

Executive Committee (Acting as Board) (Zoom Meeting) Thursday, April 28, 2022 President's Report

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

1. NCPC

- **Legislative agenda** is focused on requesting an **increase** in the **aggregate administrative rate** from 8% to **10% for Smart Start**.
- **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. Final approvals were done by Executive Committee today.
- **State Expansion of Child Care Health Consultants** – We have been informed that we will get a No Cost extension through September 30, 2022. Budget updates for the extension are due to NCPC by May 13.
- **PDG Grant for Regional Pilots for Family Connects** – 4C has filled their nurse vacancy. PFC will be posting the new Program Support Specialist position. 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. Conversations are focused on potential hospitals and counties in our region.

	10/4/2021	1/25/2022	2/15/2022	3/15/2022	4/15/2022
Total Births	0	1130	1367	1615	1913
Eligible*	0	967	1169	1381	1644
Not Eligible	0	163	198	234	269
Decline		138 14.27%	155 13.26%	180 13.03%	189 11.50%
Scheduled		377 38.99%	449 38.41%	539 39.03%	580 35.28%
Completed		270 27.92%	348 29.77%	445 32.22%	557 33.88%
Pending		102 10.55%	140 11.98%	137 9.92%	238 14.48%
Unable to Contact		80 8.27%	77 6.59%	80 5.79%	80 4.87%
COMPLETED VISITS					
County of Residency	Goal	1/25/2022	2/15/2022	3/15/2022	3/15/2022
Cumberland	56%	83%	83%	84%	85%
Hoke	28%	12%	11%	11%	10%
Robeson	16%	5%	6%	5%	5%

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) had decreased by over 1,000 from January 2019 through December 2021. We are starting to see some increases in available slots.

- We continue to monitor 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 approved by the NC Pre-K Planning Committee. Additional information on private sites for Legislative 2% was submitted to DCDEE for budget purposes.
 - b. Guidance for the Legislative Rate Increase of 2% received for this fiscal year. Waiting for Contract Amendment from DCDEE. Preparing contract amendments for NC PreK providers.
 - c. Continue to wait for guidance on the \$20M for NC Pre-K start-up, quality and capital expenses.
 - d. The Regional meeting for NC Pre-K contracting agencies will be held on May 19 from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. PFC staff will be in attendance.
- **Approved Stabilization Grants (November 1, 2021):** Payments continue quarterly, Recertification was due in April. Programs may continue to apply at any time and will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Region 5 staff has followed up with those who did not apply.
- Parent fees for subsidy have been waived through June 2022.
- 3. NC General Assembly – Short session will begin in May.
- 4. Federal Level
 - Approval of the COVID vaccine for children under 5 continues to be delayed pending additional data.
 - The FDA has authorized second booster shots for adults age 50 and older, as early as 4 months after the first booster.

B. Grant Opportunities/Updates/RFPs

1. Continue to research capital grant opportunities.
2. City of Fayetteville ARPA funding – continue to be in conversation with city staff on proposal to support the child care workforce.
3. The City of Fayetteville’s CDBG proposals – Commission approved the city staff’s recommendation of \$250,000. The next step is City Council approval.

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 were presented to Board in March.** As a reminder, masks are optional, though recommended and all meeting rooms are open with full capacity.
 - 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.
 - b. Cape Fear Valley Hospital is now requiring the first COVID vaccine Booster in addition to the initial vaccine series, to include contractors or vendors in the hospital. This applies to our Family Connects activity staff.

D. PFC Updates & Highlights

1. **New Staff:** Welcome to Carrie Childers, Program Specialist NC Pre-K, April 18
2. **Farewell:** Michelle Hearon, Division Administrator for Family Services, will be leaving May 6 to become Child Care Scholarship Director at Child Care Services Association in Durham. Rebecca Beck, VP of Information Technology, will be leaving May 13 to become Associate Director of Support Operations at Elon University, which will oversee four divisions of IT. Michelle and Rebecca both have a long tenure at the Partnership. We wish them well in their new endeavors.
3. **Position openings posted: website link** (<https://www.indeed.com/cmp/Partnership-For-Children-of-Cumberland-County>). Please go to our website for new posting.
4. **Infrastructure Project:** We are moving forward with Phase 2 of the project. Bids were opened on April 26 and recommendation for the contractor was presented to Executive Committee today.

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 began offering hybrid meetings effective with our April meeting.
3. **Tenant Meetings:** Quarterly meetings have started with tenants. The next meeting is April 10 to focus on website information with the goal of mirroring our digital and physical door and to provide updates.
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 live. The marketing campaign, **Let's Get Enrolled**, has begun (the letsgetenrolled.com URL is live). Please share with your networks. **1,145** applications had been received as of April 22. Of those applications for first choice by families, 903 are for Cumberland County Schools, 12 for Head Start, and 230 for private sites. Placements began April 8 and are on-going. An informational session was held for families and providers on April 27.
5. **Drive-Through Truckload of Hope Diaper Bank: 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. **The Soiree is coming back and will be held at the Crown Arena on October 22.** Sharon Moyer (smoyer@ccpfc.org) will have more information in upcoming meetings.