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For Immediate Release

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Pre-K Applications Available

WINSTON-SALEM, NC— Applications for free pre-k classes are now available at Smart Start of Forsyth County and other locations. There are 800 pre-k spots available for 2008-2009 to families who qualify. Applications can be picked up various locations including Smart Start of Forsyth County, the Forsyth County public library,

An enrollment event to determine eligibility will be held on April 7th and 8th. The screenings will be offered to children who will be four years old by August 31, 2008. The event will be held at the Sundance Plaza Hotel located at 3050 University Parkway from 11:00 – 7:00, on the 7th and 9:00 – 6:00 on the 8th. At the event parents will receive preschool information, as well as information about other available services in the community. Children will also participate in a developmental assessment and a dental screening.

The Enrollment Event is sponsored by More At Four, Smart Start of Forsyth County, Family Services Head Start, and the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools Title I program. “The pre-kindergarten programs offered by these agencies have eligibility guidelines that include educational need and income requirements,” said Jenny Whitley, More at Four program coordinator for Smart Start of Forsyth County. “The preschool screenings help us identify specific developmental needs in children who may be eligible for the programs. Parents will be notified during the summer if their child needs to be referred for further evaluation,” says Whitley. Between the participating agencies, there are 700 available slots for 4 year olds.

Parents must complete an application and return it to the Smart Start office with a copy of their child’s birth certificate and income verification. Once applications are received, appointments will be scheduled for the enrollment event. Applications that are received after March 28th will not have scheduled appointments; however, walk-ins will be accepted.

For more information, or to receive an application, call 725-6011 ext. 385, or go to the More at Four link on the Smart Start website at www.smartstart-fc.org.

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