

**Wake County SmartStart
Board of Directors Meeting
April 23, 2008**

A regular meeting of the Wake County SmartStart Board of Directors was held on Wednesday, February 23, 2008 in the conference room of the Wake County SmartStart offices located at 1121 Situs Court, Suite 250 in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Board members in attendance were Mary Ellen Anderson, Nell Barnes, Kevin Cain, Dale Cousins, Sandy Dietrich, Donna Hargens, Shante Martin, Michele Miller-Cox, Carol Mitchell, Louise Orr, Hannah Poteat, Gemimah Rodriguez, Donna Rutowski, Norris Thurston, Mary Urzi, Michael Weisel and David Zonderman.

Board members absent and excused were Kym Martin and Camille Schaffer.

Board members absent and unexcused were Rev. Paul Anderson and Harold Webb.

Staff members present were Debi Bartholomew, Gary Carr, Nichelle Cole, Laura Coward, Pamela Dowdy (Executive Director), John Guenther, Helen Horne, Lindsay Renouf, Elizabeth Santana, Anna Troutman and Pat Whelan.

Board Chair, Michael Weisel recognized a quorum and called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

Hannah Poteat moved the board to accept adoption of the agenda, Mary Urzi seconded, All voted and was approved unanimously. (04-08-42)

Mary Urzi moved to accept adoption of the consent agenda which included minutes of the February 27, 2008 Board of Directors Meeting the March 2008 Financial Reports, the Finance Committee Meeting Management Policy Revision Recommendation and the Executive Committee RETAIN Recommendation. It was noted that Shante Martins last name was incorrectly listed in the February minutes as Miller, the correction was noted and made. Dale Cousins seconded, all voted and was approved unanimously. (04-08-43)

The meeting began with Dale Cousins representing the Allocations Committee bringing to the board the recommendation to approve up to \$17,069,600 in funding for 18 providers to implement 32 activities in FY2008-09. This recommendation is based upon the establishment of continuing need within the community, satisfactory partner performance and availability of WCSS fund allocation.

A motion to accept the committee recommendation to fund activities listed under the **Family Literacy** category was made by Dale Cousins. No second was required, all voted and approved unanimously with abstentions noted below: (04-08-44)

1. Recommendation of funding up to \$92,910 to Literacy Council of Wake County for Project LIFT (Literacy Instruction for Families Together) – Dale Cousins abstained
2. Recommendation of funding up to \$84,830 to Motherhead, Inc. for Motherhead/Fatheread
3. Recommendation of funding up to \$123,510 to Telamon Corporation NC Head Start for Telamon Corporation Family Literacy Program

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A motion to accept the committee recommendation to fund activities listed under the **Identification & Linkage of Underserved Children w/Resources** category was made by Dale Cousins. No second was required, all voted and approved unanimously with abstentions noted below: (04-08-45)

4. Recommendation of funding up to \$95,261 to Lutheran Family Services in the Carolinas for Intensive Home Visiting in High Needs Communities
5. Recommendation of funding up to \$41,600 to Raleigh Rescue Mission for Raleigh Rescue Mission Community Links Project
6. Recommendation of funding up to \$101,350 to The Salvation Army for Family Outreach and Resource Services
7. Recommendation of funding up to \$101,518 to Wake County Human Services for Child Health Outreach (CHOW) – Mary Ellen Anderson and Mary Urzi abstained
8. Recommendation of funding up to \$234,926 to WakeMed Health & Hospitals for WakeMed Hospital-Home Intervention Program

A motion to accept the committee recommendation to fund activities listed under the **Improved School Readiness** category was made by Dale Cousins. No second was required, all voted and approved unanimously with abstentions noted below: (04-08-46)

9. Recommendation of funding up to \$106,441 to Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Raleigh, NC for School Readiness Services for Hispanic Children

A motion to accept the committee recommendation to fund activities listed under the **Safe, Supportive Home Environments** category was made by Dale Cousins. No second was required, all voted and approved unanimously with abstentions noted below: (04-08-47)

10. Recommendation of funding up to \$64,190 to Lutheran Family Services in the Carolinas for Parent-Child Home Program
11. Recommendation of funding up to \$81,171 to SAFEchild for Crianza Con Carino (The Nurturing Program for Spanish Speaking Families) – Gemimah Rodriguez abstained
12. Recommendation of funding up to \$93,625 to Wake County Human Services for Enriching Families and Nurturing Children - Mary Ellen Anderson and Mary Urzi abstained

A motion to accept the committee recommendation to fund activities listed under the **Social Emotional Development** category was made by Dale Cousins. No second was required, all voted and approved unanimously with abstentions noted below: (04-08-48)

13. Recommendation of funding up to \$125,000 to Learning Together for BEST Buddiez – Nell Barnes abstained
14. Recommendation of funding up to \$211,195 to Lucy Daniels Center for Early Childhood for Social/Emotional Interventions for Young Children: Secure Path

A motion to accept the committee recommendation to fund activities listed under the **Sustainable Child Care Quality** category was made by Dale Cousins. No second was required, all voted and approved unanimously with abstentions noted below: (04-08-49)

15. Recommendation of funding up to \$114,470 to Child Care Services Association for Professional Development Planning for Child Care Providers
16. Recommendation of funding up to \$100,036 to Child Care Services Association for Choosing & Using High Quality Child Care Project
17. Recommendation of funding up to \$273,436 to Community Partnerships, Inc. for Inclusion Resource Project (IRP)

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18. Recommendation of funding up to \$417,239 to Wake County Human Services for Child Care Health Consultant Program – Mary Ellen Anderson and Mary Urzi abstained
19. Recommendation of funding up to \$12,804 to Wake County Public Libraries Bookmobile Services to Young Children for Stories Together – Dale Cousins abstained
20. Recommendation of funding up to \$849,781 to Wake County SmartStart, Inc. for Quality Enhancement and Maintenance Initiative in Child Care Centers and Family Child Care Homes – Michele Miller-Cox abstained

A motion to accept the committee recommendation to fund activities listed under the **Miscellaneous Activities** category was made by Dale Cousins. No second was required, all voted and approved unanimously with abstentions noted below: (04-08-50)

21. Recommendation of funding up to \$6,894,060 to Wake County Human Services for Child Care Financial Assistance for Families, Child Care Subsidy Service – Mary Ellen Anderson and Mary Urzi abstained
22. Recommendation of funding up to \$68,196 to Wake Tech for Early Education Faculty – Sandy Dietrich and Shante Martin abstained
23. Recommendation of funding up to \$1,000,000 to Child Care Services Association for Education Based Compensation for Early Childhood Educators, Child Care WAGE\$ Project – Michele Miller-Cox
24. Recommendation of funding up to \$4,226,862 to Wake County SmartStart, Inc. for More at Four Pre-Kindergarten Program, More at Four
25. Recommendation of funding up to \$252,350 to Wake County SmartStart, Inc. for Program Coordination and Community Capacity Building Project
26. Recommendation of funding up to \$202,544 to Wake County SmartStart, Inc. for Program Involvement and Evaluation
27. Recommendation of funding up to \$75,000 to Wake County Human Services for Nurse Family Partnership – Mary Ellen Anderson and Mary Urzi abstained

Activities that are being funded through Project Enlightenment were voted on separately so the board could have a discussion surrounding the recommended adjustments to the PE budget as outlined on page two of attachment B.1. After considerable discussion A motion to accept the committee recommendation to fund activities listed under Project Enlightenment was made by Dale Cousins. No second was required, all voted noting one objection, the motion was approved with abstentions noted below: (04-08-51)

Identification & Linkage of Underserved Children with Resources:

28. Recommendation of funding up to \$109,538 to Project Enlightenment for Child Screening, Referral and Support Program – Donna Hargens abstained
29. Recommendation of funding up to \$405,858 to Project Enlightenment for Parents as Teachers Home Program – Donna Hargens abstained

Improved School Readiness

30. Recommendation of funding up to \$143,199 to Project Enlightenment for Supporting School Readiness – Donna Hargens abstained

Sustainable Child Care Quality

31. Recommendation of funding up to \$228,439 to Project Enlightenment for Director’s Leadership Academy – Donna Hargens abstained
32. Recommendation of funding up to \$138,261 to Project Enlightenment for Consultation and Support for Child Care Providers – Donna Hargens abstained

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Mary Urzi, representing the Program Planning Committee, brought the board's attention to attachment B.3 NCPC PBIS Early Childhood Education Indicators. She informed that board that WCSS may have an opportunity to de-select the "Accredited Programs" criteria which has been an area of low performance. Outlined in the attachment are several other criteria that WCSS may choose from to replace the de-selected criteria. The Program Planning Committee will meet in May to discuss these options in further detail and bring their recommendations back to the full Board of Directors at the June 25, 2008 meeting.

Executive Director, Pam Dowdy moved the meeting onward directing the board to attachment C.1 outlining highlights of her Executive Directors report. Ms. Dowdy's report included: WCSS's opportunity to participate in Leadership SmartStart's pilot self-study project on Board Governance; WCSS has been allocated 970 MAF slots at a reimbursement rate of \$428 for a total of \$4,151,600 for FY2008-09 and WCSS has contracted with a consultant to identify expansion opportunities in Wake County; The State Board of CPA Examiners has responded to our letter requesting reimbursement of expenses related to the investigation of expenditures by FSN/CCR&R by stating that General Statute does not authorize the recovery of costs for complainants or witnesses; the Quality Enhancement staff has successfully completed another "Conscious Discipline" training having registered 160 teachers with 75 on a wait list. WCSS will be involved in the statewide Tuesday's for Tot's with a tentative date of June 17th to visit members of the Wake County Delegation; the NCPC Conference will be held May 6-9, 2008 w/over 36 representatives from Wake County attending including partners, child care providers, board members and staff; April 12-19 was designated the Week of the Young Child at the April 7th Commissioners mtg w/Board Chair Michael Weisel making introductory comments and the proclamation read by board member and Wake County Commissioner Harold Webb; WCSS distributed 600 books to child care programs in recognition of Provider Appreciation. The book, "Hug Time" along with materials on family literacy and reading were distributed under the coordination of Debi Bartholomew and Anna Troutman.

Board Chair, Michael Weisel thanked the staff and Allocations Committee for their efforts pulling together all the activities as well as the Board for their time in discussing each in detail. With no other new business noted Mr. Weisel adjourned the meeting at 10:25am.

Board Secretary Signature

Date