



## NEWS RELEASE

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### Durham's Partnership for Children Board of Directors Appoint New Chair, Officers and Members to Serve

**DURHAM, NC- Durham's Partnership for Children, a Smart Start Initiative**, held its Annual Board Meeting Thursday, Oct. 15 and welcomed new Board members, officers and new Board Chair Angie Welsh to serve on the Board of Directors for the 09-10 fiscal year. County Commissioner Ellen Reckhow, Nominations Chair, presented the 09-10 slate and welcomed new Board members.

**Angie Welsh** is Senior Vice President of Resource Investment for the United Way of the Greater Triangle. Welsh oversees all aspects of the Resource Investment Department that includes data analysis, strategic planning, program funding, program monitoring, and agency relations. She also is involved in policy/procedure development, marketing, community relations, and overall volunteer coordination for the Resource Investment Department.

Welsh has served most recently as Vice Chair and has been a member of the Allocations Committee with Durham's Partnership for Children. She also directed the start-up and wrote the grant proposal for the first Smart Start grant that initiated the Wilson County Partnership for Children.

"The Partnership is glad to welcome Angie Welsh as our new board chair. Her Smart Start and United Way of the Greater Triangle background will help the Partnership continue to touch the lives of Durham families with children age birth to five," stated Harold G. Sellars, Senior Vice President of Mechanics and Farmers Bank. Mr. Sellars introduced Welsh as Board Chair Thursday morning. Sellars and Welsh have worked together on Smart Start efforts since the beginning of the initiative in the early '90's.

In addition to Welsh, the Board was presented with a slate of new officers and members:

#### New officers voted in:

- **Vice Chair: Bill Bryant** is President of Bryant Investment Management Group, LLC. He works with organizations, families and individuals on financial issues such as investment management, retirement plans, saving for college and other financial planning issues. Bryant holds designations of Certified Financial Planner™, Certified Investment Management Analyst™, and Chartered Retirement Plan Specialist. Bryant has served most recently as Treasurer for the Partnership. He has also served as Chair of the Finance/Audit and Community Awareness and Development Committees and is a member of the Investment and Executive Committees.
- **Secretary: Ilene Britt** is the Program Director of the Early Childhood Associate Program and an Instructor at Durham Technical Community College. Britt has been involved with Durham's Partnership for Children since its inception. She has been a Pediatric Early Interventionist, a Child Care Center Director, served as a Board Member of the NC Interagency Coordinating Council, and is a NC Early Childhood Education Fellow.
- **Treasurer: Dave Clark** is Senior Business Banker, Vice President of Wachovia/Wells Fargo. Clark was on the original Board of Directors during the Board's start up years 15 years ago. He rotated off and re-joined the Partnership's efforts again as a Board Member, Allocations Committee Member and most recently as Chair of the Community Awareness and Development Committee.

#### New members of the Board were voted in:

- **Suzette Brown**, third year Pediatric Resident at Duke Pediatrics.
- **Drew Cummings**, Assistant County Manager for Durham County.

- **Laura Gorry**, Vice President of Sales and Marketing Operations at Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina in Durham.
- **Sarah Kenney**, Health Education Specialist for Duke University Medical Center.
- **Geraldine “Gerri” Robinson**, Director of Durham County Social Services.
- **Eunice Sanders**, Assistant Superintendent of Exceptional Children’s Programs for Durham Public Schools.
- **Timothy Sinclair**, Head Start Director at Operation Breakthrough.
- **Anne Taylor**, National Technical Assistance Specialist at the National Early Childhood TA Center.

The Partnership also said thank you and farewell to Michael Palmer, Director of Duke University’s Office of Community Affairs, whose term of office as Board Chair ended. Palmer will continue to work with the Partnership as Past Chair.

**About Durham’s Partnership for Children**

**Durham’s Partnership for Children celebrates 15 years making young children a priority.** Founded in 1994 and first funded in 1995 to administer the Smart Start grant in Durham County, the Partnership works as an independent, local nonprofit that serves young children birth to age 5 and their families under North Carolina’s nationally recognized initiative to ensure all children enter school healthy and ready to succeed. For 15 year, the Partnership has helped working parents pay for child care, improve the quality of child care and provided health and family support services to thousands of Durham County families with young children. The Partnership works to achieve its mission: *To mobilize and unify the Durham community to create and support innovative and successful approaches to serving the needs of children birth to age 5 and their families*, by working with funded partners and mobilizing groups and organizations in Durham County to support and coordinate efforts impacting young children and their families. The Partnership also administers the More at Four Program in Durham County serving more than 400 children. For more information about Durham’s Partnership for Children, visit [www.dpfc.net](http://www.dpfc.net) or call 919-403-6960, ext 221.

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