



# City of Winston-Salem

## Proclamation

### OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

- WHEREAS:** Smart Start of Forsyth County supports quality early care and education, preventative health services, and family support for children from birth to five years old; and has a proven track record in improving early childhood education, promoting healthy births, preventing child abuse and neglect, and enhancing family support systems; and
- WHEREAS:** Smart Start of Forsyth County coordinates services, raises awareness, and creates collective impact for children and families, generating systemic changes to ensure the comprehensive well-being of our county's youngest citizens; and
- WHEREAS:** Smart Start of Forsyth County is committed to promoting equity through ensuring all children - especially those historically denied access - can benefit from the resources and opportunities they need to succeed; and
- WHEREAS:** Smart Start of Forsyth County recognizes and supports early childhood teachers and providers as the essential workforce behind the workforce and the important role they play in helping children and families thrive and in enhancing North Carolina's economy; and
- WHEREAS:** Smart Start of Forsyth County helps to provide critical infrastructure for the early childhood system through collaboration and partnerships with state and federal agencies and other nonprofits, bridging service gaps, and providing needed administration to statewide programs; and
- WHEREAS:** The City of Winston-Salem appreciates Smart Start of Forsyth County's efforts and their continued investment in the high-quality early childhood initiatives, which yield substantial long-term benefits for children, families, and society through increased educational attainment, higher earnings, reduced crime, and better health outcomes.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, J. ALLEN JOINES**, Mayor of the City of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim the month of September, 2025, as

## SMART START MONTH

Given under my hand and seal this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of September, 2025.

J. ALLEN JOINES

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Mayor