



**RANDOLPH COUNTY**  
**Department of Social Services**

**Beth W. Duncan**  
Director

**Samuel R. Frazier**  
Board Chair

**PRESS RELEASE**

**“\$4.25 Million Spent on Non-Smart Start Child Care Subsidy in Randolph County”**

Randolph County Department of Social Services (DSS) administers child care subsidy funds for the citizens of Randolph County using a combination of state and federal funds allocated by the North Carolina Division of Child Development. North Carolina has one of the highest rates of working mothers with young children and across the state 85% of the children receiving services are because their parents are working. North Carolina currently provides subsidized child care to 70,916 children of which 1,103 live in Randolph County.

The goal is to serve as many eligible children as possible with the funds available. As of October 2104, Randolph County had 19,210 children potentially eligible for child care subsidy services. The \$4.25 million spent on child care last fiscal year only served about 6% of the potentially eligible population in Randolph County. Funding for the current fiscal year is expected to be a little over \$4 million, or slightly less than last year.

The provision of subsidized child care services means that some families with poverty-level incomes can afford child care services which offer a high quality early childhood education while the parent or caregiver continues to work. This critical support increases the chances for children to be healthy and succeed socially and academically while allowing the parents to be more focused on the job and become better employees.

To qualify for the child care subsidy program, a family must meet both situational and financial criteria. Parents are required to pay a portion of the child care cost based on the income that the family earns.

NC legislative action during fiscal year 2014-2015 required the implementation of several recent policy changes in the Child Care Subsidy Program. Some of the changes included definition of the family income unit, parental fee changes; and elimination of prorated fees for part time care.

If you have questions about the Child Care Subsidy Program, call or visit your local county DSS. In Randolph County call 336-683-8010. You can also visit: <http://www.co.randolph.nc.us/dss/> or the state web site at: <http://ncchildcare.dhhs.state.nc.us>.

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[www.co.randolph.nc.us/dss/](http://www.co.randolph.nc.us/dss/)

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