



Person County Partnership for Children

2008-2009 Annual Report

The Board of Directors and Staff of the Person County Partnership for Children are pleased to share our 2008-2009 Annual Report. As the local Smart Start agency, our central goal is that *all Person County children will enter school healthy and prepared for success*. The Partnership was established in 1993 and began programming in 1994 with Smart Start funds from the Division of Child Development.

Every year, PCPFC funds many projects in the community, providing education and support for preschool aged children with a particular emphasis on improving the quality and affordability of childcare, improving parenting skills, and improving preschool and family literacy. The PCPFC Board identified five focus areas during the Jan.'08 Strategic Planning Retreat. These five areas are: **1) Improved Literacy, 2) Addressing Childhood Obesity, 3) Car Seat Safety, 4) Kindergarten Readiness, and 5) Outreach to the Latino community.**

In 2008-2009, the partnership funded 14 programs in Person County. Of the 14 programs reviewed, 7 received the highest rating and the remaining received a rating of good sustainability. Programs included:

- Child Care Resource and Referrals
- Community Services Team—Nurse
- Community Services Team—Child/Family Therapist
- Community Services Team—Early Intervention Specialist
- Early Childhood Scholarships
- Head Start Expansion
- Initiatives for Quality
- Partners in Literacy
- Professional Development Coordinator
- Service Promotion and Outreach
- Subsidy Scholarship
- Very Important Parents
- Dancing with Diversity
- NAP SACC

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Kindergarten Readiness

- Over 150 parents received education and assistance in finding high quality child care.
- Over 120 home and center providers were served with educational and training opportunities.
- More than 60 technical assistance visits were provided to child care homes and centers.
- Multiple facilities received consultation regarding emotional and behavioral issues, affecting 16 children in need of mental health intervention. On average, children received 5 visits from the therapist.
- 50 child care facilities received consultation focused on behavioral needs and interventions; over 160 technical assistance visits and 3 group trainings were implemented. A total of 24 children from these sites completed treatment plans.
- 15 child care facilities received Child Care Health Consultant services (i.e., trainings); the CCHC provided over 100 visits to facilities.

- Child immunization and medical home information was reviewed at 10 child care sites.
- Five child care providers received scholarships to continue their education at Piedmont Community College; 80% (4 of the 5) completed at least 3 semester credit hours.
- 20 children (and families) received wrap-around care through local Head Start program.
- 111 child care providers received bonuses for completing educational coursework, at an average amount of \$710 per bonus.
- 27 providers were enrolled in an AA degree program in Early Childhood through the Professional Development Coordinator; 100% of these completed at least 3 semester credit hours over the course of the year. Three providers completed the AA degree.
- Partnership staff hosted or participated in 28 community events.
- There were 24 articles or press releases regarding various Partnership events for the 08-09 year.
- Over 200 local businesses utilized and supported the partnership; 77 local agencies utilized and collaborated with the partnership.
- 36 families (up from 32 in the prior year) received emergency or crisis subsidy assistance, allowing children to remain in child care, with the average subsidy valued at \$480.
- 69 families received intensive family support and education through the nationally recognized Parents as Teachers program.
- 16 Motherread sessions were completed with parents enrolled in the family literacy program (ACE).
- 275 home visits were conducted with parents that focused on kindergarten readiness, nutrition, and physical activity.
- 122 children were served through the More at Four Program in three to five star rated facilities.
- 89 parents provided direct feedback to the Partnership by completing a parent satisfaction survey during the annual Family A-Fair Festival in April.

Improving Literacy

- 16,625 age-appropriate books were distributed throughout the community.
- 28 literacy outreach events were conducted.

Childhood Obesity

- Body Mass Index was reviewed for over 550 children.
- 275 home visits were conducted with parents that focused on kindergarten readiness, nutrition, and physical activity.
- 215 children and 277 parents that were served received information on nutrition and enhanced activity at 10 child care sites.
- 7 child care sites received assistance in improving Nutrition and Physical Activity environment, policies, and practices.

Car Seat Safety

- Partnership coordinated car seat safety technician training for 20 local law enforcement and emergency personnel in order to provide local car seat safety clinics.
- Over 60 families received car seat safety information.
- 2 car seat clinics were completed.

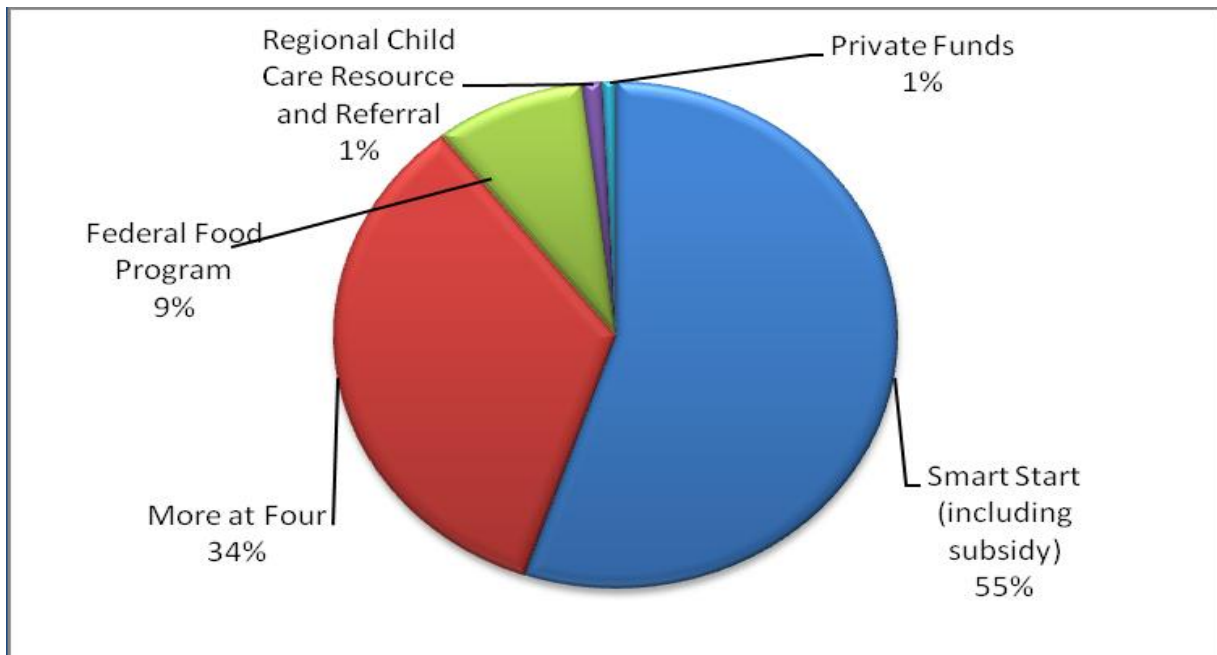
Latino Outreach

- 18 outreach efforts to the Latino community were completed by the Very Important Parents program.
- A total of 44 outreach efforts were conducted to the Latino community through the Head Start program.

Because of these services:

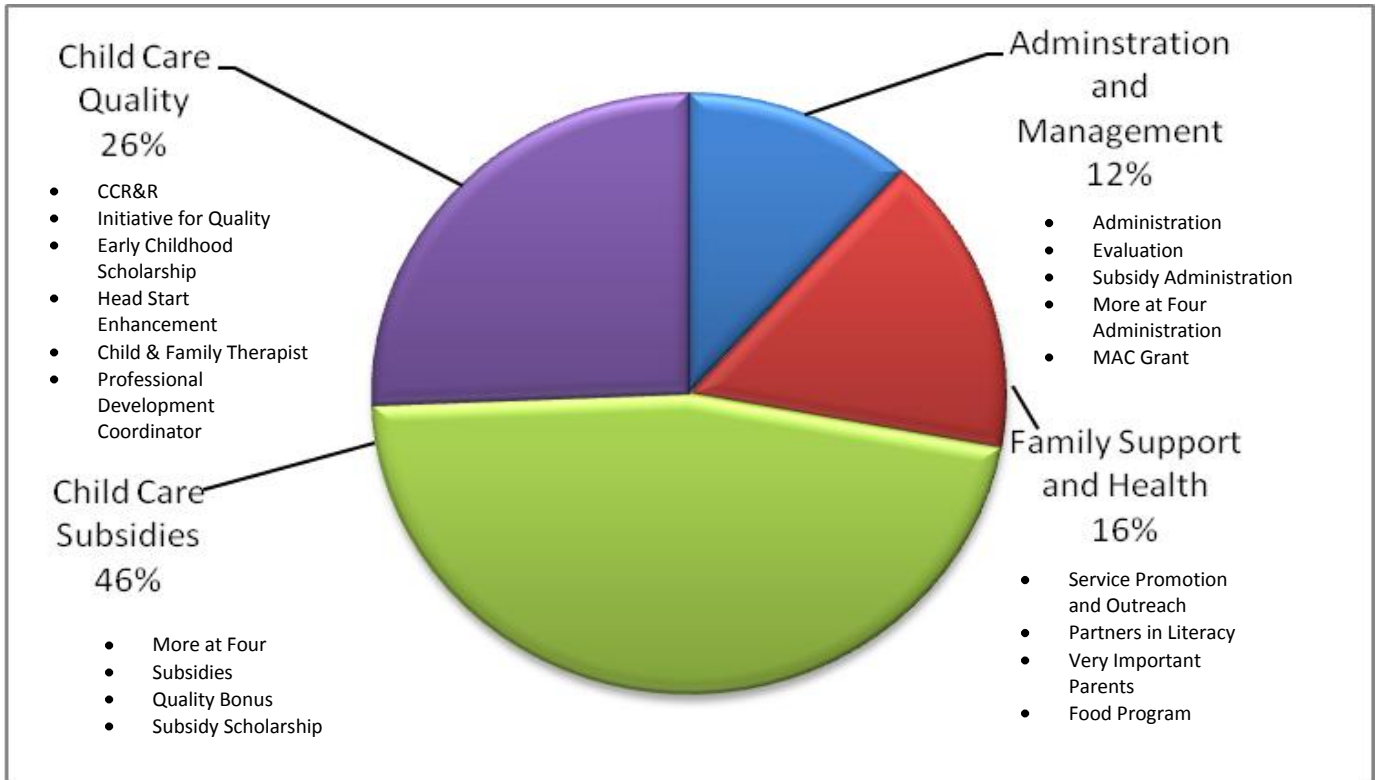
- 61% of all Person County young children were served by at least one Person County Partnership program.
- 8% of child care facilities increased their star rating¹.
- 100% of parents who received education services reported using at least 1-3 indicators of quality when choosing child care.
- 95% of parents who received education services reported making an informed decision about child care.
- Over 90% of children with behavioral problems demonstrated improvement (decreased incidence of problematic behaviors); over 80% of providers served with technical assistance also demonstrated improved practices.
- High percentages of children (67% or higher) who received referrals to Mental Health, Person County Schools, or Child Development Services Agency eventually received services.
- 65% of providers were enrolled in services designed to increase educational attainment. For these providers, average turnover was 8% and median salary increased 9% to \$9.76 per hour.
- Over 80% of parents receiving literacy services reported reading more often to their child(ren).
- 87% of families reported knowledge of Person County Partnership for Children; 88% reported a positive perception of the partnership.
- 92% of families were able to retain a child care placement due to emergency subsidies.
- 100% of families who received referrals for their children through Very Important Parents followed through with those referrals.
- 100% of child care sites receiving services reported completed action plans related to nutrition and physical activity or reported an increase in physical activity during the day.

BUDGET INFO: At the end of 2008-2009 fiscal year, the Partnership had administered over \$1.6 million in federal, state and private funds. The Person County Partnership for Children received funding from several sources in 2008-2009: Smart Start, More at Four, Federal Food Program, Regional Child Care Resource and Referral—Child Care Services Agency, and Private Funds.



¹ North Carolina uses a five point rating system (aka, five star rating system) to assign a quality rating to licensed child care facilities. A five star rating is the highest possible rating and indicative of high quality child care.

By legislative mandate, at least 70% of Smart Start funds must be spent on child care subsidies or child-care related services. Remaining Smart Start funds are expended on a variety of family support, health, and administrative services. Additional sources of funding, including private donations and fund-raising, augment Smart Start funds and provide additional services in the community. The budget breakdown presented below provides specific information on 2008-2009 expenditures.



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Staff for 2008-2009

- Judy Batten – Executive Director**
- Ann Garrard – Program/Evaluations Coordinator**
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- Becky Oliver – Administrative & Service Support Asst.**
- Nina Taylor – Parent Specialist**
- Tonya Williams – Provider Specialist**



“Our Commitment Today Impacts a Child’s Tomorrow!”