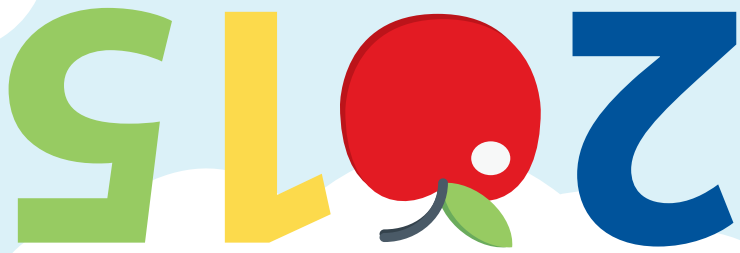


The Partnership for Children of Lincoln & Gaston Counties is a nonprofit organization that provides services for local families and children through Smart Start, North Carolina's award-winning early childhood initiative.



ANNUAL REPORT



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FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

2014-2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS (As of 7/1/14)

OFFICERS

- Tammy Kane, Chair
Truliant Federal Credit Union
- Susan McCracken, Vice Chair
Lincoln Co. Department of Social Services
- William Gross, Secretary
Gaston Co. Health & Human Services
- Sarah Miller, Treasurer
Gaston Co. Public Library
- Carrie Minnich, Past Chair
Gaston Co. Schools

BOARD MEMBERS

- Jacqueline Ammons, Gaston College
- Rev. Paul A. Brintley, Sr., Christian Fellowship Assembly
- Kimberly Davis, Norris S. Childers Elementary School
- Joseph Dixon, Gaston Community Action
- Maggie Dollar, Lincoln Co. Health Dept.
- David Fogarty, Gaston Co. Cooperative Extension Service
- Melinda Houser, Lincoln Co. Cooperative Extension Service
- Erma Deen Hoyle, Lincoln Co. Parks & Rec. Dept.
- John L. Maddox, James Worthy Foundation
- Adrian Miller, City of Belmont
- Carrol Mitchem, Lincoln County Commissioner
- Cindy Moose, Community-at-Large
- Pam Overcash, Gaston County
- Amy Simmons, The Grace School
- Kathy Vinzant, United Way of Lincoln Co.
- Wanda Whetstone, Gaston Co. Dept. of Social Services
- Jason Williams, Gaston Co. Commissioner

STAFF

- Elizabeth S. Carroll
Program Manager
- Jessica Gibbs
Program Assistant
- Sherri Heffner
Contracts Manager
- Chrystal Hoyle
Technical Assistant
- Michael Linker
Executive Director
- Rosalind Richardson
Technical Assistant
- Carol Stephenson
Technical Assistant
- Deirdre Sykes
Technical Assistant
- Vicki Timmons
Finance Coordinator
- Amy Wadsworth
Public Information Coordinator
- Kimberly Ward
Technical Assistant
- Pam Wright
Executive Assistant

LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIR & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

On behalf of the Board of Directors (Board) and staff, the Partnership for Children of Lincoln and Gaston Counties (Partnership) is very proud to share the results of our efforts towards addressing some of the key strategic initiatives undertaken during fiscal year (FY) 2014-2015. These initiatives are directly related to the desired outcomes identified, benchmarked, and monitored via our strategic planning process. Our vision for the future continues to be *a community where young children will reach their full health and educational potential*. We hope this *Annual Report* will provide you some insight of our commitment to our vision.

During this fiscal year, some of the accomplishment highlights included:

- The new program evaluation process adopted and implemented in latter FY 2013-2014 continues to be used to assure accountability and continued quality improvement in our programming. The Board has adopted their own governance performance benchmarks as well. Performance is monitored and reported to the Board quarterly for action if necessary.
- Following last fiscal year's strategic planning retreat, key areas of strategic focus determined by the Board includes governance, community awareness, programs, resource development, and volunteers. Developing a comprehensive *3 to 5 Year Strategic Plan* for the Partnership is currently in process.
- The Board adopted a new governance structure and modified the Partnership's Bylaws to accommodate this change accordingly. Members will continue to represent government, services and business/community.
- A third-party independent audit of the Partnership's financial statements for the fiscal year 2013-2014 was conducted by the certified public accounting firm Cohn/Reznick and a favorable "unqualified" opinion was rendered.
- An early literacy program for young children was initiated and included distributing free books to young children at pre-kindergarten/kindergarten registrations, community events and festivals (i.e., *Run for the Money*, *Apple Festival*, *Spooktacular*, etc.) and *Boogie with Books in the Park* events. Many of the books distributed by the Partnership were received from the *First Book* organization thanks to the efforts of Gaston County Department of Health and Human Services.
- The Board approved a new early literacy program, *Reach Out and Read*, for FY 2015-2016.
- The Board engaged SLD Unlimited Biz Growth, Inc. to assist the Partnership in developing a *3 to 5 Year Community Outreach and Resource Development Plan*.
- The Partnership hosted its *Sixth Annual Spooktacular Event* in western Lincoln County. This successful collaborative community event was attended by approximately 1,500 children and family members.
- The Partnership hosted four (4) *Educational Forums* for Owners/Directors of Child Care Centers and Family Child Care Homes. In addition, multiple educational trainings were provided each month for child care teachers.

Thank you for your partnership and investment in readying our children during their first 2000 days (birth to kindergarten) for learning and future success. Our children are our future!



Tammy Kane
Board Chair



Michael E. Linker
Executive Director

Partnership for Children Year at a Glance



INCOME

Smart Start Administration	\$311,829
Smart Start Services	\$1,686,497
Smart Start State Level Contracts	\$1,732,276
NC Pre-K Lincoln County	\$816,276
Parent Resource & Referral	\$23,610
Multi-Partnership Accounting & Contracting	\$13,922
Total:	\$4,584,410

EXPENDITURES

Early Care & Education	Total: \$2,895,700
Child Care Subsidy - Gaston	\$1,018,765
Child Care Subsidy - Lincoln	\$388,340
Child Care Subsidy Administration - Gaston	\$132,439
Child Care Subsidy Administration - Lincoln	\$70,607
Quality Enhancement (QE)	\$124,215
Quality Sustainability (QS)	\$984,573
Individual Professional Development Program (IPDP)	\$54,636
WAGES	\$122,125
Family Support	Total: \$141,943
Adolescent Parenting Program	\$70,313
Very Important Parenting Program	\$57,430
Lincoln County Child Advocacy Center	\$14,200
Health	Total: \$159,551
Assuring Better Child Health & Development	\$45,452
Child Care Health Consultant - Gaston	\$55,534
Child Care Health Consultant - Lincoln	\$58,565
Administrative Functions	Total: \$533,408
Administration	\$311,829
Program Coordination	\$130,748
Community Outreach	\$90,831
Grants	Total: \$853,808
NC Pre-K Lincoln County	\$816,276
Parent Resource & Referral	\$23,610
Multi-Partnership Accounting & Contracting	\$13,922
Total:	\$4,584,410

CASH & IN-KIND

Cash & In-Kind	\$601,700
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HOW WE HELPED



As of June 30, 2015,



there were an estimated

22,389

children aged 0-5 in Lincoln and Gaston Counties

An estimated

4,959

children aged 0-5 attended licensed child care in Lincoln and Gaston Counties

78%

of those were in 4 or 5 star facilities

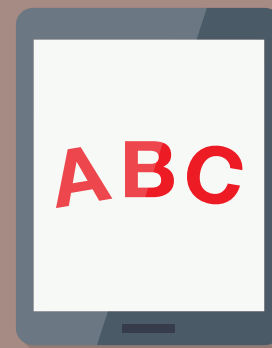


70

child care facilities received technical assistance on environmental rating scales and general licensure through our QE and QS programs

2,378

children were enrolled in facilities being served by Child Care Health Consultants in Lincoln and Gaston Counties



44 providers in **12**

practices received updated information regarding early intervention including screening and referral processes impacting

12,020 children

79

child care facilities received technical assistance on health, nutrition, sanitation and safety



93

families received parenting help through our family support services



81

child care professionals in

37

child care facilities earned financial incentives for earning college credit impacting

1,748

children through our IPDP program

88

child care professionals working in

53

facilities earned a WAGE\$ supplement

APP

OUR MISSION

“Serving as a leading advocate and collaborative resource to provide access to high quality services for young children.”

OUR VISION

“A community where young children will reach their full health and educational potential.”



FIND US ON THE WEB



www.pfclg.com
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/pfclg
 Twitter: Ready4School
 Flickr: www.flickr.com/pfclg

Adolescent Parenting Program



The Adolescent Parenting Program (APP) in Lincoln County is open to residents under the age of 21 with a child or children aged birth through five. It provides support and services at no charge. Teens benefit from the APP program with peer group meetings that help with education and self-esteem building. The APP program additionally offers services such as home visits every month to aid parents with goal setting, parenting education, independence and employment. Most importantly the program lets them know they have support from others.

Amber Carter, 18, has been in the program for a year and is thankful for the support from Amy Ramsey, APP Coordinator. She said she has attained skills with each lesson provided. Her goals include graduating high school and getting her cosmetology license in the fall. “It’s a really good program, and if I need anything I call Amy and she gets it for me,” she said.