

“Developing today’s children to become tomorrow’s leaders.”



2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT

PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN OF LENOIR AND GREENE COUNTIES

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Introduction

Board of Directors

Angela Bates – **Chair**

Jack Strickland – **Vice Chair**

Tristan Bruner – **Treasurer**

Dr. Brandy Harrell – **Secretary**

Members:

Sheila Perry

Amanda Smith

Jim McLain

Antonio Blow

Dr. Frank Creech

Jeremy Jones

Natasha Sutton

Estefany Eing

Bethany McKissick

Lauren Tucker

Jane Gridley

Todd Whaley

Mission

“Developing today’s children to become tomorrow’s leaders.”

About Lenoir-Greene Partnership for Children

In 1993, the North Carolina governor Jim Hunt proposed a state-wide, early childhood initiative called Smart Start which would use state funds to provide services for early childhood development. The legislation was ratified and “Partnerships for Children” were established to serve all 100 North Carolina Counties by managing and distributing Smart Start funds to local early childhood initiatives.

The Partnership for Children of Lenoir and Greene Counties, established in 1994, is one of those partnerships and works to develop today’s children to become tomorrow’s leaders. The Partnership accomplishes this mission by providing and supporting a variety of programs and services that target children and their families.

EC Profile and Endowment

The Community Early Childhood Profile (EC Profile) provides an annual snapshot of the status of our young children. It includes indicators of child well-being for which local Smart Start Partnerships are held accountable. The EC Profile assesses progress towards realizing Smart Start’s mission of advancing a high quality, comprehensive, accountable early childhood system that benefits each child in North Carolina beginning with a healthy birth. The report uses validated data from state agencies that directly impact young children such as the NC Department of Health and Human Services, the NC Department of Public Instruction, and the NC Office of State Budget and Management.

Partnership Programs and Services

Child Care Quality and Resources (CCQR)

This program is a service that consists of:

Professional Development Workshops for child care providers, parents and other interested community members. The Partnership provides Division of Child Development and Early Education (DCDEE) approved professional development workshop opportunities on a regular basis to help child care providers meet DCDEE requirements. Opportunities include but are not limited to Basic School Age Care (BSAC), Playground Safety and Infant/Toddler Safe Sleep and SIDS Risk Reduction in Child Care (ITS-SIDS).

Technical Assistance (TA) The focus of technical assistance (TA) is to benefit children, families and the overall child care environment with quality early care and education experiences. The Partnership provides quality technical assistance, based on the Partnership for Inclusion (PFI) model of consultation, at no charge to any licensed or unlicensed child care provider in Lenoir or Greene County regardless of race, color, ethnicity, religion, age, national origin, gender or disability.

Resource Center for child care professionals, parents and any other community member interested in accessing teacher resources. The Resource Center is a resource library that offers a variety of teacher resources including bulletin board paper and die-cut machines.

Lenoir County Story Walk

Lenoir County StoryWalk is a fun and educational way to combine literacy, family engagement, and physical activity in the form of a children's storybook along the walking path at Pearson Park in Kinston, NC. StoryWalk® helps to build children's interest in reading while encouraging healthy activity for both adults and children. At StoryWalk, you have an opportunity to join family and friends, have lots of fun, create memories, play and learn outdoors! Also, preschoolers can better prepare for school and meet literacy milestones by building vocabulary skills through reading and conversation. StoryWalk is truly a great way for families and friends to feel connected to their own community! The walking path at Lenoir County StoryWalk is approximately 0.5 miles round trip and consists of 21 reading stations.

Greene County Story Walk

Greene County StoryWalk is a fun and educational way to combine literacy, family engagement, and physical activity in the form of a children's storybook around the Greene County Sports Complex in Snow Hill, NC. StoryWalk® helps to build children's interest in reading while encouraging healthy activity for both adults and children. At StoryWalk, you have an opportunity to join family and friends, have lots of fun, create memories, play and learn outdoors! Also, preschoolers can better prepare for school and meet literacy milestones by building vocabulary skills through reading and conversation. StoryWalk is truly a great way for families and friends to feel connected to their own community! The walking path at Greene County StoryWalk consists of 30 reading stations.

NC Pre-Kindergarten Program (NC Pre-K)

NC Pre-K (formerly known as More at Four) is a program of the Division of Child Development and Early Education (DCDEE) in North Carolina's Division of Health and Human Services that is designed to provide high-quality educational experiences to enhance school readiness for eligible four-year-olds.

Triple P

The Triple P – Positive Parenting Program is a parenting and family support system designed to prevent and treat behavioral and emotional problems in children. Triple P gives parents simple and practical strategies to help them confidently manage their children’s behavior, prevent problems developing and build strong, healthy relationships.

Three-School Program

The Three-School program is a high-quality pre-school program designed specifically for three-year-olds. Its purpose is to provide an academic pre-school experience targeting at-risk children who have not been served in any other formal program. The program was modeled after the More at Four Pre-Kindergarten program (now known as NC Pre-K), which has a history of success both locally and state-wide.

Three-School program classrooms are located in a variety of settings and have no more than 16 children each. These classrooms utilize the Creative Curriculum® and typically follow the same schedule as the local public schools. Lead teachers and teacher assistants meet education standards set by The Partnership for Children of Lenoir and Greene Counties.

Community Outreach

The Partnership for Children of Lenoir and Greene Counties’ Community Outreach Program provides education and materials to families, child care providers, the business community, community-based leaders and the general public on our many programs and services. Participation in community events and marketing campaigns are used to share our mission with our communities.

Community Outreach Programs and Affiliations Include: Safe Kids Eastern Carolina, Kinston Rotary Club, Kinston-Lenoir County Chamber of Commerce, Friends of the Library, Lenoir 2020, Rotary District 7730, Greene County Local Interagency Coordinating Council, Lenoir County Local Interagency Coordinating Council, The Lenoir County Alliance for a Healthy Community

Safe Kids Eastern NC

Safe Kids Eastern Carolina is a North Carolina Safe Kids Coalition serving the counties of Lenoir, Jones and Greene. Safe Kids Eastern Carolina is housed at The Partnership for Children of Lenoir and Greene Counties. Our areas of focus primarily are poison prevention and control, child passenger safety, and bicycle safety.

Parents as Teachers

Parents as Teachers (PAT) is a parent education and family support program serving families throughout pregnancy up until their child enters kindergarten, usually age 5. PAT is provided at no charge.

Parents are supported by PAT-certified parent educators trained to translate scientific information on early brain development into specific when, what, how and why advice for families. By understanding what to expect during each stage of development, parents can easily capture the teachable moments in everyday life to enhance their child’s language development, intellectual growth, social development and motor skills.

Child Care Health Consultant (CCHC)

Child Care Health Consultants (CCHCs) are trained health professionals with education and experience in both child and community health and early care and education. CCHCs work with programs to assess, plan, implement, and evaluate strategies to achieve high quality, safe and healthy child care environments. The Child Care Health Consultant makes site visits to targeted facilities in both Lenoir and Greene Counties year-round prioritizing those with one and two-star licenses, histories of poor compliance with health/safety standards, and/or high percentages of subsidized children.

Reach Out and Read (ROR)

Reach Out and Read is a nonprofit organization that trains and supports medical providers who give books to children and advice to parents about the importance of reading aloud at well-child exams.

During regular pediatric check-ups, Reach Out and Read pediatricians, family physicians and nurse practitioners give new, developmentally-appropriate books to children, ages 6 months through 5 years, and advise parents about the importance of reading aloud.

As a result of this evidence-based intervention, parents learn new ways to stimulate their children's literacy development, have more books in their home, and read to their children more. Parents are supported as their children's first and most important teachers, and children grow up to become readers. (www.reachoutandread.org)

Dolly Parton Imagination Library (DPIL)

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is a program that mails a free book each month to children from birth up until the month of their 5th birthday. These are high-quality books that are chosen by experts in the education and writing field and are based on the child's age.

Smart Start and Dolly Parton's Imagination Library are working together to get books into the hands of North Carolina's youngest children. In 2017, North Carolina's state lawmakers included \$3.5 million in the first year and \$7 million in the second year of the state budget for Smart Start to administer Dolly Parton's Imagination Library across North Carolina.

The Smart Start network, made up of 75 local partnerships that serve our state's communities, is signing up families across NC for Imagination Library which is a book gifting program for children from birth to age five. Together, we are working to ensure children develop a love of reading early on.

WAGE\$ (Professional Development Supplements)

The Child Care WAGE\$® Program was created in response to research that showed the quality of care children receive in child care centers or family child care homes is lowered by high teacher turnover rates and inadequate teacher education. However, a lack of resources and efforts to maintain affordability for parents mean many early childhood teachers are severely underpaid and leave the field for better paying jobs. And others never consider the profession as an option. WAGE\$ provides tiered education-based salary supplements to teachers, directors and family child care educators working with children from birth to 5 years old, leading to better educated teachers and greater continuity of care for young children.

Summary of Programs and Services

Child Care Quality and Resources (CCQR)

Technical Assistance to Support Stars

Number of child care facilities participating	15
Number of child care facilities receiving technical assistance with ECERS	15
Number of child care facilities receiving technical assistance with FCCERS	1
Number of child care facilities receiving technical assistance with ITERS	5

Technical Assistance to Support other Quality – CLASS

Number of child care facilities receiving technical assistance with CLASS	6
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ECE Training

Number of child care staff participating	186
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Parents as Teachers (PAT) – Greene County

Number of parents/guardians participating in home visits	2
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Parents as Teachers (PAT) – Lenoir County

Number of group connections held	11
Number of parents/guardians participating in group connections	5
Number of parents/guardians participating in home visits	23

Story Walk

Number of stories featured in Greene County	3
Number of stories featured in Lenoir County	3

NC Pre-Kindergarten Program (NC Pre-K)

NC Pre-k Non-TANF/CCDF

Number of children funded	25
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NC Pre-k TANF/CCDF

Number of children funded	238
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Preschool to Support Literacy

TANF/CCDF Eligible

Number of children funded	5
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Non-TANF/CCDF Eligible

Number of children funded	1
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Quality Child Care to Support Literacy**TANF/CCDF**

Number of children funded 10

Triple P – Positive Parenting Program

Number of **Level 2** parents/guardians participating 62

Number of **Level 3** parents/guardians participating 18

Three-School Program**TANF/CCDF**

Number of children funded 59

Non-TANF/CCDF

Number of children funded 11

Safe Kids of Eastern Carolina

Number of car seats distributed 66

Number of car seat clinics 23

Number of events 12

Reach Out and Read (ROR)

Number of children participating 1,113

Number of medical practices participating 2

Dolly Parton Imagination Library (DPIL)

Number of books distributed 29,344

Number of active children 3,080

WAGE\$ (Professional Development Supplements)

Number of child care staff participating 44

Number of child care facilities participating 26

Community Outreach

Number of community outreach events 30

Number of community presentations given 43

Child Care Health Consultant (CCHC)

ECE Training

Number of child care staff participating 48

Child Care Health Consultation (CCHC) (AA)

Number of Staff receiving Technical Assistance 35

Number of child care classrooms receiving technical assistance using the NC Health and Safety Assessment and Encounter Tool 15

Number of child care facilities receiving technical assistance using the NC Health and Safety Assessment and Encounter Tool 10

Financials

Revenues

Smart Start	\$1,531,381
NC Pre-K	1,010,639
NC Pre-K Federal Awards	645,815
DCD Grant	34,191
ARP Grant-IDA Program	24,750
Private contributions	3,066
Special Fundraising event	10,268
Interest	1,084
Other Receipts	9,975
Sales Tax Refunds	4,517
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$3,275,686

Expenditures

Subsidy – Child Care and Education Affordability

Three-School Coordination & Support	\$40,193
Three-School	516,320
DSP – Quality Childcare to Support Literacy	113,700
DSP – Preschool to Support Literacy	47,220

Child Care and Education Quality

Child Care Quality & Resources	149,932
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Health and Safety

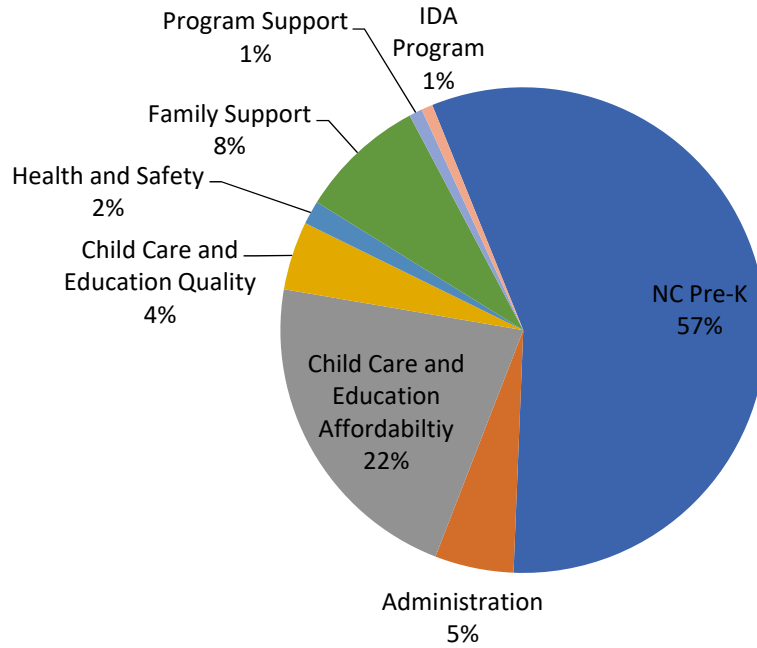
Child Care Health Consultant	51,722
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Family Support

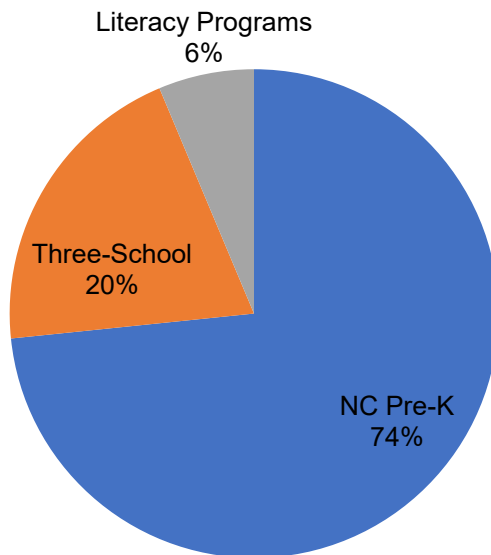
Parents as Teachers	15,310
Community Education	146,669
DSP – Lenoir County Parents as Teachers	74,993
Reach Out and Read	10,757
Story Walk	6,773

Dolly Parton Imagination Library	16,433
Triple P (Positive Parenting Program)	5,865
ARP Grant-Individual Development Account	24,750
NC Pre-K	1,866,011
Program Support (Evaluation)	29,102
Partnership Administration	172,740
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$3,288,490
In-Kind Contributions	\$139,847

EXPENDITURES BY FUNCTIONAL CATEGORY



SUBSIDIZED QUALITY CHILD CARE



Acknowledgements

The Partnership for Children of Lenoir and Greene Counties would like to thank all of those who made contributions to our agency during 2022-23. Various types of donations were made including volunteering services in one of our programs, monetary donations, and in-kind contributions.

The Partnership for Children of Lenoir and Greene Counties is a private, not for profit 501(c)3 organization that is supported with public funds, private grants and individual contributions.

Without the support of our local community, our agency would be unable to support children in the greatest capacity possible. The Partnership staff, the children, and providers we serve would like to say thank you.