

Board of Directors Meeting (Virtual Meeting) Thursday, March 31, 2022 President's Report

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

1. NCPC

- **New State funds** – Hot off the presses the new State funds are available and we submitted our amendment request 3/29.
- **NCPC** – Annual Submission of Activities has opened. Final submission is due at the end of April. Budgets for FY 22-23 will be reviewed as part of this process. Activities will be reviewed through our monitoring process and the Planning & Evaluation Committee.
- **State Expansion of Child Care Health Consultants** – The Health Department has two contracts for providing CCHC services, one through the expansion grant and one through our Smart Start Allocation. Staff are in the process of required training and will soon be out in the field. Interviews are in process for the third position.
- **PDG Grant for Regional Pilots for Family Connects** – 4C has one nurse vacancy currently and is recruiting. Recruitment of families is currently limited to phone calls into the room. Home visits continue to be virtual. Procedures for in-hospital recruitment and actual home visits are being reviewed so that field staff are ready for the transition. **Eligible births*** are those from Cumberland, Hoke and Robeson Counties. We continue to review data for potential scaling up of the pilot. Staff participated in a Virtual Fidelity Assessment with Family Connects, International on March 10. We had a very positive meeting and have moved to the Implementation Phase. In addition, based on the data on births, Cumberland County is only second to Chicago for total births to date. Through budget revisions and amendment for Year 2, PFC received an additional Program Support Specialist due to the high volume of births. NCPC will be monitoring this activity in April.

	10/4/2021	1/25/2022	2/15/2022	3/15/2022
Total Births	0	1130	1367	1615
Eligible*	0	967	1169	1381
Not Eligible	0	163	198	234
Decline		138 14.27%	155 13.26%	180 13.03%
Scheduled		377 38.99%	449 38.41%	539 39.03%
Completed		270 27.92%	348 29.77%	445 32.22%
Pending		102 10.55%	140 11.98%	137 9.92%
Unable to Contact		80 8.27%	77 6.59%	80 5.79%
County of Residency	Goal	1/25/2022	2/15/2022	3/15/2022
Cumberland	56%	83%	83%	84%
Hoke	28%	12%	11%	11%
Robeson	16%	5%	6%	6%

2. DCDEE

- Enrollment continues to be down in child care programs and impacted by the ability to hire staff in child care programs. The number of available slots in child care facilities (Family Child Care Homes and Centers) has decreased by over 1,000 from January 2019 through December 2021.
 - We continue to follow guidance from DCDEE and utilize the ChildCareStrongNC Public Health Toolkit. The toolkit was updated March 7, 2022 to be in alignment with state guidance from DHHS. (<https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/media/220/download>).
 - All licensing requirements are back to pre-pandemic standards and applicable during monitoring visits by the DCDEE Consultants. Facilities are starting to go through modified ERS assessments.
 - **NC Pre-K**
 - a. Precontracting documents have been submitted for FY 22-23. Budgets will be due in the next month. Site Selection has been completed. Recommendations to Board today.
 - b. Guidance for the Legislative Rate Increase of 2% received and contract amendments are in process.
 - c. Continue to wait for guidance on the \$20M for NC Pre-K start-up, quality and capital expenses.
 - **N95 masks:** Provider Services and Region 5 staff have distributed masks across our eight-county region. Staff is continuing to distribute the masks in Cumberland County.
 - **Approved Stabilization Grants (November 1, 2021):** Eligible, approved providers from the first round have received payments and reporting is due with each quarterly payment. Recertification by programs who are currently eligible for continuing to receive the grants is due by April 4. Programs who have not applied may still apply for Stabilization Grants and can apply at any time and will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Region 5 staff has been tasked with following up with those who did not apply.
 - Parent fees for subsidy are waived through June 2022. Our dual-subsidy programs follow suit with waiving parent fees.
3. NC General Assembly – Short session will begin in May.
4. Federal Level
- Approval of the COVID vaccine for children under 5 has been delayed pending additional data. The Health Department anticipates that approval may come out in April and have implementation plans in place.
 - The FDA has authorized second booster shots for adults age 50 and older, as early as 4 months after your first booster.

B. Grant Opportunities/Updates/RFPs

1. Continue to research capital grant opportunities.
2. City of Fayetteville ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funding – in conversation with city staff on proposal to support the child care workforce.
3. The City of Fayetteville's CDBG proposals – submitted proposal for Phase 2 of the infrastructure project by the January 28 deadline.

C. COVID-19 Updates

PFC implemented its HR 110 Communicable Disease Policy on Monday, March 16, 2020. The building reopened to the public on January 3, 2022. We continue to review PFC operations based on updated federal, state and local health and safety guidelines. Policies have been reviewed and updated through our Board Committee process. Procedures are updated based on reviews of additional guidance from CDC, OSHA, EEOC, and DCDEE as well as local government mandates as we provide services to families and children through PFC and tenants. This has been and will continue to be an evolving process.

1. **Executive Orders:** The state continues to be under a state of emergency.
2. **PFC Guidelines: Detailed updates on Building Operations Procedures presented to Board today outline our guidelines relating to COVID-19, including moving to optional masking in the building.**
 - a. Per Policy HR 110, President maintains regular contact with Board Chair for review and continuation of

services. Regular communication has gone out to Board and staff. Decisions are made based on federal, state and local government guidance and mandates.

D. PFC Updates & Highlights

1. **New Staff:** Welcome to Terence Poole, Caseworker who started on March 7.
2. **Position openings posted: website link** (<https://www.indeed.com/cmp/Partnership-For-Children-of-Cumberland-County>)
 - Program Specialist, Family Services
 - Program Managers, Provider and Family Services
3. **Infrastructure Project:** We are moving forward with Phase 2 of the project. The RFP for construction has been posted.

E. Events

1. **Board and Committee Meetings:** Meetings have been conducted virtually through the duration of the COVID emergency. Equipment to upgrade the Charles Morris Room for hybrid meetings has been installed. Beginning with Board and Committee meetings in April, we will begin offering hybrid meetings.
2. **All Staff Meetings:** We will begin offering hybrid meetings effective with our April meeting.
3. **Tenant Meetings:** We are setting up quarterly meetings with tenants. The next meeting is April 14 to focus on website information with the goal of mirroring our digital and physical door and to provide updates.
 - Caring Hearts will have Sweet Frog Frozen Yogurt at the Partnership on April 13 from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm in support of Autism Awareness Month.
4. **NC Pre-K Recruitment continues:** Applications for the 21-22 school year continue to be online. There is a drop box outside the front door for families to drop off applications. The new multi-program application for the 22-23 school year is up and running. An email invitation to apply was sent to more than 500 families who expressed interest. The marketing campaign, Let's Get Enrolled, has begun (the letsgetenrolled.com URL is live).
5. **Drive-Through Truckload of Hope Diaper Bank: April 9, May 14 and June 11** from 8:30-10:30 am. Volunteers needed. Contact Daniele Malvesti (dmalvesti@ccpfc.org) if you can assist. We are working on a new check in system using Eventbrite.
6. We are planning other events for the fall, including bringing back The Soiree. **The Soiree will be held at the Crown Arena on October 22.** Sharon Moyer (smoyer@ccpfc.org) will have more information in upcoming meetings.

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 31, 2022

TO: Board of Director, PFC Staff, Family Resource Center Tenants

FROM: Mary Sonnenberg, President

SUBJECT: Update to Building Operations Procedures – Effective April 4, 2022

- Our goal is to serve children and families at the PFC Family Resource Center (FRC), being safe as possible while being open to the public. Throughout the pandemic we have reviewed the most recent guidance from CDC, OSHA, EEOC, and DCDEE as well as any state and local government mandates or guidance. With recent declines in COVID-19 cases and local abatements of mask mandates as well as state and CDC guidance, we will be making masks optional, though recommended, at the Partnership for Children Family Resource Center. This adjustment aligns with current guidance and is in conjunction with our decision to become a vaccinated organization. North Carolina remains under a State of Emergency.
- We have remained resilient in battling COVID-19 while doing our work on behalf of children and families, being flexible and adaptive as needed. The “mask optional” decision is no different. We will continue to monitor COVID-19 in the communities that we serve and adjust operations as needed.
- While masks are no longer mandatory in the building, please know that wearing a mask in the presence of others, washing your hands – and being fully vaccinated – still remain the best forms of protection against COVID-19. Masks will continue to be available to PFC staff as well as guests who request them at the front desk.
- While we welcome the opportunity to take off our masks, we also acknowledge there are some among us who will continue to wear masks for any number of reasons. We should remain respectful of others in their choices as well as the protocols in place in the communities where we may serve children, families and customers.
- **The Partnership for Children will follow these operational procedures at the Family Resource Center effective Monday, April 4:**

1. PFC is a vaccinated organization.
 - Staff will continue to follow the vaccine policy.
 - The PFC Staff Health Questionnaire will be discontinued. Staff should continue to exercise good judgment and not come to work sick with any symptoms of communicable disease.
 - Masks will be optional, but recommended.
 - Department and Program-specific guidelines to wear masks and/or sanitize will be followed by staff with direct contact with children, families, providers and outside customers.
 - Masks will continue to be available for staff.

2. As the facility owner, PFC will make face coverings optional, but recommended in the building. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tenants will guide requirements within their respective spaces and communicate those with their clients. • New signage will be placed at the front door of the FRC.
3. The PFC Family Resource Center has been open to the public since January 3, 2022.
4. All visitors will continue to enter through the main lobby entrance. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitors are to sign in at the KIOSK. • Whoever the visitor is here to see receives an email/text notification that their visitor has arrived. • A staff member will meet the visitor at the front desk and escort them to their visitation location and then accompany them back to the main lobby for exiting. • This applies to tenants, PFC visitors and any contractors.
5. PFC staff and tenant staff may use respective wing doors for entry and exit purposes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PFC Staff and tenants will not allow guests to enter and exit wing doors unless for emergency egress only.
6. Enhanced cleaning of high touch and use areas continues. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand sanitizer is located at every entrance to the building.
7. Current Schedule: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday and Friday: 8:00am – 7:30pm • Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 8:00am – 9:00pm • Saturdays 8:00am – 1:00pm • Extended hours of operation beyond the current schedule (above) will be based on requests from staff and tenants as needed.
8. Conference rooms must be scheduled through PFC's normal reservation system. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social distancing guidelines are no longer in place. • Conference rooms shall be cleaned after each use.
9. Staff who have an exposure or test positive to COVID-19 should notify their supervisor and HR immediately for guidance and to initiate proper cleaning protocols.
10. Tenants who have staff or clients who have an exposure or positive COVID-19 tests should notify Mike Yeager immediately for guidance and to initiate proper cleaning protocols.