

**CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION TO GOVERNOR EASLEY
REQUESTING EXPANSION OF FUNDING FOR SMART START**

WHEREAS the vision of the Chatham County Partnership for Children is as follows: **Working together, the county's families and organizations will create a healthy and wholesome environment in which all young children can reach their highest potential,** and

WHEREAS community volunteers have worked diligently for over 12 years to plan and implement a comprehensive system of family support and high quality early childhood education and care through Smart Start, and

WHEREAS the Chatham County Partnership for Children has established a strong presence in our community and has gained the trust and confidence of our community as demonstrated through their private contributions and volunteer service, and

WHEREAS the Chatham County Partnership for Children has had a far-reaching impact on strengthening families and promoting the well-being of young children as evidenced by significant gains in Smart Start program goals and outcomes, and

WHEREAS Smart Start is the only program in Chatham County that has the potential to impact **all young children,** and

WHEREAS Smart Start funding for Chatham County meets **only 56%** of the calculated need, which, if fully funded would only be 25% of the total cost of a comprehensive, high quality early childhood system,


THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we respectfully request the Governor of the State of North Carolina take immediate and decisive action to ensure increased funding for Smart Start, to increase Chatham's allocation to 75% of need over the next two fiscal years.

We respectfully request that Governor Mike Easley include expansion of Smart Start in his annual budget proposal to the Legislature this and every year that he serves our state and our children.


Adopted this, the 19th day of February, 2007.



Carl Thompson, Chairman



George Lucier, Vice Chairman

ATTEST:


Sandra B. Sublett, CMC, Clerk to the Board
Chatham County Board of Commissioners