



FY 2010

ANNUAL REPORT

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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.

A YEAR OF ACHIEVEMENTS

Dear Champions of our Children and Families

The supporters and advocates of the Partnership for Children of Lincoln and Gaston Counties (PFCLG) are proud to present the achievements and accomplishments of another year of successful community impact. Outlined within this annual report are the outcomes PFCLG achieved by setting a direction, creating alignment and gaining commitment within both Lincoln and Gaston Counties. This collaborative spirit was cultivated by a passionate staff, a visioning board of directors, a dedicated team of direct service providers, and an ambitious community of child care professionals.



Steve Eaton
Steve Eaton
PFCLG Executive Director

While 2009-2010 was a tough year economically for our community, state and nation, the Partnership for Children of Lincoln and Gaston Counties has remained passionate about “keeping the main thing the main thing” – the children and families in our community. PFCLG held firm to this focus because research has proven over and over again that the earliest years of childhood are critical. Experiences during this time literally shape the structure of the brain. Because today’s children are tomorrow’s leaders, parents and workers, everyone has a stake in making sure that all children have the experiences they need to thrive. PFCLG brings together all the people involved in a young child’s life—families, teachers, doctors, caregivers, social workers and many others—to ensure every child has all they need for healthy growth and development.



Robert B. Weeks Jr.
Robert Weeks
PFCLG Board Chair

Beyond the importance that a smart start has on the life of a child, it also plays a critical role in the economic outlook of Lincoln and Gaston Counties. Our future workers are today’s newborn babies. Building a strong and productive labor force largely depends on how we invest in children today. A recent U.S. Chamber of Commerce Report stated, “Early childhood education has a tremendous impact on the national economic security and the viability of the American dream.” Simply put, the experiences children have early in life—and the environments in which they have—literally shape the wiring of the brain and strongly affect whether they grow up to be healthy, productive members of society.

As PFCLG strives to meet its mission in 2010-2011, new leaders, resources and partnerships will be required to take PFCLG to the next level of excellence. For this, PFCLG is excited as it calls for new opportunities to explore new ambassadors to tell our message and new assets to be mined for the benefit of our children. PFCLG maintains its commitment to fan the flames of the talents in our community for what we know will be another tremendous year for the Partnership for Children of Lincoln and Gaston Counties.

We thank you for caring about our children and families and we look forward to reaching new heights of excellence in the coming year.



OUR MISSION

To serve as a leading advocate and financial resource, in collaboration with other community agencies, to provide affordable access to high quality services for young children.

OUR VISION

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

More at Four

pre-kindergarten program



"The More at Four program prepares them for kindergarten, I love watching that light bulb go off for the first time. I love to see them develop as they learn."

~ Danielle Kaiserling, More at Four Teacher.

WHAT IS MORE AT FOUR?

Initiated by Governor Mike Easley in 2001, More at Four is a state funded, community-based pre-kindergarten program. The purpose of More at Four is to provide high-quality educational experiences in order to enhance school readiness for at risk four-year olds. The Partnership for Children serves as the More at Four administrator for Lincoln County and is responsible for the More at Four site's compliance with program guidelines and the verification of the child's eligibility. The Partnership provides supplemental funding to all child care centers and elementary schools providing More at Four in Lincoln and Gaston Counties.

MORE AT FOUR SITES-LINCOLN

Catawba Springs Elementary
The Mini Academy @ Denver
Ms. Em's Child Development Center
St. James Elementary Pre-Kindergarten Program
A Place to Grow
Battleground Elementary Pre-Kindergarten Program
G.E. Massey Elementary Pre-Kindergarten Program
Lincoln Park Head Start
Norris Childers Elementary Pre-Kindergarten Program
North Brook Elementary Pre-Kindergarten Program
Union Elementary Pre-Kindergarten Program

MORE AT FOUR SITES-GASTON

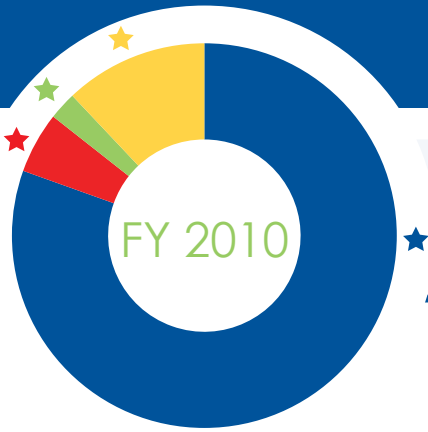
There are 58 classrooms in Gaston County.
The newest sites are:

Gardner Park Elementary School
Sadler Elementary School



More at Four
pre-kindergarten program

PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN FUNDING INFO



EXPENDITURES

★ EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION

Total \$3,600,800.72

Child Care Subsidy-Gaston Gaston County DSS	\$727,680
Child Care Subsidy-Lincoln Lincoln County DSS	\$290,000
Child Care Subsidy Administration-Gaston Gaston County DSS	\$95,900
Child Care Subsidy Administration-Lincoln Lincoln County DSS	\$67,130
More at Four: Gaston PFCLG	\$506,172
Parent Resource and Referral PFCLG	\$37,005
Child Care Health Consultant-Gaston County Gaston County Health Department	\$56,525
Child Care Health Consultant-Lincoln County Lincoln County Health Department	\$29,012
Quality Enhancement PFCLG	\$203,225.22
Quality Sustainability PFCLG	\$1,223,783.64
WAGES Child Care Services Association	\$269,329
Individual Professional Development Program PFCLG	\$95,038.86

★ FAMILY SUPPORT

Total \$211,460.00

Adolescent Parenting Program Lincoln County DSS	\$75,140
Family Resource Center-Lincoln County Communities in Schools	\$58,768
Very Important Parenting Program-Gaston NC Cooperative Extension-Gaston	\$77,552

★ HEALTH

Total \$102,001.00

Early Intervention Awareness Community Health Partners	\$39,189
Health Check Coordination Community Health Partners	\$62,812

★ ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONS

Total \$593,339.00

Administration PFCLG	\$385,240.05
Program Coordination/Collaboration PFCLG	\$139,606.11
Community Outreach Services PFCLG	\$68,492.84

2009-10 PFCLG Total Funding by FYE June 30, 2010

Total \$5,564,101.00

Smart Start Services	\$4,152,638
Smart Start Admin	\$385,407
More at Four	\$957,156
Division of Child Development	\$68,900

2009-2010 Cash and In-Kind

\$497,755

2009-2010 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(As of July 1, 2009)

OFFICERS

Robert Weeks, Chair,
Gaston Family Health Services

Cathy Davis, Vice-Chair,
Lincoln Co. Coalition Against Child Abuse

Erma Deen Hoyle, Secretary,
Lincoln Co. Parks & Recreation Dept.

Elizabeth Dampier, Treasurer,
Gaston County Museum

BOARD MEMBERS

Lou Burgess, Lincoln Co. Health Department
Nelson Connor, Pathways, Inc.

Maggie Dollar, Lincoln Co. Health Department

David Fogarty, Gaston Co. Cooperative Extension Service

Annie Geerken, Kenlin Academy

Linda Greer, Gaston College

William Gross, Gaston Co. Health Department

Cindy Hammer, Early Beginnings Child Development Center

Carolyn Harbinson, Gaston Community Action

Melinda Houser, Lincoln Co. Cooperative Extension Service

Tina Hurdt, City of Lincoln

Sandy Johnson, Retired Educator

Cathy Kenzig, Alliance for Children and Youth

Charlotte Lynch, Community Health Partners, Inc.

Billy Marsh, Communities In Schools of Lincoln Co.

Dr. David Martin, Lincoln Co. Schools

Susan McCracken, Lincoln Co. Department of Social Services

Carrie Minnich, Gaston Co. Schools

Carrol Mitchem, Lincoln Co. Commissioner

Cindy Moose, Gaston-Lincoln Regional Library

Tracy Philbeck, Gaston Co. Commissioner

Laura Slack, United Way of Lincoln Co., Inc.

Wanda Whetstone, Gaston Co. Department of Social Services

PARTNERSHIP STAFF

Steve Eaton, Executive Director

Tory L. Borne, Program Manager

Elizabeth S. Carroll, Administrative Assistant

Marnita Causby, Office Assistant

Sherri Heffner, Contracts Assistant

Diane Hines, Early Childhood Education Director

Chrystal Hoyle, Technical Assistant

Erin Patterson, Research Assistant

Rebecca Powell, Parent Information Assistant

Rosalind Richardson, Technical Assistant

Dawn Rippy, Contracts Manager

Carol Stephenson, Technical Assistant

Deirdre Sykes, Technical Assistant

Vicki Timmons, Finance Coordinator

Amy Wadsworth, Public Information Coordinator

Kimberly Ward, Technical Assistant



*"We are never really happy until we try to
brighten the lives of others."*

~ Helen Keller

PFCLG 2009-2010 AT A GLANCE...

How many children?

- * There are an estimated 21,236 children aged 0-5 in Lincoln and Gaston Counties.
- * As of June 30, 2009, an estimated 5,368 children aged 0-5 attend licensed child care in Lincoln and Gaston Counties.

HOW DID WE HELP?

We helped families find quality child care

- * We helped find quality child care for 655 families

We helped child care facilities achieve and maintain higher standard of care

- * Technical Assistance targeting health, nutrition, sanitation and safety was provided to 86 child care facilities.
- * Technical Assistance on environmental rating scales and general licensure was provided to 225 child care facilities on an ongoing basis.

We helped support the education of child care providers.

- * 155 Child care providers in 71 child care facilities earned financial incentive awards from PFCLG for earning college credit towards a degree in early childhood education.
- * As of June 30, 2010, 235 child care professionals working in 103 facilities earned a WAGES supplement

We helped families improve their parenting skills

- * Provided parenting classes ranging from one-time workshops to intensive court-ordered parenting classes to 198 families.

We helped improve awareness and enrollment in health services

- * Training on the use of screening tools to identify children with special needs at the earliest age possible was offered to staff of 36 medical practices.



"I am in the world to change the world."

~ Muriel Rukeyser, American poet



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