



# Mentor Spot Light

“Why did you decide to become a Mentor?”

Question of the Month

I am willing to mentor others because I want to promote quality family child care and offer friendship during challenging times. To be there when they need somebody to be there.

*The family Child Care Steps to Quality Network is designed to support a providers commitment to creating a high quality program that focuses on four elements of success: education of the provider; high quality environments; strong business practices and planning; and the development and maintenance of positive relationships with both children and their parents.*

## Blanche Holford

Blanche has been in the early childhood field since 1998. Becoming a licensed childcare provider when her own children's provider moved from the area. Blanche was devastated by the loss, but decided to open her own business. She has found it to be very rewarding. Blanche is passionate about quality care and is a “People—person.” Besides her business, or “her extended family,” Blanche is involved with all of her kids sports programs; that keeps her very busy.



In speaking to Blanche, it becomes apparent that besides a passion for quality child care, she has a passion for the providers; to encourage them and see that they have educational opportunities to learn about business, setting their professional goals and making the business uniquely their own by setting business goals and meeting them. When asked what defined Blanche as an individual, she said “What defines me is my family, volunteer work and continuing my education.” I can add, her friendship to others, and the strength that it can require, defines

- When and where did you complete your early childhood education?

I completed my Early Childhood AA degree in 1988 from Cuesta College.

- What are your short and long-term career or personal goals?

I want to complete my BA in Early Childhood education; become reaccredited through the NAFYC and assist my daughter through college.

## Holford's Lil Jungle

