

San Diego-Based TOOTRiS Powers the Next Phase of North Carolina's Tri-Share Child Care Program

Technology partnership with NCPC unifies funding and streamlines administration for working families statewide

SAN DIEGO, CA, UNITED STATES, October 23, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [TOOTRiS](#), the nation's leading technology platform for Child Care, has been selected by the [North Carolina Partnership for Children](#) (NCPC) as the new Third-Party Administrator (TPA) for the state's Tri-Share Child Care Program — a first-of-its-kind model that divides the cost of Child Care equally among the state, the employer, and the employee/parent.

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Our partnership with TOOTRiS represents an important step in supporting the sustainability of our mixed delivery early care and education system for everyone”

Mary Scott, Strategic Initiatives Director at NCPC

Launched as a pilot in 2024, NC Tri-Share has already demonstrated how shared investment can make high-quality Child Care more affordable and sustainable for working families. Now, with TOOTRiS joining at a pivotal moment in the program's growth, the initiative gains a

powerful lift from the first and only technology platform that unifies multiple funding streams, simplifies administration, and enables all stakeholders — the state, employers, and parents — to transact in real time, laying the groundwork for true statewide scale.

“The North Carolina Partnership for Children and the [Smart Start](#) Network has established a strong foundation for NC Tri-Share, and we're honored to help build on that success,” said Alessandra Lezama, CEO of TOOTRiS. “Our role is to strengthen what's already working by unifying the state, employer, and parent funding into one seamless, transparent system. The result is faster processing, simplified operations, and a more efficient flow of support to the families and providers who depend on this program.”

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Child Care costs continue to challenge North Carolina families and employers alike. According to the First Five Years Fund*, parents in the state pay roughly \$12,000 annually for infant care — more than the average cost of in-state college tuition. About 63% of children under the age of

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Smart Start Network

Smart Start is a statewide network of 75 local partnerships serving all 100 North Carolina counties with a mission to: Advance a high-quality, comprehensive, accountable early childhood system that benefits each child in North Carolina beginning with a healthy birth. Led by NCPC, this network ensures fiscal and programmatic accountability and works to improve outcomes for young children and their families. For more information, visit www.smartstart.org.

TOOTRiS

TOOTRiS is the nation's largest, most comprehensive technology platform for Child Care, partnering with government agencies, employers, and providers to modernize access, funding, and administration of Child Care systems. Through its platform, TOOTRiS streamlines complex funding models — including subsidies, cost-sharing programs like Tri-Share, and employer benefits — into one integrated, transparent digital experience. With a network spanning more than 230,000 licensed providers, TOOTRiS helps strengthen local Child Care systems, reduce administrative burdens, and ensure more families can reliably find and afford quality care. For more information, visit www.tootris.com.

First Five Years Fund - North Carolina

*First Five Years Fund - North Carolina - www.ffyf.org/states/north-carolina

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