DCEC 1100 W. Franklin St. Anderson , SC 29624

#### **DCEC Board of Directors**

When DCEC became a non-profit organization, a Board of Directors was created to oversee operations. The Board governs all policies and guidelines of the program. It consists of parents, professionals, and other stakeholders from the community with an interest in serving children and families with special needs. The Board meets at least monthly to assist the Administrator in carrying out the purpose of the program.



#### DCEC's Circle of Friends

The Circle of Friends is an organization created by parents of special needs children to insure the continuation of the program. This group focuses its efforts in raising funds to supplement the organization's budget. Its mission is to contribute financially to the operation of the center and to promote public awareness of our special needs children and families. Its vision is to provide assurance, information and education to other parents, promote awareness to the community and to encourage parents to become their child's best advocate. Among many goals for the future of DCEC, the Circle of Friends strives to help fund a permanent location for DCEC and provide updated teaching materials, educational toys and equipment designed especially for preschoolers with special needs.



The level of success a child will experience in his/her life greatly depends upon the building blocks of development he/she receives early in life.

#### **Volunteers**

Opportunities are always available for anyone who wishes to volunteer at the center. Please call ahead so we can be prepared for your visit!



### Mentoring

DCEC hosts area college-level education and nursing students for their clinical experiences and observations. We also offer opportunities for young adults with special needs to volunteer with children and learn functional life skills such as interactions with young children, light house-keeping tasks, and appropriate social interactions.

#### **Hours of Operation:**

Monday – Friday 7:30am – 3:00 pm Extended hours are available until 5:00pm for working parents and those in school full time.

Email: dcec.admin@ccrealm.com Web: DCECAndersonSC.com www.facebook.com/DCECAnderson **D**evelopmental

Center for

**E**xceptional

Children



# **DCEC**

1100 West Franklin Street Anderson, SC 29624 (864) 260-4546 Fax (864) 231-1766

> Liz Baysden Director



# **History of DCEC**

Because schools offered no classes to special needs children, Kristina Radcliff with the Association of Retarded Citizens (ARC) created the Developmental Center for Exceptional Children (DCEC) in June 1974, at the First Baptist Church of Anderson. This program offered services to special needs children from birth to 13 years of age. As school services became available, DCEC continued serving children age birth to five as part of the Anderson County Disabilities and Special Needs Board. Over the course of its existence, the program has relocated to Belton Presbyterian Church and then to the Zion Street location until it moved back to Anderson in 1991. Though it has been housed in various locations, the program has remained in Anderson since 1991.

In January, 2009, state budget cuts resulted in DCEC losing 100% of state funding. In July 2009, partial state funding was reinstated, but this was not enough to sustain the program. On August 1, 2010, DCEC became a private, non-profit organization.

DCEC now receives funding from various sources such as United Way, County Council, partial state funding, a variety of grants, ABC Childcare and Special Needs Vouchers, fundraising through Circle of Friends, private donations, and weekly fees. Families pay fees based on DDSN eligibility and ABC voucher criteria.

#### What is DCEC?

DCEC is a center based program that offers year-round full day services for children with special needs, birth to age 10, who meet or have previously met criteria for Anderson County DSN services. We serve children with Autism, Down Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy, Developmental Delays, Genetic Disorders, Medical Conditions, Dietary Restrictions and Severe Allergies, Physical/Vision/Hearing Impaired, Seizure Disorders, Neuromuscular Conditions, Traumatic Brain injury, Cystic Fibrosis, Hydrocephaly, Microcephaly, Muscular Miopathy, Muscular Dystrophy, etc.

#### **Our Mission**

To serve Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens County children with disabilities and special needs or those who are at risk of developing delays in a therapeutic setting designed to meet their individual needs.

#### **Vision Statement**

A future where all Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens County children with disabilities can thrive.

#### **Values**

- We value all children regardless of walk of life.
- We value all children regardless of disability.
- We value a community where all children with special needs and disabilities can thrive.
- We value all children regardless of race, color, religious beliefs or gender.

## Why DCEC?

- We offer early intervention services to children with special needs from birth to age 10 years.
- ✓ We offer a small staff to child ratio in our classrooms to ensure safety and provide quality one on one instructional time.
- Staff members receive specialized training in providing services to children with special needs and their families.
  - We offer a developmentally appropriate environment that enhances learning abilities of children with special needs.
- ✓ We work with various public school districts in Anderson County for the children to support their development according to Individual Education Plans (IEPs).
- AnMed HealthPediatric Therapy Works (PTW) provides on-site physical, occupational, and speech therapy to children birth to 10 years of age.
- We follow therapists' instructions to supplement and support each child's daily therapy needs.



# **DCEC Donation Form** Name: Address: Phone: Email: **Donation Amount:** □ cash □