

**Debra Andersen, M.A., CCC-SLP, Executive Director, Smart Start Oklahoma**

Debra has been the Executive Director for Smart Start Oklahoma and the Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness Foundation since June, 2010. Smart Start Oklahoma is dedicated to improving early childhood policies that support all children being prepared when they enter school. With over 30 years of professional experience, Debra has developed expertise in organizing collaborative efforts at both a local community and state level. Prior to joining Smart Start, Debra was employed by the Oklahoma State Department of Health, providing state level leadership for the Child Guidance program. She has a Master's Degree in Speech Pathology from Kansas State University and extensive experience in providing services to young children with communication delays, program planning and administration, and community coalition building.