

REGION A PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN

Witness the Miracle...A Nurturing Community...A Loving Family... A Smiling Child

116 Jackson Street ♦ Sylva, NC 28779 ♦ 828.586.0661

www.regionakids.org

August, 2014

Dear Champion for Children:

On behalf of children and families in western North Carolina, I'm writing to ask you to invest in the future of this state by being a Smart Start Champion for Children. Your investment in this year's Region A Partnership for Children Annual Campaign will help to sustain our local Smart Start programs that serve young children and ensure that they get the best start in the earliest years of development.

Only 2000 Days to Get it Right...

Did you know that there are only 2000 days between a child's birth and when he or she goes to kindergarten? Research indicates that a child's quality of life and the contributions he or she will make to society can be directly traced to the first few years of life, back to those *First 2,000 Days*. High quality early education yields higher graduation rates, better jobs, higher earnings and reduced crime rates. Well supported families, health initiatives and early intervention and quality early childhood programs help to reduce health care costs, improve school readiness and success, reduce the need for remedial education and increase family self-sufficiency.



Smart Start - A Great Investment in the Future...

Duke University researchers found that North Carolina third graders had higher reading and math scores and lower special education placements in counties that spent more money on Smart Start and More at Four – now NC Pre-K, when those children were younger. The early years are so defining that by the time children turn eight, their third grade outcomes can predict future academic achievement and career success.

Invest in YOUR LOCAL SMART START Programs!

This Annual Campaign is an opportunity for you to be a Champion!

Invest in children who will benefit from Smart Start services in your local community. Every dollar that you donate will be used to provide Smart Start services for young children in Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Jackson, Macon and Swain Counties and the Cherokee Indian Reservation during their First 2000 Days.

Smart Start provides home visiting for improved parenting, raises the quality of child care, gives thousands of children early literacy experiences and improves health outcomes for children throughout western NC. And your local Partnership for Children provides great services for children and families with only 6% Administrative costs!

The Region A Partnership for Children needs your help to keep doing this important work. Please invest in the future of our children today.

Sincerely,

Mary Otto Selzer
Board Chair



Did you know?

There are only 2,000 days between the time a baby is born and when he or she will begin kindergarten.

During that time brain architecture is forming, creating either a strong or weak foundation for all future learning.

MY CHAMPION FOR CHILDREN INVESTMENT- Please detach this form and return it with your contribution.

Please accept my investment of \$ _____ to support Smart Start Programs in Region A.

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Email: _____

Please make my gift in honor or memory of: _____

Name & address of person to receive acknowledgement of this gift: _____

Please make **Check** payable to Region A Partnership for Children, or by **Credit Card** at www.regionakids.org. **Thank you!**