



# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2022-2023

The Partnership for  
Children of Wayne County

800 N. William St.  
Goldsboro, NC 27530



# About the Partnership for Children for Children

## Our Mission

The Partnership for Children unites the community to effectively support and empower families, prepares children to succeed in school and encourages continuous learning for educators of young children, therefore contributing to the economic vitality of Wayne County.

## Our Philosophy

The Partnership for Children of Wayne County...

- educates the community on the critical needs of young children and helps develop solutions.
- administers Smart Start funds from the state legislature to support programs to benefit children ages 0-5 and their families.
- administers the NC Pre-K Program, which is designed to provide at-risk four-year-olds an opportunity for quality preschool education.
- collaborates with community agencies and organizations.
- manages the Safe Kids-Wayne County Coalition along with other collaborating agencies to promote the prevention of accidental childhood injuries.



## Our Vision

Children will receive the start they need to become educated, healthy, and self-reliant people who strengthen the social and economic future of Wayne County.



Smart Start



NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



# A Letter from Executive Director, Valerie Wallace



As we continue to move through the challenges of the past few years, we're deeply inspired by the progress made to create a meaningful impact in the lives of our communities' youngest children and their families. For 24 years, we have offered programming and services that have impacted thousands of children.

As we enter our 25th year of service, we realize that times are chaotic, but one thing has remained constant, the urgent need to invest more in the development and well-being of our youngest children.

We are at a point where change needs to happen. While early childhood educators have been historically neglected, the public is coming to understand the complexity and value of their work and the need to elevate the profession for the sake and well-being of the workforce, children, families, and the national economy. It is imperative to tip the moment toward progress.

The Partnership believes that well-prepared, appropriately compensated, and supported early care and education professionals are a critical factor in promoting the well-being of young children across the birth-through age-eight continuum.

The Partnership is proud of our work and the commitment that we have to young children and families. As we celebrate 25 years, we look forward to a future where those who work with young children and their families are compensated and respected as the professionals they are. We will continue our efforts to see that happen and that families have access to high-quality child care.

*Sincerely,  
Valerie*

# Passing of the Gavel



For 25 years the Partnership for Children of Wayne County has served this community, working to raise awareness of the importance of early childhood education and strengthening the provider network. But throughout the last 25 years, never was the importance of early childhood education more on display than during the COVID years. It was during those years when childcare and early childhood education providers were deemed essential employees. It was then that employers, politicians and others began to truly understand that not only are those providers essential to our children's education and well-being, but that they are essential to a properly functioning economy and society. It's a message that the Partnership has been sharing for more than two decades now.

But it's not the only message the Partnership has shared. The Partnership also has shared resources and provided training to strengthen the provider network. It has provided parent classes and promoted childhood literacy efforts. It has sought to raise awareness about the impacts of adverse childhood experiences and childhood trauma, and to rally resources around those children so impacted. In short, while it took an international pandemic for many to realize and appreciate the importance of these first five years of life, that's a message that the Partnership has been sharing for a quarter of a century.

*-Matthew Whittle, PFCW Board Chair, 2019-2023*

It has been my privilege to serve as a board member of the Partnership for Children since 2013. I am so proud of the great work that I see – every day! All of the services and programming offered by the Partnership staff are nothing short of amazing. Wayne County is fortunate to have Valerie Wallace leading the way with this staff.

Having been involved in education for thirty years as a classroom teacher and a school counselor, I know firsthand the impact that the early years have on the success of a student. When a child starts kindergarten without the language and the vocabulary skills needed for reading, learning becomes a huge challenge. The Partnership for Children works to support early learning for children and to assist parents so that success is possible for all!

*- Selena Bennett, PFCW Board Chair, 2023-2024*



# PFCW Board of Directors

## Board Officers

**Selena Bennett**  
Board Chair  
Communities Supporting  
Schools

**Felicia Brown**  
City of Goldsboro

**Scott Satterfield**  
Chamber of Commerce

**Christina Williams**  
Board Vice-Chair  
Vestaron

**Ken Derksen**  
Wayne Co. Public Schools

**Paula Schultze**  
Crawford-Henderson

**Bill Batts**  
Board Treasurer  
Small World Child Care

**Linda Holden-Cox**  
Wayne Uplift

**Cordelia Wilcox**  
University of Mount Olive

**Michelle Estrada**  
Board Secretary  
Cooperative Extension

**Dr. Patty Pfeiffer**  
Wayne Community College

**Brenna Wolfe**  
Wayne Co. Health Dept.

**Shirvon Holland**  
At Large  
Seymour Johnson AFB

**Donna Phillips**  
Wayne Co. Public Library

**Brandy Yeh**  
Goldsboro Pediatrics

**Reding Pittman**  
At Large  
Farm Bureau



# Introducing our Staff



**Valerie Wallace**  
*Executive Director*



**Amanda Atkinson**  
*Finance Officer*



**Sharon Price**  
*Administrative Assistant*



**Crystal Heath**  
*Resource Specialist*



**Kimberly Barnes**  
*Director of Early Care and Education*



**Maria Lopez**  
*NC Pre-K Intake Specialist*



**Trinisia Carlton**  
*Program Specialist*



**Traci Herring**  
*Program Specialist*



**Tamesha Lewis**  
*Program Specialist*



**Angela Frady**  
*Family Support Svcs. Coordinator*



**Rosa Audelo**  
*Famliy Services Specialist*



**Kasey Worrell**  
*Famliy Services Specialist*



**Thomas Nevins**  
*Compliance Officer*



**Shelly Willis**  
*Director of Program Coordination & Evaluation*



**Blair Cox**  
*Community Engagement Coordinator*

# Our 2022–2023 Program Measure Goals

## Early Child Care

**Child Care Resources (CCR):** To improve early childhood education program environments, improve teacher knowledge, improve teacher/child interactions, and enhance early childhood education program quality.

**Early Learning Resource Center (ELRC):** To improve the early childhood program environment by offering a variety of materials to support early education teachers and families with young children's learning and development.

**Professional Development (PD):** To improve teacher education and knowledge by offering professional development advising services.



## Health Services for Young Children

**Child Care Health Consultant (CCHC):** To increase the provider practice of healthy behaviors by providing facility health and safety assessments and information on childhood illness issues.

## Family Support

**Parents as Teachers (PAT):** To increase positive parenting practices by offering programming based on the beliefs that parents are their children's first and most influential teachers and that the early years lay the foundation for children's success in school and in life.

**Circle of Parents (COP):** To increase parent social support by providing a supportive space where anyone in a parenting role can openly discuss the successes and challenges of raising children.

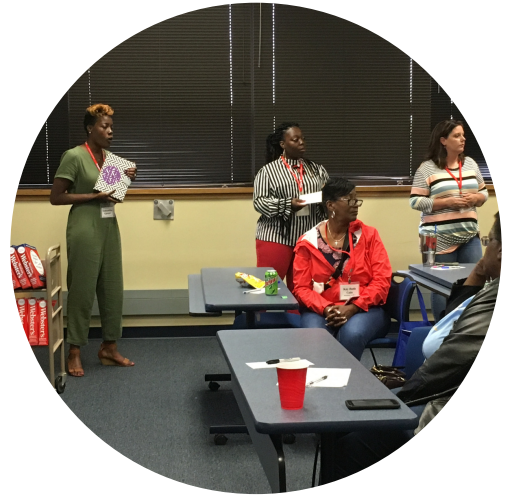
**Raising a Reader (RAR):** To increase the frequency of adult and child-shared reading and the adult use of recommended reading strategies.

**Community Services Coordination (CSC):** To increase coordination of early childhood systems in Wayne County.

# Our Impact

## Early Care and Education

- CCR staff conducted **58** trainings for **331** early childhood educators from **78** child care facilities and homes.
- **27** cycles of intensive technical assistance were initiated with child care facilities utilizing the environmental rating scales.
- **111** unduplicated visitors accessed the Early Learning Resource Center.
- **87** child care professionals were issued an average six-month supplement of \$910.
- **630** children throughout Wayne County participated in high-quality NC Pre-K programming located in **11** public schools, **6** private child care facilities, and **2** Head Start facilities.



## Health and Safety

- **5** child care facilities received technical assistance using the NC Health and Safety Assessment Tool.
- **11** health and safety-related trainings were offered to 66 early childhood educators.
- **12** diversion classes to help ticketed parents receive education on how to safely transport children were held in conjunction with the Wayne County District Attorney's office.
- The Safe Kids Coalition conducted **109** car seat checks.



# Our Impact

## Family Support



- PFCW participated in **14** community outreach events and gave **12** community presentations.
- **600** Parents as Teachers home visits were conducted and **12** Group Connections were offered to families.
- **13** parents participated in Circle of Parents programming.
- **10** child care facilities participated in the Raising a Reader program which distributed books to **310** children.
- **29** participants completed four series of Incredible Years.
- **17** participants received individualized and seminar-based Triple-P sessions for parents seeking to strengthen parenting skills from January to June 2023.
- **51** families were served with American Rescue Plan Act funding.



## Literacy

- **41,326** Dolly Parton Imagination Library books were mailed to participants with **4,512** children receiving at least one book.
- **3,680** Little Library books were distributed to children throughout the community at **11** locations.
- **10** child care facilities with **310** children participated in the Raising a Reader program.



# 2022–2023 Funding

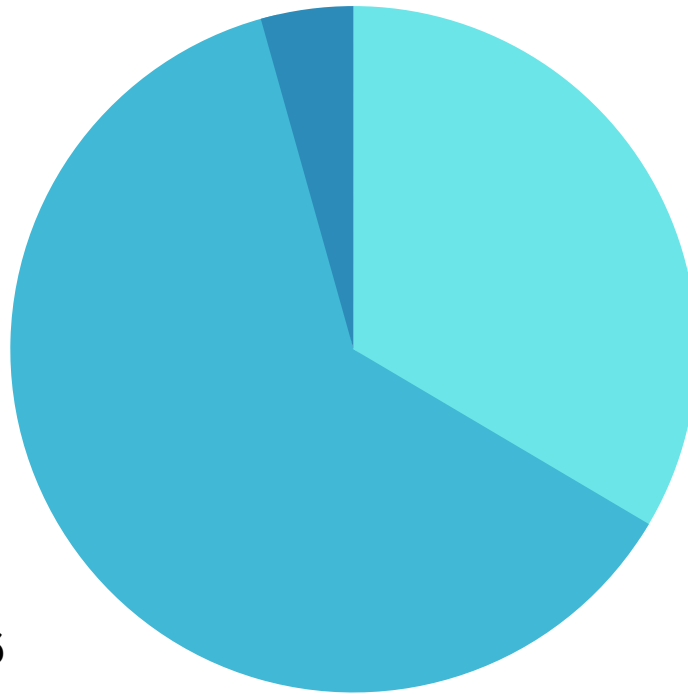
Other Funds (including grants, donations, etc.)

\$243,850

Smart Start

\$1,875,972

NC Pre-K  
\$3,479,266



## Fundraising Efforts



Our 6th annual Touch A Truck was a great time and a huge success. We were able to raise over \$18,000 through sponsorships, in-kind donations and entry fees.

Our 18th annual Lobster and Shrimp fundraiser raised over \$16,000. It was great event!



# Participant Praise

**"When I contacted The Partnership of Wayne I was truly frustrated because I seemed to be hitting brick walls and wasn't sure what to do. Working with Kim has given me a peace that I cannot explain. I believe she is an asset to The Partnership!"**

**-Shannon, Triple P Participant**



**"When I first started the program, I really was stuck in a hole – the routine of work and home. Now, I see myself spending more time with my kids and wife, even communicating more."**

**-Willy, Triple P Participant**



**"I look forward to Circle of Parents. My child has so much fun getting to play with other children. I love learning more about all things parenting and what our area has to offer for us."**

**-Brooke, Circle of Parents Participant**

**"I did not realize that the Partnership could help with so many things. The information you provide is always helpful and makes us more comfortable about what we are doing. Thank you for working so hard with us. I always let my staff know that we are supported."**

**-Child Care Resources Participating Facility**



**"My son and I are so thankful for you guys. We completed IY & loved every bit of it. We also love the Parents As Teachers program. We get excited knowing that it's time for our "PAT" visit. We love working on new things with Mrs. Kasey. You guys ROCK!"**

**-Mariah, Incredible Years and Parents as Teachers Participant**



**"I love Circle of Parents. It's a great way to meet mom friends. I look forward to my time in Circle of Parents each week with other people who have similar interests and a similar lifestyle as me."**

**-Amber, Circle of Parents Participant**

# Participant Praise

"The trainings offered by the Partnership for Children team is the highest of quality. Your team is well-versed and provides excellent services and training. They are the bomb diggity!"

-Wendy, Child Care Resources Participant

"I appreciate the help that my teachers and I have received during the technical assistance process. The teachers have implemented the strategies they have received. Thank you!"

-Child Care Resources Participating Facility



"WCC is so very fortunate to have the support of the Partnership. The Resource Center offers textbook loans that save students several hundred dollars each semester, which helps them overcome financial burdens and reduces some of the barriers to attending college. The PFCW also offers training opportunities for the local ECE community to increase their skills and knowledge in the field, offering technical assistance to facilities, including our child care center."

-Jodi Baker, WCC Instructor and Community Partner

"I have utilized the lending library for the last couple of years. My children look forward to seeing what I have new because I exchange things out every week! If you have not checked it out yet; I encourage teachers, parents, and therapists to go check it out! You won't be disappointed!"

-Early Learning Resource Center Participant



"Partnership for Children, thank you for being my rock in difficult times. I feel very lucky to be part of the people who have received your services. Your generosity has left me speechless."

"Partnership for Children, gracias por ser mi roca en los momentos difíciles, me siento muy afortunada de ser parte de las personas que hemos recibios sus servicios, su generosidad me ha dejado sin palabras."

-Onelia, Parents as Teachers Participant



# PFCW Events



# PFCW Events



# *In loving memory of KayRuth Cain*

*March 8, 1957-January 14, 2023*

Not only was Mrs. KayRuth Cain, director and owner of Wee are the World Child Care, a huge part of our child care community; but, she was also a huge supporter of our Partnership for Children.

We love and miss her dearly.



**Introducing our  
2022-2023 Champion for Children**



**Thank you for your continued support!**

We thank you for your ongoing support of our work.

To find out more information, please visit us...



@PFCWayne



[www.pfcw.org](http://www.pfcw.org)



919-735-3371



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