



Central Tampa FSRC Success Story: Tracie Britt

Tracie Britt first visited the Children's Board of Hillsborough County's Central Tampa Family Support & Resource Center to attend a provider workshop for child care centers, but before she left, she discovered new doors about to open along her life's journey.

When leaving the workshop, Tracie saw a calendar from the Central Tampa FSRC and noticed that there was an Employability Workshop, which is a series that helps with cover letters and resumes, interviewing skills, job searches, proper attire, and keeping the job. She attended the workshop and took away knowledge to help with her job searches.

Although Tracie multiple college degrees and has managed a business and worked for Hillsborough County Public Schools and Head Start – where she was Teacher of the Year in 2003 – she was recently unemployed for time, so she utilized that time by enrolling in some of the classes that the Resource Center has to offer to so that she could open her own child care center.

Tracie, who has an extensive background in childcare and teaching, was thrilled to find out that the Resource Center also offered CPR and First Aid classes. "I already had my license to operate a child care center, but I needed to take some classes and be current on my certifications in order to teach," she said. "This has been such a blessing. I was able to get into the First Aid and CPR classes without being put on a waiting list. And think about it: all of this was free."

Tracie owns her own home and knows the importance of keeping both her personal and business finances and credit in order. She saw a flyer for "One on One Financial Coaching" offered through Bright Beginnings, which offers personal coaching with trained specialists to assist with credit, budgeting, and future planning, and signed up. She found some very useful techniques and tools to help her in her personal and professional life.

And then in June 2010 came some good news: Tracie was hired as an assistant teacher for the summer program at the Ruskin FSRC. In the fall she plans to tutor at the Central Tampa FSRC and possibly other sites.

All because she stopped by the Children's Board and visited the Central Tampa FSRC. "It has been my stepping stone," she said. She said, "I'm thankful that I learned about the center. It's comfortable, it's convenient, it's close, and there is no cost for any of the programs, or workshops. Now I'll be able in a position to donate back to the Children's Board."