

# SMART START

## QUALITY SUPPORT



### GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Smart Start Quality Support recognizes programs that operate as learning organizations. A Smart Start Quality Support program can say:

- 1 We welcome people of every race, culture, and ability.
- 2 We learn from our families and include them in our planning.
- 3 We learn from our children and teach more effectively as we learn.
- 4 We learn from our staff by sharing ideas and working as a team.
- 5 We learn from the profession through continuing education and involvement.
- 6 We help every person build their talents and strengths.
- 7 We always put children first.

Our leaders are the “gatekeepers to quality.”<sup>1</sup>

- **They take charge of quality improvement.**
- **They demonstrate open and trustworthy behavior and ethical conduct.**
- **They model the 7 values listed above**

<sup>1</sup>The phrase “gatekeeper to quality” was coined by Dr. Paula Jorde Bloom in her work as an author and founder of the McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership at National-Louis University