



2020 - 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

"Building Brighter Futures for Catawba County's Children"

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Catawba County Partnership for Children works to ensure that children receive the support and services they need prior to kindergarten. In Catawba County, there are **10,095** children from birth to kindergarten age. CCPC is the primary convener for early childhood programming in our community. Thanks to incredible support, collaboration, and input from our many community partners, we are extremely proud to share some of our collective accomplishments from the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

Throughout the past year, we continued to navigate the impacts of COVID-19 with a renewed sense of deep admiration for the strength of our child care community. They have truly been the essential workers who have kept our community strong during such a challenging time.

We remain incredibly grateful to our partner agencies and to the essential workers who have remained steadfast in their commitment to serve our community in so many critical ways. We are proud to be working alongside so many others as we "build brighter futures" for all young children in Catawba County!

Our 2020-2021 Smart Start Funded Services

Children's Resource Center - child care resource & referral
(In-house Activity)

Imagination Library - free books mailed to children
(In-house Activity)

Early Childhood Support Team - child care technical assistance
(Catawba County Public Health and Social Services)

Parents as Teachers - home based parent education
(Hickory Public Schools)

Parent Support Team - Triple P - parenting classes
(Catawba County Social Services)

Child Care Subsidy - child care scholarships
(Catawba County Social Services)



Dolly Parton's Imagination Library program mailed **65,119** books to Catawba County children between July 2020 - June 2021.

5,432 children were enrolled as of June 30, 2021, representing **65%** of our birth-age 5 population!

Thank you to our primary Imagination Library funders: Smart Start, Hickory Rotary Club, and Catawba County United Way, and many other individuals and companies.

2020-2021 Board of Directors

Ken Bates, pediatrician
Joyce Corbett, community volunteer
Pat Gibson, educator
Karen Harrington, Social Services Director
Dewey Harris, Assistant County Manager
LaKeisha Ross Johnson, Family Guidance Center (SECRETARY)
Douglas Locascio, Hickory Crawdads (TREASURER)
Jennifer McCracken, Public Health Director
Ryan McCreary, Elementary Principal
Michele McGlamery, Catawba Valley Medical Center
Michael McNally, Appalachian State University (CHAIR)
Philip Moore, Pinnacle Financial Partners
Tonya Osland, A New Beginning Child Development Center
Titania Stockton, I-CARE, Inc. Head Start
Matt Stover, Catawba County Schools Superintendent
Suzanne White, Catawba County Library Director (VICE CHAIR)
Jeff Young, Hickory Police Department



Total number of 2020-2021 NCPK children: **411**
Total number of NCPK classrooms: **26**, at **22** locations

A New Beginning Child Dev. Center	Oxford Elementary
Balls Creek Elementary	Sherrills Ford Learning Academy
Catawba Elementary	Shuford Elementary
Claremont Elementary	Snow Creek Elementary
Conover School	South Newton Elementary
Hickory High School	Southwest Primary
Lyle Creek Elementary	St. Stephens Elementary
Maiden Elementary	Startown Elementary
Mountain View Elementary	Tyndall Center at Sipe's Orchard Home
North Newton Elementary	Viewmont Elementary
Oakwood Elementary	Webb A. Murray Elementary

NC Pre-Kindergarten provides a free high-quality preschool experience for eligible children. Catawba County Partnership for Children partners with private child care programs and our public school systems to host classrooms that have a combination of NCPK children, private pay children, and exceptional children.

Ensuring every child in Catawba County enters kindergarten prepared for lifelong success.

2020-2021 Revenues

Smart Start*:

\$2,701,642

Smart Start for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library:

\$113,901

NC Pre-Kindergarten:

\$2,261,655

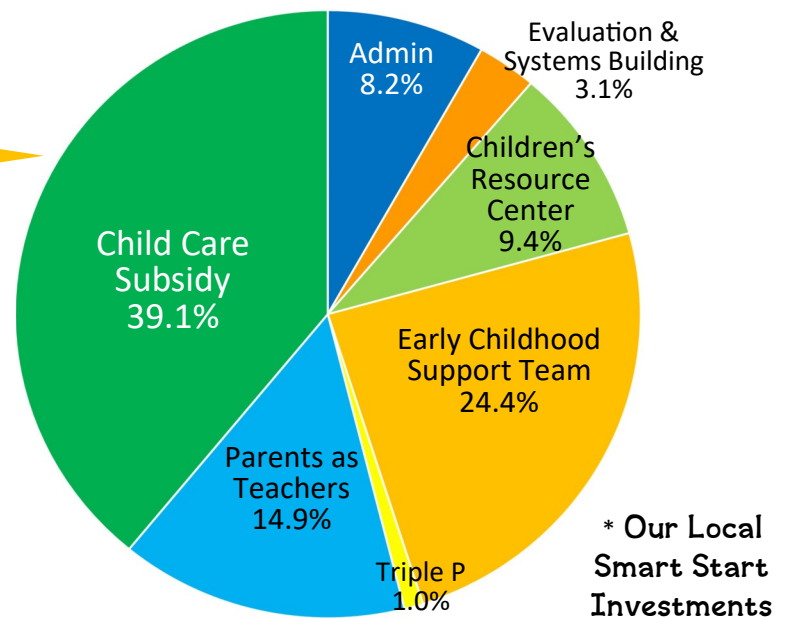
NC Division of Child Development & Early Education:

\$59,115

Local Donations, Fundraisers & Grants:

\$160,325

** Smart Start funds are only used for evidence-based and evidence-informed programming that responds to local needs, as determined by data-driven planning and collaboration.*



- Program highlights from our Smart Start funded projects -

Catawba County Partnership for Children worked regularly refilled

11

Little Free Libraries in various locations across our county.

Members of the Early Childhood Support Team provided technical assistance to

54

child care programs in order to improve or maintain high quality care for Catawba County's children.

Parents as Teachers started a new PEEPS (Parents Encouraging & Engaging Parents) Playgroup at Open Door Baptist Church

Children's Resource Center provided child care referrals and consumer education referrals to

332

parents & caregivers.

KidsREADY Catawba and Children's Resource Center designed a training for early educators called "Imagining Equity" focused on teaching children about equity through the use of carefully selected children's books.

Early Childhood Support Team's Nurses provided individualized health care plans for

115

children in child care, to help support their teachers with health issues like asthma, food allergies, and diabetes.

Children's Resource Center provided critical professional development to

329

early childhood educators.

Early Childhood Support Team's Clinical Specialists provided ongoing individualized mental health services to

142

children, working with 152 parents and 20 child care programs.

332 income-eligible children received child care subsidies, allowing them to attend full-time high quality child care programs.

Based on parent survey responses

97%

of parents reported that their child's enthusiasm for books had increased thanks to their participation in the Imagination Library program.

Triple P "Positive Parenting Program" seminars were provided to

173

parents & caregivers through our Parent Support Team.

Parents as Teachers held

27

group connection events this year, including some virtual and some outdoor, involving 53 participating parents

Parents as Teachers provided

819

home visits, working with parents and children together to develop critical skill building and positive interactions. (most provided virtually due to COVID-19.)

KidsREADY Catawba designed and created "Learning at Home" backpacks for the NC Pre-kindergarten children to use on days when they couldn't be at school due to COVID. 468 children received puzzles, manipulatives, books, and age appropriate activities.

Early Childhood Support Team Nurses provided critical health & safety training to

390

early childhood professionals, including CPR/First Aid, ITS SIDS, Emergency Preparedness, and Infectious Disease.

Community Context

of children birth-kindergarten: **10,095**

of licensed child care programs: **39**

of family child care homes: **9**

of half-day programs: **19**

of public school pre-k classes: **22**

of Parents as Teachers educators: **6**

of trained Triple P facilitators: **29**



Catawba County Partnership for Children Staff

Kim Lyke Holden, MBA, Executive Director • Leslie Ferrell, Grants & Contracts Manager • Sarah Sakatos, Community Engagement Specialist
 Libby Throckmorton, Program Manager • Jessica Whitesides, Fiscal Manager
 Ashley Benfield, Children's Resource Center Program Director • Holly Aldridge, Family Support Specialist
 La'Gentry Ross, Early Childhood Systems Coordinator • Leonor Tobar, Latino Outreach Specialist