



Stories of CHANGE

Provider Story: Wilma Smith, South Highland Development Center

Wilma Smith, assistant director at South Highlands Child Development Center shared how Beckie helped her.

“Childcare Resources’ Technical Assistance Program was truly a wonderful and enlightening experience for me. I was not sure what to expect but working with Beckie McRee made it all worthwhile. I have always considered myself an infant/toddler specialist. I seem to be attracted to the first-time parents who come in looking for child care for the first time. With that in mind, I began to focus on what I thought would be important to them. As I talked with parents and learned the concerns that they had, I would research for information that would benefit them in some way. I mentioned to Beckie several times that I enjoyed working with first-time moms and dads because there is a lot that they don’t know but are interested in finding out. They want help, are willing to listen and will support you in providing them with whatever it is they need to know.

“Over the summer, I began to research more and the more I met with first-time moms and dads and learned of their concerns, the more research I did. It took about four months for me to complete the project. I compiled all the information into a binder titled, 'First Time Moms and Dads -- Binky, Baby, Bottle Boo.' I am so proud to have accomplished this project that is truly needed by the parents in our program. With two infant classrooms at South Highlands Child Development Center, being able to supply information that new parents need is very important.

“When you’ve been in child care as long as I have, you need to be able to travel into new territory that will keep your heart and mind afloat. I highly recommend the Technical Assistance Program for each child care center to use. When you discuss goals that you want to accomplish with your

coach, you find out that you may have a lot of ideas that you need to sort through. This program serves as a support system to guide you in reaching your goals. I am so happy to have reached my goal and I owe it all to Beckie and the Technical Assistance Program.”



Wilma Smith, South Highlands Child Development Center, proudly displays the resource she created for new parents