



# Stanly County Partnership For Children Report to the Community

*“Reaching out to families with children ages birth through five”*

**Giving Every Child**

**A**

**Smart  
START**

**in Stanly County**

**MISSION**

*“The mission of Stanly County Partnership For Children is to make early childhood resources available to young children and their families that result in young children being properly cared for (healthy, safe, age appropriately educated) and enabled to enter school ready to learn.”*



**Stanly County Partnership For Children (Smart Start)**

Stanly County Commons, 1000 North First Street – Suite 8 • Post Office Box 2165, Albemarle, North Carolina 28002  
(704) 982-2038 • FAX (704) 983-8981 • Website: [www.stanlypartnership.org](http://www.stanlypartnership.org)

# Stanly County Partnership For Children Board of Directors 2010-2011

## BOARD CHAIR:

**Matt Irvin**  
*Business Representative*

## VICE-CHAIR:

**Frank Sparger**  
*Business Representative*

## SECRETARY:

**Dr. Lisa Brandyberry**  
*Community Mental Health  
Representative*

## TREASURER:

**Michael Sandy**  
*Community Representative*

## BOARD MEMBERS:

**Dr. LaMonica Barnum**  
*Parent of Child Receiving Services*

**Susie Bowers**  
*Home Childcare Provider*

**Kevin Carle**  
*Center Childcare Provider*

**Margie Covington**  
*Head Start Representative*

**Tony Dennis**  
*County Commissioner*

**Dr. Samuel DePaul**  
*School Superintendent*

**Dr. Connie Eckman**  
*Foundation Representative*

**Martha Sue Hall**  
*Municipal Government*

**Melanie Holles**  
*Public Library Director*

**Elaine Hollins**  
*Business Representative*

**Lori Ivey**  
*Cooperative Extension Director*

**Dennis Joyner**  
*Health Department Director*

**Carla King**  
*Community Representative*

**Angela Krol**  
*Business Representative*

**Andy Lucas**  
*County Manager*

**Albert Rush**  
*Community Representative*

**Sharon Scott**  
*Social Services Director*

**Brian Taylor**  
*Community Representative*

**Michael Taylor**  
*Community College President*

**Valerie Washington**  
*Religious Community*

**Jeanette Wilhelm**  
*Parent*

**Amy Yow**  
*Non-Profit Representative*

## STANLY COUNTY PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN – SMART START Annual Report to the Community

Fiscal Year July 2009-June 2010

The Board of Directors and staff at the Stanly County Partnership for Children-Smart Start are pleased to share with you our 2009-2010 Annual Report. As the local Smart Start agency, we strive to ensure that every child in Stanly County arrives at kindergarten healthy and ready to succeed. At the end of the 2009-2010 fiscal year, Stanly County Partnership for Children had administrated over \$1.8 million of state, federal and private funds. Providing learning opportunities for our youngest children (0-5 years of age) is an investment in the future for everyone in our community.



**WHITLEY**

Stanly County Partnership for Children provides services and funding that focus on several main core service areas: Early Care including childcare quality and affordability/availability, Education, Health, and Family Support. Since the inception of Stanly County Partnership for Children in late 1993, nearly \$32 million of Smart Start funds has come to Stanly County to provide a variety of programs either directly or through contracts with local providers to ensure that children are ready to enter kindergarten. This effort not only has made a tremendous difference in children being ready to start to school, but has made a strong economic impact on our county...directly and indirectly. This past fiscal year has been especially important in working toward our goal of every child being ready, both mentally and physically, to enter kindergarten ready to succeed. Positive changes in the quality of childcare in Stanly County are indicated by the increased number of 4 and 5 Star Rated facilities this fiscal year. Research shows high quality childcare has a direct impact on a child's preparedness for school. A continued focus was on childhood obesity prevention. Children with obesity concerns are on the increase and we must step up the efforts to reduce obesity in young children. We also continue to address improving the education competence of all childcare providers/teachers. Research shows that the more education teachers/childcare providers have the higher quality of care and instruction they will provide.

The Stanly County Partnership for Children presents the information in our annual report to illustrate our achievements with the Smart Start investment of funds during last fiscal year through the core services provided. We continue striving to value every child in Stanly County and invest our resources in families whether their children are in regulated childcare settings or at home. We welcome as well as encourage your support and your help in this endeavor. If you would like to volunteer, make a donation, or just find out more, please call us at 704-982-2038 or come by to see us in Stanly County Commons, 1000 North First Street, Suite 8, Albemarle, NC.

## What is Smart Start?

- ☛ Created by the North Carolina General Assembly in 1993 Smart Start is the state's early childhood infrastructure. Smart Start's 77 local partnerships serving all 100 North Carolina counties provide the network on the ground that is needed to produce efficient and effective results for children birth to five.
- ☛ Local partnerships serve as a system to convene stakeholders to assess local needs; ensure accountability; and leverage private, community, state and federal resources.
- ☛ Stanly County's Smart Start agency – started in 1994 as one of the first twelve Partnership's in North Carolina.

## Why Stanly County Partnership For Children?

- ☛ Neuroscience has changed how we think of the earliest years. Images of the brain show that the experiences children have early in life literally shape the wiring of the brain and strongly affect whether a child grows up to be a healthy, productive member of society.
- ☛ The social, educational, and economic benefits of quality early education are so clear that the U.S. Chamber of Commerce released a 2010 report saying, "Early childhood education has a tremendous impact on the national economic security and the viability of the American dream."

## Stanly County Partnership For Children Staff

### ADMINISTRATION:

**Barbara D. Whitley**  
*Executive Director*  
**Loreta Tate**  
*Financial Manager*

### CHILD CARE SERVICES:

**Denise Smith**  
*CCS Coordinator*  
**Mandy Morgan**  
*CCS Specialist*  
**Sandy Cook**  
*CCS Technical Assistant*  
**Susan Barbee**  
*CCS Technical Assistant & CES*  
**Linda Solomon**  
*CCS Program Support Assistant*  
**Glenda Hill**  
*ECRC Lead Specialist*  
**Gay Almond**  
*ECRC Resource Specialist*  
**Cathy Barbee**  
*ECRC Resource Specialist*

### OUTREACH SERVICES:

**Tammy Albertson**  
*Programs & Outreach Coordinator*

### PARENTS AS TEACHERS:

**Margaret Hightower**  
*PAT Coordinator*  
**Michelle Cumming**  
*PAT Parent Educator*  
**Igmaliana Austin**  
*PAT Parent Educator*

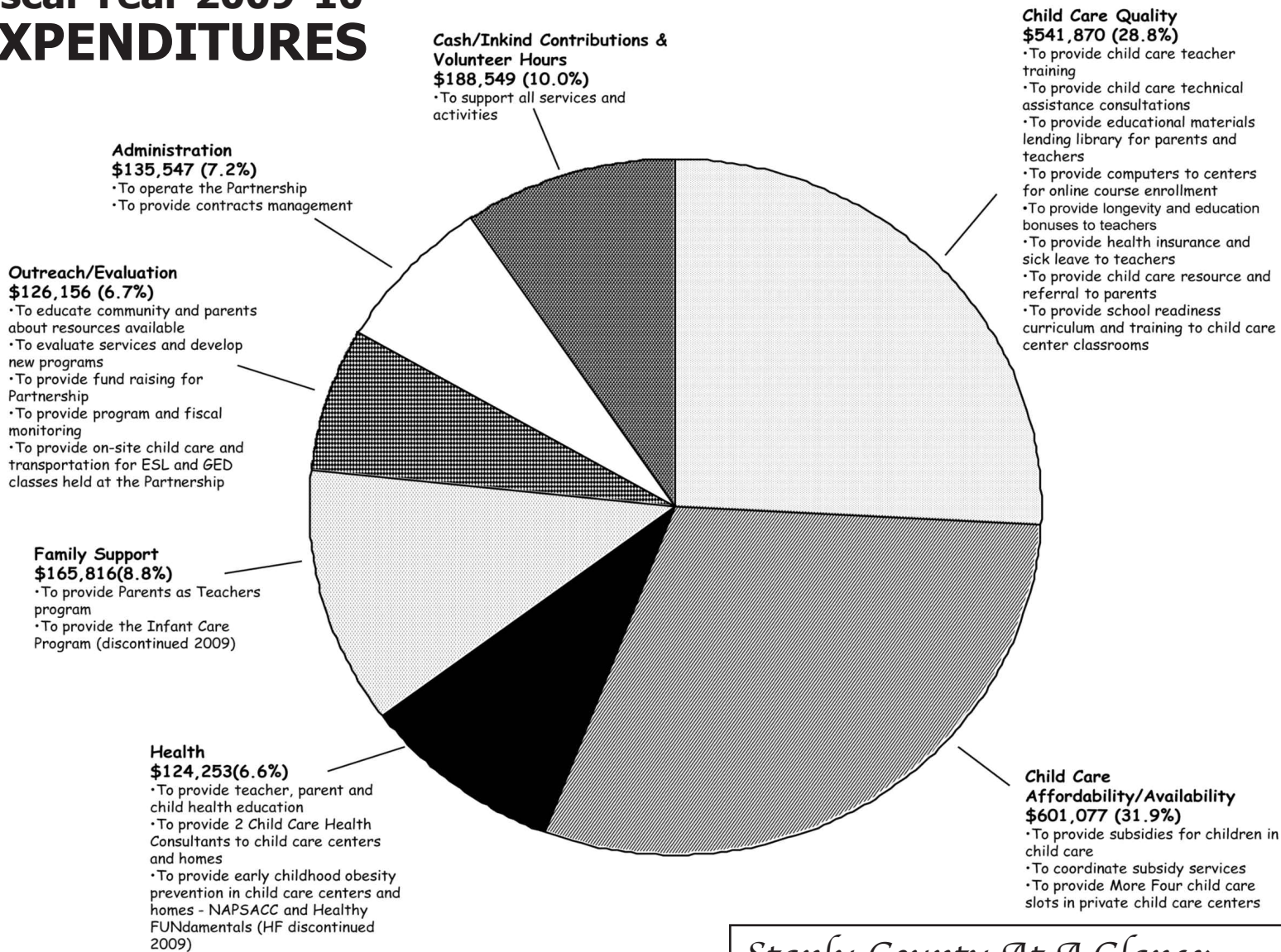
### SCHOOL READINESS:

**Bonnie Aldridge**  
*School Readiness Coordinator*  
**Trina Plowman**  
*Program Support Assistant*  
**Martha Wolf**  
*More At Four Manager*

### FAMILY LEARNING CENTER:

**Jane Medlin**  
*Childcare Provider*  
**Gaynelle Thompson**  
*Childcare Provider*  
**Wendy Treadaway**  
*Childcare Provider*

# Fiscal Year 2009-10 EXPENDITURES



## DID YOU KNOW?

- **Ninety-two cents of every Smart Start dollar goes directly to ensuring that children and families have the experiences they need to thrive.**
- **Federal and private funders have invested millions of dollars in North Carolina's early childhood system because Smart Start provides the local network on the ground that is needed to produce efficient and effective results.**
- **The power of Smart Start is in its public/private partnership that mandates outcomes, while giving communities local control to determine the best approach to achieving them.**

## Stanly County At A Glance:

Indicator (data for 2010 unless otherwise noted)	Stanly County	NC
• Population (2009)	60,079	9,382,609
• Persons under 5 years old, number (percent of population) (2009)	3,783 (6.3%)	666,716 (7.1%)
• Median family income (2008)	\$45,673	\$46,574
• Unemployment Rate (6/2010)	11.6%	10.2%
• Children birth to age 5 living below poverty (2008)	18.2%	20%
• Percentage of children under age 6 living in single parent home (2009)	39.2%	40.8%
• Births to mothers 17 and younger (2009)	5.1%	3.8%
• Percent children ages 2-4 overweight (2009)	13.9%	15.4%
• Number of licensed child care centers	33	4,926
• Number of licensed child care homes	22	3,586
• Total number of children ages 0-5 enrolled in regulated childcare	1,295 (34%)	188,767 (28%)
• Number of child care providers in work force among licensed child care facilities	309	46,045
• Total Direct Economic Impact of Child Care Industry (2007)	\$49,722,293	\$8,240,162,846

# Smart Start Focuses on Quality Early Childhood Education

Stanly County Partnership For Children Addresses It Through

## Child Care Services

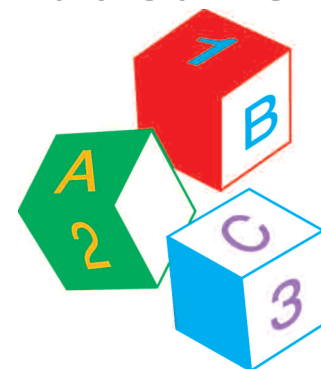
## Early Childhood Resource Center (ECRC)

## WAGES®

## Quality Stars Program

## School Readiness

## Continuing Education Services



**Child Care Services** – Child Care Services maintains a database of licensed family child care homes, licensed child care centers, legally exempt child care providers, part-day programs, and seasonal care programs in the county and is available to provide referrals and answer questions regarding child care. In addition, Child Care Services staff work with child care providers to achieve a higher level of quality care via the Environment Rating Scales (ERS) and also work with child care providers needing technical assistance in opening a child care facility, room arrangement, curriculum, child behavior, age appropriate practices, business/ management issues, increasing star license, and other areas of interest. For more

information call 704-982-0286.

**Early Childhood Resource Center** – A lending library of educational materials developmentally appropriate for preschool aged children. Materials include games, puppets, videos, toys, and many other items. Items may be checked out after obtaining a membership. For more information call 704-985-1418.

**WAGES®** – Turnover and lack of teacher education directly affects the quality of child care. The WAGES® program is a statewide education-based salary supplement initiative created and administered by Child Care Services Association (CSSA), a non-profit agency in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. WAGES® provides a wage supplement for child care

providers to improve their level of Early Childhood Education and promotes teacher retention. For more information call 704-982-0286.

**Quality Stars Program** – Monetary bonuses are provided to child care facilities which includes both child care centers and family child care homes with a four or five star rating. For more information call 704-982-0286.

**School Readiness** – This activity assists licensed child care centers with school readiness information and materials to prepare children to enter school ready to succeed. The Coordinator works with local kindergarten teachers to provide information to child care providers and families on skills and

abilities that would be beneficial to children entering kindergarten. The Coordinator also works with licensed facilities to implement *The Creative Curriculum* into their programs. For more information call 704-982-0286.

**Continuing Education Services** – This activity is designed to promote child care provider education through professional development, increasing the awareness of child care providers of Early Childhood Education (ECE) programs and the Success On-Line Program. Child care providers who are employed in a licensed child care center and enrolled in on-line ECE courses may be eligible for this program. For more information, call 704-982-0286.

## Quality Early Childhood Successes in Stanly County

### Child Care Provider Consultation, Training and Resources

- ☆ 89% of child care facilities in Stanly County received technical assistance to improve quality child care.
- ☆ Nearly two-thirds (61%) of (188 of 309) child care staff received training funded by Smart Start.
- ☆ 82% of childcare centers and 61% of child care homes were members of the Early Childhood Resource Center during 2009-10 allowing use of a variety of high quality educational materials to supplement their classroom and instruction.

### Child Care Provider Salary Supplements and Benefits

- ☆ Smart Start provided 44% (135 of 309) of Stanly County Early Childhood teachers with salary supplements (through the WAGES program or Quality Stars Program).
- ☆ 49 teachers received health benefits through Smart Start funding.
- ☆ 93% of child care providers indicated that WAGES either encourages them to stay in their current programs or to pursue further education.

### Continuing Education for Child Care Providers

- ☆ 43 teachers took online courses as a result of Smart Start provided computers.

### Child Care Referrals for Families

- ☆ 43 child care referrals were provided for families with preschool-aged children during 2009-10 which included an explanation of the quality indicators to look for when choosing child care.

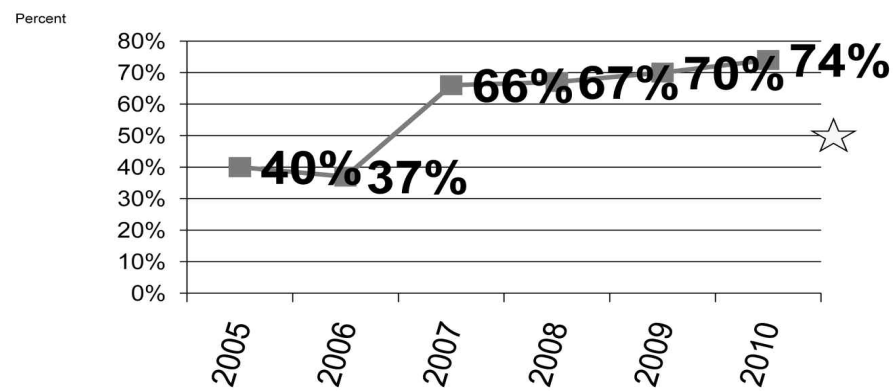
### School Readiness

- ☆ The School Readiness Coordinator worked with 11 centers during 2009-10 providing training on the implementation of the Creative Curriculum. Six of these centers completed the training series. This nationally recognized curriculum provides readiness information and materials to prepare these children to enter school ready to succeed.

### Excerpt from a teacher regarding the Quality Stars Program and WAGES:

“Thank you for all your work and accomplishments in getting supplements for the Daycare Centers and their teacher in Stanly County. I appreciate the supplement I receive. Each program helps our centers to purchase the needed supplies that enhance the care and learning of our preschool population. I appreciate each of you who work at the Partnership.”

Percentage of Stanly County Children Ages 0-5 Enrolled in 4 and 5 Star Rated\* Facilities



\*Child care facilities are given quality ratings from 1 to 5 stars with 5 being the highest quality.

☆ PBIS Min. Standard =>50%

## Stanly County Four and Five Star Facilities

### Four Star Facilities

All Star Learning Center of Stanly County of NC, Inc.  
 Bright Beginnings of NC, Inc.  
 Countryside Kids Club, Inc.  
 Dorothy Hartsell Day Care Home  
 Fun-N-Learning  
 Kiddie Kare Day Care Center  
 Kiddie Kare Too  
 Miss Debbie's Day Care Home  
 Quality Home Child Care  
 Richfield Pre-K  
 Stanfield Pre-K  
 Sweet Home Child Development Center  
 The Son-Shine Kids Learning Center, Inc.  
 Wee Ones Care

### Five Star Facilities

Edward's Day Care Home  
 Just Us Kids Day Care  
 Little Creations Day Center  
 Little Friends # 2  
 Norwood Headstart and Child Development Center  
 Norwood Pre-K  
 Oakboro Kid's Club  
 Quality Child Care Center, Inc.  
 Richfield Child Development Center, Inc.  
 Stanly County Headstart  
 Susie's Friends DayCare

These child care facilities have strived to obtain and maintain these ratings. Stanly County Partnership For Children is very proud of these facilities for all that they do for our children. Let's remember to thank our child care providers for trying to improve the quality of care for our children. If you would like more information about these facilities, please call the Child Care Services Department at 704-982-0286.

## Smart Start Focuses on Affordable and Available Child Care

### Stanly County Partnership For Children Addresses It Through Child Care Subsidy

Smart Start, in conjunction with the Department of Social Services provides funds to assist with child care expenses for qualifying parents who have their children in a registered or licensed child care facility. For more information call 704-982-6100.

### More At Four

Smart Start, working in partnership with Stanly County Schools provide More At Four slots in public schools, child care facilities and Head Start facilities. These slots are only available to qualifying four-year-olds. For more information call 704-985-1666.

## Child Care Availability and Affordability Successes in Stanly County

- ☆ The statewide goal for each county is to have at least 65% of children from low income families served by one of these programs: Head Start, public and/or non-public pre-K/More At Four programs or subsidized child care. Stanly County exceeded this minimum standard with 69% of low income children served by one of these programs.
- ☆ Smart Start provided 143 pre-k aged children (who qualified financially) with child care subsidies in order that their parents could attend school or work.
- ☆ Smart Start provided funds for 136 children to attend More @ Four classrooms in 7 private, licensed four or five star child care centers.
- ☆ The statewide goal for the percentage of children receiving subsidized child care that are enrolled in regulated child care programs is at least 90%. Stanly County exceeds this goal with 100% of subsidized children enrolled in regulated, licensed care. Of those, 77% are enrolled in high quality 4 or 5 star rated facilities.

*Child Care Services Technical Assistance  
 Excerpts from Child Care Provider letters and surveys:*

*"Recently the Child Care Services staff conducted a mock environmental rating scale at our center to help prepare us for the "real" state licensing assessment. The technical assistants were professional and friendly. They have been a valuable resource to our center. It is heartwarming to see the responsiveness that each of our child care staff displayed in doing their very best to implement the ideas provided by Child Care Services staff in their classrooms and with the children."*

*"Technical Assistance provided by SCPC helped improve our child care quality in our classrooms and I feel like we are more prepared for the state star rating visit."*

# Smart Start Focuses on Children's Health

Stanly County Partnership For Children Addresses It Through

## Outreach Health Services Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care (NAP SACC)

**Outreach Health Services** – In collaboration with the Stanly County Health Department the Child Care Health Consultants (CCHC) address child care quality related to health and safety issues. This activity provides assessments and technical assistance to child care facilities focusing on health, safety and nutrition practices. Health education, including at-risk indicators and safety classes are provided for child care providers, parents and children. For more information call 704-986-3053.

**NAP SACC** – An intervention in 3-5 star child care centers aimed at improving the environments,

policies and practices of nutrition and physical activity through self-assessment and technical assistance targeting young children ages two to five. The NAP SACC project includes self-assessment, action planning, workshop delivery, targeted technical assistance, evaluation, revision and repetition. The center director/staff complete a pre- and post-self assessment. Results show change in the center's nutritional quality of food served, amount and quality of physical activity, staff-child interactions, and the center's nutrition and physical activity policy. For more information call 704-982-2038.

### Child Care Provider Comments about Outreach Health Services:

"The nurses keep us informed if there is an outbreak or anything and teach us info about diseases. Joy is so polite. This means a lot to us. She is always getting things across in a very polite, well mannered way. Advice is well received by our teachers."

"Our RN is friendly to me and our kids everytime. Anytime I have questions, all I have to do is call. Super job!"

"Our health care consultant is very friendly and appreciative of the work at my center. She is loving towards the children and teachers. She is very knowledgeable in her field."



Child care providers participating in a Healthy Teeth class

# Health and Safety Successes in Stanly County

- ☆ 686 preschool children received health education in child care facilities in Stanly County.
- ☆ Sixty-two percent (192 of 309) child care provider teachers received health/safety education.
- ☆ 143 parents received health related education.
- ☆ 49 licensed child care centers and homes were served by the Child Care Health Consultants.
- ☆ 481 technical assistance consultations and health assessments were conducted in Stanly County childcare facilities.
- ☆ 4 child care centers participated in Nutrition and Physical Activity Self Assessment for Child Care (NAP SACC) grant program.

### Child Care Centers Change as a Result of NAPSACC:

Love-N-Care West, Son-Shine Kids, Little One's Child Development Center and Countryside participated in NAPSACC during 2009-10. One major nutritional change made has been going from whole milk for their 2- 5yr olds to 2% milk. At Love-N-Care using the obstacle course and the hop scotch mat received through the NAP SACC program indoors has been very helpful with recent rainy weather and the children love it. Countryside made an empty room into a gross motor room using grant equipment for all of the children to use during inclement weather. A teacher stated, "Children like going to a different room and doing physical activity and it helps them get some energy out." Little One's has started buying and serving steamed veggies and the kids love the colors and taste of the steamed veggies. Son-Shine has added physical activity to their daily schedule, since becoming involved with the NAP SACC program. The children love the music CDs and dancing with scarves received through the grant. All the teachers are excited and love their new nutritional and physical activity items that they are incorporating into their lesson plans.



# Smart Start Focuses on Family Support

Stanly County Partnership For Children Addresses It Through

## Parents As Teachers (PAT)

## On-site childcare for ESL and parent classes

**Parents As Teachers** – The Parents As Teachers staff provides Stanly County families, with children birth-five, a centralized source of information, resources and referrals needed to support their children's emotional, intellectual, and physical development. The Parents As Teachers program is an international early childhood parent education and family support program. For more

information on the specific guidelines call 704-983-8625.

**On-site Childcare** - On-site childcare is provided to those participating in ESL or other Partnership sponsored parent education classes who have children birth-five years old. For more information call 704-982-2038.

## Family Support Successes in Stanly County

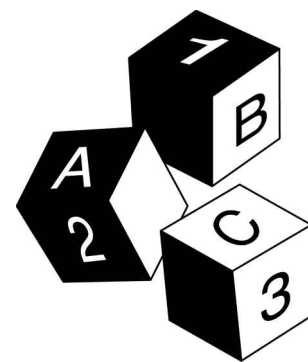
- ☆ 114 families with 165 preschool-aged children were enrolled in the PAT Program during 2009-10.
- ☆ 1155 home visits were conducted with PAT parents. On average, families received 7 home visits during the year.
- ☆ 133 PAT children were screened for developmental and health delays.

- ☆ On average 96% of PAT and ICP parents reported that they felt competent and confident in applying parenting information they gained through the programs.
- ☆ 70 adults were able to attend English as a Second Language (ESL) classes offered by the community college at the Stanly County Partnership for Children offices. Children of these families were provided on-site child care during classes.

### PAT Parents reported things they learned during the program:

"My parent educator has given us ideas of how to make learning more interactive and without buying much which really helps our budget! We are impressed with how PAT does for us especially on limited resources. Ideas are very low cost or even free - using items around the house."

"I think the program is great! It has helped me in ways to handle my boys. They love it when she comes. It has helped me learn how to buy toys that will really help them learn"



# UPCOMING EVENTS

**Celebrate the Week of the Young Child April 10-16, 2011**

As a member of the National Association for the Education of Young Children, the Stanly County Partnership For Children will participate in the Week of the Young Child. Special events throughout the week will help our entire community focus attention on the needs of our youngest citizens.

**Saturday, April 10, 2011 • 3PM**

**“IF YOU TAKE A MOUSE TO SCHOOL”**

presented by the Tarradiddle Players  
at Central Elementary School

In this rollicking romp, Laura Numeroff’s beloved Mouse protagonist heads into the classroom for a day of school like no other! Because if you take a

Mouse to school, first he’ll ask you for your lunch-box - and then he’ll want to get his paws on everything, from spelling and math to a messy science experiment. Adapted from the wildly popular picture book, and full of physical comedy and visual delights, this production is a hilarious treat for young audiences.

Tickets are \$5 per person and go on sale March 2011.

**Friday, May 6, 2011**

## NATIONAL PROVIDER APPRECIATION DAY

Recognize your child’s provider on this day as the Friday before Mother’s Day is set as National Provider Appreciation Day. Each day we entrust child care providers with our most precious resource; our future. Say thanks to your child care provider on May 6th!

## Support Early Childhood Investments

• During the height of the recession in 2009 and 2010, more than 800 parents, business leaders, elected officials, health care providers, early childhood professionals and others representing every county in the state came together and agreed that ensuring access to high-quality early care and education programs needed to be a top priority for the state.

• A recent poll by Public Policy Polling that found the majority of North Carolina voters do not support cuts to early childhood funding. Most notably, independent voters are particularly opposed to early childhood cuts with 59% saying funding should not be reduced.

## Donor Levels

\$10-49	.....	Friend
\$50-\$99	.....	Patron
\$100-\$249	.....	Bronze
\$250-\$499	.....	Silver
\$500-\$999	.....	Gold
\$1000 +	.....	Platinum

Stanly County Partnership For Children is a 501(c) 3 private, non-profit organization. Therefore, all donations are tax deductible. All contributions are appreciated. Your donation will help ensure that young children in Stanly County are healthy, safe, and ready for school.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed:

\_\_\_ \$100    \_\_\_ \$50    \_\_\_ \$25    \_\_\_ Other

Please make checks payable to: Stanly County Partnership For Children. Return this form in person or mail to: Stanly County Partnership For Children, 1000 N. First St., Albemarle, NC. 28002.