



UMFS Parents of the Month
March 2008
NeShara Gaston

NeShara Gaston is an African American woman who resides in Richmond, Virginia. NeShara does not have any children of her own, but she is an aunt to 8 neices and nephews. An aunt raised NeShara and her four siblings after their mother passed away when NeShara was only 5 years old.

NeShara's professional career is devoted to helping children and youth in need. NeShara has worked in youth shelters, as a juvenile probation officer, and in various foster care positions. She is currently an In-Home Counselor for children and their families. NeShara has an excellent understanding of the Child Welfare System and is an excellent team player. She says that she really loves children and hates to see them hurt or in dangerous situations, and feels a great deal of value in her work with children. NeShara became interested in Resource Parenting because she wants to share her life with a child and to be a parent.

NeShara has the knowledge and skills to work with children with a variety of special needs. She was originally interested in parenting a female between the ages of 4-12, but when an opportunity to work with a teenager was presented to her, she seized the moment and formed a strong connection with the teen. NeShara has since decided to open her home to a wider age range of females. Although NeShara has educational and work experience working with children, she accepts the role of UMFS and is open to a variety of wrap-around services, such as In-Home Family Services, mentoring, and outpatient counseling.

NeShara enjoys playing tennis, geography, exercising, watching movies, listening to music, reading, photography and scrapbooking. She has strong connections with her friends and family and values the time she spends with them. She is also active in her church community.

NeShara is a selfless Resource Parent who is committed to advocating for the needs of children and has many skills and talents that she can share with a child in her care.

