

## Board of Directors Meeting (Hybrid Meeting) Thursday, July 28, 2022 President's Report

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

#### 1. NCPC

- **NCPC** – FY 23 contract has been executed. Preparing DSP subcontracts.
- **Budget passed.** Administrative rate increased from 8% to 9% aggregate. Any budget changes will be done in amendments.
- Programmatic Monitoring has been completed. Fiscal Monitoring in process and will be completed by September 30.
- [Cost Principles](#) FY 22/23 and [FAQs](#)
- 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. We are finalizing the final year-end reporting.
- **State Expansion of Child Care Health Consultants** – The amendment on the Expansion grant for the No Cost extension through September 30, 2022 has been executed.
- **PDG Grant for Regional Pilots for Family Connects** – 4C has filled their nurse vacancy. PFC has posted the new Program Support Specialist position. Recruitment began on site at the hospital beginning May 23. Home visits began in person the week of June 2. **Eligible births\*** are those from Cumberland, Hoke and Robeson Counties. We continue to review data for potential scaling up of the pilot and are having preliminary discussions with additional hospitals. Conversations are focused on potential hospitals and counties in our region. Updated budgets were submitted for a potential Year 3 of funding and are awaiting news of approval.

	10/4/2021	1/25/2022	2/15/2022	3/15/2022	4/15/2022	5/15/2022	6/15/2022	7/15/2022	AVERAGE
Total Births	0	1130	1367	1615	1913	2185	2465	2760	1,919
Eligible*	0	967	1169	1381	1644	1864	2101	2354	1,640
Not Eligible	0	163	198	234	269	321	364	406	279
Decline		138 14.27%	155 13.26%	180 13.03%	189 11.50%	202 10.84%	225 10.71%	419 17.80%	13.06%
Scheduled/Open		377 38.99%	449 38.41%	539 39.03%	580 35.28%	647 34.71%	647 30.79%	174 7.39%	32.09%
Completed		270 27.92%	348 29.77%	445 32.22%	557 33.88%	667 35.78%	773 36.79%	833 35.39%	33.11%
Pending		102 10.55%	140 11.98%	137 9.92%	238 14.48%	260 13.95%	275 13.09%	289 12.28%	12.32%
Unable to Contact		80 8.27%	77 6.59%	80 5.79%	80 4.87%	88 4.72%	181 8.61%	619 26.30%	9.31%
<b>COMPLETED VISITS</b>									
<b>County of Residency</b>	Goal								
Cumberland	56%	83%	83%	84%	85%	86%	85%	86%	84%
Hoke	28%	12%	11%	11%	10%	9%	9%	9%	10%
Robeson	16%	5%	6%	5%	5%	5%	6%	5%	5%

#### 2. DCDEE

- Child care programs continue to be 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 program staffing and closures.

- Child care programs continue to follow the March 7, 2022 ChildCareStrongNC Public Health Toolkit. (<https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/media/220/download>).
  - The State of Emergency will be lifted August 15. All licensing requirements are back to pre-pandemic standards and applicable during monitoring visits by the DCDEE Consultants. Under the State of Emergency, education requirements had been modified and programs were under a hold harmless status. These requirements will go back into place under specified timelines. Child care programs will have 6 months after the end of the State of Emergency to meet pre-pandemic staffing requirements.
  - **NC Pre-K** – FY 23 contract has been executed.
    - a. Subcontracts with providers are in development.
    - b. The new state budget included an additional 7% to the 2% rate increases for the biennium for private sites. These are to go to teacher salaries. In addition, there was a 5% rate increase for public schools and Head Starts participating in NC Pre-K.
    - c. Teacher Assistants must now hold a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or be working on at least an Associate’s Degree in Birth-Kindergarten or related Early Childhood fields. (New Rule Change effective April 1, 2022) There is some flexibility for this requirement for the next two years in the 2022-2023 Additional Guidance for NC Pre-K Programs. Through the state partnership with Teaching Strategies, the CDA coursework will be offered for free through Quorum Training for NC Pre-K staff. More information on what that entails will be forthcoming from DCDEE.
    - d. Waiting for approval of plan and guidance from DCDEE on the \$20M for NC Pre-K start-up, quality and capital expenses.
  - **Approved Stabilization Grants (November 1, 2021):** The last payments will occur January 2023 for January - April 2023.
  - Parent fees for subsidy resumed July 2022.
3. NC General Assembly – Budget passed and signed by Governor.
- Reallocated a portion of federal ARPA funding for child care subsidy assistance to increase child care subsidy reimbursement rates to the 2018 market rate level. Temporary – these funds will expire in September of 2024.
  - Aligned state requirement for criminal background checks for prospective child care providers with federal block grant requirements, which is a background check every 5 years rather than every 3 years.
  - Provided additional pathways for the Early Childhood Credential to include a CDA or other recognized ECE Credentialing into the bill (H159). Also directed the Community College system to design a test that would be an equivalency for a lead teacher requirement to teach in a licensed child care program in NC.
4. The NC Supreme Court will hear oral arguments beginning August 31<sup>st</sup> regarding the court order to fully fund the Leandro Plan.
5. Federal Level
- Moderna and Pfizer vaccines approved for children 6 months – 4 years. Vaccines are available through local health departments, a number of pediatrician’s offices and may be available in pharmacies for children 3 years and older. The Cumberland County Health Department is conducting several vaccine clinics in August for required school vaccinations as well as COVID vaccines.
  - An additional COVID vaccine has been approved – Novavax COVID-19 vaccine for adults ages 18 and older.

## **B. Grant Opportunities/Updates/RFPs**

1. Continue to research capital grant opportunities. Had an initial call with the Cannon Foundation and will be submitting an inquiry request for the infrastructure project for Phase 3.
2. The City of Fayetteville’s CDBG proposal – Received notice of award approved by City Council June 7, 2022. City staff conducted a site visit July 27 as part of the award process. Next steps involve additional review processes along with specific RFP requirements. The timeline is such that this award will go toward Phase 3 of the project and most likely into the next fiscal year.

3. City of Fayetteville ARPA funding – continue to be in conversation with city staff and consultant on proposal to support the child care workforce. The contract agreement has been received and is under review. Anticipate a signed agreement early August.

#### C. COVID-19 Updates

We continue to monitor updates on COVID-19 in relationship to federal, state and local health and safety guidelines, key COVID metrics and impacts on staff and building operations. The building has been fully operational since January 3, 2022. We continue to provide enhanced cleaning, hand sanitizer stations and masks upon request. The Governor announced that the NC State of Emergency will be lifted August 15.

#### D. PFC Updates & Highlights

1. **Position openings posted: website link** (<https://www.indeed.com/cmp/Partnership-For-Children-of-Cumberland-County>). Please go to our website for new postings. There are programmatic as well as fiscal postings.
2. **Infrastructure Project:** Phase 2 of the project is moving forward. The change order has been initiated adding the additional window. We are in the waiting phase for windows.

#### E. Events/Community Outreach

1. **Board and Committee Meetings:** Meetings are being offered in a hybrid format.
2. **All Staff Meetings:** Monthly meetings are offered in a hybrid format.
3. **Tenant Meetings:** Quarterly meetings started with tenants last fiscal. The schedule for the new fiscal year is being developed.
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. Please share the [letsgetenrolled.com](https://letsgetenrolled.com) URL with your networks. Placements began April 8 and are on-going. We are processing new applications and doing placements on a daily basis. In addition, we are reviewing and processing Cumberland County Schools applications that are on their waiting list for NC PreK eligibility for placement in private sites.
5. **Drive-Through Truckload of Hope Diaper Bank: August 13, September 10, October 8, November 12 and December 10** from 8:30-10:30 am. Volunteers needed. Contact Daniele Malvesti ([dmalvesti@ccpfc.org](mailto:dmalvesti@ccpfc.org)) if you can assist. We are in conversations with the Diaper Bank of NC about additional options for the Diaper Bank in Cumberland County.
6. **Readers' Choice Finalist!** We are in the top three for The Fayetteville Observer's Readers' Choice again this year. The event is on August 18<sup>th</sup>. Sandee Gronowski and Mary Sonnenberg will be attending.
7. **Nonprofit Night at The Woodpeckers.** We are taking part in the Woodpecker's Nonprofit night on August 25<sup>th</sup>. With this commitment, we must sell a minimum of 15 tickets. We do not have the link for ticket sales yet, but we will be asking Board Members to purchase tickets. The tickets are \$14, with \$5 coming back to PFC.
8. **The Soiree is coming back and will be held at the Crown Arena on October 28.** Sharon Moyer ([smoyer@ccpfc.org](mailto: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. Planning is moving forward. If you're interested in a sponsorship, contact Sharon.