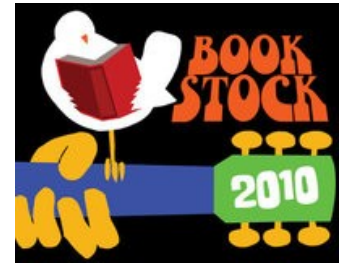
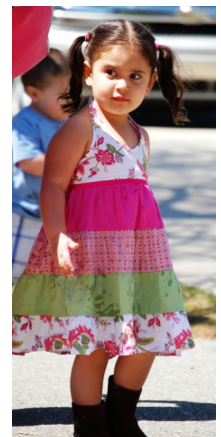


Child Care Connections



Our Year In Pictures



From The Board of Directors



Cindy Watkins

The Board of Directors for the Alamance Partnership for Children is announcing its Executive Director, Cindy Watkins, will begin working for the North Carolina Partnership for Children (NCPC) effective August 1, 2011. Ms. Watkins has led the Alamance Partnership for Children since January 2006.

Ms. Watkins will serve as NCPC's Director of Organizational Advancement. The position is funded with grants from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and the Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation of North Carolina. Her work will

involve both local and state capacity building initiatives to strengthen the overall Smart Start system.

"We are honored that the North Carolina Partnership recognizes the great skills and talents that Cindy has, particularly her ability to make good things happen for children and families and the professionals who serve them," according to Patty Philipps, board chair for the Alamance Partnership. "We also realize that change is upon us and that new demands are being placed on all advocates for young children. We cannot allow the challenges of the current economic recession to reverse our progress in improving outcomes to our youngest citizens."

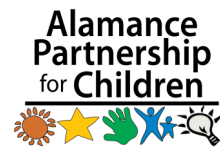
The Alamance Partnership for Children Board will follow its board approved chief executive succession plan, with Carrie Theall, the Partnership's current Program Director, serving as the Interim Executive Director. Ms. Theall has served the Alamance Partnership since August 2005. She has over 11 years of experience

in Smart Start, including two years with NCPC.

According to Philipps, "This interim arrangement is made so much easier for our staff and because of Carrie Theall's willingness to step up and assume the day-to-day executive functioning of our local Partnership.

The vision of the Alamance Partnership for Children is to ensure that all children arrive at school healthy, happy, and ready for success in school and life. The Partnership works with local families, volunteers, and service providers to shape opinion and mobilize resources to support Alamance County families in creating and sustaining nurturing environments for their children.

For further information, contact Patty Philipps at pattyphilipps@gmail.com or Carrie Theall at ctheall@alamancechildren.org.



Why Smart Start?

The economic recession has led to many government programs receiving less funding than usual and some programs receiving no funding at all. While cuts may be necessary to keep losses to a minimum, programs that involve the educational well-being of young children should be given more consideration.

While high school and experiences are important, a quality preschool education is just as valuable.

"Early childhood education has a tremendous impact on the national economic security and the viability of the American dream," said the U. S. Chamber of Com-

merce in a 2010 report.

Not only does early childcare impact children's future potential in the economy, it also provides immediate economic benefits. Early childcare programs in North Carolina alone employ almost 50,000 people. These programs also allow 380,000 parents to work.

North Carolina has acknowledged these benefits in the past. Programs like Smart Start have been developed to provide higher quality early childhood education, especially in areas where parents may not typically be able to afford it.

The initiatives of the Smart Start program have led to 63% of children in childcare being able to attend high quality four and five star programs. The program has also provided support for over 45,000 families to be able to send their children to childcare with 74 percent of these children in high quality programs.

Early childhood education is about more than higher quality childcare. It is also about parents personally investing in their children. Smart Start has helped 97 % of the parents involved to feel more competent and confident in their parenting abilities.

Work to Prevent Child Abuse

Heart disease. Lung dysfunction. Liver failure. What do these health risk all have in common? They can all be long-term effects of child abuse. The stress of abuse on a young child's brain can damage the development of the individual, lowering the quality of life and raising the risk of disease.

The good news? Child abuse is preventable! There are four types of child abuse: *physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse and neglect.*

Physical abuse is the inflicting of injury or pain by a parent, guardian, or caregiver that poses a risk to the child and is of a non-accidental nature. Signs include unexplained bruises, burns, or

fractures, self-destructive behaviors, and fear of caregiver.

Sexual abuse is any sexual act imposed on a child including suggestive behavior or child pornography. Signs of sexual abuse include substance abuse, regression behaviors like limited speech or thumb sucking, and increased depression.

Emotional abuse is any behavior towards a child that may cause serious emotional or psychological damage. Signs can include speech disorders, delays in development, asthma, extreme behaviors and very low self-esteem.

Neglect is a serious lack of supervision,

care or discipline for a child by their parent, guardian, or caregiver. Signs reported include abandonment, unattended medical needs, extreme fatigue or frequent absences from school.

If you see any of these signs in a child you know or see, please contact

Alamance County DSS Child Abuse Hotline at (336) 229-2908

Remember, child abuse is preventable. Learn the signs and work to protect children in Alamance County.

Be Safe in the Heat

The summer of 2011 is upon us. Temperatures in the high 90s have become standard with heat indexes in excess of 100 degrees. How do you protect young children from the extreme heat? The answers may seem simple, but many do not know about the risks to young children that the heat provides.

- **Never leave a child alone in a car.** This means never. Temperatures do not have to be excessive for a child to die in a hot car. Children have died on 70 degree days. Just never do it.
- **Always use sunscreen.** Children burn easily and sunburns can lead to skin problems. Repeated exposure to the sun after a burn

increases a child's risk of skin cancer. It is best to limit children's exposure to direct sun on hot days, but keep in mind, children can burn on overcast days as well. Incorporate the practice of using sunscreen every time you go outside.

- **Limit your time outdoors.** Children simply do not need to be outside in very hot weather. Go to a museum. Catch a movie. Play a board game. These are all indoor activities that are fun and fulfilling for you to do with your child.
- **If you must be out, drink plenty of water.** Children get dehydrated easily. Because of this, it is important to make sure they consume plenty of fluids while out-

side. This includes pool time. Children do not absorb necessary liquids through the skin. Thus, they must drink a lot when outside in hot weather.

Enjoy your summer, and be smart. It's the best way to keep your kids healthy in the heat!



Calendar of Events/Trainings

Trainings:

Infant/Toddler Safe Sleep

August 9th, 6pm-7:30pm Cost-\$5.00
Alamance Health Dept.
Kelley Kimrey, 570.6273

Sesame Street Healthy Habits for Life

August 18th 6pm-7:30pm Cost-\$5.00
Alamance Health Dept.
Kelley Kimrey, 570.6273

Incredible Years for Teachers

August 24th-December 7th
8am-12pm Cost-\$50.00

(every Wednesday starting August 24)
Alamance Partnership for Children
Alamance Community College
506.4200

Fire Extinguisher Training

September 19th, 6pm-7pm Cost-\$5.00
Burlington Fire Department
Ashley Moore, 513.0063

Foundations: Early Learning Standards for NC Infants & Toddlers

September 20th & 27th 6:30pm-8:00pm
(Must attend both sessions to receive credit)

Cost-\$5.00

Alamance Partnership for Children
Ashley Moore, 513.0063

BSAC

September 10th 9:00am-2:00pm
Cost-\$15.00 Lunch Provided
Alamance Partnership for Children
Ashley Moore, 513.0063

Provider Day of Training @ ACC

October 15th 7:30am-2:00pm
Cost-\$20.00 Lunch Provided
Ashley Moore, 513.0063

How To Find High-Quality Child Care

- ◆ Call the Alamance Partnership for Children at 336.513.0063.
- ◆ Go to www.ncchildcare.net to get information about licensed child care facilities.
- ◆ Use this checklist as a guide when you visit child care facilities.

Yes/No Do the providers/teachers have credentials and/or a degree in early childhood education or child development?

Yes/No Are the non-degreed and/or non-credentialed child care providers/teachers currently enrolled in college courses?

Yes/No Are the teacher/child ratios (the number of adults per child) low enough that children can receive lots of individual attention throughout the day?

Yes/No Is the child care center director an experienced child care administrator with formal education in early childhood education and child care administration?

Yes/No Does the child care facility have staff turnover rates of less than 20% per year?

Yes/No Does the facility meet higher than minimal licensing standards by either being a 3-5 star licensed facility or by being nationally accredited?

Yes/No Do parents have opportunities to be involved by volunteering in the classroom or on an advisory committee or board?

Yes/No Do providers wash their hands and the children's hands often, such as after wiping noses, before they serve snacks, and after toileting and diaper changes?

Yes/No Are there lots of toys and materials (such as books, puzzles, blocks, and art supplies) available for the children to explore and play with throughout the day?

Yes/No Are there developmentally appropriate activities planned for the children?

Yes/No Above all, are the children happy and busy?

Yes/No If you were a child, would you be happy spending your day here?

Alamance Partnership for Children Staff

Carrie Theall-Interim Executive Director

Dana Walker-Finance/HR Manager

Nan Gilliam-Executive Admin. Assistant/
Office Manager

Tamatha Macherosky-NC Pre-k Coordinator

Debbi Kennerson-Webb-Child Care Services
Manager

Ann Hess-Early Childhood Specialist

Ashley Moore-Parent Resource Counselor

Bonita Brown-Early Childhood Specialist

Lisa Rettie-Early Childhood Specialist

Ann Meletzke-Literacy Specialist/Pediatric
Consultant

Jessica Johnson-Lead Parent Educator

Kim Morabito-Incredible Years Coordinator

Jasmine Walker—Support Specialist

Alamance Partnership for Children Board

Executive Committee

Patty Philipps, Chair

Stephanie Williams, Vice Chair

Bryan Hagood, Immediate Past Chair

Ron Waters, Treasurer

Beth Davis, Secretary

Barry Bass

Ric Bruton

David Carter

Mark Cryan

Joyce Dickey

Patti Horan

Jeremy Ireland

Kristie Kylander

Linda Massey

Jeannie Proctor

Tony Roper

Granville Simmons

Julie Walker

Ron Waters

Davina Woods



2322 River Road • Burlington, NC 272175 • 336.513.0063 • 336.266.1152 (fax)

www.alamancechildren.org

