



SOCIAL SERVICES NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CATAWBA COUNTY HAS CRITICAL NEED FOR MORE FOSTER PARENTS

HICKORY -- Catawba County has a critical need for additional foster parents. Foster families help care for children and rebuild families in crisis through mentoring and partnerships with birth families.

An informational meeting for people interested in becoming foster parents is held the second Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Family Services Center, located at 3050 11th Ave. Dr. SE, behind Catawba Valley Medical Center.

There is currently a need for 10 families willing to foster sibling groups of three to four children, ages birth through 12 in regular foster care. There is also a need for 15 families willing to foster children ages 6-16 in therapeutic foster care.

Foster families are provided with training and assistance as they work to meet the needs of foster children, according to Sarah Shumate, a social work supervisor at Family Builders of the Catawba Valley, the foster and adoption unit of Catawba County Social Services.

For more information, please contact Sharon Hamby at 828-695-4553, or go to <http://www.catawbacountync.gov/dss/FamilyBuilders/Foster.asp>.

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