

Early Education/ NC-Pre-Kindergarten Committee
Wednesday, November 18, 2015
10:00 am

The Early Education/NC-Pre-Kindergarten Committee met on Wednesday, November 18, 2015 at the Partnership office. Lora Lipe, Debbie Johnson, Sue Aschenbrenner, Kimberly Hutchins, Carmen Morrison, Wendy Brandon, Trina Wenzel and Debra Pless attended the meeting. Elizabeth Albright and Jamie Clark attended on behalf of the Cabarrus Partnership.

Welcome

Ann Benfield welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Approval of Minutes of October 28, 2015

Minutes of the meeting on October 28, 2015 were distributed. Ann asked for any corrections or additions.

- Moved to accept the minutes as presented: Lora Lipe
- 2nd Carmen Morrison
- All in Favor.

Information/Updates

Care Team

Ann Benfield shared the Care Team will meet following the committee for those that can stay. Jamie will send out the EC Referral flow charts for the NC Pre-K and Head Start teachers for each school district. The Care Team will serve the child care centers concerns and help them with the referral process. The first item is to come up with a process for teachers who need help and get this information to all child care centers in our county. There was a discussion about the importance in helping sites with getting the information about resources to the family. There was also talk about the increase in referrals for the age bracket of 0-3. Ann asked everyone to share ideas on ways to help teachers with getting the information to the families and supporting them through the process. There will be more information coming out about the upcoming Resource Café on March 5th, the target this year is for families who have children 0-5.

Head Start Update:

Ann Benfield shared that Kendra Britton has officially started at the Partnership as the Head Start Accountability coordinator. She will be working with Trina on the Health area first. We hope to introduce her at the next meeting. Ann was also very excited to share that Khari Garvin with Head Start will be joining us for the December meeting on the 16th.

Smart Start Update:

Ann Benfield reported the Program Oversight committee meets tomorrow to look at emerging needs in the community. This should help determine if there will be a need for an additional bidder's conference since programs are in a 2 year cycle. Stephanie Bynum is working with our program monitor/evaluator to help with monitoring our Direct Service Providers in Smart Start programs.

NCPK & Family Updates:

Elizabeth Albright reported The One Portal Access App target launch is late January, early February. There are just a couple more things to work out with Brad the programmer. He has done a great job. We are all very excited what this will do to help families. NC Pre-K is currently full but still taking applications at our office, Long and McKnight by appointment.

Elizabeth also discussed the Annual Cuddle-Up Coat Drive. She will be accepting new and gently used coats as well as socks and underwear. Right now the greatest need is size 4-6. Elizabeth is also looking for businesses to host events to raise money and take in donations.

Smart Start Scholarship Program:

Jamie Clark reported the Partnership program had a couple openings in the month of October, so we will be adding the children on our wait list and possibly adding a couple from the DHS wait list as well once the forecast is updated.

DHS Subsidy Updates:

Lora Lipe reported the department did a request to hire, their temp was offered a permanent position. The wait list is 303 families, which includes 498 children. In the month of October 87 children were added, 90 children removed and currently serving 34. So far November has had a 50% show rate. They currently have 60 children scheduled for appointments. There is currently 21,000 outstanding due to not turning in attendance sheets and signed contracts. There was discussion about similar issues with that at the Partnership office.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Clark

**Early Education/NC Pre-K Meeting
Wednesday, December 16th, 2015
10:00 a.m.
Meeting will be at the DHS Auditorium**