



2022 - 2023 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 **9,996** 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 2022-2023 fiscal year.

We remain incredibly grateful to our many partner agencies and organizations, knowing none of us can do this work alone. In particular, we deeply appreciate our robust and resilient child care community, Catawba County Schools, Hickory Public Schools, Newton-Conover City Schools, Catawba County Social Services, Catawba County Public Health, Catawba County Library System, the City of Hickory, Appalachian State University, and many other supporters and advocates. We are also thankful to our funding partners including Smart Start, NC Pre-Kindergarten, NC-DSS, and the Catawba County United Way.

We are energized by working alongside so many others as we "build brighter futures" for all young children in Catawba County!

2022-2023 Smart Start Funded Services

Children's Resource Center - child care resource & referral (In-house Activity) \$200,250

Imagination Library - free books mailed to children (In-house Activity) \$138,979 (separate allocation)

NC Pre-K Rate Enhancements for Public Schools (In-house Activity) \$79,965

Early Childhood Support Team - child care technical assistance (Catawba County Public Health and Social Services) \$747,144

Parents as Teachers - home based parent education (Hickory Public Schools) - \$417,771

Parent Support Team - Triple P - parenting classes (Catawba County Social Services) \$25,000

Child Care Subsidy - child care scholarships (Catawba County Social Services) \$1,036,263



Total Smart Start Allocation: \$2,798,458

2022-2023 Board of Directors

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Tonya Osland, A New Beginning Child Development Center
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Leah Snedegar, Parent Representative
Titania Stockton, I-CARE, Inc. Head Start
Jameil Surratt, Cintas Corporation



Dolly Parton's Imagination Library program mailed **65,799** books to Catawba County children between July 2022 - June 2023.

5,523 children were enrolled as of June 30, 2023, representing **66.2%** of our birth-age 4 population!

A big thank you to the state of North Carolina for prioritizing early literacy and supporting Imagination Library with Smart Start funding.



Total number of 2022-2023 NCPK children: **411**
Total number of NCPK classrooms: **28**, at **23** locations

A New Beginning Child Dev. Center	Oakwood Elementary
Balls Creek Elementary	Oxford Elementary
Bandys High School	Sherrills Ford Learning Academy
Catawba Elementary	Snow Creek Elementary
Claremont Elementary	South Newton Elementary
Clyde Campbell Elementary	Southwest Primary
Conover School	St. Stephens High School
Fred T. Foard High School	Startown Elementary
Hickory High School	Tyndall Center at Sipe's Orchard Home
Lyle Creek Elementary	Viewmont Elementary
Maiden Elementary	Webb A. Murray Elementary
North Newton Elementary	

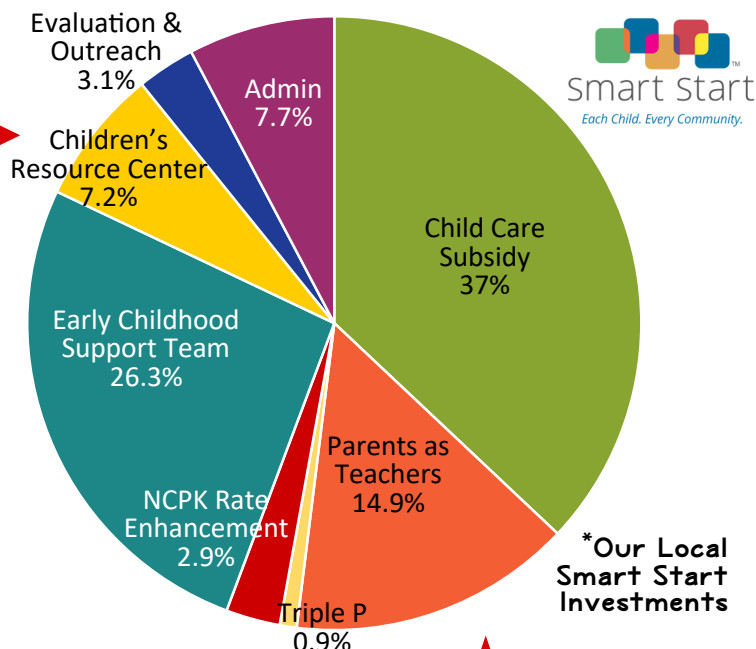
NC Pre-Kindergarten provides a free high-quality preschool experience for eligible children. Catawba County Partnership for Children partners with private child care programs and our public school systems to host classrooms that have a combination of NCPK children, private pay children, and exceptional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



2022-2023 Revenues

Smart Start Allocation through North Carolina Partnership for Children*: **\$2,798,458**
 Smart Start for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library: **\$138,979**
 NC Pre-Kindergarten: **\$2,242,262**
 NC Division of Child Development & Early Education: **\$67,179** (for Child Care Resource & Referral)
 NC Department of Social Services: **\$135,511** (Family Support Grant, for Parents as Teachers)
 ARPA Support Funds for Families in Need: **\$11,500**
 Private Donations, Fundraisers & Other Grants: **\$152,133**

* 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

CCPC staff regularly refilled **15** Little Free Libraries in various locations across our county, refilling them with over **3,192** books as well as interactive games.

Members of the Early Childhood Support Team provided technical assistance to **48** child care programs in order to improve or maintain high quality care for Catawba County's children.

Parents as Teachers provided **63** sessions of PEEPs (Parents Engaging & Empowering Parents) weekly playgroups in Hickory.

Children's Resource Center provided child care referrals and consumer education to **299** parents & caregivers.

In collaboration with the City of Hickory, an information kiosk and a Little Free Library were installed at Glenn Hilton Park to help connect families to important services and children's books.

Early Childhood Support Team Nurses provided individualized health care plans for **139** children in child care, to help support early childhood teachers with health issues like asthma, food allergies, and diabetes.

Provided ARPA support resources to **53** families in need.

Children's Resource Center provided critical professional development to **434** early childhood educators.

Triple P "Positive Parenting Program" in-person seminars were provided to **59** parents & caregivers, with **14** parents graduating from Level 4 groups.

379 income-eligible children received Smart Start child care subsidies, and there were 0 children on the waiting list at year-end.

Our Nest Diaper Pantry provided **22,557** diapers to families in need, serving **315** families and providing important community resource information and service referrals for parents.

Early Childhood Support Team's Clinical Specialists provided ongoing individualized mental health services to **85** children, working with **119** parents and **48** child care programs.

Parents as Teachers held **28** group connection events this year, involving **69** participating parents, in addition to **65** parents and **74** children who participated in PEEPs Playgroups.

Parents as Teachers provided **1,684** home visits, working with **106** parents and **135** children to develop critical skill building and positive interactions.

KidsREADY Catawba distributed 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.

Early Childhood Support Team Nurses provided critical health & safety training to **748** early childhood professionals, including CPR/First Aid, ITS SIDS, Emergency Preparedness, and Infectious Disease.

Increased the number of early educators trained in the "Imaging Equity" curriculum to **128** representing **43** different child care programs.

2022-2023 Community Context

of children birth-kindergarten: **9,996**
 # of licensed child care programs: **39**
 # of family child care homes: **9**
 # of half-day programs: **19**
 # of public school pre-k classes: **24**
 # of Parents as Teachers educators: **7**
 # of trained Triple P facilitators: **29**



Catawba County Partnership for Children Staff

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