



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.

2023 Family
Development
Credential Course

Empowerment Skills
for Human Service
Workers

11 Core Principles
of Family
Development

From Healthy Self-
Reliance to
Successful
Collaboration and
Community
Support



SMART START OF
FORSYTH COUNTY
7820 N. Point Blvd
Winston Salem, NC 27106

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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.

To earn the FDC, front-line workers take 80 hours of classes based on *Empowerment Skills for Family Workers* (3rd edition, Forest 2015), a portfolio documenting their ability to apply these concepts and skills and pass a standardized exam. Since the first FDC credentials were issued by Cornell's School of Continuing Education in 1997, more than 12,000 front-line workers nationally have earned the FDC through affiliated systems in 46 other states.