



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ashe County Partnership for Children Welcomes New Director

The Ashe County Partnership for Children’s Board of Directors unanimously approved the appointment of Kay Philipp as the organization’s interim executive director during a special called meeting on January 12, 2012. Philipp will succeed Sarah Wolf whose resignation was also accepted during the meeting.

“We are very fortunate to have someone with Kay’s experience and background as part of our Partnership team,” said Wanda Parks, chairman of the ACPC board. “Her willingness to step in as the interim executive director will ensure a smooth transition for our staff and, most importantly, for the children and families who use our services.”

Philipp has been with the Ashe Partnership for four years, first serving as a reading coordinator and technical advisor to child care centers. She has been the director of the Child Care Resource and Referral since October 2009, directing ACPC’s outreach and assistance efforts to child care centers and homes. Philipp holds a bachelor in arts in Child and Family Development from the University of North Carolina—Greensboro and a masters degree in Early Childhood Education from Appalachian State University.

“I look forward to continuing serving the families and children of Ashe County,” Philipp said. “We have a wonderfully dedicated staff that is committed to the Partnership’s mission and to working with everyone in our community. The current budget climate presents many challenges, but I know that we can meet these by working together to serve the people of Ashe.”



In addition to appointing Philipp as the interim director, the ACPC board established a search committee to conduct the process of hiring a permanent leader for the organization. Plans are to begin advertising the position within the next couple of weeks.

“The Partnership executive director position is really multifaceted,” according to Parks. “Not only does this person lead the Smart Start effort in Ashe County, he or she supervises A Safe Home for Everyone, the county’s domestic violence agency, and the operations of Family Central. It is an excellent opportunity for the right person to make a real difference in the community.”

The Ashe County Partnership for Children is a non-profit organization that provides programs and services for families and children in Ashe County. They fund or directly run various programs such as: Smart Start programs to benefit children ages birth through five and their families; domestic violence and sexual assault prevention and awareness services; health and dental services for young children; and parent support groups.

To learn more about Smart Start, North Carolina’s early education initiative, visit www.smartstart.org. For more information about Ashe County Partnership for Children and their programs, visit www.ashechildren.org, or call (336) 982-4588.

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