

990

Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

OMB No. 1545-

0047 2024

Open to Public Inspection

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations) Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public.

Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.

Form Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

A For the 2024 calendar year, or tax year beginning 07-01-2024, and ending 06-30-2025

- B Check if applicable: Address change, Name change, Initial return, Final return/terminated, Amended return, Application pending

C Name of organization: WAKE COUNTY SMART START INC. Doing business as: Number and street (or P.O. box if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite: 4901 WATERS EDGE DRIVE 101 City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code: RALEIGH, NC 27606

D Employer identification number: 56-1949415 E Telephone number: (919) 851-9550 G Gross receipts \$ 27,914,896

F Name and address of principal officer: GAYLE E HEADEN 4901 WATERS EDGE DRIVE 101 RALEIGH, NC 27606

H(a) Is this a group return for subordinates? H(b) Are all subordinates included? H(c) Group exemption number

I Tax-exempt status: 501(c)(3) 501(c) () (insert no.) 4947(a)(1) or 527

J Website: WWW.WAKESMARTSTART.ORG

K Form of organization: Corporation Trust Association Other

L Year of formation: 1994 M State of legal domicile: NC

Part I Summary

Activities & Governance

Revenue

Expenses

Net Assets or Fund Balances

Table with 3 columns: Description, Prior Year, Current Year. Rows include mission statement, membership counts, revenue (24,873,868 to 27,914,896), expenses (19,563,939 to 27,249,271), and net assets (3,982,549 to 4,446,723).

Part II Signature Block

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.

Sign Here: Signature of officer MATTHEW GLOVA TREASURER, Date 2025-10-13. Paid Preparer Use Only: Firm name BLACKMAN & SLOOP ADVISORS INC, Firm's EIN 56-1304727, Phone no. (919) 942-8700.

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See Instructions. Yes No

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part III

1 Briefly describe the organization's mission:

WAKE COUNTY SMART START INVESTS IN YOUNG CHILDREN, THEIR FAMILIES, AND A CONNECTED EARLY CHILDHOOD SYSTEM THAT SUPPORTS AND PREPARES THEM FOR SCHOOL AND LIFE AHEAD.

2 Did the organization undertake any significant program services during the year which were not listed on the prior Form 990 or 990-EZ? Yes No

If "Yes," describe these new services on Schedule O.

3 Did the organization cease conducting, or make significant changes in how it conducts, any program services? Yes No

If "Yes," describe these changes on Schedule O.

4 Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations are required to report the amount of grants and allocations to others, the total expenses, and revenue, if any, for each program service reported.

4a (Code:) (Expenses \$ 1,299,359 including grants of \$ 14,454,137) (Revenue \$)
NC PRE-KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM THE NC PRE-KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM IS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES TO ENHANCE SCHOOL READINESS FOR ELIGIBLE FOUR-YEAR-OLDS. CHILDREN IN PRE-K ATTEND A FULL SCHOOL DAY IN A SCHOOL-YEAR PROGRAM. CHILDREN PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM ARE SERVED IN LICENSED CLASSROOMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS, PRIVATE CHILD CARE FACILITIES, OR HEAD START PROGRAMS. FOR THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR, 1,705 CHILDREN PARTICIPATED IN THE PROGRAM. A STATE GRANT AND A LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANT SUPPORTED THE PROGRAM.

4b (Code:) (Expenses \$ 4,208,572 including grants of \$ 3,201,085) (Revenue \$)
FAMILY SUPPORT/HEALTH AND SAFETY WAKE COUNTY SMART START FUNDS FAMILY SUPPORT, AND HEALTH AND SAFETY ACTIVITIES THAT BENEFIT FAMILIES AND CHILDREN IN WAKE COUNTY. FAMILY SUPPORT PROVIDES PARENTING SKILLS TRAINING, ONGOING PARENT EDUCATION, FAMILY LITERACY INITIATIVES, TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNITY OUTREACH, AND FAMILY NAVIGATION. HEALTH AND SAFETY PROVIDES TRAINING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, COUNSELING, NUTRITION, PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES, AND REFERRALS TO ADDRESS HEALTHCARE, MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS, AND PREVENTATIVE SERVICES. APPROXIMATELY 890 CHILDREN DIRECTLY BENEFITED FROM AT LEAST ONE WAKE COUNTY SMART START FAMILY SUPPORT OR HEALTH AND SAFETY ACTIVITY. PROGRAMS ARE SUPPORTED BY STATE AND PRIVATE GRANTS.

4c (Code:) (Expenses \$ 4,541,902 including grants of \$ 3,839,252) (Revenue \$)
WAKE THREE SCHOOL THIS PROGRAM PROVIDES EARLY EDUCATION TO YOUNG CHILDREN IN A PLAY-BASED, DYNAMIC ENVIRONMENT, LIKE THE NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED NC PRE-K PROGRAM. RESEARCH SHOWS THAT WHEN THREE-YEAR-OLD CHILDREN RECEIVE SUPPORT FOR LEARNING EARLY, THEY LEARN BETTER, GAIN STRONGER SKILLS, AND ARE BETTER PREPARED FOR SUCCESS IN PRE-K AND KINDERGARTEN. THIS PROGRAM LEVERAGES THE RAPID BRAIN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT THAT HAPPENS AT AGE THREE. THIS "FRAMEWORK" IS WHAT ALL FUTURE LEARNING IS BUILT UPON. CHILDREN PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM ARE SERVED IN LICENSED PRIVATE CHILD CARE FACILITIES AND HEAD START PROGRAMS. FOR THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR, 333 CHILDREN PARTICIPATED IN THE PROGRAM. THE PROGRAM IS SUPPORTED BY A LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANT.

(Code:) (Expenses \$ 1,035,116 including grants of \$ 268,716) (Revenue \$ 2,375)
CHILD CARE EDUCATION AND QUALITY IN WAKE COUNTY, 33 PERCENT OF THE "BIRTH-TO-FIVE" POPULATION ATTENDED REGULATED CHILD CARE. BECAUSE A CHILD'S EXPERIENCES IN THE FIRST FIVE YEARS ARE OF SUCH A CRITICAL NATURE, WAKE COUNTY SMART START WORKS TO ENSURE THAT QUALITY CHILD CARE IS BOTH ACCESSIBLE AND AVAILABLE TO FAMILIES WHO NEED IT. WAKE COUNTY SMART START INVESTS IN COMMUNITY PARTNERS WHO PROVIDE SUBSIDY PAYMENTS IN REGULATED CHILDCARE, WORK WITH LICENSED CHILD CARE FACILITIES TO MAINTAIN OR IMPROVE QUALITY, AND PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILD CARE PROFESSIONALS TO INCREASE THEIR SKILLS. ADDITIONAL AREAS OF SUPPORT INCLUDE TRAINING, CURRICULUM ENHANCEMENTS, AND MENTORING PROGRAMS. FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 - 2025, APPROXIMATELY 31 CHILD CARE FACILITIES WERE SERVED. PROGRAMS ARE SUPPORTED BY A STATE GRANT AND PROGRAM SERVICE FEES.

(Code:) (Expenses \$ 474,552 including grants of \$ 0) (Revenue \$ 0)
PROGRAM COORDINATION AND EVALUATION WORK WITH COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS TO ACHIEVE GOALS ARTICULATED IN THE STRATEGIC PLAN; WORK WITH PARTNERS TO DEVELOP EVALUATION PLANS AND TRACK IMPLEMENTATION; ASSESS PROGRESS TOWARDS GOALS, PARTICIPATE IN STRATEGIC PLANNING; GATHER AND ANALYZE RELEVANT DATA; COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENTS; MANAGE REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS PROCESS AND PARTICIPATE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS. THE PROGRAM IS SUPPORTED BY A STATE GRANT.

4d Other program services (Describe in Schedule O.)
(Expenses \$ 1,509,668 including grants of \$ 268,716) (Revenue \$ 2,375)

4e Total program service expenses 25,559,501

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules

Table with 3 columns: Question ID, Question Text, Yes, No. Rows include questions 1 through 21, with sub-questions 11a-e and 12a-b. Questions cover topics like organizational type, lobbying, donor funds, and fundraising activities.

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules (continued)

Table with 3 columns: Question ID, Question Text, and Yes/No columns. Rows include questions 22 through 38 regarding organizational reporting, compensation, and tax-exempt status.

Part V Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part V

Table with 3 columns: Question ID, Question Text, and Yes/No columns. Rows include questions 1a, 1b, and 1c regarding Form 1096, Forms W-2G, and gaming winnings.

Part V Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance (continued)

Main form area containing questions 2a through 17, including sub-questions like 2b, 3a, 3b, 4a, 5a, 5b, 5c, 6a, 6b, 7a, 7b, 7c, 7d, 7e, 7f, 7g, 7h, 8, 9a, 9b, 10a, 10b, 11a, 11b, 12a, 12b, 13a, 13b, 13c, 14a, 14b, 15, 16, 17. Includes a '49' box for line 2a.

Part VI Governance, Management, and Disclosure. For each "Yes" response to lines 2 through 7b below, and for a "No" response to lines 8a, 8b, or 10b below, describe the circumstances, processes, or changes in Schedule O. See instructions. Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VI



Section A. Governing Body and Management

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Rows include: 1a Enter the number of voting members... 1b Enter the number of voting members included... 2 Did any officer, director, trustee, or key employee have a family relationship... 3 Did the organization delegate control over management duties... 4 Did the organization make any significant changes to its governing documents... 5 Did the organization become aware during the year of a significant diversion of the organization's assets... 6 Did the organization have members or stockholders... 7a Did the organization have members, stockholders, or other persons who had the power to elect or appoint one or more members of the governing body? 7b Are any governance decisions of the organization reserved to (or subject to approval by) members, stockholders, or persons other than the governing body? 8 Did the organization contemporaneously document the meetings held or written actions undertaken during the year by the following: 8a The governing body? 8b Each committee with authority to act on behalf of the governing body? 9 Is there any officer, director, trustee, or key employee listed in Part VII, Section A, who cannot be reached at the organization's mailing address? If "Yes," provide the names and addresses in Schedule O.

Section B. Policies (This Section B requests information about policies not required by the Internal Revenue Code.)

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Rows include: 10a Did the organization have local chapters, branches, or affiliates? 10b If "Yes," did the organization have written policies and procedures governing the activities of such chapters, affiliates, and branches to ensure their operations are consistent with the organization's exempt purposes? 11a Has the organization provided a complete copy of this Form 990 to all members of its governing body before filing the form? 11b Describe on Schedule O the process, if any, used by the organization to review this Form 990. 12a Did the organization have a written conflict of interest policy? If "No," go to line 13 12b Were officers, directors, or trustees, and key employees required to disclose annually interests that could give rise to conflicts? 12c Did the organization regularly and consistently monitor and enforce compliance with the policy? If "Yes," describe on Schedule O how this was done 13 Did the organization have a written whistleblower policy? 14 Did the organization have a written document retention and destruction policy? 15 Did the process for determining compensation of the following persons include a review and approval by independent persons, comparability data, and contemporaneous substantiation of the deliberation and decision? 15a The organization's CEO, Executive Director, or top management official 15b Other officers or key employees of the organization If "Yes" to line 15a or 15b, describe the process on Schedule O. See instructions. 16a Did the organization invest in, contribute assets to, or participate in a joint venture or similar arrangement with a taxable entity during the year? 16b If "Yes," did the organization follow a written policy or procedure requiring the organization to evaluate its participation in joint venture arrangements under applicable federal tax law, and take steps to safeguard the organization's exempt status with respect to such arrangements?

Section C. Disclosure

Table with 2 columns: Question, Answer. Rows include: 17 List the states with which a copy of this Form 990 is required to be filed NC 18 Section 6104 requires an organization to make its Form 1023 (1024 or 1024-A, if applicable), 990, and 990-T (section 501(c)(3)s only) available for public inspection. Indicate how you made these available. Check all that apply. Own website Another's website Upon request Other (explain in Schedule O) 19 Describe in Schedule O whether (and if so, how) the organization made its governing documents, conflict of interest policy, and financial statements available to the public during the tax year. 20 State the name, address, and telephone number of the person who possesses the organization's books and records: GAYLE E HEADEN 4901 WATERS EDGE DRIVE 101 RALEIGH, NC 27606 (919) 851-9550

Part VII Compensation of Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, Highest Compensated Employees, and Independent Contractors

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VII

Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees

1a Complete this table for all persons required to be listed. Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year.

- List all of the organization's **current** officers, directors, trustees (whether individuals or organizations), regardless of amount of compensation. Enter -0- in columns (D), (E), and (F) if no compensation was paid.

- List all of the organization's **current** key employees, if any. See the instructions for definition of "key employee."

- List the organization's five **current** highest compensated employees (other than an officer, director, trustee or key employee) who received reportable compensation (box 5 of Form W-2, box 6 of Form 1099-MISC, and/or box 1 of Form 1099-NEC) of more than \$100,000 from the organization and any related organizations.

- List all of the organization's **former** officers, key employees, or highest compensated employees who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.

- List all of the organization's **former directors or trustees** that received, in the capacity as a former director or trustee of the organization, more than \$10,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.

See the instructions for the order in which to list the persons above.

Check this box if neither the organization nor any related organization compensated any current officer, director, or trustee.

(A) Name and title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC/1099-NEC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC/1099-NEC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional Trustee;	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former			
(1) GAYLE HEADEN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	40.00	X		X			155,915	0	15,445	
(2) GARY CARR DIRECTOR OF FINANCE	40.00	X		X			151,239	0	16,842	
(3) KATHERINE WILLIAMS CHAIR	1.00	X		X			0	0	0	
(4) NIKIA COATES VICE CHAIR	1.00	X		X			0	0	0	
(5) MATTHEW ELLINWOOD SECRETARY	1.00	X		X			0	0	0	
(6) MATTHEW GLOVA TREASURER	1.00	X		X			0	0	0	
(7) ANDRE ANTHONY DIRECTOR	1.00	X					0	0	0	
(8) VERONICA CREECH DIRECTOR	1.00	X					0	0	0	
(9) HEATHER DRENNAN DIRECTOR THR FEB 2025	1.00	X					0	0	0	
(10) SUSAN EVANS DIRECTOR	1.00	X					0	0	0	
(11) ARIEL FORD DIRECTOR FR OCT 2024	1.00	X					0	0	0	
(12) SHERRY HEUSER DIRECTOR	1.00	X					0	0	0	
(13) MICKEY HOLT DIRECTOR	1.00	X					0	0	0	
(14) NIKKI LEONARD DIRECTOR	1.00	X					0	0	0	
(15) RONETTA PEARSALL DIRECTOR	1.00	X					0	0	0	
(16) ANTONIA PEDROZA DIRECTOR	1.00	X					0	0	0	
(17) STEPHANIE SHELL DIRECTOR	1.00	X					0	0	0	

Part VIII Statement of Revenue

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VIII

	(A) Total revenue	(B) Related or exempt function revenue	(C) Unrelated business revenue	(D) Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512 - 514
Contributions, Gifts, Grants, and Other Similar Amounts				
1a Federated campaigns		1a		
b Membership dues		1b		
c Fundraising events		1c		
d Related organizations		1d		
e Government grants (contributions)		1e	27,052,919	
f All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above		1f	646,267	
g Noncash contributions included in lines 1a - 1f:\$		1g		
h Total. Add lines 1a-1f				27,699,186

Program Service Revenue		Business Code				
2a						
b						
c						
d						
e						
f	All other program service revenue.					
g Total.	Add lines 2a-2f.					

Other Revenue	3 Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts)			183,388			183,388	
	4 Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds							
	5 Royalties							
	6a Gross rents	(i) Real	(ii) Personal					
		6a						
		b Less: rental expenses						
	c Rental income or (loss)							
	d Net rental income or (loss)							
	7a Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory	(i) Securities	(ii) Other					
		7a						
		b Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses						
	c Gain or (loss)							
	d Net gain or (loss)							
	8a Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ _____ of contributions reported on line 1c). See Part IV, line 18							
		8a						
b Less: direct expenses								
c Net income or (loss) from fundraising events								
9a Gross income from gaming activities. See Part IV, line 19								
	9a							
b Less: direct expenses								
c Net income or (loss) from gaming activities								
10a Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances								
	10a							
b Less: cost of goods sold								
c Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory								

Other Revenue Misc Amt		Business Code				
11a	SALES TAX REFUNDS	900099	29,900			29,900
b	PARTICIPANT FEES	611710	2,375	2,375		
c	OTHER INCOME	900099	47			47
d	All other revenue					
e Total.	Add lines 11a-11d		32,322			
12 Total revenue.	See instructions		27,914,896	2,375	0	213,335

Part IX Statement of Functional Expenses

Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete all columns. All other organizations must complete column (A).

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part IX

Do not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.	(A) Total expenses	(B) Program service expenses	(C) Management and general expenses	(D) Fundraising expenses
1 Grants and other assistance to domestic organizations and domestic governments. See Part IV, line 21	21,763,190	21,763,190		
2 Grants and other assistance to domestic individuals. See Part IV, line 22				
3 Grants and other assistance to foreign organizations, foreign governments, and foreign individuals. See Part IV, lines 15 and 16.				
4 Benefits paid to or for members				
5 Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees	367,219	264,244	96,698	6,277
6 Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)				
7 Other salaries and wages	2,551,783	1,819,925	684,585	47,273
8 Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401(k) and 403(b) employer contributions)	339,805	261,084	78,721	
9 Other employee benefits	370,744	296,488	72,258	1,998
10 Payroll taxes	223,787	160,086	59,419	4,282
11 Fees for services (non-employees):				
a Management				
b Legal	4,141		4,141	
c Accounting	11,136		11,136	
d Lobbying				
e Professional fundraising services. See Part IV, line 17				
f Investment management fees				
g Other (If line 11g amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 11g expenses on Schedule O)	726,580	453,215	255,372	17,993
12 Advertising and promotion	11,143	7,099	3,751	293
13 Office expenses	74,457	54,163	19,631	663
14 Information technology	253,300	186,640	63,698	2,962
15 Royalties				
16 Occupancy	237,870	163,365	62,927	11,578
17 Travel	44,168	37,485	6,683	
18 Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials				
19 Conferences, conventions, and meetings	83,336	71,827	11,409	100
20 Interest				
21 Payments to affiliates				
22 Depreciation, depletion, and amortization				
23 Insurance	27,637	116	27,521	
24 Other expenses. Itemize expenses not covered above (List miscellaneous expenses in line 24e. If line 24e amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 24e expenses on Schedule O.)				
a OTHER REFUND	104,429		104,429	
b SALES TAX EXPENSE	21,552		21,552	
c DUES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS	13,844	5,193	8,651	
d OUTREACH AND EDUCATION	9,998	9,998		
e All other expenses	9,152	5,383	3,327	442
25 Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24e	27,249,271	25,559,501	1,595,909	93,861
26 Joint costs. Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation. Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if following SOP 98-2 (ASC 958-720).				

Part X Balance Sheet

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part IX

		(A) Beginning of year		(B) End of year
Assets	1 Cash-non-interest-bearing	238,391	1	464,955
	2 Savings and temporary cash investments	3,680,539	2	3,963,059
	3 Pledges and grants receivable, net		3	
	4 Accounts receivable, net	63,619	4	18,709
	5 Loans and other receivables from any current or former officer, director, trustee, key employee, creator or founder, substantial contributor, or 35% controlled entity or family member of any of these persons		5	
	6 Loans and other receivables from other disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)), and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)		6	
	7 Notes and loans receivable, net		7	
	8 Inventories for sale or use		8	
	9 Prepaid expenses and deferred charges		9	
	10a Land, buildings, and equipment: cost or other basis. Complete Part VI of Schedule D	10a		
	b Less: accumulated depreciation	10b		10c
	11 Investments—publicly traded securities		11	
	12 Investments—other securities. See Part IV, line 11		12	
	13 Investments—program-related. See Part IV, line 11		13	
	14 Intangible assets		14	
	15 Other assets. See Part IV, line 11		15	
16 Total assets: Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 33)	3,982,549	16	4,446,723	
Liabilities	17 Accounts payable and accrued expenses	1,336	17	1,610
	18 Grants payable	400,027	18	198,302
	19 Deferred revenue		19	
	20 Tax-exempt bond liabilities		20	
	21 Escrow or custodial account liability. Complete Part IV of Schedule D		21	
	22 Loans and other payables to any current or former officer, director, trustee, key employee, creator or founder, substantial contributor, or 35% controlled entity or family member of any of these persons		22	
	23 Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties		23	
	24 Unsecured notes and loans payable to unrelated third parties		24	
	25 Other liabilities (including federal income tax, payables to related third parties, and other liabilities not included on lines 17 - 24). Complete Part X of Schedule D		25	
	26 Total liabilities. Add lines 17 through 25	401,363	26	199,912
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Organizations that follow FASB ASC 958, check here <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 27, 28, 32, and 33.			
	27 Net assets without donor restrictions	2,174,146	27	2,349,095
	28 Net assets with donor restrictions	1,407,040	28	1,897,716
	Organizations that do not follow FASB ASC 958, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 29 through 33.			
	29 Capital stock or trust principal, or current funds		29	
	30 Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, building or equipment fund		30	
	31 Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds		31	
	32 Total net assets or fund balances	3,581,186	32	4,246,811
	33 Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances	3,982,549	33	4,446,723

Part XI Reconciliation of Net Assets

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XI

1	Total revenue (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	1	27,914,896
2	Total expenses (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	2	27,249,271
3	Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 2 from line 1	3	665,625
4	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (must equal Part X, line 32, column (A))	4	3,581,186
5	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	5	
6	Donated services and use of facilities	6	
7	Investment expenses	7	
8	Prior period adjustments	8	
9	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	9	0
10	Net assets or fund balances at end of year. Combine lines 3 through 9 (must equal Part X, line 32, column (A))	10	4,246,811

Part XII Financial Statements and Reporting

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XII

		Yes	No
1	Accounting method used to prepare the Form 990: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Accrual <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ If the organization changed its method of accounting from a prior year or checked "Other," explain on Schedule O.		
2a	Were the organization's financial statements compiled or reviewed by an independent accountant? If 'Yes,' check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were compiled or reviewed on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both: <input type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis		No
b	Were the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant? If 'Yes,' check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were audited on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis	Yes	
c	If "Yes," to line 2a or 2b, does the organization have a committee that assumes responsibility for oversight of the audit, review, or compilation of its financial statements and selection of an independent accountant? If the organization changed either its oversight process or selection process during the tax year, explain in Schedule O.		No
3a	As a result of a federal award, was the organization required to undergo an audit or audits as set forth in the Uniform Guidance, 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Subpart F?	Yes	
b	If "Yes," did the organization undergo the required audit or audits? If the organization did not undergo the required audit or audits, explain why in Schedule O and describe any steps taken to undergo such audits.	Yes	

Additional Data

Return to Form

Software ID:

Software Version:

Form 990, Special Condition Description:

Special Condition Description

Public Charity Status and Public Support

Complete if the organization is a section 501(c)(3) organization or a section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust.
 Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.
 Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.

Name of the organization
WAKE COUNTY SMART START INC

Employer identification number
56-1949415

Part I Reason for Public Charity Status (All organizations must complete this part.) See instructions.

The organization is not a private foundation because it is: (For lines 1 through 12, check only one box.)

- 1 A church, convention of churches, or association of churches described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(i)**.
- 2 A school described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)**. (Attach Schedule E (Form 990).)
- 3 A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**.
- 4 A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**. Enter the hospital's name, city, and state:

- 5 An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 6 A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(v)**.
- 7 An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 8 A community trust described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 9 An agricultural research organization described in **170(b)(1)(A)(ix)** operated in conjunction with a land-grant college or university or a non-land grant college of agriculture. See instructions. Enter the name, city, and state of the college or university:
- 10 An organization that normally receives: (1) more than 33 1/3% of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions—subject to certain exceptions, and (2) no more than 33 1/3% of its support from gross investment income and unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 tax) from businesses acquired by the organization after June 30, 1975. See **section 509(a)(2)**. (Complete Part III.)
- 11 An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety. See **section 509(a)(4)**.
- 12 An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in **section 509(a)(1)** or **section 509(a)(2)**. See **section 509(a)(3)**. Check the box on lines 12a through 12d that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 12e, 12f, and 12g.
 - a **Type I.** A supporting organization operated, supervised, or controlled by its supported organization(s), typically by giving the supported organization(s) the power to regularly appoint or elect a majority of the directors or trustees of the supporting organization. **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and B.**
 - b **Type II.** A supporting organization supervised or controlled in connection with its supported organization(s), by having control or management of the supporting organization vested in the same persons that control or manage the supported organization(s). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and C.**
 - c **Type III functionally integrated.** A supporting organization operated in connection with, and functionally integrated with, its supported organization(s) (see instructions). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A, D, and E.**
 - d **Type III non-functionally integrated.** A supporting organization operated in connection with its supported organization(s) that is not functionally integrated. The organization generally must satisfy a distribution requirement and an attentiveness requirement (see instructions). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and D, and Part V.**
 - e Check this box if the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II, Type III functionally integrated, or Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organization.
 - f Enter the number of supported organizations _____
 - g Provide the following information about the supported organization(s).

(i) Name of supported organization	(ii) EIN	(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1- 10 above (see instructions))	(iv) Is the organization listed in your governing document?		(v) Amount of monetary support (see instructions)	(vi) Amount of other support (see instructions)
			Yes	No		
Total						

Part II Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)
 (Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part III. If the organization failed to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part III.)

Section A. Public Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2020	(b) 2021	(c) 2022	(d) 2023	(e) 2024	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grant.") . . .	20,078,107	19,627,355	22,833,408	24,873,868	27,699,186	115,111,924
2 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
3 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge..						
4 Total. Add lines 1 through 3	20,078,107	19,627,355	22,833,408	24,873,868	27,699,186	115,111,924
5 The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f) . . .						
6 Public support. Subtract line 5 from line 4.						115,111,924

Section B. Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2020	(b) 2021	(c) 2022	(d) 2023	(e) 2024	(f) Total
7 Amounts from line 4.	20,078,107	19,627,355	22,833,408	24,873,868	27,699,186	115,111,924
8 Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources	3,575	3,767	78,125	195,895	183,388	464,750
9 Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on.						
10 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part VI.).	16,522	27,126	25,161	32,565	29,947	131,321
11 Total support. Add lines 7 through 10						115,707,995

12 Gross receipts from related activities, etc. (see instructions) **12** 11,375

13 First 5 years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and **stop here**

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

14 Public support percentage for 2024 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f))	14	99.480 %
15 Public support percentage for 2023 Schedule A, Part II, line 14	15	99.610 %

- 16a 33 1/3% support test—2024.** If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and **stop here.** The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization
- b 33 1/3% support test—2023.** If the organization did not check a box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and **stop here.** The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization
- 17a 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2024.** If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b, and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and **stop here.** Explain in Part VI how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization
- b 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2023.** If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a, and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and **stop here.** Explain in Part VI how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization
- 18 Private foundation.** If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a, or 17b, check this box and see instructions

Part III Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Section 509(a)(2)

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 10 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part II. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part II.)

Section A. Public Support

Table with 7 columns: (a) 2020, (b) 2021, (c) 2022, (d) 2023, (e) 2024, (f) Total. Rows include: Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in), 1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received, 2 Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed, 3 Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513, 4 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf, 5 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge, 6 Total. Add lines 1 through 5, 7a Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons, b Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons that exceed the greater of \$5,000 or 1% of the amount on line 13 for the year, c Add lines 7a and 7b, 8 Public support. (Subtract line 7c from line 6.)

Section B. Total Support

Table with 7 columns: (a) 2020, (b) 2021, (c) 2022, (d) 2023, (e) 2024, (f) Total. Rows include: Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in), 9 Amounts from line 6, 10a Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources, b Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975, c Add lines 10a and 10b, 11 Net income from unrelated business activities not included on line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on, 12 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part VI.), 13 Total support. (Add lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12.), 14 First 5 years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here.

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

Table with 2 columns: Description, Percentage. Row 15: Public support percentage for 2024 (line 8, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f)). Row 16: Public support percentage from 2023 Schedule A, Part III, line 15.

Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage

Table with 2 columns: Description, Percentage. Row 17: Investment income percentage for 2024 (line 10c, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f)). Row 18: Investment income percentage from 2023 Schedule A, Part III, line 17. Row 19a: 33 1/3% support tests—2024. Row b: 33 1/3% support tests—2023. Row 20: Private foundation.

Part IV Supporting Organizations

(Complete only if you checked a box on line 12 of Part I. If you checked box 12a, of Part I, complete Sections A and B. If you checked box 12b, of Part I, complete Sections A and C. If you checked box 12c, of Part I, complete Sections A, D, and E. If you checked box 12d, of Part I, complete Sections A and D, and complete Part V.)

Section A. All Supporting Organizations

		Yes	No
1	Are all of the organization's supported organizations listed by name in the organization's governing documents? If "No," describe in Part VI how the supported organizations are designated. If designated by class or purpose, describe the designation. If historic and continuing relationship, explain.		
2	Did the organization have any supported organization that does not have an IRS determination of status under section 509(a)(1) or (2)? If "Yes," explain in Part VI how the organization determined that the supported organization was described in section 509(a)(1) or (2).		
3a	Did the organization have a supported organization described in section 501(c)(4), (5), or (6)? If "Yes," answer lines 3b and 3c below.		
b	Did the organization confirm that each supported organization qualified under section 501(c)(4), (5), or (6) and satisfied the public support tests under section 509(a)(2)? If "Yes," describe in Part VI when and how the organization made the determination.		
c	Did the organization ensure that all support to such organizations was used exclusively for section 170(c)(2)(B) purposes? If "Yes," explain in Part VI what controls the organization put in place to ensure such use.		
4a	Was any supported organization not organized in the United States ("foreign supported organization")? If "Yes" and if you checked box 12a or 12b in Part I, answer lines 4b and 4c below.		
b	Did the organization have ultimate control and discretion in deciding whether to make grants to the foreign supported organization? If "Yes," describe in Part VI how the organization had such control and discretion despite being controlled or supervised by or in connection with its supported organizations.		
c	Did the organization support any foreign supported organization that does not have an IRS determination under sections 501(c)(3) and 509(a)(1) or (2)? If "Yes," explain in Part VI what controls the organization used to ensure that all support to the foreign supported organization was used exclusively for section 170(c)(2)(B) purposes.		
5a	Did the organization add, substitute, or remove any supported organizations during the tax year? If "Yes," answer lines 5b and 5c below (if applicable). Also, provide detail in Part VI , including (i) the names and EIN numbers of the supported organizations added, substituted, or removed; (ii) the reasons for each such action; (iii) the authority under the organization's organizing document authorizing such action; and (iv) how the action was accomplished (such as by amendment to the organizing document).		
b	Type I or Type II only. Was any added or substituted supported organization part of a class already designated in the organization's organizing document?		
c	Substitutions only. Was the substitution the result of an event beyond the organization's control?		
6	Did the organization provide support (whether in the form of grants or the provision of services or facilities) to anyone other than (i) its supported organizations, (ii) individuals that are part of the charitable class benefited by one or more of its supported organizations, or (iii) other supporting organizations that also support or benefit one or more of the filing organization's supported organizations? If "Yes," provide detail in Part VI .		
7	Did the organization provide a grant, loan, compensation, or other similar payment to a substantial contributor (defined in section 4958(c)(3)(C)), a family member of a substantial contributor, or a 35% controlled entity with regard to a substantial contributor? If "Yes," complete Part I of Schedule L (Form 990).		
8	Did the organization make a loan to a disqualified person (as defined in section 4958) not described on line 7? If "Yes," complete Part I of Schedule L (Form 990).		
9a	Was the organization controlled directly or indirectly at any time during the tax year by one or more disqualified persons, as defined in section 4946 (other than foundation managers and organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or (2))? If "Yes," provide detail in Part VI .		
b	Did one or more disqualified persons (as defined on line 9a) hold a controlling interest in any entity in which the supporting organization had an interest? If "Yes," provide detail in Part VI .		
c	Did a disqualified person (as defined on line 9a) have an ownership interest in, or derive any personal benefit from, assets in which the supporting organization also had an interest? If "Yes," provide detail in Part VI .		
10a	Was the organization subject to the excess business holdings rules of section 4943 because of section 4943(f) (regarding certain Type II supporting organizations, and all Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organizations)? If "Yes," answer line 10b below.		
b	Did the organization have any excess business holdings in the tax year? (Use Schedule C, Form 4720, to determine whether the organization had excess business holdings).		

Part IV Supporting Organizations (continued)

- | | Yes | No |
|------------|-----|----|
| | | |
| 11a | | |
| 11b | | |
| 11c | | |
- 11** Has the organization accepted a gift or contribution from any of the following persons?
- a** A person who directly or indirectly controls, either alone or together with persons described on lines 11b and 11c below, the governing body of a supported organization?
- b** A family member of a person described on 11a above?
- c** A 35% controlled entity of a person described on line 11a or 11b above? *If "Yes" to 11a, 11b, or 11c, provide detail in Part VI.*

Section B. Type I Supporting Organizations

- | | Yes | No |
|----------|-----|----|
| | | |
| 1 | | |
| | | |
| 2 | | |
- 1** Did the officers, directors, trustees, or membership of one or more supported organizations have the power to regularly appoint or elect at least a majority of the organization's directors or trustees at all times during the tax year? *If "No," describe in Part VI how the supported organization(s) effectively operated, supervised, or controlled the organization's activities. If the organization had more than one supported organization, describe how the powers to appoint and/or remove directors or trustees were allocated among the supported organizations and what conditions or restrictions, if any, applied to such powers during the tax year.*
- 2** Did the organization operate for the benefit of any supported organization other than the supported organization(s) that operated, supervised, or controlled the supporting organization? *If "Yes," explain in Part VI how providing such benefit carried out the purposes of the supported organization(s) that operated, supervised or controlled the supporting organization.*

Section C. Type II Supporting Organizations

- | | Yes | No |
|----------|-----|----|
| | | |
| 1 | | |
- 1** Were a majority of the organization's directors or trustees during the tax year also a majority of the directors or trustees of each of the organization's supported organization(s)? *If "No," describe in Part VI how control or management of the supporting organization was vested in the same persons that controlled or managed the supported organization(s).*

Section D. All Type III Supporting Organizations

- | | Yes | No |
|----------|-----|----|
| | | |
| 1 | | |
| | | |
| 2 | | |
| | | |
| 3 | | |
- 1** Did the organization provide to each of its supported organizations, by the last day of the fifth month of the organization's tax year, (i) a written notice describing the type and amount of support provided during the prior tax year, (ii) a copy of the Form 990 that was most recently filed as of the date of notification, and (iii) copies of the organization's governing documents in effect on the date of notification, to the extent not previously provided?
- 2** Were any of the organization's officers, directors, or trustees either (i) appointed or elected by the supported organization(s) or (ii) serving on the governing body of a supported organization? *If "No," explain in Part VI how the organization maintained a close and continuous working relationship with the supported organization(s).*
- 3** By reason of the relationship described in line 2 above, did the organization's supported organizations have a significant voice in the organization's investment policies and in directing the use of the organization's income or assets at all times during the tax year? *If "Yes," describe in Part VI the role the organization's supported organizations played in this regard.*

Section E. Type III Functionally-Integrated Supporting Organizations

- 1** Check the box next to the method that the organization used to satisfy the Integral Part Test during the year (**see instructions**):

- a** The organization satisfied the Activities Test. Complete **line 2** below.
- b** The organization is the parent of each of its supported organizations. Complete **line 3** below.
- c** The organization supported a governmental entity. Describe in **Part VI** how you supported a government entity (see instructions)

- 2** Activities Test. **Answer lines 2a and 2b below.**

- | | Yes | No |
|-----------|-----|----|
| | | |
| 2a | | |
| | | |
| 2b | | |
- a** Did substantially all of the organization's activities during the tax year directly further the exempt purposes of the supported organization(s) to which the organization was responsive? *If "Yes," then in Part VI identify those supported organizations and explain how these activities directly furthered their exempt purposes, how the organization was responsive to those supported organizations, and how the organization determined that these activities constituted substantially all of its activities.*
- b** Did the activities described on line 2a, above constitute activities that, but for the organization's involvement, one or more of the organization's supported organization(s) would have been engaged in? *If "Yes," explain in Part VI the reasons for the organization's position that its supported organization(s) would have engaged in these activities but for the organization's involvement.*

- 3** Parent of Supported Organizations. **Answer lines 3a and 3b below.**

- | | Yes | No |
|-----------|-----|----|
| | | |
| 3a | | |
| | | |
| 3b | | |
- a** Did the organization have the power to regularly appoint or elect a majority of the officers, directors, or trustees of each of the supported organizations? *If "Yes" or "No," provide details in Part VI.*
- b** Did the organization exercise a substantial degree of direction over the policies, programs and activities of each of its supported organizations? *If "Yes," describe in Part VI. the role played by the organization in this regard.*

Part V Type III Non-Functionally Integrated 509(a)(3) Supporting Organizations

- 1** Check here if the organization satisfied the Integral Part Test as a qualifying trust on Nov. 20, 1970 (*explain in Part VI*). See instructions. All other Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organizations must complete Sections A through E.

Section A - Adjusted Net Income

(A) Prior Year

(B) Current Year
(optional)

- | | | | | |
|----------|--|----------|--|--|
| 1 | Net short-term capital gain | 1 | | |
| 2 | Recoveries of prior-year distributions | 2 | | |
| 3 | Other gross income (see instructions) | 3 | | |
| 4 | Add lines 1 through 3 | 4 | | |
| 5 | Depreciation and depletion | 5 | | |
| 6 | Portion of operating expenses paid or incurred for production or collection of gross income or for management, conservation, or maintenance of property held for production of income (see instructions) | 6 | | |
| 7 | Other expenses (see instructions) | 7 | | |
| 8 | Adjusted Net Income (subtract lines 5, 6 and 7 from line 4) | 8 | | |

Section B - Minimum Asset Amount

(A) Prior Year

(B) Current Year
(optional)

- | | | | | |
|----------|---|-----------|--|--|
| 1 | Aggregate fair market value of all non-exempt-use assets (see instructions for short tax year or assets held for part of year): | 1 | | |
| a | Average monthly value of securities | 1a | | |
| b | Average monthly cash balances | 1b | | |
| c | Fair market value of other non-exempt-use assets | 1c | | |
| d | Total (add lines 1a, 1b, and 1c) | 1d | | |
| e | Discount claimed for blockage or other factors (<i>explain in detail in Part VI</i>): | | | |
| 2 | Acquisition indebtedness applicable to non-exempt use assets | 2 | | |
| 3 | Subtract line 2 from line 1d | 3 | | |
| 4 | Cash deemed held for exempt use. Enter 0.015 of line 3 (for greater amount, see instructions). | 4 | | |
| 5 | Net value of non-exempt-use assets (subtract line 4 from line 3) | 5 | | |
| 6 | Multiply line 5 by 0.035 | 6 | | |
| 7 | Recoveries of prior-year distributions | 7 | | |
| 8 | Minimum Asset Amount (add line 7 to line 6) | 8 | | |

Section C - Distributable Amount

Current Year

- | | | | | |
|----------|--|----------|--|--|
| 1 | Adjusted net income for prior year (from Section A, line 8, Column A) | 1 | | |
| 2 | Enter 85% of line 1 | 2 | | |
| 3 | Minimum asset amount for prior year (from Section B, line 8, Column A) | 3 | | |
| 4 | Enter greater of line 2 or line 3 | 4 | | |
| 5 | Income tax imposed in prior year | 5 | | |
| 6 | Distributable Amount. Subtract line 5 from line 4, unless subject to emergency temporary reduction (see instructions) | 6 | | |

- 7** Check here if the current year is the organization's first as a non-functionally-integrated Type III supporting organization (see instructions)

Part V Type III Non-Functionally Integrated 509(a)(3) Supporting Organizations

(continued)

Section D - Distributions		Current Year
1 Amounts paid to supported organizations to accomplish exempt purposes	1	
2 Amounts paid to perform activity that directly furthers exempt purposes of supported organizations, in excess of income from activity	2	
3 Administrative expenses paid to accomplish exempt purposes of supported organizations	3	
4 Amounts paid to acquire exempt-use assets	4	
5 Qualified set-aside amounts (prior IRS approval required - provide details in Part VI)	5	
6 Other distributions (describe in Part VI). See instructions	6	
7 Total annual distributions. Add lines 1 through 6.	7	
8 Distributions to attentive supported organizations to which the organization is responsive (provide details in Part VI). See instructions	8	
9 Distributable amount for 2024 from Section C, line 6	9	
10 Line 8 amount divided by Line 9 amount	10	

Section E - Distribution Allocations (see instructions)	(i) Excess Distributions	(ii) Underdistributions Pre-2024	(iii) Distributable Amount for 2024
1 Distributable amount for 2024 from Section C, line 6			
2 Underdistributions, if any, for years prior to 2024 (reasonable cause required-- explain in Part VI). See instructions.			
3 Excess distributions carryover, if any, to 2024:			
a From 2019.			
b From 2020.			
c From 2021.			
d From 2022.			
e From 2023.			
f Total of lines 3a through e			
g Applied to underdistributions of prior years			
h Applied to 2024 distributable amount			
i Carryover from 2019 not applied (see instructions)			
j Remainder. Subtract lines 3g, 3h, and 3i from line 3f.			
4 Distributions for 2024 from Section D, line 7: \$			
a Applied to underdistributions of prior years			
b Applied to 2024 distributable amount			
c Remainder. Subtract lines 4a and 4b from line 4.			
5 Remaining underdistributions for years prior to 2024, if any. Subtract lines 3g and 4a from line 2. If the amount is greater than zero, explain in Part VI . See instructions.			
6 Remaining underdistributions for 2024. Subtract lines 3h and 4b from line 1. If the amount is greater than zero, explain in Part VI . See instructions.			
7 Excess distributions carryover to 2025. Add lines 3j and 4c.			
8 Breakdown of line 7:			
a Excess from 2020.			
b Excess from 2021.			
c Excess from 2022.			
d Excess from 2023.			
e Excess from 2024.			

Part VI Supplemental Information. Provide the explanations required by Part II, line 10; Part II, line 17a or 17b; Part III, line 12; Part IV, Section A, lines 1, 2, 3b, 3c, 4b, 4c, 5a, 6, 9a, 9b, 9c, 11a, 11b, and 11c; Part IV, Section B, lines 1 and 2; Part IV, Section C, line 1; Part IV, Section D, lines 2 and 3; Part IV, Section E, lines 1c, 2a, 2b, 3a and 3b; Part V, line 1; Part V, Section B, line 1e; Part V Section D, lines 5, 6, and 8; and Part V, Section E, lines 2, 5, and 6. Also complete this part for any additional information. (See instructions).

Facts And Circumstances Test

Return Reference	Explanation
SCHEDULE A, PART II, LINE 10, EXPLANATION OF OTHER INCOME:	SALES TAX REFUND - 2020 AMOUNT: \$ 16,522. 2021 AMOUNT: \$ 27,126. 2022 AMOUNT: \$ 25,161. 2023 AMOUNT: \$ 32,565. 2024 AMOUNT: \$ 29,900. OTHER INCOME - 2024 AMOUNT: \$ 47.

Additional Data

Return to Form

Software ID:

Software Version:

Schedule of Contributors

▶ Attach to Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF.
 ▶ Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for the latest information.

Name of the organization WAKE COUNTY SMART START INC	Employer identification number 56-1949415
---	---

Organization type (check one):

Filers of:

Section:

- Form 990 or 990-EZ
 - 501(c)() (enter number) organization
 - 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust **not** treated as a private foundation
 - 527 political organization
- Form 990-PF
 - 501(c)(3) exempt private foundation
 - 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust treated as a private foundation
 - 501(c)(3) taxable private foundation

Check if your organization is covered by the **General Rule** or a **Special Rule**.
Note: Only a section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) organization can check boxes for both the General Rule and a Special Rule. See instructions.

General Rule

- For an organization filing Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF that received, during the year, contributions totaling \$5,000 or more (in money or other property) from any one contributor. Complete Parts I and II. See instructions for determining a contributor's total contributions.

Special Rules

- For an organization described in section 501(c)(3) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that met the 33¹/₃% support test of the regulations under sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi), that checked Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ), Part II, line 13, 16a, or 16b, and that received from any one contributor, during the year, total contributions of the greater of (1) \$5,000 or (2) 2% of the amount on (i) Form 990, Part VIII, line 1h, or (ii) Form 990-EZ, line 1. Complete Parts I and II.
- For an organization described in section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that received from any one contributor, during the year, total contributions of more than \$1,000 *exclusively* for religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes, or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals. Complete Parts I, II, and III.
- For an organization described in section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that received from any one contributor, during the year, contributions *exclusively* for religious, charitable, etc., purposes, but no such contributions totaled more than \$1,000. If this box is checked, enter here the total contributions that were received during the year for an *exclusively* religious, charitable, etc., purpose. Don't complete any of the parts unless the **General Rule** applies to this organization because it received *nonexclusively* religious, charitable, etc., contributions totaling \$5,000 or more during the year ▶ \$ _____

Caution: An organization that isn't covered by the General Rule and/or the Special Rules doesn't file Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF), but it **must** answer "No" on Part IV, line 2, of its Form 990; or check the box on line H of its Form 990-EZ or on its Form 990PF, Part I, line 2, to certify that it doesn't meet the filing requirements of Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF).

Name of organization
WAKE COUNTY SMART START INC

Employer identification number
56-1949415

Part I

Contributors (see instructions). Use duplicate copies of Part I if additional space is needed.

(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
RESTRICTED		\$ RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
-		\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
-		\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
-		\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
-		\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
-		\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)

Name of organization
 WAKE COUNTY SMART START INC

Employer identification number
 56-1949415

Part II Noncash Property (see instructions). Use duplicate copies of Part II if additional space is needed.

(a) No. from Part I	(b) Description of noncash property given	(c) FMV (or estimate) (See instructions)	(d) Date received
-	_____ _____ _____	_____ \$	_____
-	_____ _____ _____	_____ \$	_____
-	_____ _____ _____	_____ \$	_____
-	_____ _____ _____	_____ \$	_____
-	_____ _____ _____	_____ \$	_____
-	_____ _____ _____	_____ \$	_____
-	_____ _____ _____	_____ \$	_____
-	_____ _____ _____	_____ \$	_____
-	_____ _____ _____	_____ \$	_____
-	_____ _____ _____	_____ \$	_____

Name of organization WAKE COUNTY SMART START INC	Employer identification number 56-1949415
---	--

Part III Exclusively religious, charitable, etc., contributions to organizations described in section 501(c) (7), (8), or (10) that total more than \$1,000 for the year from any one contributor. Complete columns (a) through (e) and the following line entry. For organizations completing Part III, enter the total of exclusively religious, charitable, etc., contributions of \$1,000 or less for the year. (Enter this information once. See instructions.) \$ _____
Use duplicate copies of Part III if additional space is needed.

(a) No. from Part I	(b) Purpose of gift	(c) Use of gift	(d) Description of how gift is held
	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____
(e) Transfer of gift			
Transferee's name, address, and ZIP 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee	
_____		_____	
_____		_____	
(a) No. from Part I	(b) Purpose of gift	(c) Use of gift	(d) Description of how gift is held
	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____
(e) Transfer of gift			
Transferee's name, address, and ZIP 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee	
_____		_____	
_____		_____	
(a) No. from Part I	(b) Purpose of gift	(c) Use of gift	(d) Description of how gift is held
	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____
(e) Transfer of gift			
Transferee's name, address, and ZIP 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee	
_____		_____	
_____		_____	
(a) No. from Part I	(b) Purpose of gift	(c) Use of gift	(d) Description of how gift is held
	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____
(e) Transfer of gift			
Transferee's name, address, and ZIP 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee	
_____		_____	
_____		_____	

Additional Data

Return to Form

Software ID:

Software Version:

Political Campaign and Lobbying Activities

For Organizations Exempt From Income Tax Under section 501(c) and section 527

▶ **Complete if the organization is described below.** ▶ **Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.**
▶ **Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.**

If the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, Line 3, or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 46 (Political Campaign Activities), then

- Section 501(c)(3) organizations: Complete Parts I-A and B. Do not complete Part I-C.
- Section 501(c) (other than section 501(c)(3)) organizations: Complete Parts I-A and C below. Do not complete Part I-B.
- Section 527 organizations: Complete Part I-A only.

If the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, Line 4, or Form 990-EZ, Part VI, line 47 (Lobbying Activities), then

- Section 501(c)(3) organizations that have filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)): Complete Part II-A. Do not complete Part II-B.
- Section 501(c)(3) organizations that have NOT filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)): Complete Part II-B. Do not complete Part II-A.

If the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, Line 5 (Proxy Tax) (see separate instructions) or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 35c (Proxy Tax) (see separate instructions), then

- Section 501(c)(4), (5), or (6) organizations: Complete Part III.

Name of the organization WAKE COUNTY SMART START INC	Employer identification number 56-1949415
---	---

Part I-A Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c) or is a section 527 organization.

1	Provide a description of the organization's direct and indirect political campaign activities in Part IV. See instructions for definition of "political campaign activities."		
2	Political campaign activity expenditures. See instructions	\$	_____
3	Volunteer hours for political campaign activities. See instructions		_____

Part I-B Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(3).

1	Enter the amount of any excise tax incurred by the organization under section 4955		
2	Enter the amount of any excise tax incurred by organization managers under section 4955	\$	_____
3	If the organization incurred a section 4955 tax, did it file Form 4720 for this year?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
4a	Was a correction made?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
b	If "Yes," describe in Part IV.		

Part I-C Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c), except section 501(c)(3).

1	Enter the amount directly expended by the filing organization for section 527 exempt function activities		
2	Enter the amount of the filing organization's funds contributed to other organizations for section 527 exempt function activities	\$	_____
3	Total exempt function expenditures. Add lines 1 and 2. Enter here and on Form 1120-POL, line 17b.....	\$	_____
4	Did the filing organization file Form 1120-POL for this year?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
5	Enter the names, addresses and employer identification number (EIN) of all section 527 political organizations to which the filing organization made payments. For each organization listed, enter the amount paid from the filing organization's funds. Also enter the amount of political contributions received that were promptly and directly delivered to a separate political organization, such as a separate segregated fund or a political action committee (PAC). If additional space is needed, provide information in Part IV.		

(a) Name	(b) Address	(c) EIN	(d) Amount paid from filing organization's funds. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Amount of political contributions received and promptly and directly delivered to a separate political organization. If none, enter -0-.
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				

Part II-A Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(3) and filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)).

- A** Check if the filing organization belongs to an affiliated group (and list in Part IV each affiliated group member's name, address, EIN, expenses, and share of excess lobbying expenditures).
- B** Check if the filing organization checked box A and "limited control" provisions apply.

Limits on Lobbying Expenditures (The term "expenditures" means amounts paid or incurred.)	(a) Filing organization's totals	(b) Affiliated group totals												
1a Total lobbying expenditures to influence public opinion (grass roots lobbying)														
b Total lobbying expenditures to influence a legislative body (direct lobbying)	5,000													
c Total lobbying expenditures (add lines 1a and 1b)	5,000													
d Other exempt purpose expenditures	25,554,501													
e Total exempt purpose expenditures (add lines 1c and 1d)	25,559,501													
f Lobbying nontaxable amount. Enter the amount from the following table in both columns.	1,000,000													
<table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width:35%; text-align: left;">If the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b) is:</th> <th style="width:65%; text-align: left;">The lobbying nontaxable amount is:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Not over \$500,000</td> <td>20% of the amount on line 1e.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000</td> <td>\$100,000 plus 15% of the excess over \$500,000.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over \$1,000,000 but not over \$1,500,000</td> <td>\$175,000 plus 10% of the excess over \$1,000,000.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over \$1,500,000 but not over \$17,000,000</td> <td>\$225,000 plus 5% of the excess over \$1,500,000.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over \$17,000,000</td> <td>\$1,000,000.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	If the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b) is:	The lobbying nontaxable amount is:	Not over \$500,000	20% of the amount on line 1e.	Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000	\$100,000 plus 15% of the excess over \$500,000.	Over \$1,000,000 but not over \$1,500,000	\$175,000 plus 10% of the excess over \$1,000,000.	Over \$1,500,000 but not over \$17,000,000	\$225,000 plus 5% of the excess over \$1,500,000.	Over \$17,000,000	\$1,000,000.		
If the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b) is:	The lobbying nontaxable amount is:													
Not over \$500,000	20% of the amount on line 1e.													
Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000	\$100,000 plus 15% of the excess over \$500,000.													
Over \$1,000,000 but not over \$1,500,000	\$175,000 plus 10% of the excess over \$1,000,000.													
Over \$1,500,000 but not over \$17,000,000	\$225,000 plus 5% of the excess over \$1,500,000.													
Over \$17,000,000	\$1,000,000.													
g Grassroots nontaxable amount (enter 25% of line 1f)	250,000													
h Subtract line 1g from line 1a. If zero or less, enter -0-	0													
i Subtract line 1f from line 1c. If zero or less, enter -0-	0													
j If there is an amount other than zero on either line 1h or line 1i, did the organization file Form 4720 reporting section 4911 tax for this year?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No													

4-Year Averaging Period Under Section 501(h)
(Some organizations that made a section 501(h) election do not have to complete all of the five columns below. See the separate instructions for lines 2a through 2f.)

Lobbying Expenditures During 4-Year Averaging Period					
Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2021	(b) 2022	(c) 2023	(d) 2024	(e) Total
2a Lobbying nontaxable amount	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	4,000,000
b Lobbying ceiling amount (150% of line 2a, column(e))					6,000,000
c Total lobbying expenditures	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	15,000
d Grassroots nontaxable amount	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	1,000,000
e Grassroots ceiling amount (150% of line 2d, column (e))					1,500,000
f Grassroots lobbying expenditures					

Part II-B Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(3) and has NOT filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)).

For each "Yes" response on lines 1a through 1i below, provide in Part IV a detailed description of the lobbying activity.

	(a)		(b)
	Yes	No	Amount
1 During the year, did the filing organization attempt to influence foreign, national, state or local legislation, including any attempt to influence public opinion on a legislative matter or referendum, through the use of:			
a Volunteers?			
b Paid staff or management (include compensation in expenses reported on lines 1c through 1i)?			
c Media advertisements?			
d Mailings to members, legislators, or the public?			
e Publications, or published or broadcast statements?			
f Grants to other organizations for lobbying purposes?			
g Direct contact with legislators, their staffs, government officials, or a legislative body?			
h Rallies, demonstrations, seminars, conventions, speeches, lectures, or any similar means?			
i Other activities?			
j Total. Add lines 1c through 1i			
2a Did the activities in line 1 cause the organization to be not described in section 501(c)(3)?			
b If "Yes," enter the amount of any tax incurred under section 4912			
c If "Yes," enter the amount of any tax incurred by organization managers under section 4912			
d If the filing organization incurred a section 4912 tax, did it file Form 4720 for this year?			

Part III-A Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(4), section 501(c)(5), or section 501(c)(6).

	Yes	No
1 Were substantially all (90% or more) dues received nondeductible by members?	1	
2 Did the organization make only in-house lobbying expenditures of \$2,000 or less?	2	
3 Did the organization agree to carry over lobbying and political expenditures from the prior year?	3	

Part III-B Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(4), section 501(c)(5), or section 501(c)(6) and if either (a) BOTH Part III-A, lines 1 and 2, are answered "No" OR (b) Part III-A, line 3, is answered "Yes."

1 Dues, assessments and similar amounts from members	1	
2 Section 162(e) nondeductible lobbying and political expenditures (do not include amounts of political expenses for which the section 527(f) tax was paid).		
a Current year	2a	
b Carryover from last year	2b	
c Total	2c	
3 Aggregate amount reported in section 6033(e)(1)(A) notices of nondeductible section 162(e) dues .	3	
4 If notices were sent and the amount on line 2c exceeds the amount on line 3, what portion of the excess does the organization agree to carryover to the reasonable estimate of nondeductible lobbying and political expenditure next year?	4	
5 Taxable amount of lobbying and political expenditures. See Instructions	5	

Part IV Supplemental Information

Provide the descriptions required for Part I-A, line 1; Part I-B, line 4; Part I-C, line 5; Part II-A (affiliated group list); Part II-A, lines 1 and 2 (see instructions), and Part II-B, line 1. Also, complete this part for any additional information.

Return Reference	Explanation

Additional Data

Return to Form

Software ID:
Software Version:

SCHEDULE D
(Form 990)

Supplemental Financial Statements

OMB No. 1545-0047

Open to Public Inspection

(Rev. January 2025)
Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

▶ **Complete if the organization answered "Yes," on Form 990, Part IV, line 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e, 11f, 12a, or 12b.**

▶ **Attach to Form 990.**

▶ **Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.**

Name of the organization
WAKE COUNTY SMART START INC

Employer identification number

56-1949415

Part I Organizations Maintaining Donor Advised Funds or Other Similar Funds or Accounts.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 6.

	(a) Donor advised funds	(b) Funds and other accounts
1 Total number at end of year		
2 Aggregate value of contributions to (during year)		
3 Aggregate value of grants from (during year)		
4 Aggregate value at end of year		

5 Did the organization inform all donors and donor advisors in writing that the assets held in donor advised funds are the organization's property, subject to the organization's exclusive legal control? Yes No

6 Did the organization inform all grantees, donors, and donor advisors in writing that grant funds can be used only for charitable purposes and not for the benefit of the donor or donor advisor, or for any other purpose conferring impermissible private benefit? Yes No

Part II Conservation Easements.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 7.

1 Purpose(s) of conservation easements held by the organization (check all that apply).

Preservation of land for public use (e.g., recreation or education) Preservation of an historically important land area

Protection of natural habitat Preservation of a certified historic structure

Preservation of open space

2 Complete lines 2a through 2d if the organization held a qualified conservation contribution in the form of a conservation easement on the last day of the tax year.

	Held at the End of the Year
a Total number of conservation easements	2a
b Total acreage restricted by conservation easements	2b
c Number of conservation easements on a certified historic structure included in (a)	2c
d Number of conservation easements included in (c) acquired after July 25, 2006, and not on a historic structure listed in the National Register	2d

3 Number of conservation easements modified, transferred, released, extinguished, or terminated by the organization during the tax year ▶ _____

4 Number of states where property subject to conservation easement is located ▶ _____

5 Does the organization have a written policy regarding the periodic monitoring, inspection, handling of violations, and enforcement of the conservation easements it holds? Yes No

6 Staff and volunteer hours devoted to monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year
▶ _____

7 Amount of expenses incurred in monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year
▶ \$ _____

8 Does each conservation easement reported on line 2(d) above satisfy the requirements of section 170(h)(4)(B)(i) and section 170(h)(4)(B)(ii)? Yes No

9 In Part XIII, describe how the organization reports conservation easements in its revenue and expense statement, and balance sheet, and include, if applicable, the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that describes the organization's accounting for conservation easements.

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 8.

1a If the organization elected, as permitted under FASB ASC 958, not to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide, in Part XIII, the text of the footnote to its financial statements that describes these items.

b If the organization elected, as permitted under FASB ASC 958, to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide the following amounts relating to these items:

(i) Revenue included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1 ▶ \$ _____

(ii) Assets included in Form 990, Part X ▶ \$ _____

2 If the organization received or held works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets for financial gain, provide the following amounts required to be reported under FASB ASC 958 relating to these items:

a Revenue included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1 ▶ \$ _____

b Assets included in Form 990, Part X ▶ \$ _____

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets (continued)

- 3 Using the organization's acquisition, accession, and other records, check any of the following that are a significant use of its collection items (check all that apply):
a Public exhibition
b Scholarly research
c Preservation for future generations
d Loan or exchange programs
e Other
4 Provide a description of the organization's collections and explain how they further the organization's exempt purpose in Part XIII.
5 During the year, did the organization solicit or receive donations of art, historical treasures or other similar assets to be sold to raise funds rather than to be maintained as part of the organization's collection? Yes No

Part IV Escrow and Custodial Arrangements.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 9, or reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21.

- 1a Is the organization an agent, trustee, custodian or other intermediary for contributions or other assets not included on Form 990, Part X? Yes No
b If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII and complete the following table:
Table with columns: Amount, 1c Beginning balance, 1d Additions during the year, 1e Distributions during the year, 1f Ending balance
2a Did the organization include an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21, for escrow or custodial account liability? Yes No
b If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII. Check here if the explanation has been provided in Part XIII

Part V Endowment Funds.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 10.

- Table with columns: (a) Current year, (b) Prior year, (c) Two years back, (d) Three years back, (e) Four years back
1a Beginning of year balance
1b Contributions
1c Net investment earnings, gains, and losses
1d Grants or scholarships
1e Other expenditures for facilities and programs
1f Administrative expenses
1g End of year balance
2 Provide the estimated percentage of the current year end balance (line 1g, column (a)) held as:
a Board designated or quasi-endowment
b Permanent endowment
c Term endowment
The percentages on lines 2a, 2b, and 2c should equal 100%.
3a Are there endowment funds not in the possession of the organization that are held and administered for the organization by:
(i) Unrelated organizations
(ii) Related organizations
b If "Yes" on 3a(ii), are the related organizations listed as required on Schedule R?
4 Describe in Part XIII the intended uses of the organization's endowment funds.

Part VI Land, Buildings, and Equipment.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11a. See Form 990, Part X, line 10.

Table with columns: Description of property, (a) Cost or other basis (investment), (b) Cost or other basis (other), (c) Accumulated depreciation, (d) Book value
1a Land
1b Buildings
1c Leasehold improvements
1d Equipment
1e Other
Total. Add lines 1a through 1e. (Column (d) must equal Form 990, Part X, column (B), line 10(c).)

Part VII Investments - Other Securities.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11b. See Form 990, Part X, line 12.

(a) Description of security or category (including name of security)	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation: Cost or end-of-year market value
(1) Financial derivatives		
(2) Closely-held equity interests		
(3) Other _____		
(A)		
(B)		
(C)		
(D)		
(E)		
(F)		
(G)		
(H)		
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col. (B) line 12.)	▶	

Part VIII Investments - Program Related.

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 11c. See Form 990, Part X, line 13.

(a) Description of investment	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation: Cost or end-of-year market value
(1)		
(2)		
(3)		
(4)		
(5)		
(6)		
(7)		
(8)		
(9)		
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col.(B) line 13.)	▶	

Part IX Other Assets.

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 11d. See Form 990, Part X, line 15.

(a) Description	(b) Book value
(1)	
(2)	
(3)	
(4)	
(5)	
(6)	
(7)	
(8)	
(9)	
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col.(B) line 15.)	▶

Part X Other Liabilities.

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 11e or 11f. See Form 990, Part X, line 25.

1. (a) Description of liability	(b) Book value
(1) Federal income taxes	
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col.(B) line 25.)	▶

2. Liability for uncertain tax positions. In Part XIII, provide the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that reports the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 (ASC 740). Check here if the text of the footnote has been provided in Part XIII

Part XI Reconciliation of Revenue per Audited Financial Statements With Revenue per Return.

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

1	Total revenue, gains, and other support per audited financial statements		1	27,914,896
2	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12:			
a	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	2a		
b	Donated services and use of facilities	2b		
c	Recoveries of prior year grants	2c		
d	Other (Describe in Part XIII.)	2d		
e	Add lines 2a through 2d		2e	0
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1		3	27,914,896
4	Amounts included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, but not on line 1 :			
a	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b	4a		
b	Other (Describe in Part XIII.)	4b		
c	Add lines 4a and 4b		4c	0
5	Total revenue. Add lines 3 and 4c . (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 12.)		5	27,914,896

Part XII Reconciliation of Expenses per Audited Financial Statements With Expenses per Return.

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

1	Total expenses and losses per audited financial statements		1	27,249,271
2	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part IX, line 25:			
a	Donated services and use of facilities	2a		
b	Prior year adjustments	2b		
c	Other losses	2c		
d	Other (Describe in Part XIII.)	2d		
e	Add lines 2a through 2d		2e	0
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1		3	27,249,271
4	Amounts included on Form 990, Part IX, line 25, but not on line 1 :			
a	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b	4a		
b	Other (Describe in Part XIII.)	4b		
c	Add lines 4a and 4b		4c	0
5	Total expenses. Add lines 3 and 4c . (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 18.)		5	27,249,271

Part XIII Supplemental Information

Provide the descriptions required for Part II, lines 3, 5, and 9; Part III, lines 1a and 4; Part IV, lines 1b and 2b; Part V, line 4; Part X, line 2; Part XI, lines 2d and 4b; and Part XII, lines 2d and 4b. Also complete this part to provide any additional information.

Return Reference	Explanation
PART X, LINE 2:	WAKE COUNTY SMART START IS EXEMPT FROM PAYMENT OF INCOME TAXES UNDER THE PROVISION OF SECTION 501(C)3 OF THE IRC EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT OF TAXES ON ANY UNRELATED BUSINESS INCOME. FASB ASC 740 PROVIDES GUIDANCE FOR HOW UNCERTAIN TAX POSITIONS SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED, MEASURED, PRESENTED AND DISCLOSED IN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS. FASB ASC 740 REQUIRES THE EVALUATION OF TAX POSITIONS TAKEN OR EXPECTED TO BE TAKEN IN THE COURSE OF PREPARING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE TAX POSITIONS ARE "MORE-LIKELY-THAN-NOT" TO BE SUSTAINED BY THE APPLICABLE TAX AUTHORITY. WAKE COUNTY SMART START DOES NOT BELIEVE THERE ARE ANY UNRECOGNIZED TAX BENEFITS OR COSTS AS OF JUNE 30, 2025.
FORM 990, PART XII, LINE 3B AND SCHEDULE D PART XI AND XII	THE SINGLE AUDIT HAD NOT BEEN COMPLETED AT THE TIME THE 990 WAS FINALIZED.

Additional Data

[Return to Form](#)

Software ID:
Software Version:

Schedule I (Form 990) Grants and Other Assistance to Organizations, Governments and Individuals in the United States

(Rev. January 2025) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service OMB No. 1545-0047 Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization WAKE COUNTY SMART START INC Employer identification number 56-1949415

Part I General Information on Grants and Assistance

1 Does the organization maintain records to substantiate the amount of the grants or assistance, the grantees' eligibility for the grants or assistance, and the selection criteria used to award the grants or assistance? Yes No
2 Describe in Part IV the organization's procedures for monitoring the use of grant funds in the United States.

Part II Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Organizations and Domestic Governments. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 21, for any recipient that received more than \$5,000. Part II can be duplicated if additional space is needed.

Table with 8 columns: (a) Name and address of organization or government, (b) EIN, (c) IRC section (if applicable), (d) Amount of cash grant, (e) Amount of non-cash assistance, (f) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other), (g) Description of noncash assistance, (h) Purpose of grant or assistance. Rows 1-43.

2 Enter total number of section 501(c)(3) and government organizations listed in the line 1 table 17
3 Enter total number of other organizations listed in the line 1 table 25

Part III Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Individuals. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 22.

Part III can be duplicated if additional space is needed.

(a) Type of grant or assistance	(b) Number of recipients	(c) Amount of cash grant	(d) Amount of noncash assistance	(e) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)	(f) Description of noncash assistance
(1)					
(2)					
(3)					
(4)					
(5)					
(6)					
(7)					

Part IV Supplemental Information. Provide the information required in Part I, line 2; Part III, column (b); and any other additional information.

Return Reference	Explanation
PART I, LINE 2:	ALL FUNDED ACTIVITIES ARE MONITORED TO ASSURE COMPLIANCE WITH PROPOSAL AND CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS WHICH INCLUDE PROGRAM AND FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS. PROGRAM SITES ARE VISITED TO DOCUMENT PROGRAM ACTIVITY AND COMPLIANCE, DELIVERY OF SERVICE, OUTPUTS, AND OUTCOMES. TECHNICAL SUPPORT IS PROVIDED TO ACHIEVE GOALS.

Additional Data

[Return to Form](#)

Software ID:
Software Version:

Schedule J
(Form 990)

Compensation Information

OMB No. 1545-0047

(Rev. January 2025)

For certain Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees

- ▶ **Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 23.**
- ▶ **Attach to Form 990.**
- ▶ **Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.**

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization
WAKE COUNTY SMART START INC

Employer identification number
56-1949415

Part I Questions Regarding Compensation

1a Check the appropriate box(es) if the organization provided any of the following to or for a person listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a. Complete Part III to provide any relevant information regarding these items.

<input type="checkbox"/> First-class or charter travel	<input type="checkbox"/> Housing allowance or residence for personal use
<input type="checkbox"/> Travel for companions	<input type="checkbox"/> Payments for business use of personal residence
<input type="checkbox"/> Tax idemnification and gross-up payments	<input type="checkbox"/> Health or social club dues or initiation fees
<input type="checkbox"/> Discretionary spending account	<input type="checkbox"/> Personal services (e.g., maid, chauffeur, chef)

b If any of the boxes on Line 1a are checked, did the organization follow a written policy regarding payment or reimbursement or provision of all of the expenses described above? If "No," complete Part III to explain

2 Did the organization require substantiation prior to reimbursing or allowing expenses incurred by all directors, trustees, officers, including the CEO/Executive Director, regarding the items checked on Line 1a?

3 Indicate which, if any, of the following the filing organization used to establish the compensation of the organization's CEO/Executive Director. Check all that apply. Do not check any boxes for methods used by a related organization to establish compensation of the CEO/Executive Director, but explain in Part III.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Compensation committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Written employment contract |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Independent compensation consultant | <input type="checkbox"/> Compensation survey or study |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Form 990 of other organizations | <input type="checkbox"/> Approval by the board or compensation committee |

4 During the year, did any person listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, with respect to the filing organization or a related organization:

- a** Receive a severance payment or change-of-control payment?
 - b** Participate in, or receive payment from, a supplemental nonqualified retirement plan?
 - c** Participate in, or receive payment from, an equity-based compensation arrangement?
- If "Yes" to any of lines 4a-c, list the persons and provide the applicable amounts for each item in Part III.

Only 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations must complete lines 5-9.

5 For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the revenues of:

- a** The organization?
 - b** Any related organization?
- If "Yes," on line 5a or 5b, describe in Part III.

6 For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the net earnings of:

- a** The organization?
 - b** Any related organization?
- If "Yes," on line 6a or 6b, describe in Part III.

7 For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization provide any nonfixed payments not described in lines 5 and 6? If "Yes," describe in Part III.

8 Were any amounts reported on Form 990, Part VII, paid or accrued pursuant to a contract that was subject to the initial contract exception described in Regulations section 53.4958-4(a)(3)? If "Yes," describe in Part III.

9 If "Yes" on line 8, did the organization also follow the rebuttable presumption procedure described in Regulations section 53.4958-6(c)?

	Yes	No
1a		
1b		
2		
3		
4a		No
4b		No
4c		No
5a		No
5b		No
6a		No
6b		No
7		No
8		No
9		

Part II Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees. Use duplicate copies if additional space is needed.

For each individual whose compensation must be reported on Schedule J, report compensation from the organization on row (i) and from related organizations, described in the instructions, on row (ii). Do not list any individuals that are not listed on Form 990, Part VII.

Note. The sum of columns (B)(i)-(iii) for each listed individual must equal the total amount of Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, applicable column (D) and (E) amounts for that individual.

(A) Name and Title		(B) Breakdown of W-2, 1099-MISC compensation, and/or 1099-NEC			(C) Retirement and other deferred compensation	(D) Nontaxable benefits	(E) Total of columns (B)(i)-(D)	(F) Compensation in column (B) reported as deferred on prior Form 990
		(i) Base compensation	(ii) Bonus & incentive compensation	(iii) Other reportable compensation				
1 GAYLE HEADEN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	(i)	155,915	0	0	8,479	6,966	171,360	0
	(ii)	----- 0	----- 0	----- 0	----- 0	----- 0	----- 0	----- 0
2 GARY CARR DIRECTOR OF FINANCE	(i)	151,239	0	0	7,554	9,288	168,081	0
	(ii)	----- 0	----- 0	----- 0	----- 0	----- 0	----- 0	----- 0

Part III Supplemental Information

Provide the information, explanation, or descriptions required for Part I, lines 1a, 1b, 3, 4a, 4b, 4c, 5a, 5b, 6a, 6b, 7, and 8, and for Part II. Also complete this part for any additional information.

Return Reference	Explanation
------------------	-------------

Additional Data

[Return to Form](#)

Software ID:

Software Version:

Schedule L

(Form 990)

(Rev. January 2025)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Transactions with Interested Persons

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, lines 25a, 25b, 26, 27, 28a, 28b, or 28c, or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 38a or 40b.

Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.

Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.

OMB No. 1545-0047

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization
WAKE COUNTY SMART START INC

Employer identification number

56-1949415

Part I Excess Benefit Transactions (section 501(c)(3), section 501(c)(4), and section 501(c)(29) organizations only).

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 25a or 25b, or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 40b.

1	(a) Name of disqualified person	(b) Relationship between disqualified person and organization	(c) Description of transaction	(d) Corrected?	
				Yes	No

2 Enter the amount of tax incurred by the organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under section 4958. _____

3 Enter the amount of tax, if any, on line 2, above, reimbursed by the organization \$ _____

Part II Loans to and/or From Interested Persons.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 38a, or Form 990, Part IV, line 26; or if the organization reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 5, 6, or 22

(a) Name of interested person	(b) Relationship with organization	(c) Purpose of loan	(d) Loan to or from the organization?		(e) Original principal amount	(f) Balance due	(g) In default?		(h) Approved by board or committee?		(i) Written agreement?	
			To	From			Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No

Total \$ _____

Part III Grants or Assistance Benefiting Interested Persons.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 27.

(a) Name of interested person	(b) Relationship between interested person and the organization	(c) Amount of assistance	(d) Type of assistance	(e) Purpose of assistance

Part IV Business Transactions Involving Interested Persons.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 28a, 28b, or 28c.

(a) Name of interested person	(b) Relationship between interested person and the organization	(c) Amount of transaction	(d) Description of transaction	(e) Sharing of organization's revenues?	
				Yes	No
(1) A SAFE PLACE CHILD ENRICHMENT CENTER	FORMER BOARD MEMBER	504,716	KIM SHAW, FORMER BOARD MEMBER, OWNS A SAFE PLACE CHILD ENRICHMENT CENTER WHICH CONTRACTS WITH WAKE COUNTY SMART START AS A NC PREK AND WAKE THREESCHOOL PROVIDER.		No
(2) LITTLE HANDS 'N' FEET CHILD CARE CENTER INC	BOARD MEMBER	525,509	RONETTA PEARSALL , BOARD MEMBER, OWNS LITTLE HANDS 'N' FEET CHILD CARE CENTER WHICH CONTRACTS WITH WAKE COUNTY SMART START AS A NC PREK AND WAKE THREESCHOOL PROVIDER.		No

Part V Supplemental Information

Provide additional information for responses to questions on Schedule L (see instructions).

Return Reference	Explanation
------------------	-------------

Additional Data

[Return to Form](#)

Software ID:
Software Version:

SCHEDULE O
(Form 990)

(Rev. January 2025)
Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

**Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on
Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.
Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.**

Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.

OMB No. 1545-0047

**Open to Public
Inspection**

Name of the organization
WAKE COUNTY SMART START INC

Employer identification number

56-1949415

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 11B	THE 990 IS COMPLETED BY A CPA FIRM. IT IS THEN REVIEWED BY THE BOARD FINANCE COMMITTEE, AFTER REVIEW IT IS DISTRIBUTED TO THE FULL BOARD AND QUESTIONS ARE DIRECTED TO THE BOARD FINANCE COMMITTEE. AFTER THIS PROCESS IS COMPLETED, THE RETURN IS SIGNED BY A BOARD OFFICER.
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 12C	THE CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST POLICY REQUIRES BOARD MEMBERS TO ANNUALLY COMPLETE A CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE FORM. THESE FORMS ARE REVIEWED BY THE BOARD FINANCE COMMITTEE. A SCHEDULE OF BOARD MEMBERS WITH CONFLICTS IS TAKEN TO THE FULL BOARD FOR ACTION. BOARD MEMBERS ARE REQUIRED TO ABSTAIN FROM VOTING ON ITEMS WHICH THEY HAVE A CONFLICT. BOARD MEMBERS ARE REQUIRED TO UPDATE THEIR CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST DISCLOSURE FOR ANY CHANGES DURING THE YEAR.
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 15	THE COMPENSATION AND REVIEW PROCESS FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IS CONDUCTED BY BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. COMPENSATION IS DETERMINED USING INDEPENDENT COMPARABLE DATA. THE ORGANIZATION HAS A WRITTEN CONTRACT WITH THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. THE LAST COMPENSATION REVIEW PERFORMED BY AN INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT WAS DONE IN 2022. THE ORGANIZATION'S SALARY STRUCTURE IS REVIEWED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ANNUALLY AND ADJUSTED BASED ON MARKET DATA. THE NORTH CAROLINA PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN DEVELOPED A MANDATORY SALARY SCHEDULE FOR SMART START EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023 AS REQUIRED BY STATE LEGISLATION. THE WAKE COUNTY SMART START EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMPENSATION IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE SALARY SCHEDULE.
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION C, LINE 19	THE ORGANIZATION'S GOVERNING DOCUMENTS, CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY, AND AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE CONTAINED IN A PUBLIC FILE AT THE ORGANIZATION'S OFFICE. DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST AND ON THE ORGANIZATION'S WEBSITE, WWW.WAKESMARTSTART.ORG .

Additional Data

Return to Form

Software ID:

Software Version: