

Board of Directors Meeting (Virtual Meeting) Thursday, May 19, 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. Shared ECE priorities for 2022 are attached as well.
- Hunt-Lee Commission – Amy Cabbage, President NCPC participated on the Commission. The final report is located at <https://hunt-institute.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/HI-HLC-FinalReport-2022-wSig-Digital.pdf>
- Penalty for not meeting Cash/In-Kind match has been waived. It is still crucial to document all donations to go towards the state aggregate.
- NCPC – Annual Submission of Activities was submitted April 29. Budgets for FY 22-23 have been reviewed and presented to Finance Committee and full Board today.
- **State Expansion of Child Care Health Consultants** – We have been informed that we will get a No Cost extension through September 30, 2022. The Health Department continues to work on filling the last CCHC position for the expansion grant.
- **PDG Grant for Regional Pilots for Family Connects** – 4C has filled their nurse vacancy. PFC will be posting the new Program Support Specialist position. Recruitment will begin on site at the hospital beginning May 23. Home visits will begin in person June 2. **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	5/15/2022
Total Births	0	1130	1367	1615	1913	2185
Eligible*	0	967	1169	1381	1644	1864
Not Eligible	0	163	198	234	269	321
Decline		138 14.27%	155 13.26%	180 13.03%	189 11.50%	202 10.84%
Scheduled		377 38.99%	449 38.41%	539 39.03%	580 35.28%	647 34.71%
Completed		270 27.92%	348 29.77%	445 32.22%	557 33.88%	667 35.78%
Pending		102 10.55%	140 11.98%	137 9.92%	238 14.48%	260 13.95%
Unable to Contact		80 8.27%	77 6.59%	80 5.79%	80 4.87%	88 4.72%
COMPLETED VISITS						
County of Residency	Goal					
Cumberland	56%	83%	83%	84%	85%	86%
Hoke	28%	12%	11%	11%	10%	9%
Robeson	16%	5%	6%	5%	5%	5%

2. DCDEE

- Hunt Institute Data-Driven Strategic Planning (funded by a PDG grant) – Cumberland County team was selected for Cohort 2. The cross-sector team is led by Pamela Federline, VP of Planning & Evaluation.
 - Enrollment continues to be down in child care programs and impacted by the ability to hire staff in child care programs. While numbers of slots continue to be down, there has been some recovery. Continue to monitor.
 - Child care programs continue to follow the March 7, 2022 ChildCareStrongNC Public Health Toolkit. (<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 have begun going through modified ERS assessments. Under the state of emergency, education requirements have been modified and programs are under a hold harmless status.
 - **NC Pre-K**
 - a. Precontracting documents have been submitted for FY 22-23. Budgets will be submitted pending requests and information from DCDEE. Site Selection has been completed. Recommendations approved by the NC Pre-K Planning Committee.
 - b. Guidance for the Legislative Rate Increase of 2% received for this fiscal year. The contract Amendment has been signed. Contract amendments for NC PreK providers have been sent out. Received the fiscal workbook from DCDEE to submit for payment late Friday, May 13. FSR submitted May 17.
 - 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. Payment for School Year 22-23 will be by attendance. There are variances for teacher and director qualifications and waiving the 12-week limit for long term substitutes and administrators due to the continued difficulty in finding qualified staff.
 - **Approved Stabilization Grants (November 1, 2021):** Payments continue quarterly, Recertification was due in April. An additional 1% of programs have applied. Payments will run through April 2023.
 - Parent fees for subsidy have been waived through June 2022.
3. NC General Assembly – Governor’s budget released last week. Summary specific to Early Childhood attached. Short session began in May 18.
 4. Strolling Thunder for advocacy for Infant/Toddler initiatives June 9 in Raleigh. Flyer attached.
 5. Federal Level
 - Moderna has submitted their request for approval of the COVID vaccine for children under five.
 - 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 and consultant 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. Staff must follow the Vaccine Policy. Any staff with an exemption for COVID vaccines must continue to comply with their exemption requirements.
 - 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 and our nurse contractor.

D. PFC Updates & Highlights

1. **New Staff:** Welcome to Joshbekashah Morris, Program Manager for Family Services Caseworkers, May 23.
2. **Position openings posted: website link** (<https://www.indeed.com/cmp/Partnership-For-Children-of-Cumberland-County>). Please go to our website for new postings.
3. **Infrastructure Project:** We are moving forward with Phase II of the project. Bids were opened on April 26 and recommendation from Fleming and Associates for the contractor was received early May. The recommendation went to board for final approval today.

E. Events/Community Outreach

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, hybrid meetings will be offered. There have been some technical difficulties with large hybrid meetings that are being addressed with the vendor of the equipment.
2. **All Staff Meetings:** We began offering hybrid meetings effective with our April meeting.
3. **Tenant Meetings:** Quarterly meetings have started with tenants. The June meeting date is TBD.
4. **NC Pre-K Recruitment continues:** 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. **1,260** applications had been received as of May 6. Of those applications for first choice by families, 1,006 are for Cumberland County Schools, 50 for Head Start, and 203 (*decreased due to changes in parent choices of sites) for private sites. Placements began April 8 and are on-going.
5. **Drive-Through Truckload of Hope Diaper Bank: June 11** from 8:30-10:30 am. Dates are being set through December 2022. Volunteers needed. Contact Daniele Malvesti (dmalvesti@ccpfc.org) if you can assist. We are working on a new check in system using Eventbrite. We are in conversations with the Diaper Bank of NC about additional options for the Diaper Bank in Cumberland County.
6. **Book Donation** – Steve Milburn from UPS just donated 1,893 books for a value of \$9,300. A big THANK YOU for this donation to get books in the hands of children.
7. **The Soiree is coming back and will be held at the Crown Arena on October 28. Please note the date change** Sharon Moyer (smoyer@ccpfc.org) will have more information in upcoming meetings. The proposed theme is “The 70’s”. If you’re interested in serving on the planning committee, contact Sharon Moyer or Daniele Malvesti.