



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA ALERT

Wake County SmartStart Asks Legislators to Hold the Line on Funding for Young Children

Part of Smart Start's Tuesdays for Tots Advocacy Initiative

RALEIGH (June 7, 2010) – On **Tuesday, June 8**, child advocates, child care professionals, parents and business leaders from Wake County will visit the **N.C. General Assembly** to participate in Smart Start's Tuesdays for Tots initiative. Constituents will meet with the Wake County legislative delegation to discuss the **challenges facing young children** and ask legislators to "hold the line" on investments in early childhood programs.

- WHAT:** **Wake County SmartStart's Tuesdays for Tots.** Tuesdays for Tots is Smart Start's signature effort that takes place every year during the legislative session. On Tuesdays, Smart Start partnerships come to Raleigh for one-on-one meetings with legislators to educate lawmakers on Smart Start successes, discuss challenges facing young children and their families, and help policymakers understand that our state's prosperity depends on our children's healthy development and growth.
- WHEN:** June 8, 2010
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- WHERE:** N.C. General Assembly
300 N Salisbury St
Raleigh, NC 27603
- WHO:** More than 25 Wake County SmartStart volunteers, advocates, parents, providers, partners and friends will meet with 13 legislators, including: Representative Avila, Representative Heagarty, Representative Dollar, Representative Martin, Representative Ross, Representative Stam, Representative Jackson, Representative Gill, Representative Weiss, Senator Hunt, Senator Stevens, Senator Stein and Senator Blue.

About Wake County SmartStart

Organized in 1996, Wake County SmartStart is committed to ensuring every child in Wake County is prepared to enter school healthy and ready to succeed. Wake County SmartStart works to improve the quality, accessibility and affordability of child care settings, identify and connect children to early intervention and other preventive health services and support families and early childhood educators. The organization also promotes, supports, and advocates for the needs of young children living in Wake

County. To achieve its mission of building the capacity of families and the community to prepare children for success in school and in life, Wake County SmartStart partners with national, state, and local agencies, and other nonprofits that serve Wake County children, ages birth to five, and their families through vital human service programs. More information on Wake County SmartStart's allocation of state funds and its activities with local partner agencies can be found at www.wakesmartstart.org.

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