



Executive Committee Meeting
Tuesday, January 25, 2022
Zoom Meeting – 8:00 a.m.

The Executive Committee of the Cabarrus County Partnership for Children met Tuesday, January 25, 2022 at 8:00 a.m. by Zoom Meeting. These members were present: Jeanne Dixon, Jackie Whitfield, Joseph Houston, and Waynett Taylor. Waynett Taylor led the meeting and welcomed everyone. Staff: Ann Benfield, Lauren Westin and Ariel Ayers were present. **Quorum was established.**

Ann Benfield presented the minutes of the November 23, 2021 meeting and the committee reviewed and discussed. Jeanne Dixon moved to approve the November 23, 2021 minutes. Joseph Houston second, and all were in favor.

Ariel Ayers shared the Partnership's Expenditure Reports and went over each one and answered questions. Ariel also state our Smart Start will have new funding this year. We will receive an additional \$172,114, the first new funding in the last 13 years.

Ariel Ayers presented the invoice from the Smart Start Advocates for \$25000 to help pay for the Smart Start Lobbyist in Raleigh. Jeanne Dixon moved the Partnership pay the full amount of \$2500 this year from Private Funding (508). Waynett Taylor seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Ann Benfield reported the Voices for Children Duffle Bags of Hope Campaign raised \$2288. The Development Committee is working to find a community partner that would like to helps us with this project. Jackie Whitfield stated her church might like to partner and she will let us know once she speaks with leadership at the church.

Ann Benfield reported we had two board members that did not make a contribution to the Partnership this year and we are unable to apply for a grant. Ann will be meeting with Governance Committee explore options for the future.

Ann Benfield reported the Reception for the presentation of the Karen Ponder Award to Dr. Suda has been postponed because we cannot find a location that will allow 50 people inside. We will be rescheduling the presentation in the spring.

Updates on Committees:

Governance: Will be meeting to discuss new board members, slate of offices for 2022-2024, and board contributions.

Development: Met January 24th to discuss the implementation of the Duffle Bags of Hope Project and will be meeting again January 27th to make a plan.

Lauren Westin presented two Contract Activity Description (CAD's) that need to be changed because we are removing the SUN Project as program and removing it from the Public Education and Awareness Program:

The SUN Project

This activity will engage families and providers from a variety of specialties, which may include medical, mental health, human services, substance use, government, policy makers and other organizations with the intent on transforming system interactions and addressing social determinants of health, through community collaborative meetings. The collaborative meetings will be a coordinated system of care for pregnant mothers with a substance use diagnosis, and help to ensure a full term, healthy baby. This system building activity may include addressing mindsets by convening professionals in conversations about the importance of issues surrounding substance use of pregnant mothers and the lifelong impact on the baby and child development. Power, through engaging community and family leadership opportunities that foster shared

ownership in ensuring an effective early childhood system and supports to ensure local components meet the needs of mothers, child and family. Connections through coordinated referral processes within multiple settings to reach mother and baby. Resources through cross sector professional development to build capacity of our community partners in the SUN Project. Programs through expanded and leveraged sources of support to increase the availability of coordinated services to meet the needs of the mothers, children, and families. Smart Start funds may be used to cover expenses for contractors, consultations, trainers, meeting costs and other associated costs to convene stakeholders, including non-cash grants as incentives for family participation.

Public Education and Awareness

This activity will provide outreach and information to the community, serving as the Catalyst, Conduit and Convener, to increase awareness and knowledge of early childhood issues, identify needs of children ages 0 to 5 years and their families or caregivers, improve child well-being and advance the collective impact in the community. This activity will help strengthen leadership and relationships that will improve system of care services by serving on local and state committees. The activity will implement new messaging of the Partnership's mission and vision, specific services that may be provided, special events, editorials on specific issues, and community outreach to the business and faith community. The activity is also responsible for all public relations for the Partnership which may include: outreach materials, the production of news releases to local print and electronic media, photography of events, website maintenance, and a periodic newsletter. Smart Start funds may also be used to provide: office expenses, contracted professional services, a portion of the executive director's time, and other partnership staff time as needed. Staff may attend local and regional trainings and information sessions to enhance skills.

Ann Benfield reported we hired a new staff member, Hannah Wareham. She was a teacher in Cabarrus County Schools at the Mary Frances Wall Center. Please stop by the office and see her when you have time.

The next board meeting will be Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at noon on zoom and the next Executive Committee Meeting will be March 22, 2022 at 8:00 am on zoom.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned 8:25 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Benfield