

## **Winston-Salem Transformational Childcare Relief Initiative**

**WINSTON-SALEM, NC** (July 10, 2023) Smart Start of Forsyth County (SSFC) is proud to announce that the City of Winston-Salem has awarded the organization with a Transformational Grant for the Winston-Salem Transformational Childcare Relief Initiative, which will impact up hundreds of children, families, and family childcare providers in targeted areas in Winston-Salem. SSFC will focus on the opening and maintenance of closed and economically impacted, licensed family childcare homes and centers in Winston-Salem, NC.

Smart Start of Forsyth County has always played a vital role in supporting childcare programs to provide the highest quality early learning experience for our city's early learners. As the need for high-quality infant toddler care in Winston-Salem continues, SSFC appreciates the city's efforts to support this impactful endeavor to address infant/toddler care.

Through this initiative, Smart Start of Forsyth County will target communities identified as childcare deserts within the Qualified Census Tract that were directly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic causing closures and loss of revenue.

### **What are the benefits?**

Winston-Salem Transformational Childcare Relief Initiative will increase access to high quality infant toddler care and support, enhance the infant toddler workforce, and increase educators' skills and knowledge around various training topics.

Through participation in this initiative, family childcare homes and centers will have access to:

- Early Childhood Coaches that will provide ongoing support and mentorship before, during, and after the implementation of the project.
- Retention bonuses to teachers, per licensed child and family childcare center to maintain and attract qualified teaching staff
- One (1) Apple iPad Pro to access the Wonderschool platform
- [Wonderschool](#) – An online technology system platform to support the website and marketing support and enrollment processes for childcare, and more.

For additional information, please contact:

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