

March 8, 2015

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley  
Office of the Governor  
1205 Pendleton Street  
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Honorable Nikki R. Haley:

The reason for this message is in regards to a letter I received on February 19, 2015. The letter stated incorrectly that due to the fact that I was “unwilling” to provide current proof of my income, my foster home license for SC DSS would not be renewed.

I have been a Foster Parent since 2003 in good standings. On February 6, 2015, a caseworker from the DSS removed a six month old child from my place of residence because I refused to give them copies of my monthly retirement and pension statements. I willingly allowed them to analyze these documents and take note of any information they needed from them. In this they easily could have made a written copy to keep on file. However, the caseworker wanted to make copies of my private financial documents to file them at the DSS office. In all this time of being a certified foster parent since 2003; this the first time anyone had asked to make copies of my income statements for renewal of license. As a result of recent Identity Thefts, I don't feel comfortable of DSS having copies of my monthly statements.

I have completed all the requirements and procedures that were needed for license renewal according to DSS's Policies and Procedure for Foster Family Home listed below:

- Completed 35 hours in Training
- Replaced two windows and four smoke detectors that were requested by the fire marshal. And passed the inspection.

- Filled out the financial statement form.
- Pet vaccination
- Associate's degree in Advance Childcare Management.

Below are some of many complaints that I had confronted with DSS:

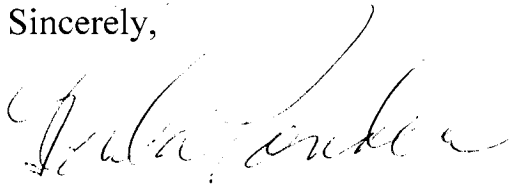
On November 13, 2013, I had three siblings that were dropped off to me with no DSS documentation provided, not even their names. The social worker went to go back into his vehicle to leave, and I stopped him and asked where the contract? He stated he didn't have the contract. I then asked what their names were and he wrote their Full name and dates of birth on a piece of paper and gave it to me which I provided a copy of in the attached documents. Two days from then, DSS called to inform me that they were coming to pick up the children; I let them know that I did not received the contract from the caseworker who came to drop them off. I told them I would not release the children to them until I had the Foster Parent Contract in hand.

Also on November 18, 2013, the caseworker brought three siblings to my home. I was scheduled to get paid for this contract in December 2013 which I didn't receive. After several attempts to reach out to DSS, I finally received my pay for November and December in the month of January 2014. A total of two months past the due pay period went by before I received my pay.

On July 15, 2014 a caseworker brought two siblings to my home one was 5yrs of age the other 3yrs of age. These children urinated on the carpet and the 5yr old would leave feces under the bed and put wet pull ups in the closet. Even after I got the carpets professionally cleaned a month later the 5yrs again urinated on the floor. I asked the child why he did this and he would say "Because I wanted to..." I notified the caseworker my concerns on the 5yr old having serious mental problems. I also went to the school seeking professional help for the child. Later they were moved to stay with their great grandmother after I set up the appointments for the child to seek professional help.

The purpose of this letter is because I need to know if this is a new policy update, if it is, I need a copy sent to me as soon as possible. In conclusion, there is no reason why DSS should refuse my relicense because I have been a licensed Foster Parent for over 10 years without running into any problems as far as renewing my license goes until now. After all that I am being accused of not providing proof of income when all requirements needed were provided. I have also taken the time out and attached documents to verify my hard work and time I put into having and keeping my license throughout the years.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Glenda Ponder', written in dark ink.

Glenda Ponder  
4767 Rainbow Lake Rd.  
Campobello, SC, 29322  
Tel. (864) 592- 3279



*Rec'd  
2-23-2015*

Lex Cole  
Chief Executive Director

February 19, 2015

Glenda Ponder  
4767 Rainbow Lake Road  
Campobello, SC 29322

Dear Ms. Ponder,

We appreciate your service as a foster parent over the years. However, due to your unwillingness to provide current proof of your income, your foster home license was non-renewed by SC DSS at your recent license expiration date. The SC DSS now requires current proof of income for all families at relicensure.

If you have any questions or concerns, you may contact me at 864-312-6700.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jocelyn Smith", is written over a faint, larger signature.

Jocelyn Smith  
Licensing Supervisor

Visit Us At:  
[www.scyap.com](http://www.scyap.com)

**RESOURCE FAMILY PROGRAM - UPSTATE**  
150 Executive Center Drive, Box 67 • Greenville, SC 29615  
Phone: (864) 312-6700 • Fax: (864) 297-6417 • Web: [www.scyap.com](http://www.scyap.com)



9  
Ms. Ponder,

I'm still having a very hard time with Jeriamayah arguing with me over our rules and clips. I thought I would type out how things went in the lunchroom today just so you will get an idea. I saw that he minded you very easily at PTO, so I know he can do what he is asked. I would appreciate any suggestions for dealing with him when he's like this. I thought I would get my dad to offer a reward for him for so many days on blue or yellow. I'm not very hopeful. Rewards do not seem to work with him. He can't seem to behave long enough to get the promised reward.

We had a really hard time on the carpet this morning also. He interrupts over morning announcements. He interrupts as I try to correct him. It really takes a lot of our instructional time.

I really try to move his clip down as often as I can. He did a really good job at tables and was on orange before lunch. I would have given him recess if he had stayed there. Anyway....here's how it went in the lunchroom.

We heard a horrible sound under the table. It was very close to me where he was sitting. He had kicked the table so hard that kids at the next table heard. He did like he always does and acts like he didn't know any better. So I told him he was on red now.

J: No, I didn't mean to

Ruff: You can't kick a table by accident.

J: So I still get some of my recess?

Ruff: No

J: so I get half my recess?

Ruff: no

Then he starts kicking the wheels of the table

Ruff: stop Jeriamayah

J: I'm not doing anything. His eyes never leave the wheels.

Ruff: stop kicking the wheels

J: just continues to kick

Ruff: This is why you miss recess. You will not stop doing things when you are asked.

J: But I still get some recess right?

This goes on a while and I'm just so tired of arguing with him.

We line up to come back to room and I put him with me in line. He argues all the way back about why he's out and how long he will sit.

I sat inside with him the 20 minutes and he just kept asking when he got to go out. If he doesn't improve his next stop is the principal.

We've already had one child sent and suspended and he came back understanding the rules. I hate to do that to him, but I REALLY think he understands more than he's letting on.

He said he wouldn't show you this note. I put a copy on clipboard and one hidden in folder in case he tried to hide it. I'm so sorry . I know you are doing so much for him. But let me know your tips on getting him to listen. I'm very strict, but I don't feel like it's working.

Thanks, Mrs. Ruff

Mrs. Ponder,

9-24-14

We had a really tough day with Jerimayah. He's been to red and moved down, been to red and moved down, and he ended up on red and beyond. There's finally nowhere to move his clip so he just has to stay on red. By 8:25 he had hit a child and told another to shut up. He made my whole group time impossible. He refuses to do a lot of activities so he will just turn his back to us on the carpet and say no to everything. It is so frustrating for me and the other students. We lose so much time begging him to participate. He's also started telling me "no" to working with volunteers. I have to stop teaching and pretend to call the office. He has to think Mrs. Wright is coming to see what he's doing or he will not go work with the volunteers. This is help he really needs.

He's also up wandering around with no permission a lot. He lost one for getting into something on Miss Johnson's table that she has told him to leave alone.....over....and .....over. He also lost one lining up for art. He ran and slapped at our family tree display on the wall. I told him not to do that. He did it again a few minutes later and tore some of it off the wall.

I just went ahead and typed this up so that his doctor could read about some of the behaviors we see at school. I hope he will have a better day tomorrow.

Mrs. Ponder,

Thanks,

Mrs. Ruff

I was putting a copy of this in Mrs. Wright's box at the end of the day. She said he needs to be suspended for a day for all this. She would like for you to come in at 8:00 Friday Morning to talk with her. He needs to stay home tomorrow.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

Form 104

Amy Ruff

Regular Education Teacher  
Regular Education Teacher  
Special Education Teacher

\*Initial Meeting Date:

9/29/14

Jodi Wright  
Paul Seymour

Administrator  
Counselor/Speech Therapist/Psychologist  
Other

Recommendations of Assistance Team:

Requesting a full language screenings.

Included 3 new interventions to try for  
6 weeks.

Alison Podge  
Amy Ruff

Parent  
Regular Education Teacher  
Regular Education Teacher  
Special Education Teacher

\*Second Meeting Date:

11/11/14

Jodi Wright  
Paul Seymour

Administrator  
Counselor/Speech Therapist/Psychologist  
Other

Katie Vickery

Recommendations of Assistance Team:

1 intervention for few SPED  
Changed intervention 2 to writing alphabet  
Changed intervention 3 to counting out loud to  
100. Will keep intervention #1. Speech RTI  
See speech meeting minutes.

Amy Ruff

Parent  
Regular Education Teacher  
Regular Education Teacher  
Special Education Teacher  
Administrator  
Counselor/Speech Therapist/Psychologist  
Other

Additional Meeting Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Recommendations of Assistance Team:

\* Required



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We had a really hard time on the carpet this morning also. He interrupts over morning announcements. He interrupts as I try to correct him. It really takes a lot of our instructional time.

I really try to move his clip down as often as I can. He did a really good job at tables and was on orange before lunch. I would have given him recess if he had stayed there. Anyway....here's how it went in the lunchroom.

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Thanks, Mrs. Ruff



HENRY C. GILES, JR.  
PRESIDENT

May 20, 2013

Ms. Glenda Ponder  
4767 Rainbow Lake Road  
Campobello, SC 29322

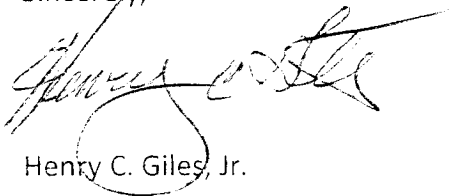
Dear Ms. Ponder;

I wanted to take this time to congratulate you on your perseverance in obtaining your Associate's Degree in Early Childhood Education from Spartanburg Community College in 2012 and your dream of starting your own business. Spartanburg Community College should have more students like you! You are to be commended for never giving up, although obstacles occurred.

You have received much notice in the media. The Herald Journal, the Spartanburg Magazine, and the SCC President's Newsletter have all run articles referencing you as a "Life Long Learner," a title all of us would be proud to have.

I wish you well in your future endeavors. If we at SCC can ever be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Henry C. Giles, Jr.

/gm

# Lifelong learners: Whitney Sanders and Glenda Ponder

**He entered Wofford at 14, she went to SCC at 65**

*By Felicia Kitzmiller*

*Published: Friday, April 5, 2013 at 11:35 a.m.*

For Glenda Ponder, one class turned into two more and before she knew it, she had an associate's degree from Spartanburg Community College.

In 2008, with aspirations to open her own daycare center in downtown, Ponder enrolled in an early childhood education class at SCC. The next semester, the long-time foster parent found herself without a child in her care, and her daughter was on military assignment in Germany with her grandchildren.

The retired FedEx employee wasn't used to having time on her hands, so she signed up for two more classes.

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“It was just something to do to keep me busy. I enjoyed it. After two years, I was like ‘I might as well get a degree, I’ve been here two years,’” she said.

She graduated with her associate's degree in advanced childcare management in May 2012.

At the school, Ponder said she was embraced by her younger classmates.

“Those kids really enjoyed me,” she said.

In her second year, Ponder was going into a math class when a student she didn't know called her name. The boy was the son of one of Ponder's high school friends who remembered her from his childhood. They studied together through the rest of the semester.

“I would call him or he would call me at night when we finished the problems. There were times I would have them right, sometimes he would have them right,” she said.

She said she struggled in her math classes and the class she enjoyed the most was management.

She wrote most of her papers and did research in the computer lab at the library, which she dubbed her “office.”

When she graduated, Ponder said she thought she had an arrangement with the owner of a downtown building to launch her daycare and after school program. The building was perfect, and located only a few blocks from SCC's upcoming campus at the Evan's Building.

“I wanted to help the young mothers who wanted to go back to school,” Ponder said.

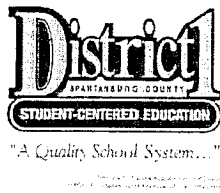
She was working on her business plan when she drove by the building and saw a sold sign in the window.

“It was like a balloon flying and you punch a hole in it. I just fell flat,” she said.

Then she investigated creating a service hub where people in need could come for a hot meal, clothing, or whatever else they needed. She was set to visit a similar facility in Columbia, when she learned that venture went out of business.

For right now, Ponder said she spends her time helping a 107-year-old woman in her community and studying her bible. She said she is praying and waiting for God to show her how to pursue her passion for helping people.

“The only thing that makes me feel like I'm doing something – that makes my day complete – is to help someone,” she said.



## Spartanburg School District One Minutes Form

Student Name

Jaramayah Harris

Date of Meeting

11/14/14

Print Name

Glenda Ponder  
Jodi Wright

Signature:

Glenda Ponder  
Jodi Wright

Parent(s)/Guardian

LEA

Special Education Teacher

Regular Education Teacher

Speech

Transition

Other

School Psychologist

Director

Amy Ruff  
Katie Vickery

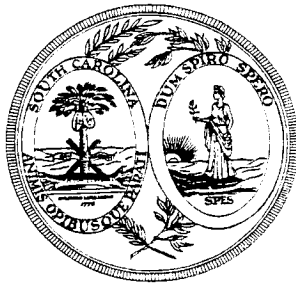
April Seymour  
Meg Harrison  
Trish Beason

Amy Ruff  
Katie Vickery  
April Seymour  
Meg Harrison  
Trish Beason

### Meeting Minutes

Meeting held to discuss speech <sup>supervising</sup> results and other concerns from Jaramayah Harris and school. Based on the results the SLE will implement some strategies in interventions working with the regular ed. teacher. Mrs. Ruff the regular ed. teacher shared the progress Jaramayah has made since the beginning of the year. He is now able to recognize all 52 to the letter. He can write 1-20 and 100+ correspondence to 10. Behavior is the most serious concern. Mental Health sees him once a week. The recommendation of the team is for the mental health counselor to get him an appointment at the center as soon as possible for an assessment with ~~him~~ psychiatrist.

presenter for services. Mr. Ponder will  
check with the social workers on  
services he has already received and  
what additional services might be  
available through Child Advocates. This  
meeting also serves as the 2nd/3rd year of  
meeting. Interventions will continue and  
he will be expected to count out lead to  
100 and write 150% of his letters.



South Carolina Department of Social Services  
Columbia, South Carolina

# A License is Hereby Granted to

Glenda Ponder

To conduct a Foster Home

under the provision of Act No. 334, § 3 enacted March 10, 1986

located at 4767 Rainbow Lake Road, Campobello

County of Spartanburg State of South Carolina.

This license is issued with the following specifications:

To care full time for a maximum of four children, either gender, from birth to ten years of age.

This license will expire 2/15/2015 by operation of law. However, the license is subject to revocation by the South Carolina Department of Social Services for the substantial violation of any provisions of the statute under which it is issued, or any of the rules and regulations adopted by the South Carolina Department of Social Services and filed with the Legislative Council.

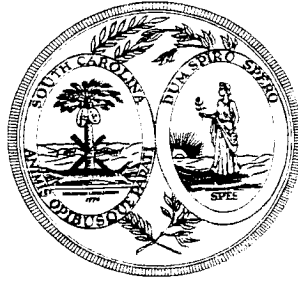
Issued this 11th day of September, 2014

South Carolina Department of Social Services

By *Lundeen M. Intertre*

License No. 0001003441001





South Carolina Department of Social Services  
Columbia, South Carolina

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To conduct a Foster Home

under the provision of Act No. 334, § 3 enacted March 10, 1986

located at 4767 Rainbow Lake Road, Campobello

County of Spartanburg State of South Carolina.

This license is issued with the following specifications:

To care full time for a maximum of three (3) children, either gender, from birth to ten (10) years of age.

This license will expire 2/15/2015 by operation of law. However, the license is subject to revocation by the South Carolina Department of Social Services for the substantial violation of any provisions of the statute under which it is issued, or any of the rules and regulations adopted by the South Carolina Department of Social Services and filed with the Legislative Council.

Issued this 13th day of November, 2013

South Carolina Department of Social Services

By *Laundrea M. Intuitive*

License No. 0001003441001



South Carolina Department of Social Services  
Columbia, South Carolina

## A License is Hereby Granted to

Glenda Ponder

To conduct a Foster Home

under the provision of Act No. 334, § 3 enacted March 10, 1986

located at 4767 Rainbow Lake Road, Campobello

County of Spartanburg State of South Carolina.

This license is issued with the following specifications:

To care full time for a maximum of two (2) children, either gender, from birth to ten (10) years of age.

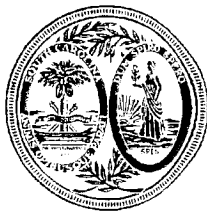
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Issued this 16th day of February, 2013

South Carolina Department of Social Services

By 

License No. 0001003441001



South Carolina Department of Social Services  
Columbia, South Carolina

## A License is Hereby Granted to

Ponder, Glenda R

To conduct a Foster Home

under the provision of Act No. 334, § 3 enacted March 10, 1986

located at 4767 Rainbow Lake Road , Campobello

County of SPARTANBURG State of South Carolina.

This license is issued with the following specifications:

Standard License - to care full-time for a maximum of two (2) children of either gender from birth to ten (10) years old.

This license will expire on 02/17/2013 by operation of law.

However, the license is subject to revocation by the South Carolina Department of Social Services for the substantial violation of any provisions of the statute under which it is issued, or any of the rules and regulations adopted by the South Carolina Department of Social Services and filed with the Legislative Council.

Issued this 17 day of February, 2011

South Carolina Department of Social Service

By

Susan C. O'Dole

License No 000100344100



South Carolina Department of Social Services  
Columbia, South Carolina

## A License is Hereby Granted to

Ponder, Gienda R

To conduct a Foster Home

under the provision of Act No. 334, § 3 enacted March 10, 1986

located at 4767 Rainbow Lake Road, Campobello

County of SPARTANBURG State of South Carolina.

This license is issued with the following specifications:

Standard License - to care full time for a maximum of two (2) children, either gender, from birth to ten (10) years old.

This license will expire on 02/17/2011 by operation of law.

However, the license is subject to revocation by the South Carolina Department of Social Services for the substantial violation of any provisions of the statute under which it is issued, or any of the rules and regulations adopted by the South Carolina Department of Social Services and filed with the Legislative Council.

Issued this 16 day of March, 2009

South Carolina Department of Social Service

By Susan C. O'Dole

License No 000100344100



South Carolina Department of Social Services  
Columbia, South Carolina

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Ponder, Glenda R

To conduct a Foster Home

under the provision of Act No. 334, § 3 enacted March 10, 1986

located at 4767 Rainbow Lake Road , Campobello

County of SPARTANBURG State of South Carolina.

This license is issued with the following specifications:

Standard License - to care full time for a maximum of two (2) children, either gender, from one (1) to ten (10) years old.

This license will expire on 02/17/2011 by operation of law.

However, the license is subject to revocation by the South Carolina Department of Social Services for the substantial violation of any provisions of the statute under which it is issued, or any of the rules and regulations adopted by the South Carolina Department of Social Services and filed with the Legislative Council.

Issued this 17 day of February, 2009

South Carolina Department of Social Service

By Susan C. O'Doyle

License No 000100344100

11-13-2013

Nyla Vongdevane 9/25/08

William Winfrey 5/9/11

Auston Winfrey 5/5/12

REFERENCES:

Blair Campbell  
CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH  
(864) 415-9345

Mrs. Jodi Wright  
Principle  
NEW PROSPECT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
(864) 592-1970

Julianne Dixon  
Tutor Coordinator  
Spartanburg County Public Library  
(864) 592-4798

Jerry Cannon  
Charter  
(864) 909-2059

Lakita Lakitaortiz  
Client  
(864) 398-8723

Charlene Albanese  
CEO  
(415) 497-4100

Mrs. Amy Ruff  
Teacher  
New Prospect Elementary School  
(864) 1970

Sheron Goforth  
Case Worker  
Cherokee County Department of Social Service  
(864) 487-2704 Ex.230

Pamela Burgess  
Student  
(864) 706-8682