

N.C. ranks 41st on child well-being indicators- local woman seeks change

Written by Lauren Ohnesorge
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Nancy Reigel knows Watauga County is concerned about child welfare.

Last night, she appealed to Commissioners to put money behind that concern- \$20,000 to be precise. Community members want to start a study group on youth issues to discover more ways to use the money. Helping kids is great- but we need to find the cause of the problems- hit the issues at their source, she says- and that takes study. North Carolina ranks 41st on child well-being indicators, she says- and that is unacceptable.

How do we change it? By building Strategic Communities. It takes cooperation to gain the resources and knowledge needed to tackle issues that face our young people, she said.

The group already has monetary support from High Country United Way- and plan to ask the Town of Boone and Watauga Medical Center for additional funding. Watauga County Commissioners unanimously approved \$20,000 for the cause.