

An Overview of Smart Start

For the Texas Governor's Task Force on Early Childhood Education and Care

Amy Cubbage, President
The North Carolina Partnership
for Children
August 2026

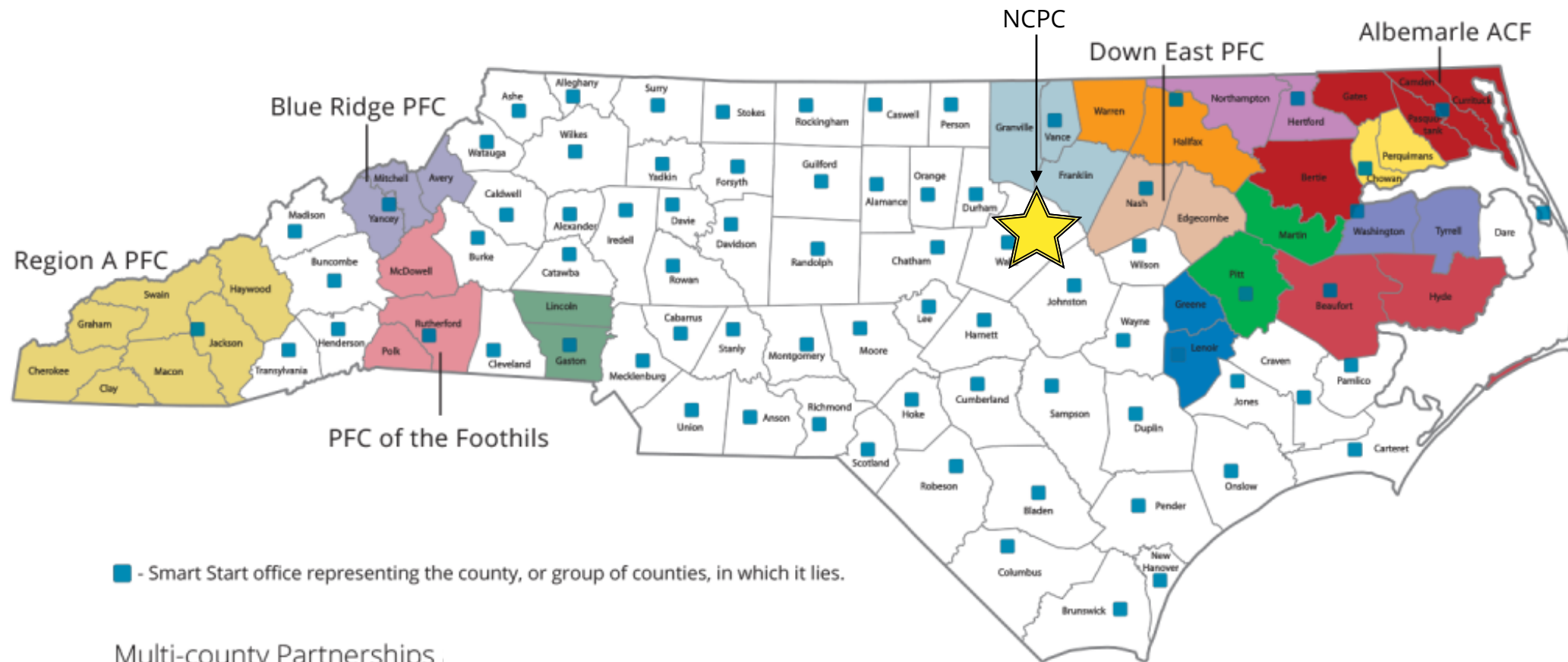




Overview of Smart Start



North Carolina Smart Start Network



Multi-county Partnerships

Albemarle Alliance for Children and Families (Bertie/Camden/Currituck/Gates/Pasquotank)
 Beaufort/Hyde Partnership for Children
 Blue Ridge Partnership for Children
 Chowan/Perquimans Smart Start Partnership
 Down East Partnership for Children (Nash/Edgecombe)
 Franklin-Granville-Vance Partnership for Children
 Halifax-Warren Smart Start Partnership for Children

Hertford-Northampton Smart Start Partnership for Children
 Lenoir/Greene County Partnership for Children
 Martin/Pitt Partnership for Children
 Partnership for Children of the Foothills
 Partnership for Children of Lincoln/Gaston Counties
 Region A Partnership for Children (Cherokee/Clay/Graham/Haywood/Jackson/Macon/Swain)
 Tyrrell-Washington Partnership for Children

MISSION

Advance a high quality, comprehensive, accountable early childhood system that benefits each child in North Carolina beginning with a healthy birth.

VISION

Each child in North Carolina reaches their potential and is prepared for school and life success in a global community.

NICHE

The NC Partnership for Children leads the network of local partnerships to drive coordinated implementation of North Carolina's vision for Early Childhood.

Smart Start Priority Content Areas



- **Early Learning Outcomes**

- Educator Compensation
- Educator Qualifications
- Program Quality
- Program Subsidy



- **Parenting Outcomes**

- Parenting Education – *including a focus on literacy*
- Home Visiting – *parent education in the home*



- **Child and Family Health Outcomes**

- Prenatal/Newborn Services
- Doula and Family Navigation
- Nutrition, Health Care Access and Support

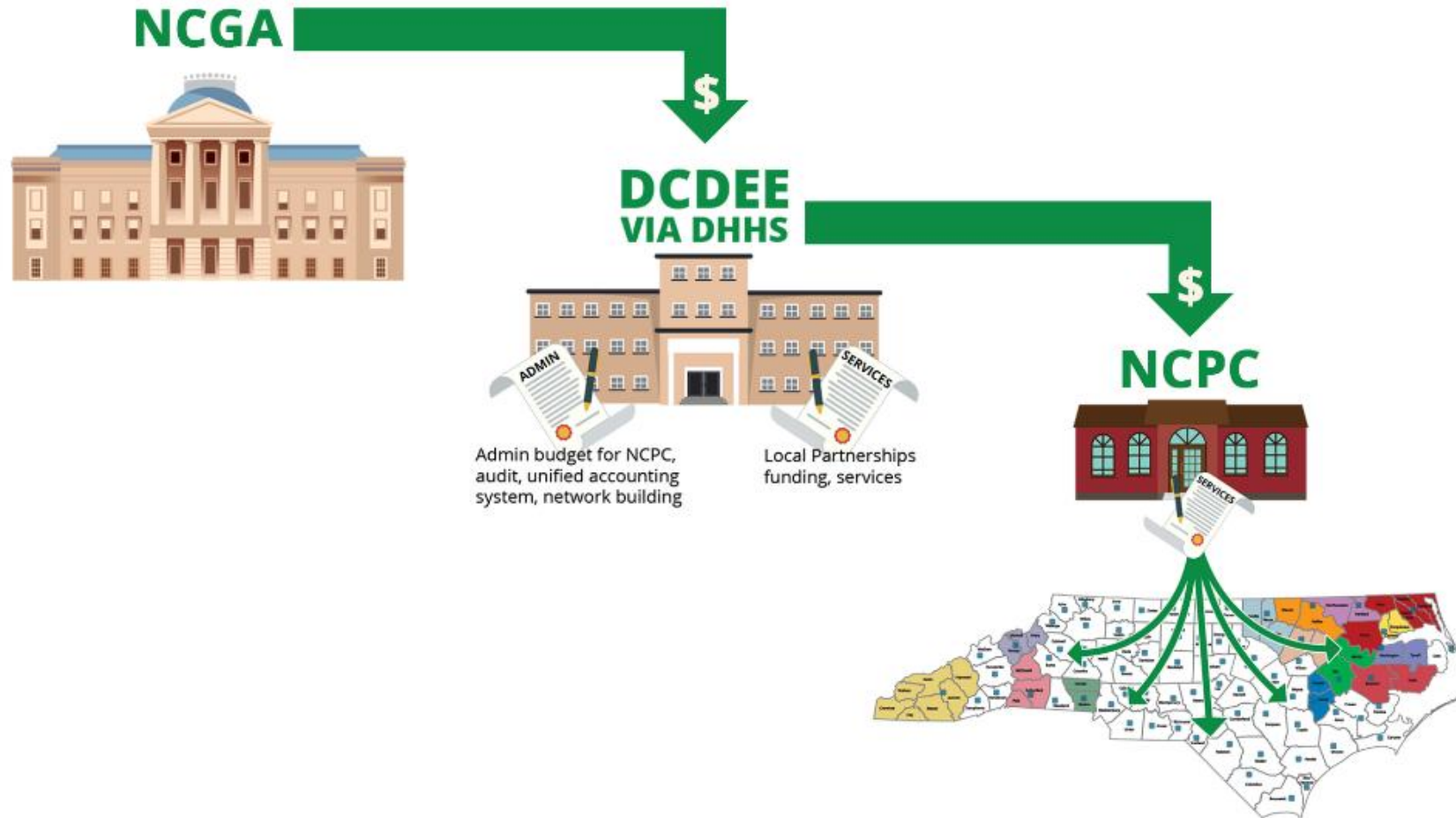


- **Early Literacy Outcomes**

- DPIL / Raising A Reader / Book Babies

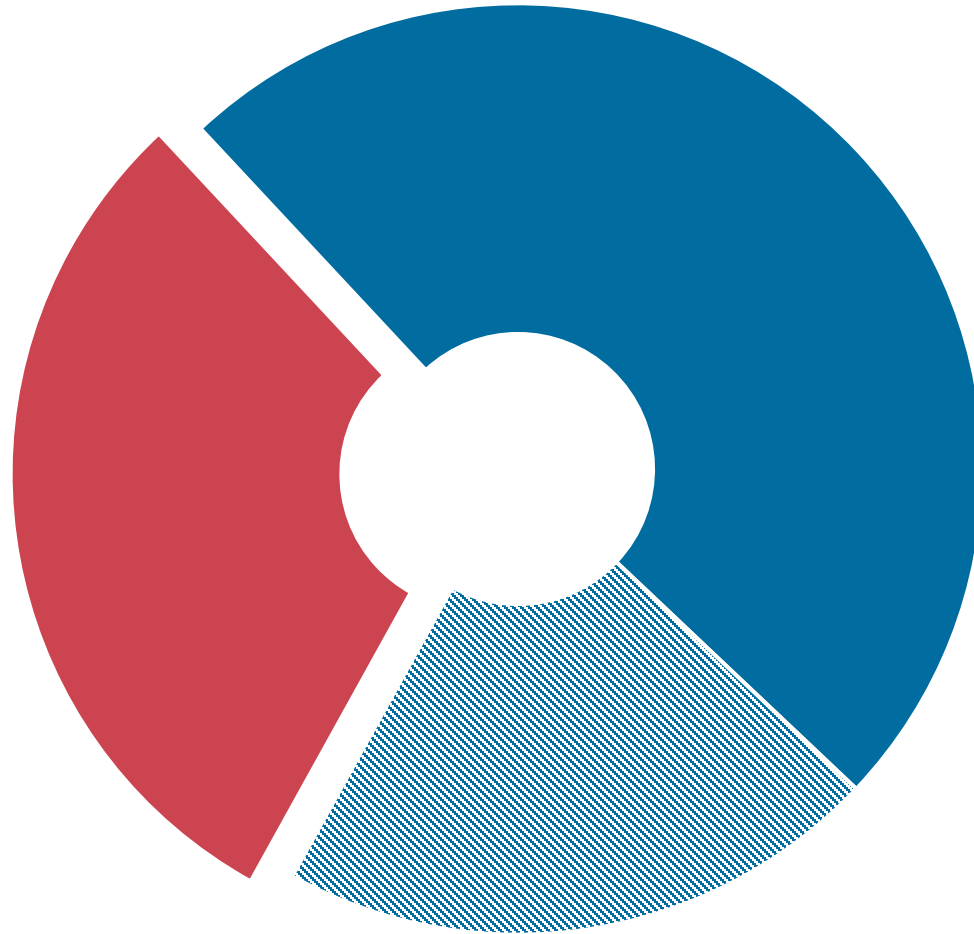
Smart Start Appropriation

Flow of Funds



Smart Start Spending Mandates

**ECE and/or
Health and
Family Support
(30%)**



**Early Care and
Education (Child
Care Related)
70%**

Subsidy (30% of the of 70% ECE)

Three Pillars of Success



Transparency



Accountability



Efficiency

Collaboration Between NCPC & LPs



Smart Start

Questions?



*Each Child in Every Community
Deserves a Smart Start*

