



YOU can contribute to a **positive change** for children

Smart Start Oklahoma is working hard for all Oklahoma children and growing a statewide system of community coalitions to address specific local needs. For example, community partners:

- Developed and distributed over 150,000 resource guides to parents addressing the healthy development of young children.
- Provided parent education to 10,000 parents.
- Sponsored training for 1,600 child care providers.
- Coordinated early literacy initiatives serving 5,300 children.
- Engaged over 600 community leaders in Smart Start local boards or committees.

quality early education



- Crime Rates
- Teenage Pregnancy
- Welfare Dependency
- Job Training Costs
- Special Education Costs
- Grade Retention

- Success in School
- Graduation Rates
- Workforce Readiness
- Job Productivity
- Community Engagement
- Lifetime Income



"We are hopeful **Chesapeake's commitment to Smart Start Oklahoma** will serve as an example to other corporate leaders that investing in the enhancement of curiosity and eagerness to learn among our young children is a critical investment in our state's future."

—Tom Price, Jr.
Senior Vice President—
Corporate Development
Chesapeake Energy Corporation

"**PSO strongly supports Smart Start Oklahoma** and its community network in their efforts to ensure that all Oklahoma children are prepared to succeed in school and in life."

An investment in our children is the best investment we can make in Oklahoma's future. Smart Start is truly making a difference in quality early childhood education that will pay great dividends for our children and for our state."

—Stuart Solomon
President & COO
Public Service
Company of
Oklahoma



YOU can invest in a **stronger future** for Oklahoma

my future **starts with YOU**



For information on how to help us build a stronger future for Oklahoma call **405-278-6978** or visit www.smartstartoklahoma.org

smart start 
oklahoma

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YOU can help us promote
early childhood
development



What is Smart Start?

Smart Start is Oklahoma's statewide early childhood initiative designed to ensure that young children enter school safe, healthy, eager to learn and ready to succeed. There are currently 18 coalitions in the Smart Start Community Network.

What is the Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness Foundation?

The Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness Foundation, Inc. (OPSRF) is a not-for-profit 501 (c)(3) organization established in 2003 to support Smart Start Oklahoma through the use of private funds.

The OPSRF provides private funding devoted to early childhood services at the state and community levels. Foundation trustees and community experts help ensure that the children who need help the most are the ones who receive it.

YOU can make a
smart investment
in the future

Research says...

- ...The **first five years in a child's life are crucial** to future success in school and in life.
- ...By kindergarten, a tremendous difference already exists between children who have had **quality early learning experiences** and those who have not—severely reducing their chances of ever catching up.
- ...Oklahoma teachers reported that approximately 30% of their students entering kindergarten in 2006 were **not performing at kindergarten grade level**.
- ...Investing in the education of Oklahoma's youngest learners helps **strengthen the future economic position** of our state.
- ...Return on Investment (ROI) includes **higher graduation rates**, better job skills, earnings and overall health, while decreasing criminal activity and dependence on public assistance.

Research shows
that **each dollar**
invested in quality
early childhood
education can
save over
\$7 in the
future!



YOU can give
oklahoma's kids
a smart start



**2 easy ways to make an
impact on the life of a child!**

online

It is fast, easy and secure to donate online with a credit card. Minimum contribution of \$100 required. www.smartstartoklahoma.org

mail

Yes! I want to help young children in Oklahoma with a gift of:

\$100 \$250 \$500 Other _____

Name _____

Company _____

Address _____

City/St/Zip _____

Phone _____

Fax _____

Email _____

Check enclosed.

Please make checks payable to:
Oklahoma Partnership for School
Readiness Foundation, Inc. (OPSRF)
Please include completed pledge card with your check.

Please invoice me.

Please send me information on ways to get involved.

Mail this pledge card to:

Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness Foundation, Inc.
421 NW 13th Street, Suite 270
Oklahoma City, OK 73103

Smart Start is closing the gap. We know the issues. We know the causes of many of the problems that stand in the way of a healthier, more productive, more successful state. We have a plan. **But we can't do it alone.**

Help support Smart Start

By donating to OPSRF, you help address key issues and fund activities that deliver vital services. Your tax-deductible donation helps every child receive a chance for a brighter future.

More ways you can help

- Provide in-kind resources to OPSRF or your local community coalition.
- Inform the public about the importance of the early years in company ads, promotions and products.
- Promote increased state investment in young children and their families.
- Review your own business practices to become more supportive of families, and whenever possible, offer flexible work schedules and telecommuting options.
- Serve on Smart Start community planning and improvement committees.

Call us at 405-278-6978 for more information on how you can help give children a smart start.

Our vision is that all Oklahoma children will be safe, healthy, eager to learn and ready to succeed by the time they enter school.

www.smartstartoklahoma.org