



Amy Cabbage is the President of the North Carolina Partnership for Children (NCPC), leading Smart Start, North Carolina's comprehensive early childhood system serving the youngest North Carolinians, their families, and all who care for and educate them. Smart Start is funded through a public-private partnership and consists of a state level organization, NCPC, and 75 local partnerships working in all 100 counties to advance a high-quality, comprehensive, accountable early childhood system that benefits each child in North Carolina beginning with a healthy birth.

Amy began her career as an early childhood teacher, following a family tradition of service to young children and families. She worked as a National Head Start Fellow for the federal Administration for Children and Families (ACF), then consulted with early childhood education agencies on a range of topics. She taught advocacy and leadership courses at both Wheelock College and Eastern Connecticut State University, and researched and wrote about early care and education. Beginning in 2008, Amy's work focused on the assessment and improvement of early childhood programs, joining the National Center for Research on Early Childhood Education at the University of Virginia and then, in 2010, Teachstone. She served in various roles at Teachstone, managing teacher coaching, training, and professional development, as well as public policy, legal, and strategy work.

Amy completed her undergraduate study at Brown University and went on to complete a J.D. at Northeastern University and an M.S. in Leadership and Policy in Early Childhood Education from Wheelock College. Amy's husband started working in North Carolina in 2018, and Amy followed him and was honored to join Smart Start in August 2020. Their three adult kids have followed paths that bring them to NC frequently, with two in military service and one a graduate from UNC-Chapel Hill now working in emergency medical services. Besides working in the early childhood field, Amy can be found playing, coaching, and watching soccer, her other passion, whenever she can!

The North Carolina Partnership for Children

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