

September 16, 2004

**STAFF REPORT**

**MEMO TO: SUTTER COUNTY CHILDREN & FAMILIES COMMISSION**

**FROM: DEB COULTER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**SUBJECT: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

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**BACKGROUND:** The Smart Start “Building Brighter Futures” Conference address issues for staff, Commissioners, child care directors, local and state government officials, nonprofits and others involved in developing local early childhood initiatives. A list of available workshops is attached for the Commission’s review. The North Carolina Smart Start project is one of the projects used in the conceptual development of the California Children and Families Commission. Smart Start is now available in every county in North Carolina. It has been in place for over ten years, and has received significant national attention because of its innovative programs and successes.

One of the main features of the Smart Start program is to attract corporate revenues into the Smart Start projects to help support children’s services throughout the State of North Carolina.

**CURRENT PROPOSAL:** The Commission is being asked to approve out-of-state travel for the Executive Director to attend this conference.

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is the recommendation of the Executive Director that the Commission approve out of state travel for the Executive Director to attend the Smart Start Conference in Greensboro, North Carolina January 23-27, 2005. Estimated cost for travel, conference registration and expenses is \$1500.

**IMPACT ON COMMISSION RESOURCES:** The cost to the Commission will be for travel, conference registration and living accommodations.

**POLICY ACTION REQUESTED:** Approval of this request.

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