

Caswell County Partnership for Children Program Performance Highlights: 2014-2015 through 2017-2018

Introduction

The Caswell County Partnership for Children funded six programs with Smart Start resources in 2017-2018¹. This report contains selected findings from the 2017-2018 program year, along with comparisons to program findings from 2014-2015, 2015-2016, and 2016-2017. The report also contains information on indicators tracked by at the state-level (i.e., North Carolina Partnership for Children Early Childhood Profile indicators), where applicable.

¹ The partnership also provided program services in the form of Program Coordination and Evaluation. This report does not present information about these program services.

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Highlights from 2017-2018

High Quality Early Care and Education

Child Care Resource and Referral: 29 staff, from 7 sites, attended trainings or workshops

Child Care Resource and Referral: 50 adults used the Resource Lending Library, including 20 child care providers

Child Care Subsidies: average of 28 students served each month and 34 children on waiting list for at least one month

Professional Development Incentives: 21 staff, from 7 facilities, received an incentive

Literacy

Raising a Reader: 4 classroom participated, serving 77 children

Reach Out and Read: 404 books distributed at 2 medical partner facilities

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library: 262 children registered and 715 books mailed

Education and Outreach

Outreach and collaborative workgroup focused on Adverse Childhood Experiences

Website updates

Staff outreach activities

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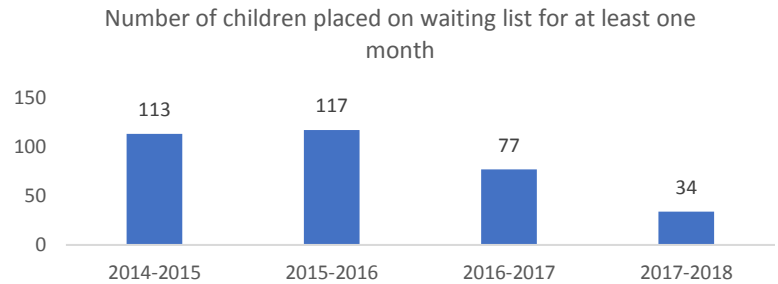
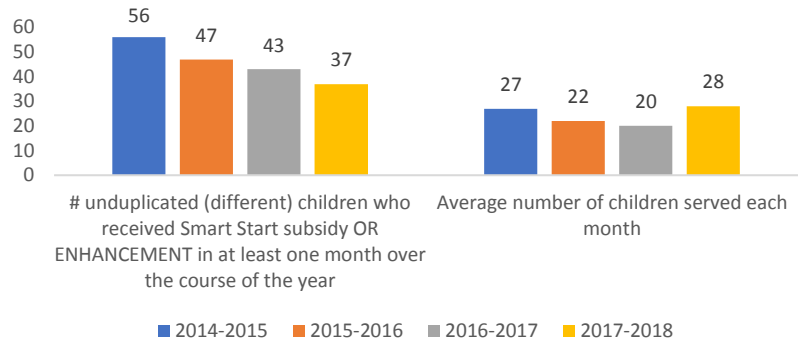
Program Progress

Subsidies

The program’s current Contract Activity Description (CAD) reads: *Financial assistance will be paid on a direct per child basis for subsidy for families eligible for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF). This activity will be implemented through the state-level subsidy contract and will be governed by a Memorandum of Understanding between the Local Partnership and the Local Purchasing Agency (LPA). This activity may include subsidy rate enhancements. Enhancements may be available for facilities with a star rating of 4 or better and for children in the birth – 2 years age group.*

Numbers Served

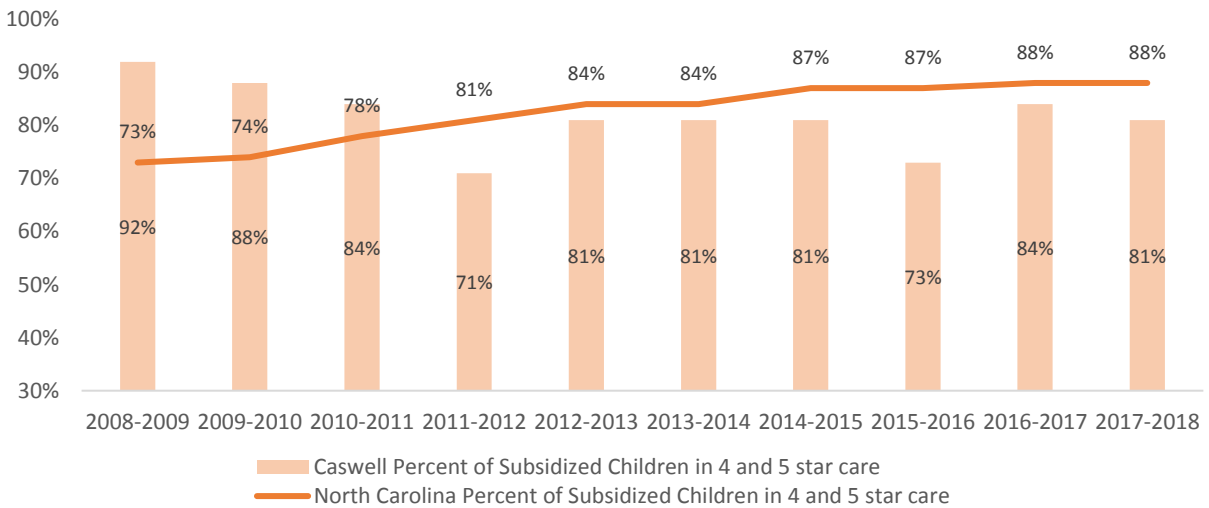
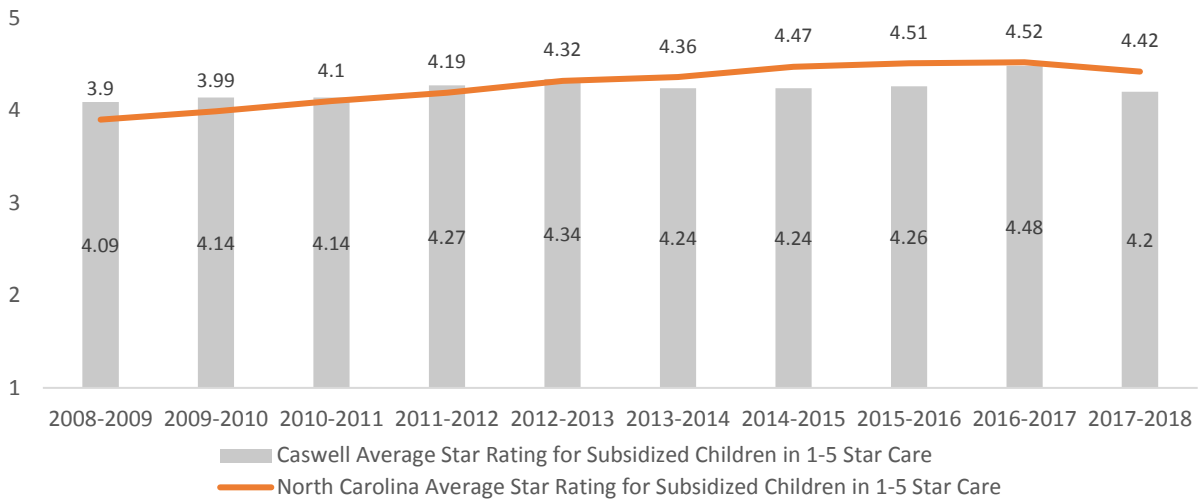
The state is developing reporting for NC FAST, the state’s system for collecting and managing Department of Health and Human Services data. This impact’s Caswell County’s ability to access accurate data on the unduplicated numbers of children served. Thus, the numbers reported herein should be interpreted with caution.



Results

Using data provided by the North Carolina Partnership for Children, the average star rating of facilities serving subsidized children has been at or above 4.2 since 2011-2012. There was a decline in the average star rating for 2017-2018, from the average rate reported for 2016-2017, which merits further analysis. The percent of subsidized children served in 4 or 5 star sites tends to be 80% or higher, except for 2011-2012 and 2015-2016.

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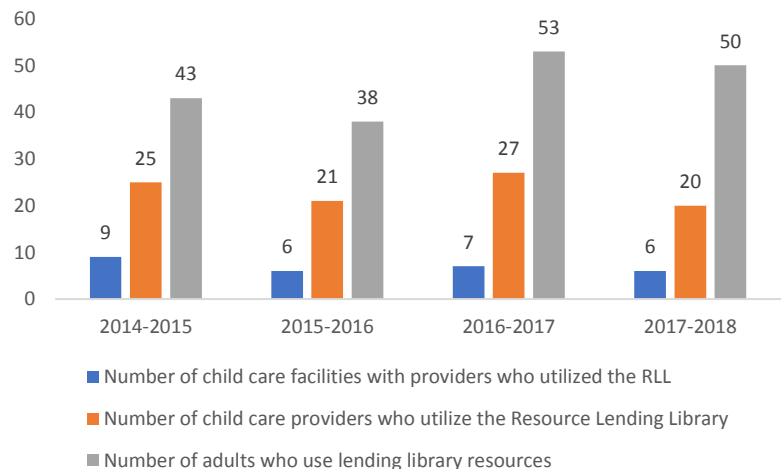
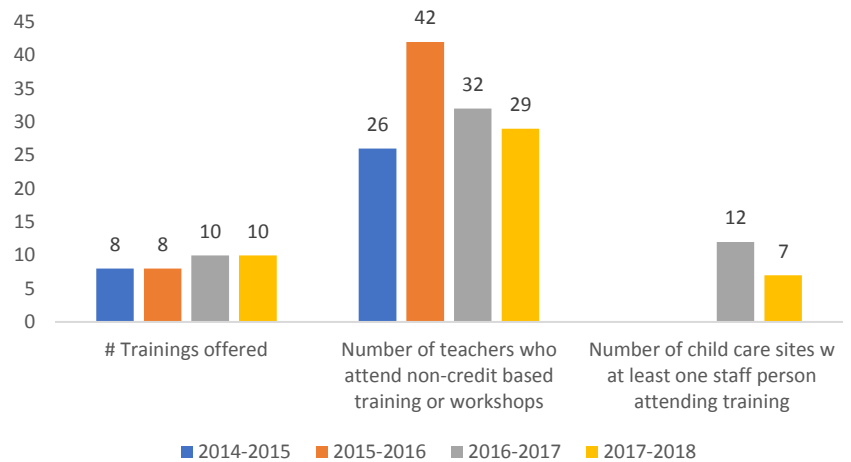
Child Care Resource and Referral

The program's current CAD reads: *The Child Care Resource and Referral activity will function with approval of the state CCR&R Council and will participate in the designated geographic region. Council specific outputs and outcome data will be supplied to the state system as required. Services will include: (1) coordination and provision of training on child care related topics, (2) technical assistance to child care programs and professionals, (3) data collection and analysis, (4) public awareness regarding early childhood issues, and (5) resource lending library services. Smart Start funds may be used for contracted services to provide training and/or technical assistance.*

Numbers Served

CCPFC supports local child care facilities and professionals with a number of services, such as training and the resources and materials available through the Resource Lending Library. The partnership consistently offers trainings to the early care and education community but should continue to track attendance at and completion of trainings.

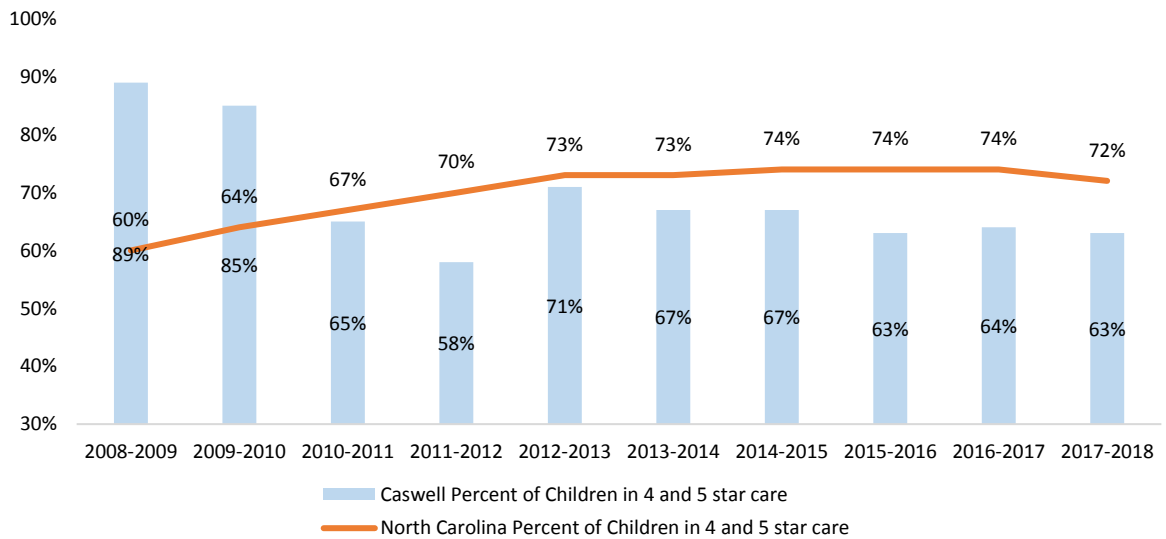
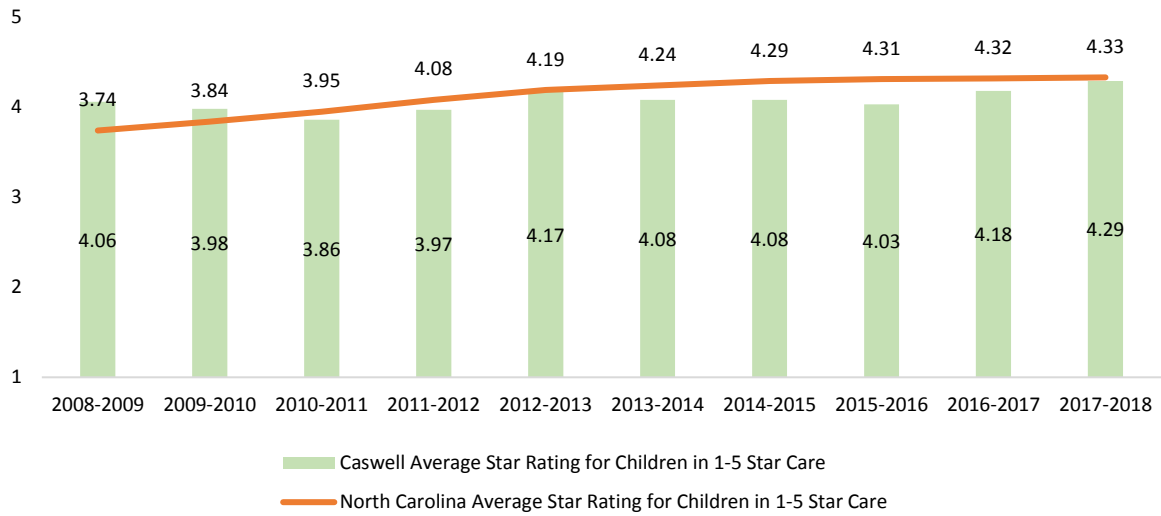
Note: the number of sites with at least one staff person attending trained was tracked starting in 2016-2017. Data for earlier years are not available.



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Results

Using data provided by the North Carolina Partnership for Children, the average star rating of facilities has been at or above 4.0 since 2012-2013. The percent of children served in 4 or 5 star sites has been greater than 60% since 2013-2014—although data from earlier years suggest higher rates of participation may be possible.



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Professional Development Incentives

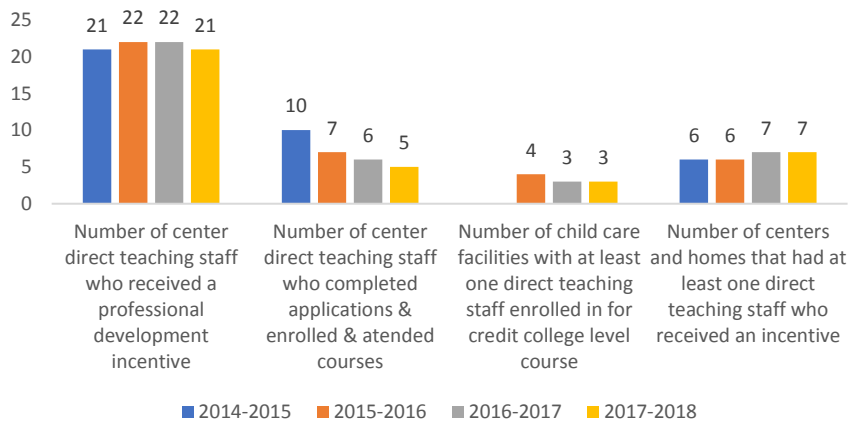
The program’s current CAD reads *The Professional Development Incentives activity promotes a stable and educated child care workforce by encouraging child care teachers’ pursuit of higher education, providing increased compensation, and supporting employment longevity. Child care providers who work with children between the ages of birth to five years in a NC Division of Child Development and Early Education regulated Caswell County child care facility in a capacity of direct teaching staff or those staff responsible for curriculum and/or lesson plans will be eligible to apply for an incentive. Incentives will be based on three elements: 1) level of education already achieved, 2) years of service in the same child care facility, and 3) early childhood college credits earned. Additional components to the elements may also be incorporated according to the Board priorities when possible. Smart Start funds will be used for the financial incentives for eligible participants.*

Numbers Served

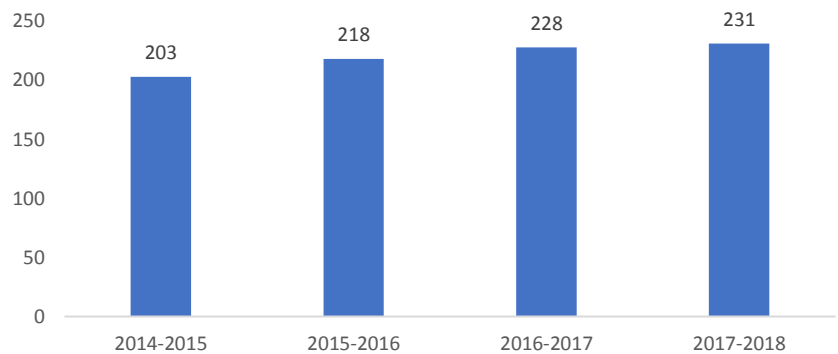
CCPFC helps local early care and education professionals advance their education with an education incentive. Center-based staff participated in 2017-2018; there was no participation by family child care providers.

Note: the number of sites with at least one staff person enrolled in courses was tracked starting in 2015-2016. Data for earlier years are not available.

Annually, over the past four years, more than 200 children were indirectly impacted.



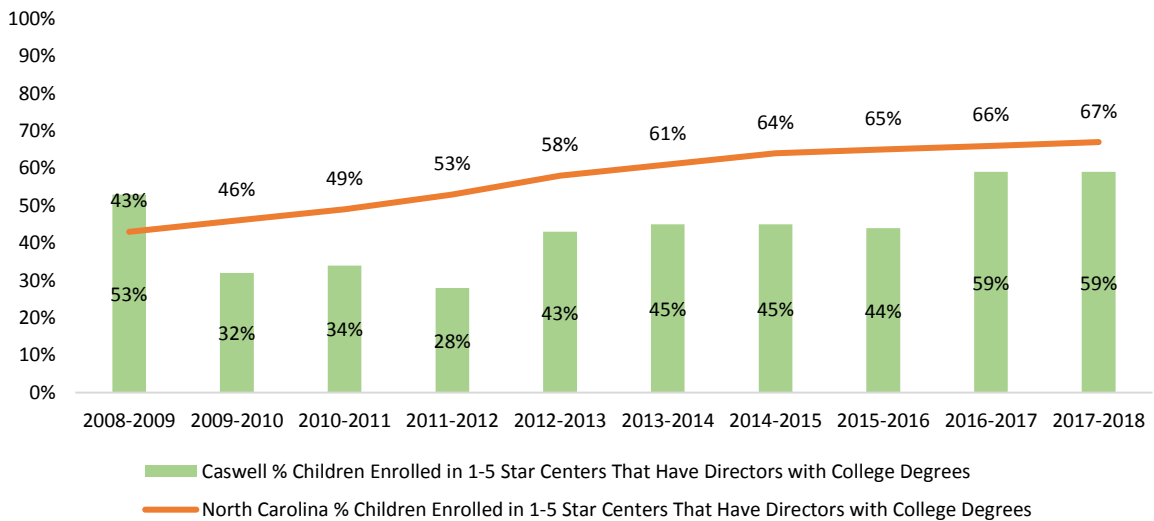
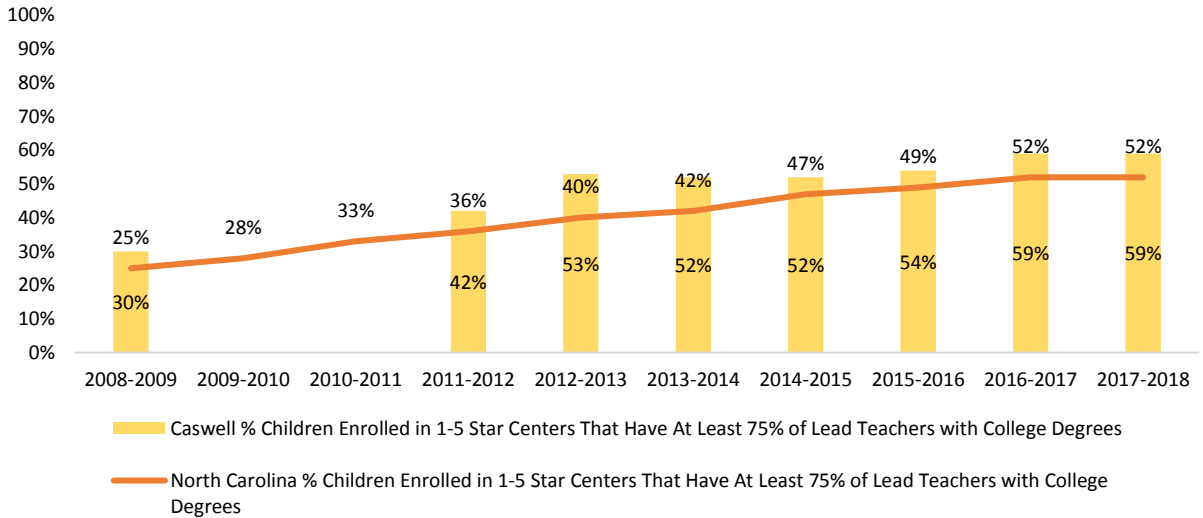
Number of children enrolled in above centers and homes impacted



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Results

Using data provided by the North Carolina Partnership for Children, more than 50% of children, enrolled in licensed and regulated child care, were in centers in which at least 75% of teachers had college degrees since 2012-2013. In comparison, more than 50% of children, enrolled in licensed and regulated child care, were in centers in which administrators had college degrees since the 2016-2017 program year.



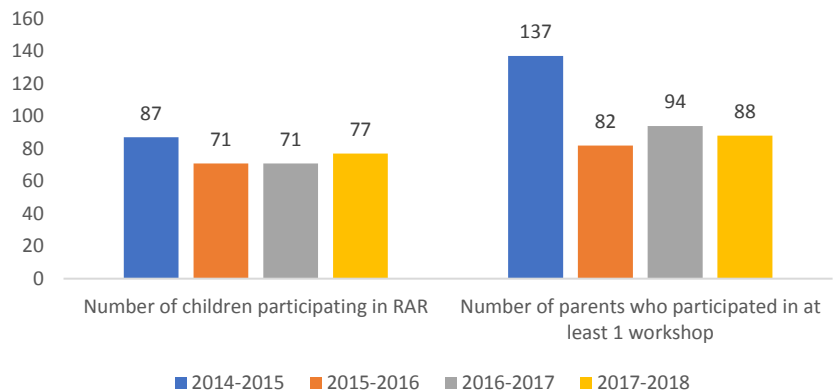
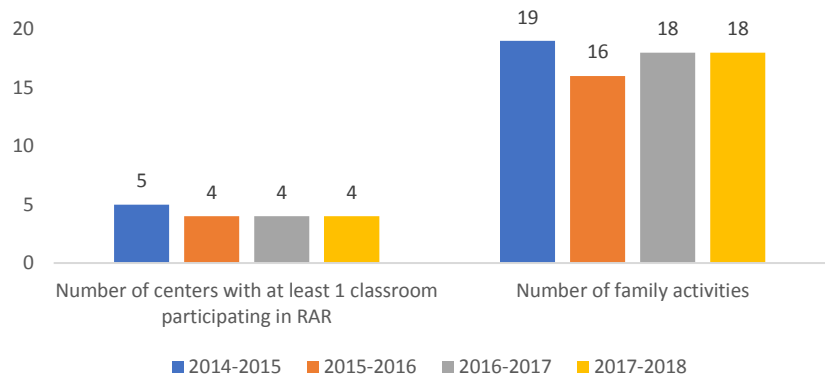
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Raising A Reader

The program’s current CAD reads *A Raising A Reader (RAR) Community Coordinator will implement Raising A Reader, a program that promotes improved literacy development through daily book sharing between caregivers and young children. The RAR Coordinator will hold a Bachelor’s degree in early childhood education or related human service field and is required to attend the RAR National Coordinator Training prior to initial implementation. Coordinators will host two trainings for the site implementers that have been identified to participate in this project. Identified families will be loaned a book bag containing high quality developmentally appropriate children’s books. The books will be exchanged each week. Parents of the children in the project will be invited to participate in at least two parent workshops where they will learn book sharing strategies. At least one library event will be provided for RAR participants and their families. Participants and their families will be provided with library information, library card application, and other community literacy resources. The program will be implemented with model fidelity as described above. Child care centers and other community sites with a high percentage of low income children will be targeted. Smart Start funds may also be used for contracted services to provide trainings.*

Numbers Served

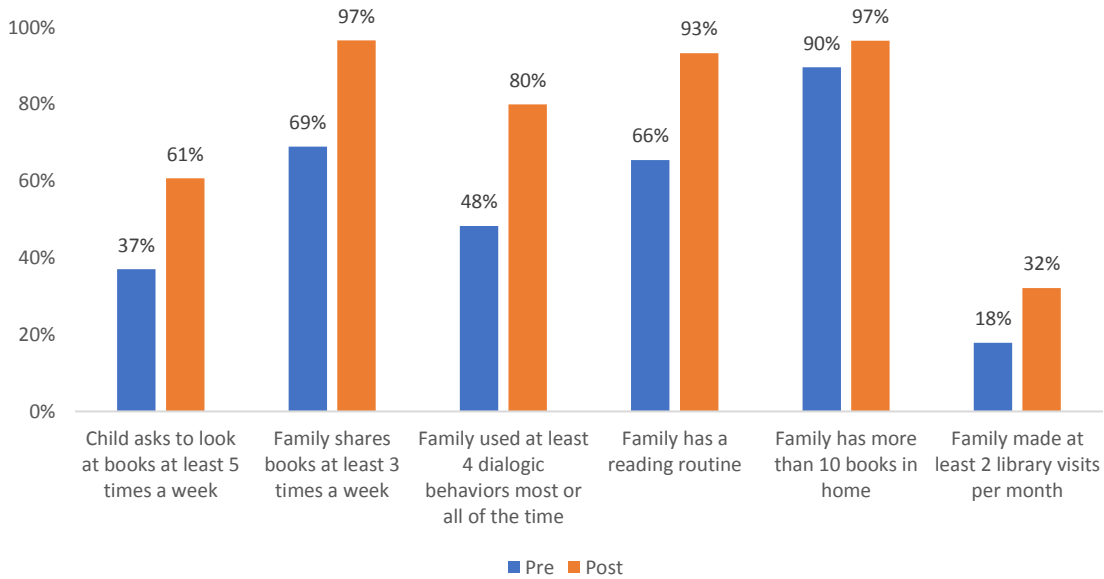
Four sites, and five classrooms, participated in Raising A Reader in 2017-2018, serving 77 children and 88 adults.



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Results

There are no state-wide indicators for Raising A Reader (although shared literacy is tracked, at the state-level—no county-level data are yet available). Locally, respondents to a survey administered through the Raising A Reader program reported positive changes in shared literacy practices, as shown below.



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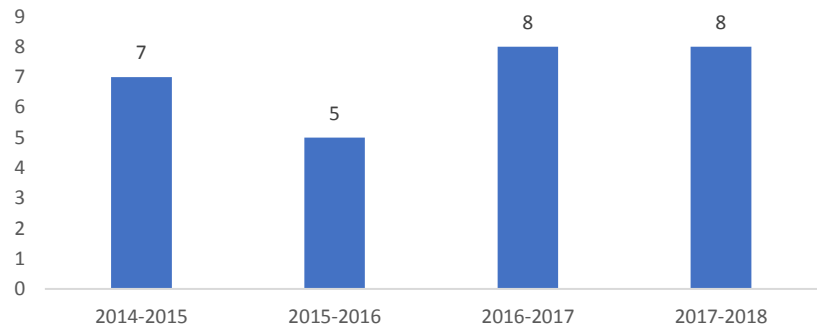
Reach Out and Read

The program’s current CAD reads *This activity will collaborate with medical care practices to provide pre-literacy opportunities for children and their parents. The participating trained medical care providers will voluntarily incorporate Reach Out and Read® (ROR), an evidence-based model, into young children’s regular pediatric checkups or well-child visits. The medical care providers will implement ROR in their practices according to the National ROR guidelines. During each of the routine visits, children will receive a new, culturally- and developmentally-appropriate book to take home and read with their parents. The medical care providers will discuss the importance of reading, model reading a book aloud to the child, and encourage parent-child interactions as part of pre-literacy and language development. The program begins at the child’s 6-month checkup and continues through age 5, with a special emphasis on children growing up in low-income communities. Medical practices will participate in the parent survey period and submit parent surveys to ROR Carolinas. This activity will provide a Project Coordinator to support the medical practice with book ordering, data collection, literacy rich waiting room development, and overall program coordination. The medical care practice will display a literacy-rich waiting room area that reinforces the doctor’s “prescription to read”. Smart Start funds may be used to purchase children’s books and assist with equipping the waiting room area.*

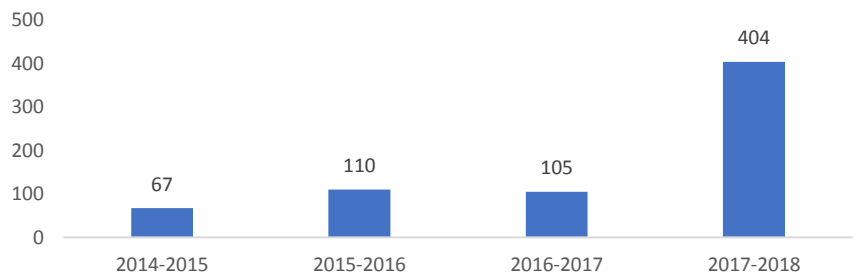
Numbers Served

Two clinics, and eight medical care providers, served children in 2017-2018. Program records indicate over 400 books were distributed.

ROR trained medical care providers



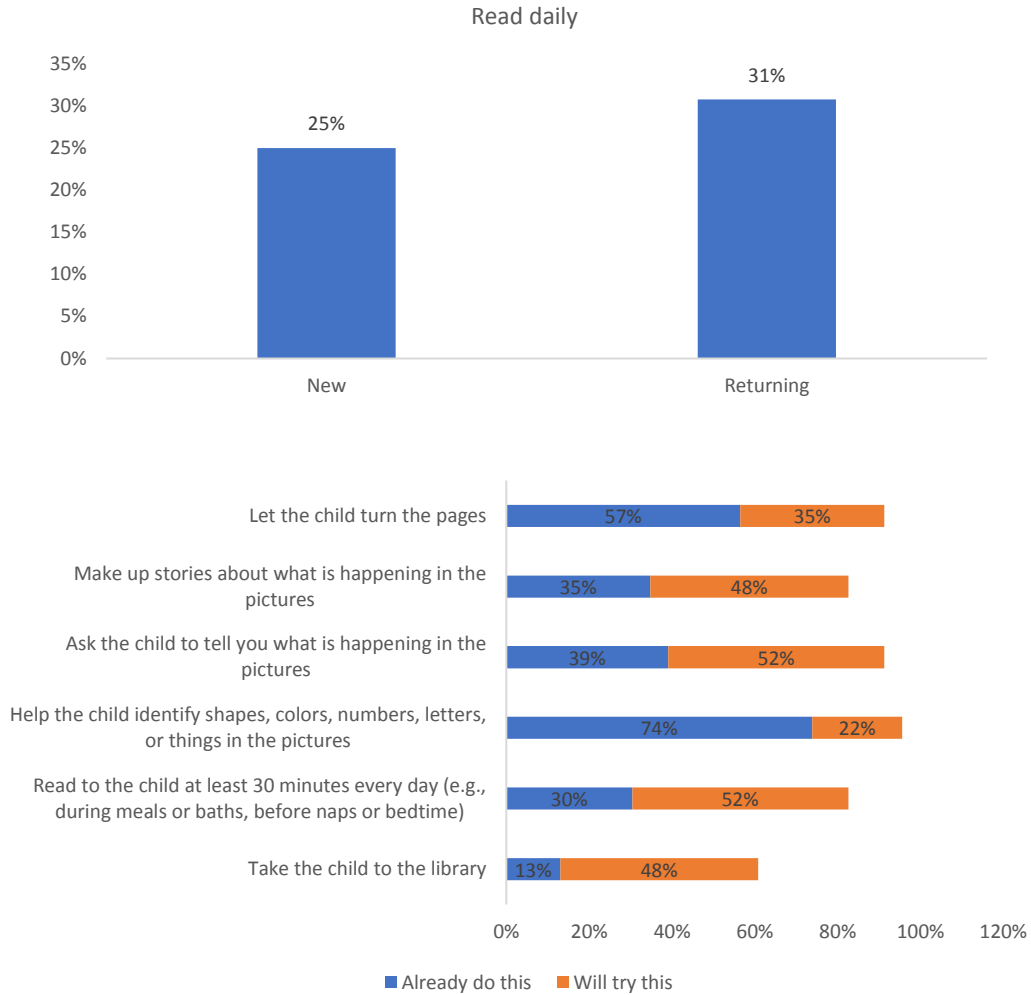
Number of new children’s books distributed during annual well-child visits for children 6 months – 5 years



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Results

There are no state-wide indicators for Reach Out and Read (although shared literacy is tracked, at the state-level—no county-level data are yet available). Locally, respondents to a survey administered through the Reach Out and Read program reported positive changes in shared literacy practices, as shown below.



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Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library

The program’s current CAD reads *The Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library activity will promote emergent literacy skills through a partnership with Dollywood Foundation. Through this activity, age-appropriate books will be mailed to registered children birth up to age five (0-5) monthly. Families will be recruited in target zip codes. Children are eligible to receive books regardless of family income. The books will be ordered using the Dollywood Foundation Book Ordering System (BOS) database. Families will be encouraged to participate in surveys designed to evaluate the program’s impact on participating children. Books that are returned as non-deliverable can be redistributed to locations in the community such as waiting rooms at Social Services and Public Health, local child care programs, and other locations where families can receive information about early childhood services.*

Numbers Served

Locally, this was a new program in 2017-2018 and served 216 children.

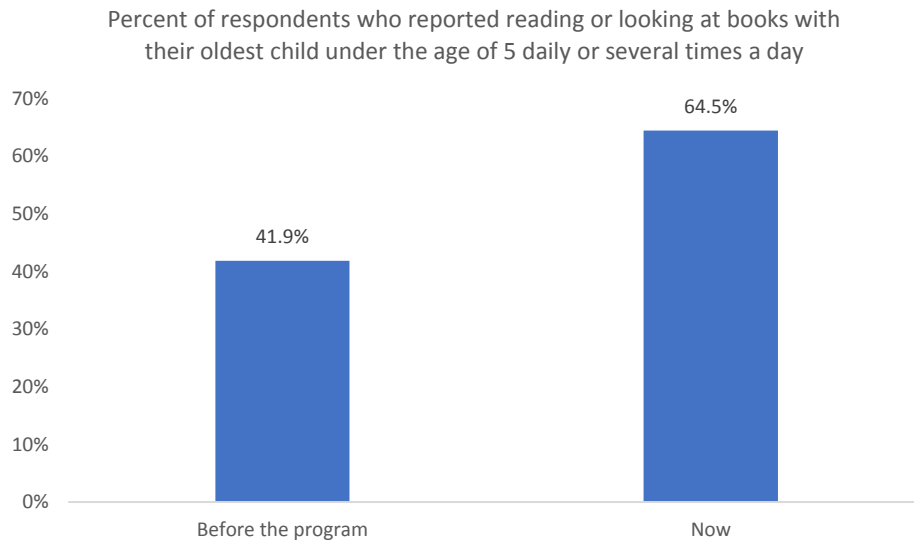
	2017-2018
Total number of children registered	262
Total number of new children registered online	201
Total number of new children registered via paper	61
Total number of books mailed	715

Results

There are no state-wide indicators specific to Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library (although shared literacy is tracked, at the state-level—no county-level data are yet available). Locally, respondents to a survey administered through the program reported positive changes, as shown below².

² Selected findings are shown.

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	Response = "A lot" and "Some"	Response = "A lot" and "Some"
	BEFORE participating in DPIL	NOW
Look at books on his/her own?	71.0%	80.6%
Ask you to read to him/her?	71.0%	74.2%
Like to turn the pages in the book?	77.4%	90.3%