



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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DURHAM'S PARTNERSHIP RECEIVES 'CLEAN' AUDIT BY THE OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

Durham, N.C. – Durham's Partnership for Children, A Smart Start Initiative, announced Thursday, that the it has a "clean bill" of fiscal health, according to the Office of State Auditor. An audit of 2006-07 Smart Start and More at Four activities found no instances of non-compliance or weaknesses in internal controls. Durham's Partnership for Children administers \$9.6 million in state funds to the help families with young children across Durham County.

The audit looks for compliance in three core areas: accuracy of financial statements, how the partnership processes and authorizes transactions such as grants, accounts payable, payroll and cash receipts, and contract compliance.

"We are very pleased with our results," said Michael Palmer, Durham's Partnership for Children board chair for. "We have worked hard to use every tax dollar wisely to help our county's children, and this audit shows we have done just that."

Office of the State Auditor uses Government Auditing Standards to audit Durham's Partnership for Children every other year.

"We are very proud of the work our staff has done," said Marsha R. Basloe, Executive Director of Durham's Partnership for Children. "We know that our ability to serve the Durham County's youngest children has been strengthened by our ability to be fiscally responsible," she added.

Utilizing mostly state funds, the Partnership supports 23 programs in the areas of early childhood education, family support and health.

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 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 Governor's 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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