



Smart Start's mission is to advance a high-quality, comprehensive, accountable system of care and education for each child beginning with a healthy birth.

What is Smart Start?

Smart Start is North Carolina's nationally recognized initiative to ensure that every child reaches his or her potential and is prepared to succeed in a global community. Smart Start helps working parents pay for childcare, improves the quality of childcare, and provides health and family support services in every county in North Carolina.

Smart Start measurably increases the health and well-being of young children age birth to 5, building the foundation for future learning, by:

- Improving children's early care and education programs so that they are safe and healthy and provide opportunities for children to learn skills they need for success in school.
- Providing parents with tools to support them in raising healthy, happy, and successful children.
- Ensuring that children have access to preventive health care.

Why Smart Start Works?

Smart Start was created in 1993 as a solution to a problem: Children were coming to school unprepared to learn. Policymakers established Smart Start as a public/private partnership where independent and private organizations work in 100 North Carolina counties through the North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc. and 75 Local Partnerships. Smart Start delivers outcomes by giving communities local control to determine the best approach to achieving them.

Summary of 2022 – 2023 GCPC Smart Start Community Partners

Child Care

Bringing Out the Best – UNCG Center for Youth, Families & Community Partnerships

Services for childcare providers and families designed to support healthy social/emotional development in young children.

22 - 23 FY Allocation - \$452,454

Child Care Health Consultation – Guilford County DHHS, Division of Public Health

Guidance provided to childcare providers by trained Child Care Health Consultants on how to create and maintain quality health and safety standards in childcare settings.

22 - 23 FY Allocation - \$336,216

Child Care Subsidy – Guilford County Department of Social Services

Financial assistance to cover childcare expenses for parents and responsible adults to maintain employment, to participate in job training or educational programs that will lead to employment, to provide care to children in need of protection, to enhance the development of children, to facilitate the reunification of families, to aid families in crisis and prevent entering in foster care.

22 - 23 FY Allocation - \$2,325,554

Education, Quality Improvement & Professional Development – UNCG

Services provided to childcare providers that increase program quality and staff education through professional development, guidance on program enhancement, peer coaching, community learning opportunities and workforce retention strategies .

22 - 23 FY Allocation - \$451,716

Guiding Healthy Behaviors in Early Childhood – Guilford County Partnership for Children

This program provides childhood obesity prevention through consultation, coaching and training for childcare providers in the areas of nutrition, physical activity and naturalized outdoor learning environments.

22 - 23 FY Allocation - \$73,154

Family Support

Family Literacy/Language Development – Reading Connections

This is a family literacy activity for families with young children with some risk for low literacy skills. 22 - 23 FY Allocation - \$45,907

Healthy Start – Family Services of the Piedmont

Routinely scheduled parent education visits for families with children at risk for abuse, neglect, or negative outcomes.

22 - 23 FY Allocation - \$338,881

Learning Together Family Literacy Program – Children & Families First

This is a family literacy activity for minority/immigrant families with young children that encourages and enables young children to participate in literacy experiences and supports parents in their ability to engage children in early literacy activities .

22 - 23 FY Allocation - \$30,933

Parents as Teachers – Guilford County Partnership for Children

This is a provision of education on positive parenting practices through in-home visits, support groups and access to a referral network.

22 - 23 FY Allocation - \$263,241

Reach Out and Read – Triad Adult and Pediatric Medicine

Pediatric practices distributing developmentally appropriate children's books and educating parents on the importance of reading aloud to children.

22 - 23 FY Allocation - \$12,254

Health

Guilford Family Connects – Guilford County DHHS, Division of Public Health

Nurse home visits offered to families of newborns to provide support, education, and early identification and referral of health and safety concerns.

22 - 23 FY Allocation - \$563,112

NICU Family Support – Family Support Network

Enhanced support and education to families with infants admitted to the neonatal intensive care unit .

22 - 23 FY Allocation - \$155,987

Every Baby Guilford Program/Prenatal Care – Coalition on Infant Mortality

Contracted physicians are paid a reduced rate of \$400 per patient to provide prenatal care to women who are Medicaid ineligible and lack private insurance.

22 - 23 FY Allocation - \$88,164

Program Support*Community Awareness and Engagement – Guilford County Partnership for Children*

The engagement of community partners and stakeholders across Guilford County for the purpose of improving ways in which programs, professionals, families, and community members work together to improve coordination and access of services to children and families.

22 - 23 FY Allocation - \$85,984

Program Coordination and Evaluation – Guilford County Partnership for Children

Program Coordination and Evaluation works with funded service providers to clarify program goals and activities; review and improve proposed outputs/outcomes; and assist in achieving intended results.

22 - 23 FY Allocation - \$164,002