows that this is true for the COVID vaccine as well! While no traces of vaccine are in breastmilk, the antibodies are, giving that protection from COVID to Baby.

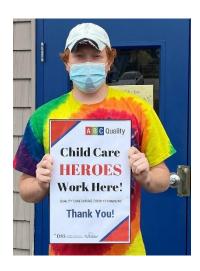
Contact <u>SCPITC.org</u> to become a Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care! This program is funded by the SC Department of Social Services Division of Early Care and Education and is **free for licensed child care providers**.

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A B C Quality Child Care Heroes!



Miss Tammy's Little Learning Center-Redland, Spartanburg

All three of Miss Tammy's Little Learning Centers located in Inman and Landrum were named Child Care Heroes by parents, staff and community members.

Pictured is Austin Painter, representing Miss Tammy's Little Learning Center in Landrum. Congratulations to all the staff members providing quality care during the pandemic.



Share Your Child Care Hero Story!

We are looking to hear your story of supporting children and families in your community.

Submit your Child Care Hero story to:

Sherrie Dueno, M.Ed. ECMH-E®

sherrie.dueno@dss.sc.gov



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DSS Regulation 114-507C(2) states that furniture, toys, and recreational equipment shall meet the standards of the US Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC), if applicable, and that recalled products shall not be accessible to children. For more information, call CPSC's hotline at 800-638-2772 or visit their website: www.cpsc.gov. To report a dangerous product or related injury, go to http://saferproducts.gov.



- Tkala Fashion Children's Pajamas, due to violation of federal flammability standard and burn hazards.
- Zen Magnets LLC Zen Magnets and Neoballs Magnets, due to ingestion hazard.
- > Hallmark Teethers, due to choking hazard.
- Primark Scent Stamper Pens, due to elevated levels of benzyl alcohol; risk of skin irritation.
- Nordstrom Children's Socks, due to choking hazard.
- Frieyss Infant Bath Seats, due to drowning hazard.
- Wee Gallery Wooden Tray Puzzles, due to choking hazard.