



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



Sherry Bradsher
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public Health
5605 Six Forks Road
Raleigh, NC 27609

Dear Ms. Bradsher:

Thank you for your timely submission of North Carolina's Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge Annual Performance Report (APR) on February 15, 2013. We appreciate the care you have taken in completing this report. The APR information will be useful to us in monitoring your grant and will also inform the public about the accomplishments of the program. We will be posting your APR and this letter on our website at <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/racetothetop-earlylearningchallenge/performance.html> for the purpose of transparency and public accountability.

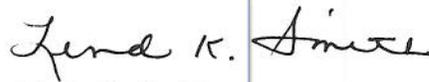
We are pleased with the progress you have made in the first year of this grant. The information presented in your APR is comprehensive and illustrates well the work that is being implemented in North Carolina. However, we also want to note one item that we will work with you to address during the second year of your grant.

- North Carolina's expenditures for the first year are less than \$500,000 or 4% of the amount budgeted. Your Project Officers will work with you to establish revised budgets and timelines for those expenditures, in accordance with our amendment procedures.

We look forward to working with you during the next year to address any issues raised by your APR and reviewing North Carolina's accomplishments that you report next year. Thank you for your continued work to enrich the lives of our youngest learners.

Sincerely,


Alexander Compro
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Management and Planning
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
U.S. Department of Education


Linda K. Smith
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Early Childhood Development
Administration for Children and Families
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services