#### FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT REPORT OF

### CALDWELL COUNTY SMART START A PARTNERSHIP FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

#### LENOIR, NORTH CAROLINA

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2007

PERFORMED UNDER CONTRACT WITH THE NORTH CAROLINA OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

LESLIE W. MERRITT, JR. CPA, CFP STATE AUDITOR

#### FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT REPORT OF

## CALDWELL COUNTY SMART START A PARTNERSHIP FOR YOUNG CHILDREN LENOIR, NORTH CAROLINA

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2007

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS ROBIN LOWE, BOARD CHAIRMAN

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
JERI S. ARLEDGE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### Office of the State Auditor



2 S. Salisbury Street 20601 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-0601 Telephone: (919) 807-7500 Fax: (919) 807-7647 Internet http://www.ncauditor.net

#### **AUDITOR'S TRANSMITTAL**

The Honorable Michael F. Easley, Governor The General Assembly of North Carolina Board of Directors, Caldwell County Smart Start A Partnership for Young Children

This report presents the results of the financial statement audit of Caldwell County Smart Start A Partnership for Young Children for the year ended June 30, 2007. Winston, Williams, Creech, Evans and Company, LLP performed the audit under contract with the Office of the State Auditor, and their report is submitted herewith.

The audit of the Caldwell County Smart Start A Partnership for Young Children was made in conjunction with the Early Childhood Initiatives (Smart Start) program authorized by G.S. 143B-168.10-16. This statute created the North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc. and required the implementation of local partnerships. The Caldwell County Smart Start A Partnership for Young Children is one of these local partnerships. As such, the Caldwell County Smart Start A Partnership for Young Children is a private nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization and is required by G.S. 143B-168.14(b) to have a financial and compliance audit conducted by the State Auditor. The State Auditor's authority to perform or coordinate all audit functions for state government is set forth in Article 5 of Chapter 147 of the *North Carolina General Statutes*.

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

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

State Auditor

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## Winston, Williams, Creech, Evans & Company, LLP

**Certified Public Accountants** 

James P. Winston II, CPA Gary L. Williams, CPA Leonard R. Creech, Jr. CPA Carleen P. Evans, CPA

Jennifer T. Reese, CPA



#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Directors Caldwell County Smart Start A Partnership for Young Children Lenoir, North Carolina

We have audited the accompanying Statement of Receipts, Expenditures, and Net Assets – Modified Cash Basis of the Caldwell County Smart Start A Partnership for Young Children (Caldwell Partnership) as of June 30, 2007, and the related Statement of Functional Expenditures – Modified Cash Basis for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Caldwell 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 Caldwell County Smart Start A Partnership for Young Children as of June 30, 2007, and its receipts and expenditures for the year ended, on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

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#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONCLUDED)

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued a report dated February 19, 2008, on our consideration of the Caldwell 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 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 Caldwell County Smart Start A Partnership for Young 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.

Winston, Williams, Creech, Evans and Company, LLP

Winston, Williams, Creech, Evans and Company, LLP Certified Public Accountants February 19, 2008

#### Caldwell County Smart Start A Partnership for Young Children Statement of Receipts, Expenditures, and Net Assets - Modified Cash Basis For the Year Ended June 30, 2007

Exhibit A

		Smart Start Fund	 Other Funds	 Total Funds
Receipts: State Awards Federal Awards Private Contributions Special Fund Raising Events Interest and Investment Earnings Sales Tax Refunds Other Receipts	\$	1,721,353	\$ 319,260 30,000 2,375 12,230 122 2,469 18,500	\$ 2,040,613 30,000 2,375 12,230 122 2,469 18,500
Total Receipts		1,721,353	384,956	 2,106,309
Expenditures:				
Programs: Child Care Education Affordability		68,750	500	69,250
Child Care and Education Quality		864,555	2,000	866,555
Family Support		397,234	12,330	409,564
Health and Safety		151,545	,	151,545
More at Four		19,492	329,216	348,708
Support:		·	•	·
Fund Raising			2,906	2,906
Management and General		195,414	14,455	209,869
Program Coordination		24,363		24,363
Other:				
Sales Tax Paid			 3,528	 3,528
Total Expenditures		1,721,353	 364,935	2,086,288
Excess of Receipts Over Expenditures		0	20,021	20,021
Net Assets at Beginning of Year		U	22,946	22,946
Not Added at Boginining of Tour			 22,010	 22,010
Net Assets at End of Year	\$	0	\$ 42,967	\$ 42,967
Net Assets Consisted of: Cash and Cash Equivalents Refunds Due from Contractors	\$	45,304 13,029	\$ 42,967	\$ 88,271 13,029
		58,333	 42,967	 101,300
Less: Due to the State		(58,333)	 	 (58,333)
	\$	0	\$ 42,967	\$ 42,967

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

#### Caldwell County Smart Start A Partnership for Young Children Statement of Functional Expenditures - Modified Cash Basis For the Year Ended June 30, 2007

Exhibit B

		Total	1	Personnel		Contracted Services		Supplies and Materials		Other Operating Expenditures		Fixed Charges and Other xpenditures		roperty and Equipment Outlay		Services/ Contracts/ Grants	Т	rticipant raining enditures
Smart Start Fund:																		
Programs:																		
Child Care and Education Affordability	\$	68,750	\$	0	\$	0	\$	0	\$	0	\$	0	\$	0	\$	68,750	\$	0
Child Care and Education Quality		864,555		42,855				826		2,408		2,064		1,424		814,978		
Family Support		397,234		886		31,256		3,174		4,097		1,784				356,037		
Health and Safety		151,545				48,077		2,587		1,127		1,546				98,208		
More at Four		19,492		16,448				1,719		752		573						
		1,501,576		60,189		79,333		8,306		8,384		5,967		1,424		1,337,973		0_
Support:																		
Management and General		195,414		115,665		2,872		6,275		28,793		26,733		15,076				
Program Coordination		24,363		22,703				226		675		759						
		219,777		138,368		2,872		6,501		29,468		27,492		15,076		0		0_
Total Smart Start Fund Expenditures	\$	1,721,353	\$	198,557	\$	82,205	\$	14,807	\$	37,852	\$	33,459	\$	16,500	\$	1,337,973	\$	0
Total Officit Start Faila Experialtares	Ψ	1,721,000	Ψ	100,007	Ψ	02,200	Ψ	14,007	Ψ	07,002	Ψ	00,400	Ψ	10,000	Ψ	1,007,070	Ψ	
Other Funds: Programs:																		
Child Care and Education Affordability Child Care and Education Quality	\$	500 2,000	\$	0	\$	0	\$	0	\$	0	\$	0	\$	0	\$	500 2,000	\$	0
Family Support		12,330				416		980		7,909		245				2,680		100
More at Four		329,216		37				5,152		8,684		2,729		14,046		298,544		24
		344,046		37		416		6,132		16,593		2,974		14,046		303,724		124
Support:		0.000								0.000		00						
Fund Raising		2,906				40.000		(4=)		2,886		20						
Management and General		14,455				12,000		(17)		2,074		398						
		17,361		0		12,000		(17)		4,960		418		0		0		0
Other:																		
Sales Tax Paid		3,528						3,528										
		3,528		0		0		3,528		0		0		0		0		0
Total Other Funds Expenditures	\$	364,935	\$	37	\$	12,416	\$	9,643	\$	21,553	\$	3,392	\$	14,046	\$	303,724	\$	124

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

### CALDWELL COUNTY SMART START A PARTNERSHIP FOR YOUNG CHILDREN NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2007

#### NOTE 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

- **A.** Organization and Purpose The Caldwell County Smart Start A Partnership for Young Children (Caldwell Partnership) is a legally separate nonprofit organization incorporated on April 8, 2004. The Caldwell Partnership was established to develop and provide, through public and private means, early childhood education and developmental services for children and families. The Caldwell Partnership is taxexempt 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 Caldwell 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, and permanently 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.

The Caldwell Partnership did not have any temporarily or permanently restricted net assets at June 30, 2007.

**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.** Refunds Due From Contractors Refunds due from contractors represent the unexpended amount of advances to contractors at year-end that are to be refunded back to the State. As recoveries are collected, the receivable balance is reduced. Payments to the State for the recovered advances are recorded as a reduction to the State awards balance.
- **F. 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.
- **G. Property and Equipment** Under the modified cash basis of accounting, purchases of property and equipment are reported as expenditures in the year occurred. However, Caldwell Partnership is required by contract regulation to track and maintain property and equipment items as presented in Schedule 4 of this report. The Caldwell 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, 2007. Donated items are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of donation.
- **H.** 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 8.
- I. Use of Estimates The preparation of financial statements in conformity with the modified cash basis of accounting used by the Caldwell 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 AND INVESTMENTS

All Funds of Caldwell County Smart Start A Partnership for Young Children are deposited with Branch Bank and Trust and insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) up to \$100,000. Deposits over this amount

subjects Caldwell County Smart Start A Partnership for Young Children to a concentration of credit risk. At June 30, 2007, Caldwell County Smart A Partnership for Young Children's bank deposits in excess of the FDIC insured limit was \$16,881.

#### NOTE 3 - FUNDING FROM GRANT AWARDS

**Smart Start Program** - The Caldwell 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 Caldwell Partnership and represents a concentration of credit risk as to the generation of revenue.

Associated with these contracts, the Caldwell 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 Caldwell 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 Caldwell Partnership was awarded and has received \$1,779,686 under a current year Smart Start contract with NCPC. The unexpended balance of this contract is subject to reversion to the State. The Caldwell Partnership has returned \$58,333 of this contract to the State based on financial status reports submitted to NCPC subsequent to June 30, 2007.

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

**More at Four -** The Caldwell Partnership also received revenue and support from the State of North Carolina for the More at Four Program. The Caldwell Partnership was awarded \$307,260 under a current year contract. The Caldwell Partnership expects to receive continued funding through new More at Four contracts with the State

#### NOTE 4 - RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

**Service Provider Contracts with Board Member Organizations** - The board members of the Caldwell Partnership are representative of various organizations that benefit from actions taken by the Board. It is the policy of

the Caldwell Partnership that board members not be involved with decisions regarding organizations they represent. During the year, the Caldwell 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 Caldwell Partnership's Smart Start Allocation.

#### 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, child care subsidy administration (Division of Child Development).

Child Care and Education Quality - Used to account for service activities including quality enhancement grants for upgrades, quality enhancement grants for maintenance, child care resource and referral, professional development, salary supplements, provider training programs, health/safety training for child care professionals, special needs – support for child care professionals, or health insurance benefits for child care providers.

**Family Support** - Used to account for service activities including family resource center, ongoing parenting education, literacy projects or family support needs and resources assessments.

**Health and Safety** - Used to account for service activities including comprehensive health services or child care health consultants.

**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

**Fund Raising** - Expenditures that are incurred in inducing others to contribute money, securities, time, materials, or facilities for which the contributor will receive no direct economic benefit.

**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.

#### 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 indirectly allocated based on utilization data.

#### NOTE 6 - LEASE OBLIGATIONS

**A.** Operating Lease Obligations - Future minimum lease payments under noncancelable operating leases consist of the following at June 30, 2007:

Fiscal Year	 Operating Leases
2008 2009	\$ 30,000 7,500
Total Minimum Lease Payments	\$ 37,500

Rental expense for all operating leases during the year was \$30,000

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

**B.** Capital Lease Obligations – Capital lease obligations relating to copier equipment are recorded at the present value of the minimum lease payments. Future minimum lease payments under capital lease obligations consist of the following at June 30, 2007:

Fiscal Year	 Operating Leases
2008 2009	\$ 5,667 5,667
Total Minimum Lease Payments	\$ 11,334

#### NOTE 7 - PENSION PLAN

**Retirement Plans** - The Caldwell Partnership has a SIMPLE – IRA plan covering all full-time employees. Each full-time employee of the Caldwell Partnership has an option to participate in the Plan. An individual Retirement Account is provided to the employee through an outside financial institution. The Caldwell Partnership contributed 4% of gross wages for the year ended June 30, 2007. The Caldwell Partnership does not own the accounts nor is liable for any other cost other than the required contribution. The Caldwell Partnership contributed \$4,502 for pension benefits during the year.

#### NOTE 8 - COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Compensated Absences - As a result of the Caldwell 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, 2007, is \$1,445. No funds or reservation of net assets has been made for this commitment.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONCLUDED)

#### NOTE 9 - RISK MANAGEMENT

The Caldwell 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 Caldwell 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 Caldwell Partnership. Settled claims have not exceeded this insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

#### Caldwell County Smart Start A Partnership for Young Children Schedule of Contract and Grant Expenditures - Modified Cash Basis For the Year Ended June 30, 2007

Schedule 1

		Smart 9	Other Funds				
	Amount		Refund		Amount	Refund	
Organization Name	_	Advanced	 Due		Advanced		Due
Paid to Organizations:							
Blue Ridge Community Action, Inc.	* \$	0	\$ 0	\$	77,428	\$	0
Caldwell Committee for Healthy Families		3,900					
Caldwell Community College	*	97,397					
Caldwell County Health Department	*	60,310	1,102				
Caldwell County Schools	*	302,367			152,022		
Child Care Connections of Burke County	*	636,705	11,927				
Creative Beginnings of Lenoir					69,094		
The Riddle Institute	*	115,000	 				
	\$	1,215,679	\$ 13,029	\$	298,544	\$	0
Individuals for the purpose of:							
Walk Smart Mini Grants					5,000		
Family Fun Day Stipends		3,520			180		
Insurance Benefit Package for Providers	_	131,803					
	\$	135,323	\$ 0	\$	5,180	\$	0
	\$	1,351,002	\$ 13,029	\$	303,724	\$	0

<sup>\*</sup> These organizations are represented on the Partnership's Board as described in Note 4 - Service Provider Contracts with Board Member Organizations.

#### Caldwell County Smart Start A Partnership for Young Children Schedule of a State Level Service Provider Contracts For the Year Ended June 30, 2007

Schedule 2

Organization Name		DHHS Contracts
Caldwell County Department of Social Services	*	\$ 721,261

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.

<sup>\*</sup> This organization is represented on the Partnership's Board as described in Note 4 - Service Provider Contracts with Board Member Organizations.

#### Caldwell County Smart Start A Partnership for Young Children Schedule of Federal and State Awards - Modified Cash Basis For the Year Ended June 30, 2007

 $Schedule\ 3$ 

Federal/State Grantor/Pass-through Grantor/Program	Federal CFDA Number	Contract #	Receipts	Expenditures
Federal Awards: US Department of Education Pass-through from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction Pass-through from Caldwell County Schools Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies More at Four - Valmead Basic School & Gamewell Elementary	84.010A	N/A	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000
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 Multi-County Accounting and Contracting Grant	*	N/A	1,721,353 12,000	1,721,353 12,000
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction Office of School Readiness More at Four Pre-Kindergarten Program		0014-07	307,260	286,137
Total State Awards			2,040,613	2,019,490
Total Federal and State Awards			\$ 2,070,613	\$ 2,049,490

<sup>\*</sup> Programs with compliance requirements that have a direct and material effect on the financial statements.

#### Caldwell County Smart Start A Partnership for Young Children Schedule of Property and Equipment - Modified Cash Basis For the Year Ended June 30, 2007

Schedule 4

Furniture and Noncomputer Equipment Computer Equipment/Printers Motor Vehicles	\$ 12,932 14,549 123,145
Total Property and Equipment	\$ 150,626

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 cash basis of accounting, these items are expensed in the year of purchase.

Match Provided at the Partnership Level:	
Cash In-Kind Goods and Services	\$ 32,000 5,668
	\$ 37,668
Match Provided at the Contractor Level:	
Cash	\$ 131,521
	\$ 131,521

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.

## Winston, Williams, Creech, Evans & Company, LLP

**Certified Public Accountants** 

CPA

James P. Winston II, CPA Gary L. Williams, CPA Leonard R. Creech, Jr. CPA Carleen P. Evans, CPA

Jennifer T. Reese, CPA

# 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 Caldwell County Smart Start A Partnership for Young Children Lenoir, North Carolina

We have audited the financial statements of the Caldwell County Smart Start A Partnership for Young Children (Caldwell Partnership) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2007, and have issued our report thereon dated February 19, 2008. 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.

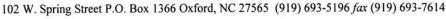
As described in Note 1, the accompanying financial statements were prepared on the modified cash basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Caldwell County Smart Start A Partnership for Young Children's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purposes of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Caldwell County Smart Start A Partnership for Young Children's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Caldwell County Smart Start A Partnership for Young Children's internal control over financial reporting.

A control deficiency exists when the design or the operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the Caldwell County Smart Start A Partnership for Young Children's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the Caldwell County







# 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)

Smart Start A Partnership for Young Children's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the Caldwell County Smart Start A Partnership for Young Children's internal control.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statement will not be prevented or detected by the Caldwell County Smart Start A Partnership for Young Children's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

#### Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Caldwell County Smart Start A Partnership for Young Children's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with 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*.

We noted certain matters that we reported to management of Caldwell County Smart Start A Partnership for Young Children in a separate letter dated February 19, 2008.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Directors, management of the Caldwell 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.

Winston, Williams, Creech, Evans and Company, LLP

Winston, Williams, Creech, Evans and Company, LLP Certified Public Accountants February 19, 2008

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