



SC Child Care

EARLY CARE & EDUCATION

Volume XI, Issue 1; January 2022



SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT of SOCIAL SERVICES

Division of Early Care & Education

The Division of Early Care and Education Launches New Website



The Division of Early Care and Education has debuted its enhanced website today at www.scchildcare.org. The new site offers families important child care information and resources as well as licensing requirements, training opportunities, and more for providers. The site also has links to programs such as ABC Quality along with financial assistance resources to increase the quality of care for all children in SC.

Please visit the new site by [clicking here](#).

Celebrate ABC Quality's 30th Anniversary



Celebrating our work with South Carolina's quality child care providers impacting children and families for 30 years!

ABC Quality, which is administered by the Early Care and Education Division of SCDSS, is encouraging communities to join the virtual 30th anniversary celebration on social media by posting a "Happy 30th Anniversary" message on Facebook and by using the hashtag #SCQualityCare throughout 2022. **Watch the**

video of DSS State Director Leach celebrating 30 years of ABC Quality by [clicking here](#). To see the official press release, please [click here](#).



SC Endeavors Registry Celebrates Two Years!



SC Endeavors, which is administered by the Early Care and Education Division of SCDSS, is celebrating two years with the SC Endeavors Registry! SC Endeavors is grateful for all users and your willingness to learn, grow, and connect within the field of Early Care and Education. SC Endeavors continues to be a central resource for early educators, trainers and programs that serve young children and their families in South Carolina. By being a

part of the SC Endeavors Registry, you are helping to advance the profession and creating a pathway to success. **To see SC Endeavors 2021 Accomplishments, and/or to join the email list, please [click here](#). To learn more about the registry and the features it offers [click here](#). To search for trainings [click here](#).**

The Health and Environmental Risks of Fluorescent Lighting



Did you know that fluorescent lighting contains mercury, a neurotoxicant?

To see the article from the Children's Environmental Health Network blog regarding this topic [click here](#).

Honoring Child Care Heroes at USC Gamecocks Athletics



Before tip-off of the Saturday, December 5th men's basketball game between South Carolina and Georgetown, a ceremony was held to honor a Midlands Child Care Hero. Gamecocks Athletics recognized Melanie Butler of Chapin Baptist Child Development Center as the ABC Quality's Child Care Hero of the game. Melanie and her team assisted their local school district in providing virtual learning for school-age children in their program and developed a pandemic

handbook following the CDC recommendations and Child Care Licensing guidelines. Congratulations to Melanie Butler!

Spring Palmetto Pre-K Jamboree



Friday, March 4
8:30 am - 3 pm

**ROOTED IN NATURE:
INSPIRING WELLNESS**



Free Virtual Professional Development
for Early Childhood Professionals
Serving 4-year-olds in SC

Calling all teachers and supporters of 4-year-olds in SC! Please join us for the 2022 Spring Palmetto Pre-K Jamboree, a FREE virtual professional development.

Attendees will experience an

empowering day of learning to support and uplift your community as you help young children learn and grow. All attendees can qualify for SC DSS credit hours. [Click here](#) to reserve your spot now, and the registration information and links will be emailed to you through SC Endeavors the week of the event.

Child Care Licensing Completes Specialist Bootcamp



Child Care Licensing continues its commitment to the growth and equipping of its Licensing Specialists. On December 1st, 57 Licensing Specialists and other Child Care Licensing staff received 3.5 hours of professional

development virtually at the December 2021 Specialist Bootcamp. The training opened with Division of Early Care and Education Director Michele Bowers offering words of encouragement to Child Care Licensing staff for the new year and thanks for their work over the past two years during the pandemic. Additionally, Director of Child Care Licensing Cynthia Lara applauded all staff for their hard work in keeping children safe through applying state, federal, and Department licensing requirements and technical assistance to child care providers throughout South Carolina during a pandemic.

Three topic areas were focused on: quality assurance efforts within the Department; information on common and uncommon food-related allergies in children in child care; and, legal requirements regarding complaint investigations and appeal hearings across the state. Child Care Licensing is excited to apply new knowledge when supporting providers and children in child care and their families in 2022. Please look for information regarding food-related and non-food related allergies in children in child care coming this year.

Little Smurf's Child Care Center Receives Grant

Little Smurf's Child Care Center in Andrews, SC (Georgetown County) was awarded a Staff Discretionary Grant of \$10,000 by the Frances P. Bunnelle Foundation for earning an A+ quality level with ABC Quality. Little Smurf's Child Care Center's management team was presented a check from the Frances P. Bunnelle Foundation staff. The foundation's mission is to improve the quality of life for all Georgetown County residents.



Pictured in Photo: Little Surf's Management Team – Bequethia Pressley (Mrs. Quane), Mrs. Claudelia Dunmore (Mrs. Dia), Pamela Wilson (Mrs. Pam), Frances P. Bunnelle Foundation: Kevin McCray, Ashley Nelson, Geales Sands, and Terri Lottchea



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DSS

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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>.*



- **Mark of Fifth Avenue – Children's Robes**, due to violation of federal flammability standard and burn hazard.
- **Karmas Far – Infant Bath Seats**, due to drowning hazard.
- **Longwood Forest – Angel Line Bunk Beds with Angled Ladders**, due to serious entrapment and strangulation hazards.
- **Native Creation – Sweaters**, due to violation of federal lead paint ban.
- **HulovoX – Children's Robes**, due to violation of federal flammability standards and burn hazard.
- **Mushie & Co – FRIGG Silicone Pacifiers**, due to serious choking hazard.
- **Childrensalon – Children's Sleepwear Garments**, due to violation of federal flammability standards and burn hazard.
- **AOSKERA– Children's Nightgowns**, due to violation of federal flammability standards and burn hazard.
- **Geri-Care Pharmaceuticals – Over-the-Counter Drugs**, due to failure to meet child resistant packaging requirement; risk of poisoning.