



CONTACT:
Karine Stallings
403-6960 x. 221
599-5855 (mobile)
Karine@dpfc.net

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**PRE-K APPLICATION SIGN-UP SESSIONS OFFERED BEGINNING FEBRUARY 19
Now Accepting Applications for Durham County Pre-K Programs for 4-Year-Olds
Scheduling Appointments for More at Four Program, Title 1 Pre-K and Head Start**

Durham—Beginning February 19, Durham's Partnership for Children More at Four Program, Operation Breakthrough Head Start, Durham's Alliance for Child Care Access and Durham Public Schools Title 1 Pre-K will be scheduling appointments with hundreds of families to apply 4-year-olds for a no cost pre-kindergarten program that provides quality experiences that enhance kindergarten readiness.

Families can apply in two ways:

- Schedule an appointment to apply for these programs by calling 403-6950 ext. 6852.
- Stop by the Head Start offices at 215 Seminary Street, Durham, NC (across from McDonald's and the YMCA) beginning 02/25/2008. A Family Counselor will assist parents in filling out the application for the Pre-K programs.

The program is for children, age four, who have not been exposed to a preschool curriculum. To qualify for the programs, Durham County families must meet income guidelines and/or the child exhibits a developmental delay and children must turn 4-years-old by August 31, 2008 (born between October 17, 2003 and August 31, 2004) to be eligible for pre-k programs.

"This is the second year that all four organizations are working to ensure families experience the easiest application process possible," says Linda Hicks, More at Four Manager. "Families no longer have to make separate appointments to apply for the programs. Children will be matched with the appropriate program based on their individual needs."

There are 13 private child care sites located throughout the county which participate in the More at Four Program. More at Four classrooms in Head Start and Durham Public Schools are based upon eligibility.

This pre-kindergarten initiative is community-based, voluntary, and designed to prepare 4-year-olds across the county for kindergarten with a focused curriculum that enhances children's development physically, socially, emotionally, mentally, which includes language, communication, cognitive, general knowledge and approaches to learning.

Applicants must provide a copy of the child's birth certificate, all family members' social security cards, immunization record, proof they reside in Durham County (utility bill, lease or mortgage contract), and proof of annual income (tax forms, check stub indicating hourly wage and number of hours worked).

About Durham's Partnership for Children

Durham's Partnership for Children was founded in 1994 and first funded in 1995 to administer the Smart Start grant and More at Four grant in Durham County. Smart Start is North Carolina's nationally recognized initiative to ensure all children enter school healthy and ready to succeed. Smart Start helps working parents pay for childcare, improves the quality of childcare and provides health and family support services in every North Carolina County. The Partnership works with funded partners (affiliated organizations) 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 0-5 and their families." Durham's Partnership for Children also administers the More at Four Program in Durham County. For more information about Durham's Partnership for Children, visit www.dpfc.net or call 919-403-6960, ext. 221.

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