

Women Philanthropy Group Donates to Early Education

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Before they even start kindergarten, kids are getting a head start with a local program called Smart Beginnings. Now, thanks to a grant from a local group, Smart Beginnings has more money to invest in children's futures.

Women United in Philanthropy, in partnership with United Way-Thomas Jefferson Area, named Smart Beginnings as the recipient of the group's 2008 grant award. On Tuesday, Smart Beginnings was given \$36,000.

The money will be used to help child care centers for educational resources improve their level of quality, provide transition-to-kindergarten resources to area teachers, and to increase public awareness of the importance of early learning.

Smart Beginnings is a fairly new program that focuses on kids from Charlottesville and Albemarle County.

Women United in Philanthropy began awarding grants back in 2006. Each year, the award amount has grown.

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