



Executive Committee September 24, 2024

Zoom Meeting – 8:00 a.m.

The Executive Committee of the Cabarrus County Partnership for Children met at a called Zoom meeting on Tuesday, September 24, 2024 at 8:00 a.m. by Zoom Meeting. These members were present: Pam Smith, Gil Small, & Lora Lipe. Marcella Beam was unable to attend. Pam Smith led the meeting. Pam welcomed everyone. Staff: Ann Benfield, Lauren Westin and Ariel Ayers were present. **Quorum was established.**

Minutes for the May 28, 2024

Pam Smith presented the minutes of the May 28, 2024 executive committee meeting and the new executive committee determined that only one person, Gil Small was the only member that had attended the meeting, so the meeting decided to hold the approval of the May 28, 2024 minutes until the next meeting to be approved.

Ariel Ayers presented the financial reports that we sent by email and asked if anyone had any questions:

Smart Start Expenditure Report, NCPK Expenditure Report, Other Funds Report, and the State Directed Grant Funds Report

Program Oversight Updates and Recommendations

Lauren Westin presented the attached Program Planning Timeline for FY 25-26 & FY 26-27 and asked for approval so the bidding cycle can start for the next two years. After a discussion Gil Small moved to approve the Program Planning Timeline and Pam Smith seconded the motion and all were in favor.

<u>Month</u>	<u>Action – Planning Process</u>
July 2024	*Program Planning Timeline developed by Partnership staff
August 2024	*Program Oversight Committee reviewed Program Planning Timeline for FY25-26 & FY26-27 *Community Needs Assessment Priorities are: Mental Health, Housing and Affordable Quality Child Care *Board finalizes areas of focus for RFP *Board approves FY25-26 & FY26-27 Program Planning Timeline and areas of focus for RFP
September 2024	*Partnership staff develops application materials
October/November 2024	*Request for Proposals released – Friday, October 18, 2024 *Bidding Conference: Tuesday, October 29th at 10 a.m.
December 2024	*Deadline for questions re: RFP/RFA is Friday, December 6, 2024 * Proposals Due Friday, December 13, 2024 at 4:30 p.m. ; Staff Review of Proposals *Proposals distributed to Program Oversight Committee electronically
January 2025	*Program Oversight Committee Meeting held to discuss applications/answer questions *Meetings with potential direct service providers, if needed
February 2025	*Program Oversight Committee Meeting held to discuss applications/answer questions *Meetings with potential direct service providers, if needed *Program Oversight Committee meets to make recommendation for FY25-26 & FY26-27 Smart Start Programs for Annual Submission of Activities

	*Program Oversight Committee ranks programs based on importance/need in the community for funding should funding be limited
March 2025	*Approval of Programs to be funded FY25-26 & FY26-27 by Board of Directors
March/April 2025	*Submit Annual Submission of Activities (ASA) for FY25-26 to NCPC
February 2026	*Program Oversight Committee meets to make recommendation for FY26-27 Smart Start Programs for Annual Submission of Activities and rank program based on importance/need in the community for funding should funding be limited *Approval of Programs to be funded FY26-27 by Board of Directors
March 2026	*Submit Annual Program Plan for FY 26-27 to NCPC

Lauren Westin also presented an Emergency Dental Contract Activity Description (CAD) change for the Executive Committee to consider at the request of the Cabarrus Health Alliance: (change noted in yellow)

Smart Start funds will support restorative, **surgical, periodontal, and preventative** dental treatment, through purchase of services in the fixed or mobile dental clinics as well as emergency care from specialists. These funds will support services for children birth to age 5 not yet in Kindergarten and pregnant mothers (or those in perinatal period) who are not Medicaid eligible or insured. The Cabarrus Health Alliance will maintain eligibility documentation to include proof of the patient's age, Medicaid eligibility or insurance status. After a discussion, Pam Smith moved to approve the CAD change to the Emergency Dental Program and Gil Small seconded the motion and all were in favor of the change.

Lauren also report that the Program Oversight Committee has reviewed the Fourth Quarterly Report of all our Smart Start Programs for FY 23-24 and all of the program performed well.

SUN Project First Clay Shoot Fundraiser

SUN Project First Clay Shoot Fundraiser Sponsorship request: The SUDA Institute solicited a request for the Cabarrus Partnership for Children to support their first annual Clay Shoot event this Friday, September 27th. After a discussion the committee decided with our long history with the SUN Project we should Sponsor one of the "Stand Sponsorships" at \$250.00 for the exposure in the community. The funding will be from Private Funds. Gil Small moved to approve the Stand Sponsorship for Private Funds for the SUN Project First Clay Fundraiser. Lora Lipe seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Ann Benfield shared that the Cabarrus County Partnership for Children is having a Donation Night at the Texas Roadhouse at 7801 Gateway Lane, NW in Concord on Wednesday, October 16th from 3:30 – 9:30 pm, so please come and support this opportunity. Texas Roadhouse will be donating 10% of your total food purchase that evening to support our Conscious Discipline training program for our NCPK Program.

FY 25-28 Strategic Plan Update

Robbie Furr has been working hard on collecting data for our Strategic Plan Process. He has met with individual leaders, focus group of individual that work directly with the Partnership and he has also done a community survey that we sent to the community and over 100 people have completed the survey. We are currently waiting on his draft report so the board of directors can review and then at that point we will need to have an extended meeting to discuss with him and make projection for our future. I am hopeful we will receive the draft by the first weeks of October and then the board can review all the survey results and possible set a date for a retreat sometime in January or February.

Flex Plex & Cabarrus Share & Other State Funded Programs Update

Flex Plex: Ann Benfield continues to work with NC Licensing, Cabarrus County Building Inspector, Cabarrus Health Alliance Sanitation NC Child Care Commission folks to see if working with Family First and McGill Learning will be possible for a Flex Plex

space in vacant classroom space. The issue is a hard one because this process has never been done before and the rules for the Flex Plex space is very vague. We will continue our discussion and we will keep you updated.

Cabarrus Share Grant Program: We continue to work with Cabarrus County Government and Kannapolis City Government to enroll their employees in our Cabarrus Share Grant Program. We have meet with other businesses, but thus far no one has decided to work with us on this project. We will continue to introduce this new program to our businesses and make child care more affordable for families.

Other State Grant Programs: We have completed our first cohort of the new Teacher On Call Program and successfully graduated 10 early childhood professionals. They are ready to go to work and serve the community. 8 out of 10 have already enrolled at RCCC in our Early Education Liaison Program and will be taking EDU 119 in October. We are so excited about this new group of professionals and we can't wait to get them in the child care facilities.

The Cabarrus County Commissioner approved and signed our Proclamation for September to be Smart Start Month in NC. A big thank you to Steve Morris the chair of the county commissioners for honoring all the great work of Smart Start in our community.

Ann Benfield reminded everyone that we are accepting nominations for the 15th Annual Anne Laukaitis Award, which is due on Friday, October 18, 2024 by 5:00 pm. Please share this information in the community so we will receive lots of nominations.

Pam Smith reminded everyone the next schedule board meeting will be Tuesday, October 22, 2024 in the Partnership office or by Zoom at 1:00 pm. The next schedule Executive Committee Meeting is Tuesday, November 26, 2024 at 8:00 am on Zoom if needed. Please don't forget the Voice for Children/Annual Luncheon scheduled for Tuesday, December 3, 2024 at noon at McGill Baptist Church.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:49 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Benfield Executive Director