



2021 - 2022 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 **9,956** children from birth to age 5. 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 2021-2022 fiscal year.

During the past year we have worked to build our PEEPs (Parents Engaging and Empowering Parents) parent leadership efforts, worked to address diversity and equity through our Imagining Equity professional development opportunities, increased access to early literacy materials and educational activities through Little Free Libraries, and started "Our Nest" Diaper Pantry! It has been a meaningful year of addressing community needs and working to improve the lives of young children and families.

We remain incredibly grateful to our many partner agencies and organizations, knowing none of us can do this work alone. We are proud to be working alongside so many others as we "build brighter futures" for all young children in Catawba County!

Our 2021-2022 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 **61,041** books to Catawba County children between July 2021 - June 2022.

5,269 children were enrolled as of June 30, 2022, representing **63.5%** of our birth-age 4 population!

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



Total number of 2021-2022 NCPK children: **411**
Total number of NCPK classrooms: **26**, at **22** locations

2021-2022 Board of Directors

Ken Bates, pediatrician
Joyce Corbett, community volunteer
Yaidee Fox, City of Hickory
Mary Furtado, Catawba County Manager
Karen Harrington, Social Services Director
LaKeisha Ross Johnson (TREASURER)
Douglas Locascio, Hickory Crawdads (VICE-CHAIR)
Siobhan Loendorf, Catawba County Library Director
Jennifer McCracken, Public Health Director
Ryan McCreary, Elementary Principal
Michele McGlamery, Catawba Valley Medical Center
Michael McNally, Appalachian State University (CHAIR)
Tonya Osland, A New Beginning Child Development Center
JR Sigmon, Catawba County Schools
Titania Stockton, I-CARE, Inc. Head Start

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|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 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 |
| Fred T. Foard High School | Southwest Primary |
| Hickory High School | St. Stephens Elementary |
| Lyle Creek Elementary | Startown Elementary |
| Maiden 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.

2021-2022 Revenues

Smart Start Allocation through North Carolina Partnership for Children*: **\$2,582,176**

Smart Start for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library: **\$141,827**

NC Pre-Kindergarten: **\$2,423,214**

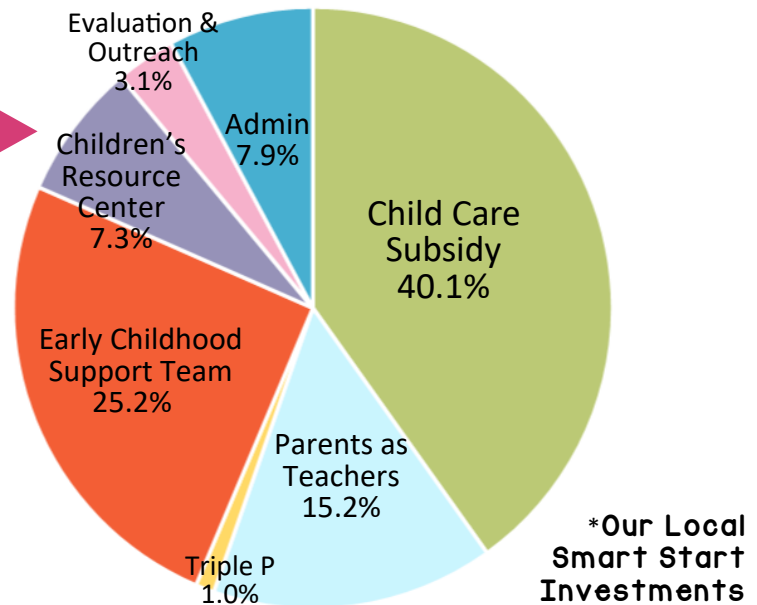
NC Division of Child Development & Early Education: **\$60,893** (For Child Care Resource & Referral)

NC Department of Social Services: **\$135,512** (Family Support Grant, for Parents as Teachers)

Family Engagement and Leadership Grant: **\$26,000**

Private Donations, Fundraisers & Grants: **\$101,227**

** 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

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| <p>CCPC staff regularly refilled 12 Little Free Libraries in various locations across our county, with children's books and educational activities for children.</p> | <p>Children's Resource Center provided critical professional development to 324 early childhood educators.</p> | <p>Parents as Teachers provided 1,303 home visits, working with 128 parents and their children to develop critical skill building and positive interactions.</p> |
| <p>Members of the Early Childhood Support Team provided technical assistance to 50 child care programs in order to improve or maintain high quality care for Catawba County's children.</p> | <p>Triple P "Positive Parenting Program" in-person seminars were provided to 83 parents & caregivers, with 12 parents graduating from Level 4 groups.</p> | <p>Launched the Catawba County Partnership for Children Endowment with the North Carolina Community Foundation.</p> |
| <p>Parents as Teachers started a 2nd PEEPs (Parents Engaging & Empowering Parents) weekly playgroup at Christ Lutheran Church.</p> | <p>311 income-eligible children received Smart Start child care subsidies, and there were 0 children on the waiting list at year-end.</p> | <p>KidsREADY Catawba designed and created kindergarten transition resources, including informational brochures called "What a Joy to be 4," and "It's Time to Register for Kindergarten," supporting both parents and kindergarten teachers with helpful information.</p> |
| <p>Children's Resource Center provided child care referrals and consumer education to 399 parents & caregivers.</p> | <p>Our Nest Diaper Pantry provided 13,820 diapers to families in need, serving 184 children and providing important community resource information and service referrals for parents.</p> | <p>Early Childhood Support Team Nurses provided critical health & safety training to 310 early childhood professionals, including CPR/First Aid, ITS SIDS, Emergency Preparedness, and Infectious Disease.</p> |
| <p>In collaboration with the City of Hickory, an information kiosk was installed at Zahra Baker Playground at Kiwanis Park to help connect families to important services for individuals with disabilities.</p> | <p>Early Childhood Support Team's Clinical Specialists provided ongoing individualized mental health services to 166 children, working with 196 parents and 20 child care programs.</p> | <p>Community Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of children birth-kindergarten: 9,956 # 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: 7 # of trained Triple P facilitators: 29 |
| <p>Early Childhood Support Team Nurses provided individualized health care plans for 150 children in child care, to help support early childhood teachers with health issues like asthma, food allergies, and diabetes.</p> | <p>Parents as Teachers held 64 group connection events this year, including in-person, virtual & outdoor settings, involving 63 participating parents.</p> | |
| <p>25 teachers received "Imagining Equity" training.</p> | | |



Catawba County Partnership for Children Staff

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