

CABARRUS PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL MEETING
TUESDAY, December 2, 2025

The Board of Directors of the Cabarrus Partnership for Children held its Voices for Children annual Luncheon on Tuesday, December 2, 2025, at 12 pm at McGill Baptist Church. Pam Smith, the board chair, presided over the meeting.

The following board members were present:

1. Beth Street, District Court Judge District Court Judge/Attorney/Government
2. Gil Small Community/Faith Community
3. Pam Smith CCM/Community/Services
4. Lora Lipe Cabarrus County Department of Human Services Economic Services/Government
5. Dr. Aalece Pugh Assistant Cabarrus County Manager
6. Rev. Jacqueline Whitfield Retired Educator/Community
7. Melanie Hollis Director of Cabarrus County Libraries/Government
8. Dr. Jessica Grant Executive Director Healthy Cabarrus
9. Samantha Moose Parent/Community Representative

These board members were absent:

1. Stacy Fackler Advocate Health Assistant VP, Patient Care
2. Jeff Jones Cabarrus County Commissioner – Chair
3. Malisha Ross Partners Behavioral Health
4. Dr. Sara Newell Superintendent of Kannapolis City Schools

Quorum was established

The following staff members were present: Ann Benfield, Patricia Sehorn, Tu'Nicquia Bradley, Melissa Jones, Starla Hatley, Lauren Westin, Ariel Ayers, and Debra Pless.

Pam Smith welcomed everyone.

Dr. E. Steve Ayers, Pastor of McGill Baptist Church presented the Invocation.

Ann Benfield thanked the all the county partners, elected officials, Cabarrus County Partnership for Children Board of Directors and the staff of the Partnership for all the support and help throughout the years.

Ann Benfield thanked all the partners listed below:

1 Can	Child Care Resources, Inc.	& City Council
Advocate Health Cabarrus	Concord City Government &	Kannapolis City Schools
Buzz City Games	City Council	Head Start
Cabarrus Child Protection	Child Developmental Services	Kids Interactive
Team	Agency (CDSA)	Developmental Services
Cabarrus County	Cooperative Christian	Kids Korner
Commissioners	Ministries	Meals On Wheels
Cabarrus County DSS	Country Law Shack	McGill Baptist Church
Cabarrus County District	Early Childhood Foundation	NC Child
Attorney's Office	of Cabarrus County	NC DHHS
Cabarrus County Government	Cabarrus County Early	NC Works Career Center
&	Childhood Task Force	NC House of Representative
County Manager's Office	ED NC	NC House of Representative
Cabarrus County Public	Endless Opportunities	NC House Office of
Library	Esther's Heart	Representative
Cabarrus County Schools	Families First of Cabarrus	North Carolina Partnership
Cabarrus County School	County	for Children
Board	First Kids	US Office of Senator Thom
Cabarrus Economic	F&M Bank	Tillis – Elizabeth Edwards
Development	Greater Cabarrus Foundation	US Office of Senator Ted
Cabarrus Health Alliance	Healthy Cabarrus	Budd
Cabarrus Regional Chamber	Jr. Charity League of Concord	Partners Behavioral Health
of Commerce	Kannapolis City Schools &	Perry Productions
Cannon Charitable Trust	Kannapolis City School Board	Rowan Cabarrus Community
	Kannapolis City Government	College

Safe Kids Cabarrus
Salisbury Academy
Save the Children Headstart

Cabarrus
Stanly County Community
College

Suda Institute
Truusight
We Build Concord

Anne Laukaitis Champion for Children Award

Ann Benfield introduced and presented the 2025 Anne Laukaitis Champion for Children award. The recipient was Lashonda Houston, from Endless Opportunities. Ann Benfield shared the accomplishments of Lashonda and surprised her with this award.

Parent As Teachers/Endless Opportunities Impact in Cabarrus County

Lashonda Houston continued to share the programs of Endless Opportunities and invited Bella Gonzalez & Samantha Moose to come and share with the group about how Endless Opportunities had impacted their lives over the years. The stories were compelling and made everyone cry. The ladies have grown into amazing parent caregivers, and their children are thriving.

Pam Smith shared the importance of giving on this, "Giving Tuesday" to support the Cabarrus County Partnership for Children so we can continue to serve the youngest citizens of our county.

Without any other business, Pam Smith wished everyone a happy holiday season and the meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,
Ann Benfield, Executive Director