

**CABARRUS COUNTY PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN  
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING  
Tuesday, March 22, 2022**

The Board of Directors of the Cabarrus County Partnership for Children met on Tuesday, March 22, 2022, at 8:00 a.m. via Zoom meeting, which was advertised on our website and in our newsletter. Ms. Jackie Whitfield and Ms. Waynett Taylor presided over the meeting.

**These board members were present:**

- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| 1. Karen Calhoun       | DHS/Government                                |
| 2. Danielle Mauldin    | Services                                      |
| 3. Beth Street         | Attorney/Government                           |
| 4. Dr. Rosolena Conroy | Community/Pediatrician/Counselor              |
| 5. Jeanne Dixon        | Community Advocate/Government                 |
| 6. Carla Brown         | Government                                    |
| 7. Gil Small           | Community/Faith Community                     |
| 8. Waynett Taylor      | Services                                      |
| 9. Steve Morris        | County Commissioner/Government/Business Owner |
| 10. Jackie Whitfield   | Community/Faith Community/Advocate            |
| 11. Joseph Houston     | Duke Energy/Business                          |

**These board members were absent:**

- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Rachel Brazil | Services/Clinican |
| 2. Amos McClorey | Services/NAACP    |

**A quorum was present.**

**These staff members and guests were present:** Ann Benfield, Ariel Ayers, and Lauren Westin

**Welcome:**

Jackie Whitfield welcomed Board members and thanked them for attending.

**Approval of Agenda and Consent Agenda:**

The Board reviewed the agenda for today's meeting and the consent agenda items that were emailed to board members prior to the meeting, including: Minutes of October 26, 2021 Board Meeting, March 2022 ED Report, FY 21-22 SS Expenditures report, FY 21-22 NCPK Expenditures report, and FY 21-22 Other Funds Report.

Steve Morris made a motion to approve the agenda and consent agenda items as they were presented.

2<sup>nd</sup>: Gil Small

All were in favor.

**2020-2021 Financial Audit:**

Ariel Ayers presented that the Financial Audit reports, which are required annually due to the amount of federal funding we receive for NC PreKindergarten. All of the reports were emailed to the Board Members to review. Ariel stated that it was a very good audit with no adverse findings. Ariel stated that she complete the financial states and they made no corrections. Jeanne Dixon commended Ariel on her excellent record keeping that resulted in a clean audit.

**2021-2022 Reallocation of New Smart Start Funds:**

Ariel Ayers presented that we received new funding from Smart Start, however there is no update as to when we will have access to those funds locally, however the Partnership has gone ahead and created a reallocation plan to use the funding that has been approved by the State Legislature and Smart Start. Ariel also noted that the unallocated new funding has been approved by the North Carolina Partnership for Children to be carried forward, if needed, in order to use it wisely and effectively.

Activity	Proposed Allocation Adjustment	Comments	Conflicted Board Members	Motion to Approve	2 <sup>nd</sup> to Motion	Board Vote
NC Pre-K Program	43,700	Increase of school system slots	Steve Morris	Jeanne Dixon	Beth Street	All in Favor

Child Care Health Consultants	30,000	Increase in staff time/Atrium bonus & raises/PTO Cash Outs	Danielle Mauldin	Steve Morris	Beth Street	All in Favor
Early Education Liaison	25,320	Increase in program participation	Danielle Mauldin, Jackie Whitfield, Waynett Taylor, Steve Morris, Jeanne Dixon	Joseph Houston	Beth Street	All in Favor
ABCD	4,000	Increase in staff time/Atrium bonus & raises	None	Beth Street	Gil Small	All in Favor
Family Education and Outreach	30,000	DSP hired a full time employee	Joseph Houston	Beth Street	Steve Morris	All in Favor
Program Management/Evaluation	1,500	Increase in staff time/Atrium bonus & raises	None	Jeanne Dixon	Dr. Rosolena Conroy	All in Favor
Public Education and Outreach	-23,000	Removed SUN Project	None	Jeanne Dixon	Dr. Rosolena Conroy	All in Favor
Reach Out and Read	4,000	Increase in staff time/Atrium bonus & raises	Steve Morris	Beth Street	Gil Small	All in Favor
SUN Project	58,250	New activity, previously in Public Education and Outreach	Steve Morris	Jeanne Dixon	Dr. Rosolena Conroy	All in Favor

**21-22 Updated Cost Allocation Plan**

Ariel Ayers then presented the revised Cost Allocation Plan for FY2021-2022. The only change that was made was adding The SUN Project to Ann’s cost percentages.

Jeanne Dixon made the motion to approve the revised Cost Allocation Plan for FY2021-2022 as presented.

2<sup>nd</sup>: Gil Small

All were in favor.

**Program Oversight Committee Report:**

Lauren Westin reported the Program Oversight Committee met in February to review second quarter outputs. She noted that most programs were doing as expected, except for Breastfeeding Peer Support. Ann and Lauren met with the Cabarrus Health Alliance the Direct Services Provider (DSP) to provide feedback and concern and the DSP is working on some new goals and will report back at Program Monitoring the first week of April ahead of the next Program Oversight Committee Meeting.

Lauren then presented that Program Oversight had approved a Contracted Activity Description (CAD) for a new Training and Consultation Program for the county to be funded with the new Smart Start funding. After the committee approved the proposed CAD, it was presented to the Program Officer at NCPC. The Program Officer recommended using the standard CAD for Inclusive Childcare, which did not differ from what was approved. Lauren asked the Board to review the standard CAD and make a motion to approve the new CAD so that once new funding has arrived the Partnership could get the program up and running. The CAD is as written below:

Inclusive Child Care – This activity supports the inclusion of children with emotional, behavioral, and/or identified special needs in the child care setting. Services that are provided using Smart Start dollars in this activity include: (1) Technical assistance: Technical assistance (in the form of consultation and coaching) provided to early childhood educators working in start-up, licensed and G.S. 110 child care facilities serving children birth to five years old. The Technical Assistance will be focused on improving the capacity of providers to support nurturing and responsive caregiving, create learning environments, provide targeted social- emotional skills, and support children with challenging behavior in child care settings through the use of the a specific assessment, i.e. Pyramid Infant Toddler Observation Scale (TPITOS), Teaching Pyramid Observation Tool (TPOT), Devereux Early Childhood Assessment-Clinical (DECA-C)] (2) Training for child care providers: Training for DCDEE credit hours provided on social emotional and behavioral competence related topics and coordination of CEU opportunities.

Several Board Members asked about the need in the need in the child care community and why the school system was not providing these services to the children in the community. It was reported by Partnership staff and Danielle Mauldin that there is such a back log of children that needed evaluation and support with both school systems and that private childcare centers needed additional training and support to better manage classrooms until the backlog is resolved in Child Find/Early Intervention.

Jackie Whitfield made the motion to approve the CAD as written.

2<sup>nd</sup>: Jeanne Dixon

All were in favor.

Lauren lastly noted that at the next board meeting at the end of April we would be presenting recommendations from the committee to include programs in the plan for FY22-23. She requested that all board members attend so we will have a quorum as there would be a quick turn around to complete the plan and submit to NCPC in order to be in contract by July 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### **Governance Committee:**

Ann Benfield presented that multiple Board Members are rotating off the Board at the end of June and leaving two of four executive committee slots open. Beth Street has agreed to be the Vice Chair of the Board, but they are still in need of a Secretary and Treasurer.

Ann reported that she has talked to many possible candidates for board seats and has the following confirmed to start July 1, 2022:

1. Marcella Beam – Healthy Cabarrus, Cabarrus Health Alliance
2. Patrick Graham – Housing Trust
3. Lashay Avery – Partners Behavioral Health
4. Pam Smith – Cooperative Christian Ministries
5. Amanda Keaton – The Salvation Army (if in April she is not moved to another location)

Ann reported that she has also extended an invitation to Greg Crawford and Nancy Hunter, but has not heard back yet. Steve Morris reported that he had spoken with Greg Crawford, and Greg is unable to join. Jackie Whitfield reported that she had spoken with Nancy Hunter, and that Nancy is still praying for guidance.

Ann requested that if any other members had recommendations for the board to please let her know.

#### **Development Committee/Duffle Bags of Hope:**

Ann Benfield reported that she has recruited two youth groups at McGill Baptist Church and All Saints Episcopal Church to organize and pack the Duffle Bags of Hope. They are working on shopping and preparing everything and hopefully soon those bags will be in the hands of older foster children in Cabarrus County.

#### **Executive Committee Report:**

Ann Benfield reported that the Executive Committee did not meet this month, due to the Board Meeting being rescheduled for their normal time, however they did meet in January and she had forwarded those minutes on to the Board for them to review. No updates at this time.

#### **Karen Ponder Award (Dr. Suda):**

Ann Benfield reported that Dr. Suda has been awarded the Karen Ponder Award from Smart Start and will be given the award at a reception on May 24, 2022 at noon at the Cabarrus Health Alliance. The President of Smart Start, Amy Cabbage, will be attending and presenting the award to Dr. Suda. She asked that all Board Members mark their calendars and plan to attend so that they may both congratulate Dr. Suda and meet Amy Cabbage.

#### **Support the Partnership – Contribution Reminder:**

Waynett Taylor reminded the board members of all the great/hard work the Partnership does on a daily basis and how they support the local community and encouraged them all to make a contribution to the Partnership. She also noted that full board participation helped the Partnership to have more effective applications to grants if they could show 100% board participation.

**Meeting Adjourned:**

With no further business, Waynett Taylor thanked everyone for their time and attendance today. Ann and Waynett asked for a vote to reschedule the next board meeting from noon on April 26, 2022 to 8 a.m. on the same date. All Board Members in attendance were in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:51 a.m.

**Next Meetings:**

**Board Meeting: Tuesday, April 26, 2022 at 8 a.m. via Zoom**

Executive Committee: Tuesday, May 24, 2022 at 8:00 a.m. via Zoom

Respectfully submitted,  
Lauren Westin