

**Executive Committee (Acting on Behalf of Board)**  
**(Virtual Meeting)**  
Thursday, June 25, 2020  
**President's Report**

**A. North Carolina Partnership for Children (NCPC) Updates / DCDEE Updates / Legislative Updates**

1. **NCPC** – Meeting twice weekly with network executive directors
  - Funding continues under FY18-19 amounts, with initial contracts at 85% of allocation on July 1.
  - Working to support programs with business practices and support. Funding from Blue Cross/Blue Shield Foundation to work with Self-Help Credit Union and Opportunities Exchange.
  - Priorities with COVID Relief – Family support and trauma-informed communities, supporting early care and education programs, literacy programs, Child Care Health Consultants, Equity issues.
  - NCPC has set up network wide access to DocuSign. We should be operational with DocuSign next week.
  - NCPC is also evaluating the possibility of access to network wide health insurance. More information to come.
  - Working in conjunction with NCPC on implementing ACH payments for vendors through the MIP (accounting system required by NCPC). Kudos to Marie Lilly for being persistent getting us to the “test” stage. NCPC is looking at further network access to ACH, including the MAC sites.
2. **DCDEE** – Child Care programs open for all families. Statewide enrollment in child care programs is down. Vacancy rates are 49% for centers, 25% for Family Child Care Homes. Overall, statewide 33% of child cares remain closed (41% centers, 7% Family Child Care Homes).
  - Programs must be open to get subsidy payments beginning in June.
  - Programs that are open must meet enhanced health and safety standards.
  - Eligible for PPE through the state system with Emergency Operations System.
  - Operations Grants for programs that are open.
  - Still waiting for guidance on NC Pre-K operations for the 20-21 school year.
3. **NC Legislature** – convened for short session 5/18. Continuing to review emergency relief packages and other bills related to the COVID-19 crisis. Anticipate wrapping up by July 4 and then reconvene later in summer.
  - Early Childhood Education Coalition invited to speak at House Committee on Health on Wednesday this week on the needs of the child care community in recovery.
  - **Early Childhood Legislative Agenda:** Focus on COVID related recovery and Leandro Action Plan.
4. **Leandro Action Plan for 20-21**- Key Early Childhood Actions for FY 20-21 to Provide a Sound, Basic Education. See attached Overview and talking points. Strategic planning and allocation should

align with the Leandro court order, the NC Early Childhood Action Plan and NCPC's Strategic Road Map.

5. **Federal Legislation** – waiting for further guidance on use of COVID relief funding and any additional stimulus package. Additional criteria for First in Families Act, request for additional funding for early childhood, state and local government.

**B. Equity Focus** – in light of recent events, the Partnership is committed to ensuring an equity focus and lens in all planning and implementation of activities and programs.

The Partnership for Children of Cumberland County stands in solidarity in the fight to end systemic racism and injustice. We are committed to advancing the wellbeing of children, strengthen the early care and education system in our community, and empowering families. We uphold our founding beliefs that ALL children receive a sound education, beginning at birth, and families receive the support they need to ensure success. Unfortunately, the data shows that our system is failing children who are black. Our children who are black are at higher-risk, by merely being born black.

Recent events have made it crystal clear that we must renew our 27+-year-old commitment to the children and families in our community and enact tangible changes in our organization to end the inequalities and inequities for children who are black.

The Partnership for Children values all of our community members, and we support the Black Lives Matter movement.

**C. Grant Opportunities/Updates**

1. **Infrastructure Grant Opportunities:** Applied for a second round of Longleaf Hurricane grant funding. **Granted \$75,000.** (Requested \$250,000). Steve Fleming submitted his second report of **Probable Cost for the infrastructure project. Estimate is \$1.2M.**
2. **PDG RFPs from NCPC for Regional Family Connects Pilots and Family Engagement have been delayed.** Anticipate they will be released August – September.

**D. COVID-19 Updates**

1. **PFC implemented its HR 110 Communicable Disease Policy on Monday, March 16. Building closed to general public March 30.**
2. **Phase 2:** We are implementing procedures and protocols following federal and state health and safety guidelines for returning to work. The Governor has extended Phase 2 through July 17 and mandated the wearing of masks for all employees and customers of retail businesses and restaurants as well as workers in manufacturing, construction, meat processing and agriculture settings. The mask requirement goes into effect Friday at 5:00 pm. (Executive Order 147)
3. **PFC Guidelines:**
  - a. Staggered schedules determined by supervisors by department to manage business and programmatic functions.
  - b. Continue teleworking as appropriate to reduce staff in building.
  - c. TAs and Professional Development staff continue to telework. Staff who are in high risk categories continue to telework.
  - d. Masks provided to all staff to reinforce the 3 Ws.
  - e. PFC Staff, Tenants and their clients, and contractors (i.e. cleaning and security) must complete a screening questionnaire for COVID-19 prior to entry into the building.

- f. Staff utilize normal leave time if work time does not meet 40 hours. Family First Paid Sick Leave and FMLA Expansion available for those staff who meet the criteria.
- g. Continue virtual options for contact with families and providers. Limited face-to-face contact with families and providers done with supervisor guidance when dictated to complete deliverables. In those cases, procedures for 3 Ws and screening are followed.
- h. Face-to-face classes and trainings in the building were cancelled through June. The only exceptions were for state directed deliverables. Virtual options are being explored and developed to meet this need for providers.
- i. Began limited utilization of conference room space for groups of no more than 10 people effective June 22 in order to meet deliverables. Screening procedures, the 3 Ws and cleaning procedures must be followed by all participants including the facilitator of the group.
- j. Continue to restrict PTRs and purchases unless it is a critical purchase. This is consistent with our usual end of the year restrictions on purchasing.
- k. Cleaning – Our cleaning service continues cleaning of high touch areas throughout the day in addition to their normal scheduled cleaning. This will continue indefinitely at this point.
- l. We reassess on a regular basis and provide routine updates. Decisions made in conjunction with state guidance and mandates.
- m. The building will continue to be restricted to PFC staff, tenants and tenant clients by appointment only. Access is Monday-Friday only, with client appointments during the hours of 8:30 am – 6:00 pm. The building is closed to the general public.
- n. The building will remain closed on weekends and PFC recognized holidays at least through July 17.
- o. Per Policy HR 110, President maintains regular contact with Board Chair for review and continuation of services. Regular communication going out to Board.
- p. Email Updates and DHHS Guidance documents posted on website: [ccpfc.org](http://ccpfc.org).

**E. House Donation update**

**F. Monitoring & Audit**

1. Regional Fiscal Monitoring report - no findings
2. Audit – Initial requests for documents submitted by June 15. Auditor site visit will be done virtually the week of August 31. Document list will be received by August 17.
3. NCPC Monitoring – Scheduled for mid-September

**G. Events**

1. **Board and Committee Meetings:** Meetings will be conducted virtually at least through the end of September due to space limits of conference rooms for social distancing.
2. **All Staff Virtual meetings:** Beginning July 8, will be conducted second and fourth Wednesdays, 2:30-3:30 pm through the duration of the COVID-19 emergency.