



SMART START OF FORSYTH COUNTY PRESENTS FAMILY DEVELOPMENT CREDENTIAL

Benefits and Expected Outcomes

The Family Development Credential Course Series provides an educational pathway for human service workers with little or no formal training or higher education, effectively support families on their journey to self-reliance through a strengths-based approach.

Family
Development
Credential Course

Empowerment Skills
for Human Service
Workers

10 Core Principles
of Family
Development

From Healthy Self-
Reliance to
Successful
Collaboration and
Community
Support

SMART START OF
FORSYTH COUNTY
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FAMILY DEVELOPMENT CREDENTIAL PROGRAM (FDC)

What is the Family Development Credential?

The Family Development Credential, also referred to as FDC, is a professional training that teaches family workers, home visitors, case managers, health workers, and community workers in public, private, and non-profit service areas how to coach families to be self-reliant by building on their strengths to set and reach their goals.

Why is the Family Development Credential needed?

For too long, services available to families have been determined by the family's crisis. Public interventions have focused on "rescuing and fixing" families rather than helping families develop their capacity to solve problems and achieve long-lasting self-reliance. It is important that health and human service workers collaborate with families and not for families.

How can a Family Service Worker earn the Family Development Credential?

To earn the Family Development Credential, family service workers attend an 80-hour course taught by a certified facilitator, based on Empowerment Skills for Family Workers, a portfolio documenting their ability to apply the concepts and skills, and pass a standardized exam.