For Immediate Release Contact: Clare Ruggles, nmfrc@embarqmail.com

Northern Moore Family Resource Center receives NC GlaxoSmithKline Foundation Ribbon of Hope Grant

May 3, 2018 - Northern Moore Family Resource Center (NMFRC) received a \$25,000 grant to support their HOPE (Harnessing Opportunity—Promoting Education) Academy Preschool. NMFRC opened HOPE Academy in September of 2015 to expand access to early-childhood education in northern Moore County.

In its first year, HOPE Academy served 24 children in two half-day classes. Now in its third year of operation, HOPE Academy has grown to serve 31 children in two full-day preschool classes and 25 children in two half-day classes, in part thanks to the \$25,000 received through the Ribbon of Hope grant program.

NMFRC has long believed that access to quality early-childhood education is vital to a successful education for the many children who live in the Robbins area. "We are grateful to be able to partner with the North Carolina GlaxoSmithKline Foundation to further expand the opportunity for early-childhood education in northern Moore County", says Clare Ruggles. "One of our graduates who is currently in kindergarten told her mother last Spring, "Mommy, I am ready for kindergarten cause I know English so good," adds, Lorraine Tweed, speaking of a little girl who only spoke Spanish when she entered HOPE Academy.

<u>About the Northern Moore Family Resource Center</u>

The Northern Moore Family Resource Center was founded in 1996 with a mission to encourage the development of strong families, healthy children, and caring communities by matching resources with needs in northern Moore County. For the past decade, NMFRC has worked to fulfill this mission through two main areas of focus: supporting children in their education and working with the Town of Robbins to promote economic and community development.

<u>About the North Carolina GlaxoSmithKline Foundation</u>

The North Carolina GlaxoSmithKline Foundation is an independent self-funding 501(c)3 nonprofit organization supporting activities that help meet the educational and health needs of today's society and future generations. Since its creation in 1986, the foundation has granted \$71.8 million to support North Carolina projects and programs that emphasize the understanding and application of science, health and education at all academic and professional levels. Visit us at NCGSKFoundation.org.