



Making Young Children a Priority!
Durham's Partnership for Children
Board of Directors Meeting
January 21, 2010

Board members present:

Ilene Britt	Suzette Brown	Cheryl Brown-DeBerry	Bill Bryant
Danielle Caldwell	Linda Chappel	David Covington	Drew Cummings
DeeDee Fields	Rebecca Freeman	Laura Gorry	Joe Haenn
Marilyn Hedgpeth	Kirsten Kainz	Sarah Kenney	Michael Palmer
Rueben Wall for Rhonda Parker	Ellen Reckhow	Rob Robinson	Eunice Sanders
Pat Harris for Delphine Sellars	Michael Russell for Timothy Sinclair	Anne Taylor	Angie Welsh

Board members absent/excused:

Skip Auld	Dave Clark	Gerri Robinson (Rhonda Stevens attended)
Annie Vample	Barbara VanDewoestine	Diane Rupprecht

The meeting was called to order at 3:04pm with a quorum.

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS: Welcome and introductions were made. Visitors included Julie Wacker and two Duke Residents, Alaina Brown and Michelle Kushnir. Condolences were offered to Timothy Sinclair on the death of his father-in-law, and the board welcomed Timothy's designee for the meeting, Michael Russell. Pat Harris will be the designee for Delphine Sellars and Rueben Wall is designee representing Rhonda Parker.

CONSENT AGENDA: The consent agenda was reviewed, including: a review of minutes of the November meeting, the Executive Committee Action Item from December, and the spending analysis forms. Staff has had the chance to review the spending analysis and have been in contact with programs that are not spending as usual. Direct service providers will be completing a spending report in January to allow staff to closely monitor spending and ensure that funds are not reverted.

It was moved to approve the consent agenda.

Motion: Marilyn Hedgpeth
Second: Bill Bryant
Conflicted: None

The motion was approved unanimously.

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS: There were no agenda modifications.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: There were no public comments.

REPORTS & UPDATES:

Dashboard Project: The staff has developed a dashboard for board members that's purpose is to be a visual tool to aid in governance. The dashboard has been shared with NCPC, and other counties have asked for assistance in developing a dashboard with this kind of visual information. Tina Bernardoni, the Operations & Special Projects Manager who designed the layout of the dashboard, will be providing technical assistance to others. Comments and feedback are welcome from board so that staff may improve the usefulness of the dashboard. The dashboard will be updated for each Board meeting.

Board/Staff Giving Campaign: At this time, Staff giving is at 100% and Board giving is at 70%. Board members are requested to support the Partnership in its goal of reaching 100% board giving hopefully by the March Board meeting. This year's Board/Staff Giving Campaign will be put toward the children's endowment campaign.

Allocations Committee, Year Two Process Review January – April: Anne Taylor presented information on the year two process. There are currently about 20 people on the Allocations Committee, with only three new members. Applications for year two were requested to give brief narrative, and to update with where they were with the plan, as well as to identify barriers and challenges and to address program outcomes identified. They hope to have recommendations finalized by April for the May Board meeting.

Update on State Office: Marsha reported that the state office has been asked to provide a budget with a 3%, 5%, and 7% cut statewide. That is likely to mean a cut in Durham of 10% based on the way the cuts were done last year and efforts to maintain Smart Start in all counties. It will possibly be a more difficult time financially than last year.

School Readiness/More at Four, Transfer Reimbursement Policy: Eunice Sanders presented the Transfer Reimbursement Policy recommended by the School Readiness/More at Four Committee.

In order to ensure that there is funding for the More at Four child from both funding sources at private sites, it is recommended that transfers be honored at the end of the month which would ensure that only one site would be reimbursed with both More at Four funds and Smart Start Scholarship funds. The site who receives the transfer student would be reimbursed for that slot the following month. (For example, if a student transfers from a More at Four site to another on January 28th, the new site can claim the child in February).

Motion: School Readiness/More at Four Committee

Second: Bill Bryant

Conflicted: Cheryl Brown-DeBerry, Linda Chappel, Marilyn Hedgpeth, Kirsten Kainz, Eunice Sanders, and Michael Russell for Timothy Sinclair

The motion passed unanimously.

BY-LAWS AMENDMENT & EARLY HEAD START

By-Law Amendment: In order to comply with the Early Head Start Guidelines, we need to amend the by-laws at this time to add a parent or former parent of a Head Start or Early Head Start program to the board. This member will be recruited once the EHS program is operational and parents and children are receiving services. This by-law amendment has met the requirements for the process for amending the by-laws since the Board received a copy of the by-laws amendment proposal at the November Board meeting.

It was moved to amend the by-laws as highlighted in red, amending “Early Head Start” to “Head Start or Early Head Start” to ensure compliance with the Early Head Start requirements.

Motion: Marilyn Hedgpeth

Second: Ellen Reckhow

Conflicted: None

The motion passed unanimously.

Early Head Start Update: The Partnership has received the Early Head Start (EHS) Grant for Durham County and has already attended a couple of webcasts. Marsha reported that the Partnership has been getting a lot of calls from people who think we have money, and she emphasized that it is important for the community to understand that we are just the grantee organization and we will not be receiving funds for this project other than a very small amount to support operations (approximately \$26,000) as we are responsible for all the grant reporting and oversight. We are spending a fair amount of time working with the delegate agency setting up the program. We will be responsible for budgeting, submitting forms to the federal government, drawing down funds, paying out the DSP, program operations, evaluation, etc.

The EHS grant is predominantly service dollars, and the program will be run by CHTOP with the Partnership supporting program development and evaluation. Discussion ensued regarding the application process, how to stretch resources to serve more people, and how to notify those most in need of the opportunity. The new state unique identifier system that will follow children until age 22 was also discussed as a possibility to track those served by the program in the future.

PBIS RESULTS

PBIS Presentation: Kate Irish, Program & Evaluation Director, presented the information regarding the PBIS Results. It was noted that we are held to the county standard regardless of funding source. We achieved high performing status on Regulated Programs, Child Placements, and Subsidized Child Placements; we met the minimum standard on Early Intervention and Health Check; we did not meet the standard for Parenting Skills and Teacher Education. For Parenting Skills, NCPC has acknowledged that their measurement tool is flawed, and they are working to review the measurement tools; new criteria will be selected. With regards to Teacher Education, the state of NC is also not meeting this as a whole. Further information regarding the PBIS materials may be found in the supplemental materials provided.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT: Marsha gave the ED report which included an update on legislative efforts and the Smart Start webcasts. Further information is available in the full report, but the following are highlights:

- March 9th is the Smart Investing Regional Forum (in Durham), and Marsha has inquired about additional slots from the Lee Institute.
- NCPC will be holding a virtual Smart Start Conference on February 18, 2010 from 11am-6pm with Joan Lombardi opening the conference and Stephanie Fanjul closing the conference; board members are invited to attend; the large conference room has been reserved for the event.
- With regards to the 15th Anniversary Event, Marsha requested help from the board in obtaining sponsorships, groups to purchase tables, etc. Marsha also announced that we have a speaker coming from the U.S. Department of Education on behalf of the White House and Secretary Duncan named Dennis Bega, who is a senior policy advisor.
- Docs For Tots will be hosting a special program March 1st and 2nd with Dr. Dina Lieser, the national Docs for Tots Director for the Residency Program and Duke University. Dr. David Taloe will be conducting grand rounds and will be able to share information that is important on child development in this forum. There will be a poster session from 10-1 on March 2nd.

- The More at Four Program will be kicking off its Pre-K application process soon. There were 867 applications last year. Appointments can be scheduled beginning February 8th for appointments starting February 16th; OBT will be taking walk-ins this year.
- Bill Bryant will be attending the school board meeting on January 28th and will be reading the letter from the board to the DPS School Board at that time; members are invited to join him at the meeting.
- Staff has also put together sample questions that could be used for a new Superintendent during the interview process at the request of a couple school board members; they will be sharing these questions with you for feedback.

BOARD SHARING EXERCISE: Board members completed a board sharing exercise to answer a question regarding a New Year resolution as part of an effort to be more engaged.

It was moved to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Rob Robinson

Second: Joe Haem

Conflicted: None

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 pm.

The next Board meeting will be March 18, 2010 3:00 pm.