

Timeline of the Harnett County Partnership for Children

Helpnet, a group of citizens and professionals, came together to identify and address the needs of young children in Harnett County.

Smart Start is gradually phased into all of North Carolina's 100 counties. Helpnet forms the Harnett County Partnership for Children, a private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation.

The first activities of the Partnership begin serving the public.

- Family Child Care Home Licensure
- Child Care Subsidies
- The Child Care Workforce Assessment
- The Community Outreach Assessment

The Partnership begins working with the Performance-Based Incentive System (PBIS) and takes on the coordination of the More at Four program in Harnett County.

The number of Harnett County children enrolled in high quality child care (programs with 4 or 5 stars) increased 7 percentage points since 2001, reflecting an improvement in child care quality and an increase in the number of children enrolled in high quality programs.

General Assembly approves \$231 Million to NC Smart Start, an all-time high.

Before 1993

1993

1994

1995

1998

1999

2000

2002

2004

2007

2009

2010

The Smart Start Initiative is created by Governor Hunt to insure that young children enter school healthy and ready to succeed.

The Harnett County Partnership for Children receives Smart Start funds to create a strategic plan and to implement activities.

NC Smart Start receives two budget cuts leaving the budget at \$198 Million

A new public engagement initiative titled Smart Investing: Communities Thrive When Children Thrive is established. Funded by the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation and with participation from Lt. Governor Walter Dalton and Smart Start.

The Partnership currently has 8 activities:

- Parents as Teachers
- Quality Enhancement
- WAGES
- More at Four
- Child Care Subsidy
- Early Childhood Professional Development
- Raising A Reader
- Parent Education Child Care

