



## NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release March 4, 2011

# County Delegates Visit Raleigh to Ask Legislators to Maintain Funding For Early Childhood Education

## *Part of Smart Start's Tuesdays for Tots Advocacy Initiative*

**Durham, NC** – On **Tuesday, March 8, 2011** child care professionals, parents, and representatives from military families from Durham County will travel to the **N.C. General Assembly** to participate in Smart Start's Tuesdays for Tots initiative. Constituents will meet with Rep. Paul Luebke, Rep. Henry Michaux, Rep. W.A. (Winkie) Wilkins, Sen. Bob Atwater, and Sen. Floyd B. McKissick to discuss the **challenges facing young children** and ask legislators to maintain investments in early childhood programs in Durham.

- WHAT:** **Durham's Partnership for Children Tuesdays for Tots.** Tuesdays for Tots is Smart Start's signature effort that takes place every year during the legislative session. On Tuesdays, Smart Start partnerships come to Raleigh for one-on-one meetings with legislators to educate lawmakers on Smart Start successes, discuss challenges facing young children and their families, and help policymakers understand that our state's prosperity depends on our children's healthy development and growth.
- WHEN:** Tuesday, March 8, 2011  
10 am to 1 pm
- WHERE:** N.C. General Assembly  
300 N Salisbury St  
Raleigh, NC 27603
- WHO:** Durham County families, representatives from Durham's Partnership for Children, Rep. Paul Luebke, Rep. Henry Michaux, Rep. W.A. (Winkie) Wilkins, Sen. Bob Atwater, and Sen. Floyd B. McKissick from Durham County

### **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 under North Carolina's nationally recognized initiative to ensure all children enter school healthy and ready to succeed. For more than 15 years, the Partnership has helped working parents pay for child care, improve the quality of child care and provided health and family support services to thousands of Durham County families with young children. The Partnership works 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*, by working with funded partners, groups and organizations in Durham County to support and coordinate efforts impacting young children and their families. The Partnership also administers the More at Four Pre-Kindergarten Program in Durham County serving more than 400 children and the new Early Head Start Grant serving Durham infants and toddlers. For more information about the Partnership, visit [www.dpfc.net](http://www.dpfc.net) or call 919-403-6960, ext. 219.