



Annual Report

2008 - 2009



Craven Smart Start, Inc,
1917 Trent Boulevard - New Bern, NC 28560 (252) 636-3198
ppurnell@cravensmartstart.org www.cravensmartstart.org

From our Board Chair & Executive Director

Dear Craven County Citizens,

We are pleased to provide you Craven Smart Start's Annual Report for our fiscal year July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009. In spite of many challenges, we have much to celebrate, including the following:

- We have continued our ten year history of clean audits. Our excellent audit record is a product of both diligent fiscal oversight by the Board of Directors and an exemplary staff that understands the responsibilities that come with spending taxpayers' money.
- We received a silver award at the 2008 Smart Start annual conference for sustaining performance standards for five years.
- The Harold H. Bate Foundation awarded a grant to help us provide services to children with special needs, regardless of age, in Pamlico, Jones and Craven Counties, through our Family Support Network of the Crystal Coast. The grant enabled us to broaden our consumer base to children older than five, the traditional age limitation for Smart Start services. In addition, the grant allowed us to start a support group for parents of children with autism and to host a Breakfast with Santa for children with special needs, with 190 children and families in attendance.
- Ninety per cent of children with special needs who receive subsidized child care in Craven County are in four and five star child care facilities, the highest state ratings available for such facilities.
- Raising a Reader, an evidence-based program, was implemented for eighteen children at our Technology Enrichment Program in Cove City, thanks to the proceeds of our Luncheon for Literacy fundraiser. Raising a Reader sends home high quality children's books to engage parents to read daily to their children.
- We sponsored our third annual Building Better Beginnings Conference which provided professional development for over 168 child care teachers and parents.
- Speaker Pro Tempore William Wainwright and Representative Alice Underhill joined our then current Board president, Peggy Faulkenberry, and former Board Presidents Jackie Beach, Dr. Nancy Carroll, Dr. Jean Huryn and Dr. Bart Spano at our 10th anniversary celebration in March.
- Our Resource Lending Library continues to be a popular and well utilized resource for many families with young children. There are parents and young children visiting, talking, playing, laughing, making music and reading throughout the day. We welcome you to stop by for a visit to see your tax dollars at work for the young children of Craven County.

While we celebrate successes, we do so with the knowledge that there are still many challenges we face, such as providing more parenting education, reaching young children who are not in any formal child care or preschool setting and continuing to provide quality, responsive services in spite of fiscal constraints caused by North Carolina's well publicized budgetary difficulties. With your continued help and support, we look forward to addressing these challenges head-on with much continued future success.

Sincerely,

Arey Grady, III

Arey Grady, III
Board President

Patricia J. Purnell

Patricia J. Purnell
Executive Director

10 Years of Serving
Children & Families

Our Funded Partners

CHILD CARE HEALTH CONSULTANT –

A registered nurse who provides child care facilities with training and consultation that promotes safe and healthy environments for children birth to five years of age.

CHILD CARE RESOURCE & REFERRAL (CCR&R) & QUALITY ENHANCEMENT (QE)

Designed to help families find quality child care and to provide training and information that will improve the quality of care in local facilities. Operates a resource lending library, which is available to the public. QE works with facilities to increase their star rating and the level/competency of child care workers.

CHILD CARE SUBSIDY through Craven County Department of Social Services - Provides income eligible parents who work or attend school/training with assistance in paying for child care for children under six.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH - Works to educate the community about Craven Smart Start services & to connect families to these services. Provides parents with resource and parenting information to use in working with their children.

EXPANSION OF HOURS AND ENHANCED SERVICES at Craven Cherry Point Child Development Center in Havelock - Extends hours of operation in meeting needs of working parents and enhances services for children with special needs.

FAMILY LITERACY PROGRAM at Vanceboro Farm Life & James W. Smith Elementary Schools - Provides a high quality, developmentally appropriate early childhood program for children, birth to five, while parents work on their G.E.D/educational goals.

FAMILY SUPPORT NETWORK OF THE CRYSTAL COAST -

Offers support, assistance in finding community resources, training and information for families with children who have special needs.

INCLUSION SPECIALIST THROUGH EASTER SEALS – Provides on-site technical assistance to child care centers & homes to serve children with special needs in typical child care settings.

MORE AT FOUR PRE-KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM

- Community-based, high quality voluntary pre-kindergarten North Carolina initiative designed to prepare at-risk four year olds for success in school in various sites across Craven County.



PARENTS AS TEACHERS PROGRAM through Craven County Cooperative Extension - Provides parents of children birth to five with child development information through home visits by a certified Parent Educator and group activities to enhance parent-child activities.

TECHNOLOGY ENRICHMENT at Bryant Chapel Church in Cove City - Provides computer interaction for children (3-5) to improve communication, memory, manual dexterity, and self-esteem.

WAGES PROJECT - Provides salary supplements to low paid child care teachers, directors & home providers working with children birth to five, based on their educational level & length of employment in the child care facility.



FAMILY LITERACY PROGRAM

Children & Family Support Services

- 5,031 educational toys and materials were checked out of our Resource Lending Library by parents, grandparents, and child care providers.
- 1186 families received children's books and packets filled with educational materials to use with their children.
- 279 parents received referrals to child care facilities
- 256 income-eligible families received assistance with the cost of child care enabling them to work or to attend school, and 37 income-eligible children received transportation services to attend child care
- 23 families with 41 young children received practical parenting tips and child development information during 345 home visits from a certified Parent Educator with the Parents as Teachers Program.
- 63 families with 137 children worked on their GED; increased their academic or job skills; or learned English as a Second Language and strengthened their parenting skills, while their children received high quality child care at the Craven County Family Literacy Program.
- 132 families attended Kindergarten: Ready, Set, Go sessions which were designed to help them prepare their children for kindergarten.



TRAINING FOR CHILD CARE PROVIDERS

Community Involvement

- Craven Smart Start participated in 31 workshops or community events to make parents and the public more aware of our services.
- 190 children and their families participated in Breakfast with Santa, organized & sponsored by the Family Support Network of the Crystal Coast and other organizations that provide support to families with children who have special needs.



RESOURCE LENDING LIBRARY

Early Care & Education

- 2093 children in child care facilities benefited from teachers participating in CCR&R trainings.
- 226 at-risk children received high quality early education in seven More at Four Pre-Kindergarten classes throughout Craven County.
- 19 at-risk preschool children in western Craven County received cognitive and social preschool experiences and computer interaction through Technology Enrichment.



RAISING A READER

Teacher Education & Support

- 481 staff from child care centers & homes participated in CCR&R trainings.
- 168 parents and child care professionals participated in a day-long early childhood conference sponsored by Craven Smart Start.
- 121 child care professionals received WAGE\$ bonuses to promote higher education and reduce staff turnover.
- 238 child care teachers and directors from 85 facilities received on-site technical assistance from CCR&R to improve the quality of care in their classrooms/child care facilities through Quality Enhancement.
- 34 child care providers who attended core classes in the Early Childhood Program at Craven Community College were able to borrow college textbooks from CCR&R.



FSN BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Health Support

- 148 training/technical assistance visits which focused on health, safety and sanitation were provided to child care facilities in Craven County.



CRAVEN SMART START CONFERENCE
& 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION

Financial Overview in 2008-2009

Smart Start Expenditures

Early Childhood Education	\$633,642
More at Four	\$117,933
Family Services	\$122,947
Evaluation	\$ 49,250
Community Outreach	\$ 67,032
Multi-Partnership Accounting (MAC)	\$ 9,664
Health Check/Health Choice	\$ 74,304
Administration	\$134,331
Child Care Subsidy	\$525,114
Region Two Expenditures	\$216,078
Craven Region Two Lead Partnership – Resource & Referral (Beaufort, Washington, Tyrell, Hyde & Pamlico)	
Program Total Expenditures	\$1,950,295

Revenue & Support

State Awards:

Smart Start	\$1,100,963
MAC-NCPC	\$11,985
Family Support Network	\$17,362

Federal Awards:

Child Care Resources, Inc	\$ 223,484
Health Check/Choice-DMA	\$ 66,968

Private Contributions:

Individuals/Businesses	\$ 5,314
United Way	1,485
Bate Foundation	7,500
Kate B Reynolds	50,000
NCPC PBIS Award	750

Other Receipts:

Interest	\$ 256
CCR&R Fees	10,293

* These state contracts are not reflected in actual receipts, but are administered by Craven Smart Start.

Local Match: In-Kind donations /services
Cash

Total Program Revenue **\$1,496,360**

State Contracts*

WAGE\$	\$135,210
Child Care Subsidy	\$525,114



Thanks to Our Donors & Volunteers!

Contributors

Harold H. Bate Foundation
Jackie Beach
Jennifer & Jason Bolz
Pam & Tom Brinson
Wendy Chapman
Dr. Catherine Chew & Howard Steir
Tammy Cullom
Carol Erwin
Peggy & Billy Faulkenberry
Dawn Ferreira
Fisher Oil, Co.
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Susan Husson
Cherie Lamb Holt
Jeannie Holton
Kelly Klemmer
Teresa LeRiche
Little Hands Day Nursery
Kim Matthews
Carol & Bob Mattocks
Maune Belangia Faulkenberry Architects
Candice Mummert
Christy & Matt Montanye
Lee & Pinkie Moore
Pat & Terry Morrow
New Bern Rotary Club
Denise Powell
Nicole Powers
Pat and Vaughn Purnell
Letha & Butch Ricks
Linda Robinson
Lashawna Roe
Pat Rowlett
N. Kimmey Seymore, DDS
Beatrice Smith
Dr. Bart Spano
The Arc of Craven County
Lindora Toudle
Walmart

Our Volunteers

Thanks to our many committed volunteers for their work on behalf of Craven County's young children.

In-Kind Contributors

Children's Developmental Services Agency
Craven County
Craven County Cooperative Extension
Craven County Health Department
Craven County Schools
Mt. Olive College
Trinity Presbyterian Church of Havelock
Waldenbooks of New Bern
West New Bern Presbyterian Church

In-Kind Contributors for our Conference

All About Children
Applebee's
BB&T Banking
Carolina Bagel
Charles Taylor Head Start Center
Child Care Network # 77
Craven Community College
Crazy Scott's Productions
Duffyfield Head Start Center
F.R. Danyus Head Start Center
Fuller's Music
Gina's Pizza
Godette Head Start Center
Little Hands Day Nursery
Green Eco Home & Body
Jiffy Lube
Kaplan Early Learning Company
Manny's Christian Book and Music
Pinkie S. Moore
Pat Morrow
Our Children Child Care
Pic Frame Gallery
Sister Act
Snap Drageon
Southgate Cinemas
Super Cuts
Sonia Sumner
Tips 2 Toes
3W Communication



**ANN ZEIMET,
CHAMPION FOR CHILDREN
VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR
2008**



SUPPORT FROM NEW BERN ROTARY

Board of Directors

Lee K. Allen	Craven County Commissioner
Jackie Beach	Craven/New Bern Public Library
Virginia Buchanan	Community Representative
Kelly Canupp	Craven County Cooperative Extension Service
Tonya Cedars	Eastern Carolina Council on Aging
Wendy Chapman, V. Pres.	Children's Developmental Services Agency
Dr. Catherine Chew	Craven Community College
Tammy Cullom	Craven County Schools
Carol Erwin, Secretary	Craven County Health
Kent Flowers, Jr. Ex. Comm	Craven County Department of Social Services
Kathleen Forbes	Parent Receiving Smart Start Services
Arey Grady, President	Sumrell Sugg Carmichael, Hicks & Hart PA
Lisa Green	Parent Receiving Smart Start Services
Teresa Harris-Suhrie	New Bern Chamber of Commerce
Dr. Barbara Heckman	Head Start
Deborah Hodges	Craven County Government
Jeannie Holton	Little Hands Day Nursery
Ericka Howard	Parent Receiving Services
Susan Husson	Interfaith Refugee Ministry
Ingrid Johansen	Business Representative
Paula Jones	Child Care Home Provider
Kelly Klemmer	Community Representative
Diane Miller	City of Havelock
Jerry Neal	Craven County Department of Social Services
Denise Powell, Treasurer	New Bern Police Department
John Roberts	Exceptional Family Member Program, MCCS
Barbara Rodgers	Dayspring After School
Suzanne Richie	Community Representative
Dr. Mike Romaine	Zale Foundation
Julie Rowe, Ex Committee	Community Volunteer
Rev. Jeff Sockwell	West New Bern Presbyterian Church
Nancy Wells	East Carolina Behavioral Health

STAFF

Patricia Purnell, Executive Director; Rebecca Buzzard, Program Evaluator. Christy Montanye, Fiscal Manager. Ellie Toombs, Administrative Assistant. Teddi Greco-Turen, Child Care Health Consultant. Teresa LeRiche, Family Support Network Coordinator. Linda Robinson, Health Check Coordinator. Lindora Toudle, Health Check Coordinator. Pinkie Moore, Community Outreach Coordinator. Patricia Morrow, CCR&R Director; Deana Day, CCR&R Administrative Assistant; Letha Ricks, Quality Enhancement Coordinator; Jennifer Bolz, Quality Enhancement Coordinator;

Region 2 Staff: Deanna Urbina, Data Manager. Teresa Doane, Infant Toddler Specialist. Sonia Sumner, Behavioral Specialist. Rachel Ward, School Age Specialist.



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Pinkie Moore, Writer & Editor