



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Wake County SmartStart Receives John Rex Endowment Funding

RALEIGH, N.C. – Wake County SmartStart will receive a three-year grant of \$295,496 from the John Rex Endowment to create an integrated system to ensure that home-based resources are understood, easily accessible, and utilized efficiently and effectively by community agencies and families.

The grant funds will be used to coordinate home visiting programs in the county that serve children birth to five; matching existing services and programs to those in need. The initiative will enhance efficiency and reduce duplication of services by creating a consortium hub for services. It is expected to compliment the model for coordination of services already in use by Wake County SmartStart for the NC Pre-Kindergarten Unified Application Process.

Additionally, the initiative will provide support for parents and other agencies wishing to make referrals or seeking guidance. The long term goal of the program is to create an online “kiosk” that helps parents navigate and connect with services available.

About Wake County SmartStart

At Wake County SmartStart, we are working to ensure Wake County children, birth to five, are successful in school and in life. As a community, we only have 2,000 days between the time a baby is born and when that child shows for the first day of kindergarten. We believe early childhood investments are essential to our future prosperity and invite you to join us in our mission and work. Together, we can make a tremendous impact! To learn more about how the program directly impacts children, visit www.wakesmartstart.org.