



HEALTHY AND READY TO SUCCEED.

On August 22 nearly 100,000 five-year-old children in North Carolina will arrive at school for their first day of kindergarten. Most of them will think their classroom is a wonderful and magical place. Because it is.

But some of the students will not be so fortunate. They will struggle through kindergarten and the rest of elementary school. They will never wear a cap and gown in any graduation ceremony.

These are the children who start out behind, for a number of reasons outside their control. And they can't catch up, much less get ahead. Truth is, the foundation for learning is built before a child ever enters a classroom.

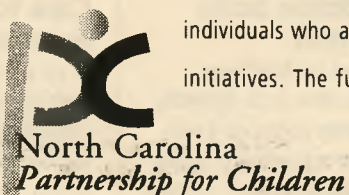
The North Carolina Partnership for Children believes every child in our state deserves the best start in life. The chance to be born healthy, and to enter school that way. The chance to experience the true wonder of learning. The chance to reach their full potential, whatever that potential may be.

We also believe parents are their children's primary caregivers and teachers. And they deserve a chance, too. The chance to secure high quality, affordable child care. The chance to access resources to help them meet the needs of their sons and daughters. The chance to prepare their children to succeed.

Nearly all of North Carolina's 100 counties have formed partnerships dedicated to helping today's children and their families become strong and healthy—and thus ensure a strong and healthy future for the state.

The catalyst for this unprecedented commitment is called Smart Start. Its impact on families is dramatic.

The North Carolina Partnership for Children salutes the businesses, religious communities, child care providers, nonprofits, foundations, organizations and individuals who are working on behalf of Smart Start and other early childhood initiatives. The future is not far away. The children are here now.



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Glaxo Wellcome Inc. is among the supporters of the North Carolina Partnership for Children. We urge you to discover this worthy cause along with us.