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NEWS RELEASE

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Durham's Partnership for Children Board of Directors Appoints Officers and New Members to Serve

Durham, NC – Durham's Partnership for Children held its Annual Board Meeting Thursday, Oct. 20 and welcomed new Board members to serve on the Board of Directors for the 11-12 fiscal year. Board Member Ellen Reckhow, Nominations Chair, moved the election of the 11-12 slate of officers.

The 11-12 slate of officers is:

Bill Bryant, President of Bryant Investment Management Group, LLC, will serve as Board Chair. He works with organizations, families and individuals on financial issues such as investment management, retirement plans, saving for college and other financial planning issues. Bryant holds the designations of Certified Financial Planner TM, Chartered Retirement Plans Specialist, and Certified Investment Management Analyst. He has been involved with Durham's Partnership for Children and has served as Chair of the Community Awareness and Development Committee and the Finance Committee. He presently sits on the Finance and Investment Committees.

Anne Karasek, National Technical Assistance Specialist at the Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute, will serve as Board Vice-Chair. Karasek works in the areas of statute and regulation implementation and primarily in the area of financing services for children with disabilities. Having previously worked as a policy consultant at the Division of Child Development in the early years of the Hunt Initiative, she has a long history in early childhood. Karasek was a technical assistance provider and manager of the Child Care Development Funds (CCDF) for child care resource and referral programs in North Carolina. She has served on the Partnership Board of Directors and as Co-Chair of the Allocations Committee for the past two years.

Ilene Britt is the Program Director of the Early Childhood Associate program and an Instructor at Durham Technical Community College. She will continue to serve as Secretary. Britt has been involved with the Partnership since its inception. She has been a pediatric early interventionist, a child care center director, served as a board member of the NC Interagency Coordinating Council, and is a NC Early Childhood Education Fellow. Ilene sits on the School Readiness/More at Four Committee and has served as Secretary since FY 09-10.

Joe Haenn, Ph.D., who joined the Board in 2003 and has served as Chair of the Evaluation Committee, will serve as Treasurer. Haenn has advanced degrees in educational research and measurement, evaluation, and statistical analysis. He spent nine years at Durham Public Schools as the director of research and evaluation. Until his retirement in 2010, Haenn was the Senior Consultant for Research & Evaluation at the Office of Early Learning (Dept. of Public Instruction). He is now an independent business owner of "Joe's Train Repair," following his passion for trains and depots.

New members of the Board were voted in:

Bob Ashley – Executive Director at Preservation Durham

Derwin Dubose - Constituent Outreach and Assistant Policy Director at the North Carolina Office of the Lieutenant Governor

Patrick Hannah, J.D. – Assistant Vice President and Senior Regional Director at Liberty Mutual

Felecia Little – Acting Head Start Director and Program Operations Manager with Operation Breakthrough Head Start

Gail Perry – Interim Director of Durham County Social Services

Rebecca Reyes – Coordinator for the Latino Health Project at Duke University Hospital

Ashley Taylor – Community Impact Director for the United Way of the Greater Triangle

Current Board Members re-elected for an additional three-year term:

Leigh Bordley – Durham Public Schools Board Member and Executive Director of Partners for Youth in Durham

David Clark - Senior Business Banker, Vice President of Wells Fargo

David Covington - Clinical Social Worker with Duke Children's Primary Care

Marilyn Hedgpeth – Associate Pastor at First Presbyterian Church

B. David Reese - Director of the East Durham Children's Initiative

About Durham's Partnership for Children - Making young children a priority.

Founded in 1994 and first funded in 1995 to administer the Smart Start grant in Durham County, the Partnership works as an independent, local nonprofit that serves young children birth to age 5 and their families to ensure that all children enter school healthy and ready to succeed. For more than 16 years, the Partnership helps working parents pay for child care, improves the quality of child care and provides health and family support services to thousands of Durham County families with young children. The Partnership leverages the public and private sectors to achieve its mission: *To mobilize and unify the Durham community to create and support innovative and successful approaches to serving the needs of children birth to age 5 and their families.* The Partnership administers Smart Start, NCPRE-K, and Early Head Start in Durham County. For more information about the Partnership, visit www.dpfc.net or call 919-403-6960, ext. 221.