SMART START OF BRUNSWICK COUNTY, INC. Shallotte, North Carolina

> FINANCIAL STATEMENTS June 30, 2007

PERFORMED UNDER CONTRACT WITH THE OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

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

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT REPORT OF

SMART START OF BRUNSWICK COUNTY, INC.

SHALLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2007

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

POLLY RUSS, BOARD CHAIR

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

LINDA GIRONDA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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, Smart Start of Brunswick County, Inc.

This report presents the results of the financial statement audit of Smart Start of Brunswick County, Inc. for the year ended June 30, 2007. Clifton Gunderson LLP performed the audit under contract with the Office of the State Auditor, and their report is submitted herewith.

The audit of the Smart Start of Brunswick County, Inc. 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 Smart Start of Brunswick County, Inc. is one of these local partnerships. As such, the Smart Start of Brunswick County, Inc. 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, pr.

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

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Directors Smart Start of Brunswick County, Inc. Shallotte, North Carolina

We have audited the accompanying Statement of Receipts, Expenditures, and Net Assets – Modified Cash Basis of the Smart Start of Brunswick County, Inc. (Brunswick Partnership) as of and for the year ended 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 Brunswick 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 Smart Start of Brunswick County, Inc. as of June 30, 2007, and its receipts and expenditures 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 31, 2008, on our consideration of the Brunswick 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.



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONCLUDED)

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Smart Start of Brunswick County, Inc.'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 basic financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on Schedule 2.

Clifton Hunderson LLP

Raleigh, North Carolina March 31, 2008

Smart Start of Brunswick County, Inc. Statement of Receipts, Expenditures, and Net Assets – Modified Cash Basis For the Year Ended June 30, 2007 Exhibit A

Unrestri Smart Start Fund \$ 1,014,648		Other Funds	Re	nporarily stricted		Total
		Funds	-			iotai
\$ 1,014,648	_	i unus		Funds		Funds
\$ 1,014,648						
	\$	589,393	\$	-	\$	1,604,041
-		9,302		-		9,302
-		13,000		-		13,000
-		4,592		374		4,966
-		3,490		-		3,490
-		5,268		-		5,268
-		12,239		-		12,239
1,014,648		637,284		374		1,652,306
-		15,438		(15,438)		-
1,014,648		652,722		(15,064)		1,652,306
133,000		1,405		-		134,405
350,094		19,884		-		369,978
175,645		22,649		-		198,294
43,600		-		-		43,600
114,660		534,703		-		649,363
141 657		58 379		-		200,036
		-		-		54,084
0 1,00 1						0 1,00 1
-		4,869		-		4,869
1,012,740		641,889		-		1,654,629
1.908		10.833		(15.064)		(2,323)
-		11,924		16,498		28,422
\$ 1,908	\$	22,757	\$	1,434	\$	26,099
\$ 13,298	\$	22,757	\$	1,434	\$	37,489
1,908		-		-		1,908
15,206		22,757		1,434		39,397
12,857		-		-		12,857
441		-		-		441
\$ 1,908	\$	22,757	\$	1,434	\$	26,099
		$ \begin{array}{c} $	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$

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

Smart Start of Brunswick County, Inc. Statement of Functional Expenditures – Modified Cash Basis For the Year Ended June 30, 2007

Exhibit B

	Total	F	Personnel	(Contracted Services	upplies and laterials	E	Other Operating Expenditures	i	Fixed Charges and Other spenditures	roperty and Equipment Outlay	C	ervices/ ontracts/ Grants
Smart Start Fund:													
Programs:													
Child Care and Education Affordability	\$ 133,000	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	\$	133,000
Child Care and Education Quality	350,094		189,378		-	13,014		40,404		29,910	2,800		74,588
Family Support	175,645		16,903		5,000	5,990		7,983		3,752	3,017		133,000
Health and Safety	43,600		-		-	-		-		-	-		43,600
More at Four	114,660		-		-	-		-		-	-		114,660
	816,999		206,281		5,000	19,004		48,387		33,662	5,817		498,848
Support:													
Management and General	141,657		118,151		1,944	989		12,925		6,267	1,381		-
Program Evaluation	54,084		41,889		-	484		7,331		3,894	486		-
	195,741		160,040		1,944	 1,473		20,256		10,161	 1,867		-
Total Smart Start Fund Expenditures	\$ 1,012,740	\$	366,321	\$	6,944	\$ 20,477	\$	68,643	\$	43,823	\$ 7,684	\$	498,848
Other Funds:													
Programs:													
Child Care and Education Affordability	\$ 1,405	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	\$	-	\$	1,405	\$ -	\$	-
Child Care and Education Quality	19,884		6,015		200	6,904		4,925		1,840	-		-
Family Support	22,649		-		-	4,534		7,058		91	5,690		5,276
More at Four	534,703		-		-	21,000		-		-	-		513,703
	578,641		6,015		200	32,438		11,983		3,336	 5,690		518,979
Support:	 												
Management and General	58,379		37,348		6,150	1,196		8,885		4,584	216		-
Other:													
Sales Tax Paid	 4,869		-		-	 -		4,869		-	 		-
	 63,248		37,348		6,150	 1,196		13,754		4,584	 216		-
Total Other Funds Expenditures	\$ 641,889	\$	43,363	\$	6,350	\$ 33,634	\$	25,737	\$	7,920	\$ 5,906	\$	518,979

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

NOTE 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

- A. Organization and Purpose The Smart Start of Brunswick County, Inc. (Brunswick Partnership) is a legally separate nonprofit organization incorporated on August 1, 1994. The Brunswick Partnership was established to develop and provide, through public and private means, early childhood education and developmental services for children and families. The Brunswick 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 Brunswick 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.

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 Brunswick Partnership did not have any 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 does not recognize the value of in-kind goods and services received; it recognizes revenue when received rather than when earned; and it recognizes expenditures when paid rather than when incurred.

NOTE 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

C. Basis of Accounting (continued)

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. Funds Held For Others** Funds held for others includes amounts received that are fiduciary in nature in which the Brunswick Partnership acts in an agency capacity. For the year ended, the Brunswick Partnership was holding amounts withheld from employee paychecks for insurance costs.
- H. Property and Equipment Under the modified cash basis of accounting, purchases of property and equipment are reported as expenditures in the year incurred. However, Brunswick Partnership is required by contract regulation to track and maintain property and equipment items as presented in Schedule 4 of this report. The Brunswick 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.

NOTE 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

- I. 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.
- J. Use of Estimates The preparation of financial statements in conformity with the modified cash basis of accounting used by the Brunswick 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 Brunswick Partnership are deposited with a commercial bank and insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) up to \$100,000. Deposits over this amount subjects the Brunswick Partnership to a concentration of credit risk.

NOTE 3 - FUNDING FROM GRANT AWARDS

Smart Start Program – The Brunswick 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 Brunswick Partnership and represents a concentration of credit risk as to the generation of revenue.

Associated with these contracts, the Brunswick 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 Brunswick 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 Brunswick Partnership was awarded and has received \$1,027,505 under a current year Smart Start contract with NCPC. The unexpended balance of this contract is subject to reversion to the State. The Brunswick Partnership has returned \$12,857 of this contract to the State based on financial status reports submitted to NCPC subsequent to June 30, 2007.

NOTE 3 - FUNDING FROM GRANT AWARDS (CONTINUED)

Smart Start Program (continued)

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

More at Four – The Brunswick Partnership also received revenue and support from the State of North Carolina for the More at Four Program. The Brunswick Partnership was awarded \$586,500 and received \$577,393 under a current year contract. The Brunswick 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 Brunswick Partnership are representative of various organizations that benefit from actions taken by the Board. It is the policy of the Brunswick Partnership that board members not be involved with decisions regarding organizations they represent. During the year, the Brunswick 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 Brunswick 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 associated with Preschool (0-4) classes.

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, or kindergarten orientation/transition.

NOTE 5 - **FUNCTIONAL EXPENDITURES** (CONTINUED)

A. Program Functions (continued)

Family Support – Used to account for service activities including ongoing parenting education, family crisis intervention, community outreach information and resources.

Health and Safety – Used to account for service activities including oral health services or comprehensive health services.

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 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 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 estimates of utilization or utilization data.

NOTE 6 - OPERATING LEASE OBLIGATIONS

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

Fiscal Year	 perating Leases
2008	\$ 37,627
2009	2,456
2010	2,456
2011	360
2012	 240
Total Minimum Lease Payments	\$ 43,138

Rental expense for all operating leases during the year was \$31,657.

NOTE 7 - PENSION PLAN

- A. Retirement Plans The Brunswick Partnership has a SIMPLE IRA Plan covering all full-time employees. Each full-time employee of the Brunswick Partnership has an option to participate in the Plan. An Individual Retirement Account is provided to the employee through an outside financial institution. The Brunswick Partnership contributed 3% of gross wages for the year ended June 30, 2007; however, there were no employee contributions for the year. The Brunswick Partnership does not own the accounts nor is liable for any other cost other than the required contribution. The Brunswick Partnership contributed \$984 for pension benefits during the year.
- B. Deferred Compensation and Supplemental Retirement Income Plans IRC Sections 403(b) Plan All permanent employees who are at least half-time can participate in tax sheltered annuity plans (Plans) created under Internal Revenue Code Sections 403(b) and 403(b)(7). The employee's eligible contributions, made through salary reduction agreements, are 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. The Brunswick Partnership terminated the plan on December 31, 2006. The Brunswick Partnership contributed \$651 to employees during the year with \$3,172 for administering and terminating the plan.

NOTE 8 - RISK MANAGEMENT

The Brunswick 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 Brunswick Partnership manages these various risks of loss as follows:

Type of Loss	Method Managed	Risk of Loss <u>Retained</u>
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 Brunswick 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 Brunswick 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 \$7,565. 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, 2007 are available for the following purposes:

Purpose	Amount				
Be An Angel International Paper Foundation International Paper Company NC Community Foundation Kiwanis Support and Training	\$	728 75 164 50 417			
Total	<u>\$ 1</u>	,4 <u>34</u>			

NOTE 10 - RESTRICTIONS ON NET ASSETS (CONTINUED)

B. Net Assets Released From Donor Restrictions – Net assets were released from donor restrictions during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007, by incurring expenditures satisfying the restricted purposes as follows:

Purpose	A	mount
Brunswick County Grant Be An Angel ATMC – Healthy Babies	\$	9,410 4,028 2,000
Total	<u>\$</u>	15,438

Smart Start of Brunswick County, Inc. Schedule of Contract and Grant Expenditures – Modified Cash Basis For the Year Ended June 30, 2007

Schedule 1

	Smart Sta	Other Funds				
Organization Name	Amount dvanced	efund Due		Amount dvanced		efund Due
Paid to Organizations:						
Be An Angel	\$ 33,994	\$ -	\$	4,028	\$	-
* Brunswick Community College	40,594	-		-		-
Brunswick County Grant	-	-		1,235		-
Brunswick County Health Department	43,600	-		-		-
Brunswick County Schools	133,000	-		286,273		-
Communities in Schools	160,664	-		54,872		-
Earth Angels	43,680	-		86,640		-
Kids Connection	29,302	-		58,121		-
Kids World Learning Center	14,014	-		27,797		-
Apples and Bananas	1,908	1,908				
State of the Child	 -	 -		13		-
	\$ 500,756	\$ 1,908	\$	518,979	\$	-

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

Organization Name	C	DHHS Contracts
 * Brunswick County Department of Social Services * Child Care Services Association - WAGE\$ Program 	\$	636,800 113,600
	<u>\$</u>	750,400

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

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.

Smart Start of Brunswick County, Inc. 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	CFDA		Expenditures
Federal Awards: North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Child Development				
Pass-through from Southeastern Community College Division of Child Development	N/A	107-104	\$ 9,302	\$ 9,302
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	•		1,014,648 12,000	1,012,740 12,000
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, Office of School Readiness More at Four Pre-Kindergarten Program		010-07	577,393	534,703
Total State Awards			1,604,041	1,559,443
Total Federal and State Awards			\$ 1,613,343	\$ 1,568,745

* Programs with compliance requirements that have a direct and material effect on the financial statements.

Furniture and Noncomputer Equipment Computer Equipment/Printers Buildings Leasehold Improvements Motor Vehicles	\$ 22,264 70,549 172,041 185,216 21,505
Total Property and Equipment	\$ 471,575

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 In-Kind Goods and Services	\$ 25,994 15,549
	\$ 41,543
Match Provided at the Contractor Level:	
Cash In-Kind Goods and Services	\$ 140,015 4,692
	\$ 144,707

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.



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 Smart Start of Brunswick County, Inc. Shallotte, North Carolina

We have audited the financial statements of the Smart Start of Brunswick County, Inc. (Brunswick Partnership) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2007, and have issued our report thereon dated March 31, 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 Brunswick Partnership's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Brunswick Partnership's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Brunswick Partnership's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Brunswick Partnership's internal control over financial reporting.

A control deficiency exists when the design or 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 Brunswick Partnership'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 Brunswick Partnership's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the Brunswick Partnership'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 statements will not be prevented or detected by the Brunswick Partnership's internal control.



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)

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 Brunswick Partnership'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 the Brunswick Partnership in a separate letter dated March 31, 2008.

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

Clifton Hunderson LLP

Raleigh, North Carolina March 31, 2008

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