

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT REPORT OF

LEE COUNTY PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN

SANFORD, NORTH CAROLINA

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

LESLIE W. MERRITT, JR., CPA, CFP

STATE AUDITOR

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT REPORT OF

LEE COUNTY PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN

SANFORD, NORTH CAROLINA

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Office of the State Auditor



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AUDITOR'S TRANSMITTAL

The Honorable Michael F. Easley, Governor The General Assembly of North Carolina Board of Directors, Lee County Partnership for Children

We have completed a financial statement and compliance audit of the Lee County Partnership for Children (Lee Partnership) for the year ended June 30, 2006, and our audit results are included in this report. You will note from the independent auditor's report that we determined that the financial statements are presented fairly in all material aspects.

The audit of the Lee Partnership was made in conjunction with the Early Childhood Initiatives (Smart Start) program authorized by General Statutes 143B-168.10-16. These statutes created The North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc., and required the implementation of local demonstration projects (local partnerships). The Lee Partnership is one of these local partnerships. As such, the Lee Partnership is a private nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization and is subject to audit and review by the State Auditor under Article 5A of Chapter 147 of the General Statutes and as authorized in General Statute 143B-168.12(a)(7).

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and other matters based on an audit of the financial statements resulted in no audit findings.

North Carolina General Statutes require the State Auditor to make audit reports available to the public. Copies of audit reports issued by the Office of the State Auditor may be obtained through one of the options listed in the back of this report.

Leslie W. Merritt, Jr., CPA, CFP

Leslie W. Merritt, Jr.

State Auditor

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Directors Lee County Partnership for Children Sanford, North Carolina

We have audited the accompanying Statement of Receipts, Expenditures, and Net Assets – Modified Cash Basis of the Lee County Partnership for Children (Lee Partnership) as of June 30, 2006, and the related Statement of Functional Expenditures – Modified Cash Basis for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Lee Partnership's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatements. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 1, the accompanying financial statements were prepared on the modified cash basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets of the Lee County Partnership for Children as of June 30, 2006, and the results of its operations arising from modified cash basis transactions for the year then ended, on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 22, 2007, on our consideration of the Lee Partnership's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONCLUDED)

our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Lee County Partnership for Children's basic financial statements. The information in Schedules 1 through 5 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Schedules 1, 3, 4, and 5 have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The information in Schedule 2 has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on Schedule 2.

Leslie W. Merritt, Jr., CPA, CFP

Leslie W. Merritt, Jr.

State Auditor

March 22, 2007

Lee County Partnership for Children Statement of Receipts, Expenditures, and Net Assets - Modified Cash Basis For the Year Ended June 30, 2006

Exhibit A

	Unrestricted Funds				Te	mporarily	
		Smart Start Fund		Other Funds		estricted Funds	Total Funds
Receipts:		ruiu		ruius	-	runus	 ruius
State Awards (less refunds of \$135) Private Contributions Sales Tax Refunds Other Receipts	\$	755,351	\$	499,853 3,424 6,739 101	\$	0	\$ 1,255,204 3,424 6,739 101
Total Receipts		755,351		510,117			 1,265,468
Net Assets Released from Restrictions: Satisfaction of Program Restrictions		_		500		(500)	
		755,351		510,617		(500)	 1,265,468
Expenditures:							
Programs: Child Care and Education Affordability Child Care and Education Quality Family Support More at Four Support: Management and General Program Coordination		55,000 323,344 194,631 103,687 62,689 16,000		472 500 458,362 32,472 560			55,000 323,816 195,131 458,362 136,159 63,249 16,000
Program Evaluation Other: Sales Tax Paid		16,000		5,522			 5,522
Total Expenditures		755,351		497,888			1,253,240
Excess of Receipts Over Expenditures Net Assets at Beginning of Year				12,729 16,573		(500) 4,999	12,229 21,572
Net Assets at End of Year	\$	0	\$	29,302	\$	4,499	\$ 33,801
Net Assets Consisted of: Cash and Cash Equivalents Less: Due to the State	\$	5,159 5,159	\$	29,302	\$	4,499	\$ 38,960 5,159
	\$	0	\$	29,302	\$	4,499	\$ 33,801

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Lee County Partnership for Children Statement of Functional Expenditures - Modified Cash Basis For the Year Ended June 30, 2006

Exhibit B

	 Total		Personnel		Contracted Services		Supplies and Materials	Other Operating Expenditures		Fixed Charges and Other Expenditures		Charges and Other		Property and Equipment Outlay		Services/ Contracts/ Grants	articipant Training penditures
Smart Start Fund:																	
Programs:																	
Child Care and Education Affordability	\$ 55,000	\$	0	\$	0	\$	0	\$ 0	\$	0	\$	0	\$	55,000	\$ 0		
Child Care and Education Quality	323,344		25,051		81,657		5,968	17,302		10,932		5,211		176,723	500		
Family Support	 194,631			_		_		 						194,631	 		
	 572,975		25,051		81,657		5,968	 17,302		10,932		5,211		426,354	 500		
Support:																	
Management and General	103,687		16,369		62,159		1,976	14,587		8,506		90			4.000		
Program Coordination Program Evaluation	62,689 16,000		9,655		32,805		1,390	8,245		8,316		978		16,000	1,300		
Program Evaluation		_		_		_		 					_		 		
	 182,376		26,024		94,964		3,366	 22,832		16,822		1,068		16,000	 1,300		
Total Smart Start Fund Expenditures	\$ 755,351	\$	51,075	\$	176,621	\$	9,334	\$ 40,134	\$	27,754	\$	6,279	\$	442,354	\$ 1,800		
Other Funds:																	
Programs:																	
Child Care and Education Quality	\$ 472	\$	0	\$	120	\$	39	\$ 129	\$	89	\$	95	\$	0	\$ 0		
Family Support	500						500										
More at Four	 458,362				80			 652						457,630	 		
	 459,334				200		539	 781		89		95		457,630	 		
Support:																	
Management and General	32,472		2,748		27,054			532		1,233		905					
Program Coordination	 560				40		280	 119		110				11	 		
	 33,032		2,748		27,094		280	 651		1,343		905		11	 		
Other:																	
Sales Tax Paid	 5,522						5,522	 							 		
Total Other Funds Expenditures	\$ 497,888	\$	2,748	\$	27,294	\$	6,341	\$ 1,432	\$	1,432	\$	1,000	\$	457,641	\$ 0		

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

LEE COUNTY PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2006

NOTE 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

- **A. Organization and Purpose** The Lee County Partnership for Children (Lee Partnership) is a legally separate nonprofit organization incorporated on January 8, 1997. The Lee Partnership was established to develop and provide, through public and private means, early childhood education and developmental services for children and families. The Lee Partnership is tax-exempt as an organization described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- **B.** Basis of Presentation The accompanying financial statements present all funds for which the Lee Partnership's Board of Directors is responsible. Pursuant to the provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 117, Financial Statements of Not-For-Profit Organizations, the accompanying financial statements present information according to three classes of net assets: unrestricted net assets, temporarily restricted net assets. As permitted by this Statement, temporarily restricted contributions received and expended in the same year are reported as unrestricted receipts rather than as temporarily restricted receipts.

Contributions that are temporarily restricted and not expended within the year received are reported as an increase in temporarily restricted net assets. When the restriction expires (that is, when a stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished), temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets and reported in the Statement of Receipts, Expenditures, and Net Assets as net assets released from restrictions.

The Lee Partnership did not have any permanently restricted net assets at June 30, 2006.

C. Basis of Accounting – The accompanying financial statements were prepared on the modified cash basis of accounting. This basis differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America primarily because it recognizes long lived assets and other costs which benefit more than one period as expended in the year purchased; it recognizes revenue when received rather than when earned; and it recognizes expenditures when paid rather than when incurred.

However, unexpended advances to contractors that revert back to the State of North Carolina are recognized as a reduction to expenditures and an increase to net assets. Amounts withheld from employee paychecks or other amounts received in an agency capacity are recorded as funds held for others. In addition, Smart Start funds advanced to the local Partnership that are unexpended and unearned at year end are recorded as a Due to the State.

- **D.** Cash and Cash Equivalents This classification appears on the Statement of Receipts, Expenditures, and Net Assets Modified Cash Basis and includes all demand and savings accounts and certificate of deposits or short-term investments with an original maturity of three months or less.
- **E. Due to the State** The funding provided by the State of North Carolina for the Smart Start program is funded on a cost reimbursement basis. The money is earned to the extent of allowable costs incurred. Any unexpended funds as of June 30 are required to be reverted to The North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc. to be returned to the State of North Carolina.
- **F.** Property and Equipment Under the modified cash basis of accounting, purchases of property and equipment are reported as expenditures in the year occurred. However, Lee Partnership is required by contract regulation to track and maintain property and equipment items as presented in Schedule 4 of this report. The Lee Partnership has a policy to track purchases of property and equipment items with an individual cost of \$500 or more and an estimated useful life greater than one year. Such items are valued at their original purchase price, which may be different from their valuation as of June 30, 2006. Donated items are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of donation.
- **G.** Compensated Absences As a result of the use of the modified cash basis of accounting, liabilities related to accrued compensated absences are not recorded in the financial statements. Expenditures related to compensated absences are recorded when paid. The amount of accrued compensated absences for accumulated, unpaid leave that would be due to employees upon termination is reported as a commitment in Note 9.
- **H.** Use of Estimates The preparation of financial statements in conformity with the modified cash basis of accounting used by the Lee Partnership requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures (such as allocation of joint costs); accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates. It is management's belief that these estimates are reasonable and fair.

NOTE 2 - DEPOSITS

All funds of the Lee Partnership are deposited with a commercial bank and insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) up to \$100,000. Deposits over this amount subject the Lee Partnership to a concentration of credit risk.

NOTE 3 - FUNDING FROM GRANT AWARDS

Smart Start Program – The Lee Partnership's major source of revenue and support is from the State of North Carolina based on cost-reimbursement contracts with The North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc. (NCPC) for the Smart Start Program. A significant reduction in the level of funding from the State could have an adverse effect on the operations of the Lee Partnership and represents a concentration of credit risk as to the generation of revenue.

Associated with these contracts, the Lee Partnership is responsible for developing a comprehensive, collaborative, long-range plan of services to children and families for the service-delivery area. During the year, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) entered into contracts with and made payments to service providers selected by the Lee Partnership. These service provider contracts are not reflected on the accompanying financial statements. However, a summary of the service provider contracts entered into by DHHS is presented on Schedule 2 accompanying the financial statements.

The Lee Partnership was awarded and has received \$760,560 under a current year Smart Start contract with NCPC. The unexpended balance of this contract is subject to reversion to the State. The Lee Partnership has returned \$5,159 of this contract to the State based on financial status reports submitted to NCPC subsequent to June 30, 2006.

The Lee Partnership expects to receive continued funding through new Smart Start contracts with the State.

More at Four – The Lee Partnership also received revenue and support from the State of North Carolina for the More at Four Program. The Lee Partnership was awarded \$539,960 and received \$499,938 under a current year contract. The Lee Partnership expects to receive continued funding through new More at Four contracts with the State.

NOTE 4 - RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

A. Service Provider Contracts with Board Member Organizations – The board members of the Lee Partnership are representative of various

organizations that benefit from actions taken by the Board. It is the policy of the Lee Partnership that board members not be involved with decisions regarding organizations they represent. During the year, the Lee Partnership entered into contracts with board member organizations for program activities as identified on Schedule 1 accompanying the financial statements. In addition, Schedule 2 identifies contracts entered into by DHHS with board member organizations for activities funded by the Lee Partnership's Smart Start Allocation.

B. Management and Administrative Services – The Partnership for Children of Cumberland County, Inc. provided enhanced management and administrative services to Lee Partnership for the year ended June 30, 2006. Associated with theses services, the following activities were recorded in the accompanying financial statement.

<u>Expenditures</u>	 Amount		
Management Services	\$ 19,500		
Contracted Services-Fiscal Monitoring	2,500		
Multi-County Accounting and Contracting Grant	 12,000		
	\$ 34,000		

NOTE 5 - FUNCTIONAL EXPENDITURES

The costs of providing the various programs and activities have been summarized on a functional basis in the Statement of Receipts, Expenditures, and Net Assets – Modified Cash Basis. Also, the Statement of Functional Expenditures – Modified Cash Basis, provides detail of the functional costs by their natural classification. Following are the services associated with the functional categories presented in the accompanying financial statements and the methods utilized to allocate joint cost:

A. Program Functions

Child Care and Education Affordability – Used to account for service activities associated with pre-K/Preschool classes.

Child Care and Education Quality – Used to account for service activities including quality enhancement grants for upgrades or child care resource and referral.

Family Support – Used to account for service activities including parenting education, general family support or literacy projects.

More at Four – Used to account for development and implementation of More at Four prekindergarten program for at-risk four-year-olds who are

at risk of failure in kindergarten. The goal is to provide quality prekindergarten services in order to enhance kindergarten readiness.

B. Support Functions

Management and General – Expenditures that are not identifiable with a single program or fund-raising activity but are indispensable to the conduct of those activities and to an organization's existence, including expenditures for the overall direction of the organization, its general board activities, business management, general recordkeeping, budgeting, and related purposes.

Program Coordination – Expenditures that are incurred to coordinate the policies, procedures, and daily practices of service delivery. Also, costs associated with monitoring in-house and direct service provider activities.

Program Evaluation – Expenditures that are incurred to monitor the effectiveness and feasibility of Partnership activities and contract agencies to determine if the short-term and long-term goals are being achieved.

C. Allocation of Joint Costs

Expenditures benefiting more than one purpose were allocated as follows:

Salaries and Benefits – Direct allocation based on employee time reports.

Other Costs – Other costs including occupancy cost (rent, utilities and maintenance), supplies and materials, and communication costs (telephone and printing) were allocated based on utilization data.

NOTE 6 - OPERATING OBLIGATIONS

Operating Lease Obligations – Future minimum lease payments under noncancelable operating leases consist of the following at June 30, 2006:

Fiscal Year	 Operating Leases
2007	\$ 3,851
2008	3,851
2009	3,851
2010	1,548
2011	 585
Total Minimum Lease Payments	\$ 13,686

Rental expense for all operating leases during the year was \$22,315.

NOTE 7 - PENSION PLAN

IRC Section 403(b) Plan – From July 1, 2005, through December 31, 2005, the recognized employees of the Lee Partnership participated in a 403(b) Plan operated by the Cumberland County Partnership for Children. All permanent employees who were at least 30 hours per week could participate in a tax sheltered annuity plan (Plan) created under Internal Revenue Code Section 403(b). The Plan is a defined contribution plan in which each recognized employee of the Lee Partnership, as a condition of employment, is provided an individual annuity through an outside insurance company. Partnership, through the Cumberland County Partnership for Children, provided matching of employee contribution not to exceed 4% of the employee's annual salary. The employee's eligible contributions, made through salary reduction agreements, were exempt from federal and State income taxes until the annuity is received or the contributions are withdrawn. These Plans are exclusively for employees of universities and certain charitable and other nonprofit organizations. All costs of administering and funding these Plans are the responsibility of the Plan participants. For the above referenced period, the Lee Partnership contributed \$550 in matching costs.

Deferred Compensation and Supplemental Retirement Income Plans – IRC Section 401(k) Plan – From January 1, 2006, through March 31, 2006, the recognized employees of the Lee Partnership participated in an IRC Section 401(k) plan (Plan) administered by the Cumberland County Partnership for Children. All costs of administering the Plan were the responsibility of the Plan participants. The Lee Partnership contributed up to 4% of gross wages for the year ended June 30, 2006. Employees could make voluntary contributions to the Plan. No costs were incurred by the Lee Partnership for the above referenced period.

Effective April 1, 2006, the employees on site at the Lee Partnership were recognized as employees of the Lee Partnership. The Lee Partnership does not have a pension plan in place for its employees.

NOTE 8 - RISK MANAGEMENT

The Lee Partnership is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft of, damage to, or destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; employees' health and life; and natural disasters. The Lee Partnership manages these various risks of loss as follows:

Type of Loss	Method Managed	Risk of Loss Retained
Torts, errors and omissions, health and life	Purchased commercial insurance	None
Workers Compensation – Employee injuries	Purchased commercial insurance	None
Physical property loss and natural disasters	Purchased commercial insurance	None

Management believes such coverage is sufficient to preclude any significant losses to the Lee Partnership. Settled claims have not exceeded this insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

NOTE 9 - COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Compensated Absences – As a result of the Lee Partnership's use of the modified cash basis of accounting, accrued liabilities related to compensated absences (vacation only; sick leave does not vest) and any employer-related costs earned and unpaid, are not reflected in the financial statements. The compensated absences commitment for vacation leave at June 30, 2006, is \$10,859. No funds or reservation of net assets has been made for this commitment.

NOTE 10 - RESTRICTIONS ON NET ASSETS

A. Temporarily Restricted Net Assets – Temporarily restricted net assets at June 30, 2006, are available for the following purposes:

Purpose	Amount			
Parents As Teachers-County of Lee	\$	4,499		

B. Net Assets Released From Donor Restrictions – Net assets were released from donor restrictions during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2006, by incurring expenditures satisfying the restricted purposes as follows:

Purpose	Amount
Reading is Fundamental	\$ 500

Lee County Partnership for Children Schedule of Contract and Grant Expenditures - Modified Cash Basis For the Year Ended June 30, 2006

Schedule 1

		Smart Start Fund							ds
Organization Name		Amou Advan		Refund Due			Amount dvanced	ı	Refund Due
Paid to Organizations:									
Child Development Schools-(Child Care Network)	*	\$	0	\$	0	\$	182,490	\$	0
Coalition to Improve the Quality of Life in Lee County			270,368						
Easter Seals UCP Stepping Stones Learning Center	*						17,590		
Evaluation Resourses, LLC			16,000						
Get Smart, Inc.							118,440		
Lee County Board of Education	*		105,000				127,060		
Various Day Care Providers			50,986				12,061		
		\$	442,354	\$	0	\$	457,641	\$	0

^{*} These organizations are represented on the Partnership's Board as described in Note 4A - Service Provider Contracts with Board Member Organizations.

Lee County Partnership for Children Schedule of State Level Service Provider Contracts For the Year Ended June 30, 2006

Schedule 2

Organization Name		DHHS Contracts
Child Care Services Association - WAGE\$	\$	55,844
Lee County Department of Social Services	*	321,706
	\$	377,550

The information on this schedule provides a listing of service provider contracts entered into by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) as described in Note 3 - Funding from Grant Awards.

^{*} These organizations are represented on the Partnership's Board as described in Note 4A - Service Provider Contracts with Board Member Organizations.

Lee County Partnership for Children Schedule of State Awards - Modified Cash Basis For the Year Ended June 30, 2006

Schedule 3

State Grantor/Pass-through Grantor/Program	_	Contract #	Receipts		xpenditures
State Awards: North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Child Development					
Pass-through from the North Carolina Partnership for					
Children, Inc.					
Early Childhood Initiatives Program (Prior Year)		N/A	\$ (50)	\$	(50)
Early Childhood Initiatives Program (Current Year)	*	N/A	755,401		755,401
Multi-County Accounting and Contracting Grant (Prior Year)		N/A	(85)		85
Multi-County Accounting and Contracting Grant (Current Year)		N/A	12,000		12,000
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services					
More at Four Pre-Kindergarten Program	*	#2090004339	 487,938		458,362
Total State Awards			\$ 1,255,204	\$	1,225,798

Note: The More at Four Pre-Kindergarten Program is contracted jointly by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services and the Office of the Governor. The allocations for the More at Four program are included in the budget for the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services; therefore, the above schedule identifies that agency as the State Grantor. The Office of the Governor is responsible for oversight of the More at Four Program.

Lee County Partnership for Children Schedule of Property and Equipment - Modified Cash Basis For the Year Ended June 30, 2006

Schedule 4

Furniture and Noncomputer Equipment Computer Equipment/Printers	\$ 3,858 22,974
Total Property and Equipment	\$ 26,832

Note: The information on this schedule provides a summary of property and equipment with acquisition or donated cost of \$500 or more which were held by the Partnership at year end. The valuations represent historical cost. On the modified basis of accounting, these items are expensed in the year of purchase.

Match Provided at the Partnership Level:	
Cash	\$ 2,550
In-Kind Goods and Services	 25,649
	\$ 28,199
Match Provided at the Contractor Level:	
Cash	\$ 104,414
In-Kind Goods and Services	13,908
	\$ 118,322

Note: This schedule is presented in accordance with the program match requirement as provided for by North Carolina Session Law 2005-276, Section 10.64(c). The North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc. and all local partnerships are required to match the total amount budgeted for the Smart Start Program in each fiscal year. The match is comprised of both cash and in-kind amounts. Only in-kind contributions that are verifiable, quantifiable, and related to the Smart Start Program can be applied to the in-kind match requirement, including volunteer services. The law allows for volunteer services to be valued for match purposes, a concept that deviates from generally accepted accounting principles. This schedule identifies those amounts allowable for this partnership in meeting the statewide match requirement.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Board of Directors Lee County Partnership for Children Sanford, North Carolina

We have audited the financial statements of the Lee County Partnership for Children (Lee Partnership) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2006, and have issued our report thereon dated March 22, 2007. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

As described in Note 1, the accompanying financial statements were prepared on the modified cash basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Lee Partnership's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purposes of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements caused by error or fraud in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Lee Partnership's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS (CONCLUDED)

certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management of the Lee Partnership, The North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc., the Governor, and the General Assembly and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Leslie W. Merritt, f.

Leslie W. Merritt, Jr., CPA, CFP State Auditor

March 22, 2007

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