

Smart Start of Forsyth County
FY 2012 – 2013 Funding Opportunities

FAMILY SUPPORT

PROGRAM STANDARD: FAMILIES HAVE THE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS NEEDED TO ENSURE THAT THEIR CHILDREN ENTER SCHOOL HEALTHY AND READY TO SUCCEED.

FUNDING CAP: To be determined

Funding Opportunities for PBIS FS10 – Parenting Skills

All providers of services for activities in the Parenting Skills category must comply with the following:

- *Will use a proven, empirically based curriculum and/or approach.*
- *Will use a standardized or psychometrically sound assessment.*
- *Will provide follow-up services such as referrals and/or case management.*
- *Implement North Carolina Partnership for Children (NCPC) Family Support Survey.*
- *Participate in evaluation activities designed to measure the comparative impact of family support services.*

1. Education, support, community referrals and pre-screening tools to help parents with children 0-5 years provide their children with a solid foundation for school readiness. Services will include monthly home visits, parent group meetings, implementation of developmental pre-screening tools with all children under the age of 6, referrals for both early intervention services for children with developmental delays and community resources, as needed, and distribution of current information, books and ideas for at-home activities.
2. Education, support, and community referrals to help adolescent and/or at-risk mothers, prenatal through no more than two years post-partum, to effectively fulfill their responsibility as a parent. Services will include prenatal education classes, home visits on a monthly basis, parent education and counseling, developmental pre-screening tools and community referrals, as needed. Priority will be given to programs providing intensive services to high risk families (i.e., young families with more than one child under the age of 6 and/or families in which the primary caregiver does not have a high school diploma or GED.)

HEALTH

PROGRAM STANDARD: EVERY CHILD HAS ACCESS TO MEDICAL, DENTAL AND EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES.

FUNDING CAP: To be determined

Funding Opportunities for PBIS H11/H12 – Early Intervention for Children Birth - 5 Years

1. A child-find activity designed to increase the availability of evaluations for children Birth - 5 years who may need special education services. Contractor will conduct evaluations throughout the community in homes, childcare centers and preschools depending on needs of the family. Following evaluation, as needed, assist with the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP, ages birth to 35 months) or Individualized Education Plan (IEP, ages 3 to 5) process, and work with the families to link them with services and supports.

EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION – SUPPLY AND QUALITY PLACEMENTS

PROGRAM STANDARD: EVERY CHILD HAS ACCESS TO HIGH QUALITY EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION.

FUNDING CAP: To be determined

Funding Opportunities for PBIS PLA40 – Child Placements in Regulated Programs

1. Site-based, customized assistance, offering quality improvement to help temporary, one-, two-, three-star and GS 110-106 child care facilities (homes or centers) improve their star ratings, and/or offering quality maintenance to help four- and five-star facilities (homes or centers) maintain their star ratings. Contractor(s) will offer a menu of services, accessible to all child care facilities (homes or centers), including on-site technical assistance, workshops, resource materials, practice assessments, and assistance in selecting and arranging new materials/equipment [purchased by child care facilities and/or contractor(s)].

Funding Opportunities for PBIS PLA50 – Subsidized Child Placements in Regulated Programs

1. In collaboration with Smart Start of Forsyth County, administer the provision of child care subsidy at Board approved levels. Administration of this program will involve promoting, distributing and receiving applications, helping parents find child care and determining eligibility of child care and emergency assistance applicants, and communicating with subsidy parents on an on-going basis throughout the fiscal year regarding changes in employment, income, student status, change of provider, and any other issues regarding subsidy. Parents will access this service via telephone or in-person. The following will be the priority areas:
 - Families who meet Department of Social Services (DSS) income criteria for child care needs for children 0-5 years.
 - Income based qualifying families living or working in Forsyth County placing their children 0-5 years in a child care facility (center or FCCH) licensed at four stars or higher (three star facilities are only allowable if granted written exception from NCPC).
 - Families must qualify for Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF) and/or Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) child care subsidies.
2. Process approved child care subsidy (including emergency child care) applications, issue checks to child care providers, maintain records of children served, and record amounts paid. Applications must be approved in collaboration with Smart Start of Forsyth County and other agencies as deemed necessary.
3. In collaboration with Smart Start of Forsyth County, administer the services provided under the North Carolina Pre-Kindergarten (NCPK) State of North Carolina contract. NCPK services and/or activities will be delivered at: public elementary schools, head start programs, non-profit child care centers and for-profit child care centers.

EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION – EDUCATION, COMPENSATION, BENEFITS AND
TURNOVER

PROGRAM STANDARD: EVERY CHILD HAS ACCESS TO HIGH QUALITY EARLY
CHILDHOOD EDUCATION.

FUNDING CAP: To be determined

Funding Opportunities for PBIS EDU10 – Teacher Education

1. In collaboration with Smart Start of Forsyth County, administer the child care provider scholarship program that provides education scholarships to qualified teachers and students enrolled in early childhood education and /or child development coursework through an accredited post-secondary school (Accredited is defined as an institution of higher education having nationally recognized regional accreditation by one of the six regional accrediting agencies.), including check processing and distribution. Scholarships for tuition and books will be provided for teachers/students working in an early childhood program in Forsyth County and will be offered during the fall, spring and, funds permitting, summer semesters. Funds permitting, bonuses will be paid to teachers/students obtaining their two-year associates degree or four year degree in early childhood education and/or child development programs.
2. Instructor position(s) in the Early Childhood Education curriculum of an accredited institution of higher learning so that courses can be offered in the afternoons, evenings and weekends to increase education levels among early childhood professionals. Classes will be available for all professionals in early childhood careers and those considering a career in early childhood that meet eligibility requirements and are accepted into the program.

Funding Opportunities for PBIS COMP10 – Median Teacher Salary

1. Manage the Smart Start of Forsyth County professional development supplements program, including check distribution. A professional development supplement will be provided semi-annually (fall and spring) to eligible child care providers, based on education levels/credentials. NO BIDDING REQUIREMENT for WAGES state-level contract through N.C. Division of Child Development.

Funding Opportunities for PBIS S10 – Stability/Turnover

1. In collaboration with Smart Start of Forsyth County, administer the Enhanced Subsidies/Journey to the Stars program. Enhanced Subsidies component will underwrite costs for Smart Start funded quality maintenance activities and incentives for eligible child care facilities, including check processing and distribution. The Journey to the Stars component will be a site-based quality maintenance program.

OTHER

FUNDING CAP: To be determined

Funding Opportunities for PBIS OTR10 – Other

1. Create and implement a Community Outreach and Awareness Plan that will link parents of children 0-5 years to local Smart Start services, as well as educate community stakeholders on the importance of early childhood issues. Services may include creating, maintaining and/or updating resource materials and tools such as an educational website, quarterly newsletters, an agency brochure, parenting bags containing educational materials and special education/awareness events as needed.

Funding Opportunities for PBIS OTR10 – Other Program Support

1. NO BIDDING REQUIREMENT – Program Coordination.
2. NO BIDDING REQUIREMENT – Program Evaluation.