

Organization: Anson County Partnership for Children**County:** Anson**Address:** 117 S. Greene St.
Wadesboro, N.C. 28170**Phone:** 704-694-4036**Website:** <http://www.ansonsmartstart.org/>**Project:** Literacy Program/ Motherhead****Below are excerpts from their final report****

About the Project: This grant was used to provide a literacy project for teen mothers called Motherhead. Using the Birth and Beginning Years (B.A.B.Y.) curriculum, participants used children's books to focus on a variety of physical and emotional health topics including contraception, mental health issues, domestic violence, child development, nutrition, and family relationships. The curriculum empowered women to take control of their lives, so they can eventually overcome their destructive behaviors related to drug use and abuse, as well as take an active role in their own health and well being.

Successes: The N.C. Healthy Start Foundation provided an opportunity to young mothers in our county to share ideas on health, child development, safety, and other topics while learning how literacy can make all areas of their lives better. In a county where one of three residents is functionally illiterate, this problem affects every aspect of their lives from reading instructions on a medicine bottle to understanding a car seat manual. We can empower these women by equipping them with something that will last a lifetime. N.C. Healthy Start Foundation realized that health issues for women can be addressed in a number of innovative ways, and we thank them for allowing us to use this means to focus on the health and wellbeing of the people who live in our community.

