

BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
AGENDA ITEM

MEETING DATE: February 16, 2010

**Action Requested:** Increase Smart Start Dental program budget by \$1,921 to reflect additional state funding.

Smart Start is North Carolina's nationally recognized and award-winning early childhood initiative designed to ensure that young children enter school healthy and ready to succeed. Smart Start is a public-private initiative that provides early education funding to all of the state's 100 counties. Smart Start funds are administered at the local level through local nonprofit organizations called Local Partnerships. Services at the local level range depending on local needs.

The Smart Start Dental program targets preschool children in licensed childcare programs and at community events in Buncombe County. Dental health prevention education for children, parents and childcare providers is provided through on-site programs providing a positive introduction to dental care. Children are screened for dental health needs, parents notified and referrals made and tracked for follow-up by parents for any indicated treatment. The Project Coordinator collaborates with the child's primary dental care provider and foster families' connections to a primary dental care provider. Treatment funding may be provided for children with significant and urgent dental needs who are uninsured or underinsured. These additional funds will be used to increase this type of treatment.

**NCGS Requiring Service:**

**NCGS requires we PROVIDE:**

**or ENSURE AVAILABLE IN COMMUNITY:**

**Alternative Service Delivery Methods considered and evaluated:**

**Funds/Staff requested:** There are no county funds or staff requested.

**Request submitted by:** Jim Holland for Gibbie Harris

**Date Submitted:** February 5, 2010