



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Smart Start Funds Local Organizations to Address Community Resilience

NC Healthy & Resilient Communities Initiative Funds 9 Nonprofits to Support Resilience

The North Carolina Healthy and Resilient Communities Initiative (NCH&RCI), housed at the North Carolina Partnership for Children (NCPC) has granted funding to nine non-profit community organizations to address trauma and resilience.

NC Healthy & Resilient Communities Initiative works to build healthy and resilient communities for young children and families, creating resilience across each generation by bringing together [more than 40 multi-sector community collaboratives](#) to build resilience across the state.

Through funding from the Department of Health and Human Services as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES ACT), the Initiative has selected community organizations to develop awareness, skills, and action plans to create community-led strategies to address trauma and resilience goals. Each organization will receive between \$14,000-\$44,000 to serve their local communities.

Three Smart Start Local Partnerships were selected as part of the Initiative to address trauma. These local partnerships include [Robeson County Partnership for Children](#), [Partnership for Children & Families](#) (Lee County), and [Children & Youth Partnership for Dare County](#). Other organizations to receive funding to address resilience include the Rural Opportunity Institute (Edgecombe County); Communities in Schools (New Hanover); Coastal Horizons (Pender & Brunswick Counties); Health Foundation (Wilkes County); Caldwell County Schools (Caldwell County), and Together for Resilient Youth (Durham County).

Participating organizations will be able to build their infrastructure and capacity to reach new members of their community and create trauma and resilience specific training experiences that are most needed in their respective communities. This work is particularly timely due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on children and families.

“I’m excited about this opportunity,” says Amy Cabbage, president of NCPC. “The pandemic has only exacerbated the need for a widespread focus on community resilience.

The North Carolina Partnership for Children

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By addressing the factors that lead to trauma and creating protective factors against adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and environments, we can better prepare children to thrive.”

The NC Healthy & Resilient Communities Initiative is made possible through funding support from Kate B. Reynolds Foundation. NCPC’s Resilient Communities Officer works closely with local collaboratives to work towards statewide resiliency goals through a community lens. The Resilient Communities Officer will work with selected grant applicants as they serve communities throughout 2022 and into 2023.

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About the NC Healthy & Resilient Communities Initiative

NCH&RCI is a program funded by the Kate B. Reynolds Foundation. The Initiative works to 1) reduce multiple forms of childhood adversity; 2) increase protective factors and positive childhood experiences for children, families, and communities; and 3) promote systems change, through community infrastructure and cross sector collaborations, for preventing and responding to exposure to toxic stress and trauma.

A Resilient Communities Officer works with local resilience collaboratives and coalitions to build capacity, provide resources and assistance, and learn from the unique initiative. The work is informed by the Pair of ACEs model and utilizes a data-informed, family-centered, racial equity-focused, and assets-based approach. Each local coalition determines their own strategies and processes while working towards statewide resiliency goals. Local networks will align across systems and sectors to create environments that drive county-wide, population-level outcomes. Learn more about Smart Start’s NC Healthy & Resilient Communities work here-

<https://www.smartstart.org/resilience-intro/>

About Smart Start

[Smart Start is a network of 75 nonprofit local partnerships](http://www.smartstart.org/about-smart-start/) that serve all 100 North Carolina counties. This network is led by The North Carolina Partnership for Children (NCPC) that ensures fiscal and programmatic accountability and coordinates the statewide network to create better outcomes for children and families. For more information, please visit

<http://www.smartstart.org/about-smart-start/>.

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Local Partnership Contact Information

- Partnership for Children & Families (Lee County)- [Tonya McLean](#) or [Tiara White](#).
- Children & Youth Partnership for Dare County- [Sara Sampson](#), (252) 441-0614
- Robeson County Partnership for Children- [Stacie Kinlaw](#), 910-738-6767 ext. 290

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