

CORPORATE OVERVIEW

Durham's Partnership for Children
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Durham's Partnership for Children is the convener and facilitator of a comprehensive early childhood system, leading community strategies to respond to the needs of all of Durham's 23,000 children birth to age 5 and their families. Through expansive, creative, and thoughtful community engagement, DPfC improves outcomes for young children.

Founded in 1994 and first funded in 1995 to administer the Smart Start grant in Durham County, the Partnership works as an independent, local nonprofit that serves young children birth to age 5 and their families to ensure that all children enter school healthy and ready to succeed. For almost 25 years, the Partnership has helped parents pay for child care, improved the quality of child care and provided health and family support services to thousands of Durham County families with young children. The Partnership leverages the public and private sectors to achieve its mission: To ensure every child in Durham enters school ready to succeed, we lead community strategies for children birth to 5 and their families that promote healthy development and learning and enhance access to high quality care.

DPfC brings the entire community together – from parents to child care and health care providers, to educators, business leaders, and elected officials. DPfC's role as a funder provides the tools and resources needed to ensure that every child is nurtured and cared for from birth. DPfC's efforts and collaborations expand access to early learning opportunities to help children grow to be productive, healthy, and well-rounded students, parents, workers and leaders.

DPfC is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors drawn from the highest levels of business, government, service, and community leadership. The Partnership administers Smart Start, NC Pre-K, and Early Head Start in Durham County, in addition to leading local initiatives such as the Early Childhood Training Institute, early literacy initiatives including Durham's Campaign for Grade-Level Reading, and Transition to Kindergarten.

As a partner in the Smart Start network, DPfC has been recognized locally, statewide, and nationally as a leader in early care and education, and its staff are often called upon as experts in the field.