

PARTNERSHIP STAFF

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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.

CONTACT US

Now you can receive our newsletter by US Mail or Email.

If you want to receive our newsletter, please contact

Amy Wadsworth at
704-736-9008 or 704-922-0900,
or send an email to
publicinfo@pfclg.com.

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PARTNERSHIP PRESS

News and Info about Smart Start in Lincoln & Gaston Counties



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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- Wanda Whetstine, Gaston Co. Department of Social Services

MEET THE NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR!

The Partnership for Children of Lincoln & Gaston Counties is proud to introduce Steve Eaton as our new Executive Director. Mr. Eaton was selected after an extensive and thorough executive search. He started at the Partnership on Dec. 22, 2008. Eaton has a strong non-profit background. His diverse career includes work with organizations that serve the needs of families and children. Most recently, he was Executive Director of the Alexander County Partnership for Children in Taylorsville. "The strength of Partnership for Children of Lincoln & Gaston Counties comes from the passionate staff, child care professionals in both counties, and Partnership for Children of Lincoln & Gaston Counties visioning board of directors," added Eaton. "I look forward to coming alongside this dedicated group and working diligently to take the Partnership to its next level of excellence." Eaton has dedicated his career to being an advocate for the well being of families and creating programs and services that promote the healthy development of children. He has served on community boards and advisory committees and received numerous awards including one for Individual Leadership Distinction from the Family Infant and Preschool Program in Morganton in 2005. Eaton holds a BA in Psychology from East Carolina University. His postgraduate experience includes completion of the Non-Profit Management Program at Duke University, work at the Rotary Leadership Institute, and the Center for Creative Leadership in Greensboro. He lives in Hickory, is married to wife Lisa and has two children, Sierra, 7 and Olivia, 5.



inside

- PAGE ONE Meet Steve Eaton
- PAGE TWO Run For The Money
- PAGE THREE More At Four Applications
- PAGE FOUR Staff Listings & Contact Info



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IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN TO RUN FOR THE MONEY!

The Partnership for Children of Lincoln & Gaston Counties is participating in the event that will take place Saturday, April 18, 2009 at the Rotary Pavilion in Gastonia. Stop by to visit our booth! The seventh annual fundraiser is sponsored by the Community Foundation of Gaston County for nonprofits and consists of a run/walk for the community and a chance for donors to give to the Partnership for Children! Run 7 is an opportunity to unite community volunteers, businesses and donors to support 115 local non-profits. The Community Foundation will be accepting donations on behalf of the Partnership until 5 p.m., Friday, April 24, 2009. Then, the foundation will match the funds that each organization receives at up to 100 percent. Donations made through "Run for the Money" are tax-deductible.

This year the Partnership will be using the funds raised to create Prop Boxes, which are containers of material used by preschool teachers to integrate role playing into lessons. For more information, contact Amy Wadsworth at the Partnership at 704-736-9008 or 704-922-0900.



WANT TO GIVE?

It's easy to make your donation for the Partnership for Children. Make your check out to the Community Foundation of Gaston County, Inc. and send it to P.O. Box 123, Gastonia, NC 28053 with a completed donor form. Donations must be made by check, cashiers check or money order. No cash donations will be accepted. Original forms only, no copies or duplicates.

Donor forms are available at:

- All Gaston County Public Library locations
- The Gaston Gazette, 1893 Remount Road, Gastonia
- The Community Foundation, 1201 E. Garrison Blvd., Gastonia and online at www.cfgaston.org
- The Partnership for Children Office, 3146 Dallas-High Shoals Hwy., Dallas

HOW TO PARTICIPATE?

Anyone can participate in the 5K run and a non-competitive 2K walk. Both will start at 9 a.m. Entry forms for the race and walk are at the same locations as the donor forms. Early Bird registration for the 5K Run is \$10. After April 10, registration is \$15. Run Day registration is \$25. There is no fee for the 2K Walk.

WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD IS APRIL 19-25, 2009!

The Week of the Young Child is an annual celebration sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children, the world's largest early childhood education association. The week is geared to focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families and is a time to plan how to better meet their needs. This year's theme is "Bring Communities Together

for Children-Children Bring Communities Together." NAEYC designates the Week of the Young Child and events are planned by local communities. The Partnership for Children will be setting a date and a program to celebrate this important week in the very near future.

For more information visit the NAEYC website at www.naeyc.org.



GASTON & LINCOLN MORE AT FOUR PROGRAMS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

More at Four, North Carolina's community-based pre-Kindergarten program, is now accepting applications for enrollment in the 2009-2010 school year. More at Four programs are located in Gaston and Lincoln counties at designated elementary schools and child care centers. The program is limited to serving children who will be four years old on or before August 31, 2009 and targets children that have not had a preschool education or who may have developmental needs. Eligibility is determined by a number of criteria, including family size and gross income.

For more information about the program in Gaston County contact Gaston County Schools at 704-866-6124 and for Lincoln County, contact the Partnership for Children of Lincoln & Gaston Counties at 704-736-9008 or 704-922-0900.



THE EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONALS 26TH ANNUAL MID-WINTER CONFERENCE AT GASTON COLLEGE

The Early Childhood Professionals 26th annual Mid-Winter Conference at Gaston College on Feb. 21 was a huge success. Roughly 161 childhood professionals enjoyed a day filled with workshops for Infant/Toddlers, Pre-School and School-Age children. Participants had time throughout the sessions to stop at the vendor booths, including a booth from the Partnership for Children and Kaplan Early Learning Company. The conference guest speaker, Special Agent III, Michael Sheron from the NC State Bureau of Investigations, Special Services Unit gave a great talk on Methamphetamine labs that were seized in North Carolina. The training provided basic information on items found in a Meth lab and how they pose a danger to everyone. Participants were glad they attended the conference and said all the workshops were well thought out and well put together. Put next year's date on your calendar! The Mid-Winter Conference is set for Feb. 20, 2010.



WANT TO BE A MEMBER OF THE EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONALS?

The Early Childhood Professionals are currently holding a membership drive. Their mission is to increase the quality of the Early Childhood Profession so all children have the opportunity to develop to their fullest potential. Membership is open to anyone who is actively concerned with the education of young children. There is a \$10 annual fee for the May to April year. Board meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month at Noon. Anyone can attend these meetings. ECP has four main activities each year: the Mid-Winter Conference in February, a Teacher Appreciation Banquet in April, a Fall Fling in October, and a White Elephant Sale in December. Membership forms are available at the Partnership's website, www.pfcg.com. Make checks payable to ECP and mail to: ECP, 4940 Bud Wilson Road, Gastonia, NC 28056.

THE PARTNERSHIP'S 2008 ANNUAL REPORT IS NOW AVAILABLE.
CALL FOR LOCATIONS 704-922-0900

