

**Wake County SmartStart
Board of Directors Meeting
April 22, 2009**

A regular meeting of the Wake County SmartStart Board of Directors occurred on Wednesday, April 22, 2009 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, Arvelis Byrd, Kevin Cain, Dale Cousins, Sandy Dietrich, Shirley Herndon, Randy Innes, Giang Le, Shanté Martin, Michele Miller-Cox, Carol Mitchell, Hannah Poteat, Gemimah Rodriguez, Camille Schaffer, Mike Smith, Norris Thurston, Michael Weisel, Jerraé Williams and David Zonderman.

Board members absent and excused were Donna Hargens, Peter Morris, Louise Orr and Donna Rutowski.

Board member absent and unexcused was Harold Webb.

Staff members present were Gary Carr, Pat Clements, Nichelle Cole, Pamela Dowdy, Executive Director, John Guenther, Amy Hall, Helen Horne, Richelle Johnson, Marie Maguire, Elizabeth Santana, Melinda Schlesinger and Anna Troutman

Erin Speer Smith, a NCPC Board Member, attended as well.

Welcome/Call to Order/Adoption of Agenda and Consent Agenda:

Board Chair, David Zonderman recognized a quorum and called the meeting to order at 8:34am. Dr. Zonderman welcomed guest Erin Speer Smith, who is on the NCPC Board of Directors and is attending the meeting as part of her NCPC Board Orientation. She will be visiting one of our More at Four Centers as well as one of our partner projects after the meeting adjourns. Ms. Smith has an extensive background in early childhood education and is currently the Program Coordinator for Early Childhood/Public Service Technologies with The North Carolina Community College System.

Dr. Zonderman informed the board that Board Member Peter Morris was currently in the hospital. He noted that Dr. Morris was doing well and that a card would circulate during the meeting for members to sign.

Kevin Cain moved to adopt the agenda, Hannah Poteat seconded. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-42)

Michael Weisel moved to adopt the consent agenda which included minutes from the February 25, 2009 Board of Directors Meeting, the March 2009 Financial Reports and a list of DSP decommissioned fixed assets. Jerraé Williams seconded. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-43)

Chairman's Report:

Board Chair, David Zonderman opened the meeting by providing a budget update. As everyone is aware, Governor Perdue submitted her budget proposal. The Senate budget, as proposed, included significant changes outlining cuts 25% higher than that of the Governor's recommended budget. Relevant challenges concerning us are issues with merging MAF with SmartStart and the possibility of replacing MAF with a subsidy-based program. Under this latter proposal, many families who are now eligible for MAF would not be eligible in the subsidy-based program. Dr. Zonderman noted that we are advocating for funding to the fullest extent possible within current fiscal realities with a need to protect the integrity of the More at Four program. More information will be shared as it becomes available.


Initial

Executive Director's Report:

Executive Director, Pam Dowdy, directed the Board to attachment B.1, outlining the More at Four County/Region Plan for FY2009-10. Attachment B.2 outlines the MAF sites, star rating and the number of slots at each site. Hannah Poteat moved to approve the submission of the More at Four Plan. Michelle Miller-Cox seconded. Calling for a vote, noting that Arvelis Byrd, Shirley Herndon and Shanté Martin abstained from the vote, hearing no objections the motion carried. (04-09-44)

Executive Director, Pam Dowdy updated the board on several key items outlined in her report handout.

- Wake County SmartStart will receive a Bronze PBIS Award, which includes a \$500.00 contribution for sustaining the minimum standard in the mandatory health and early care criteria for the last three years. Awards will be presented at the NCPC Conference this May; however, WCSS will not attend in light of budget cuts and similar travel restrictions passed along to partners. A letter is being drafted to Ashley Thrift, NCPC Board Chair, and Stephanie Fanjul, NCPC President, explaining our absence and the rationale behind our decision.
- An audit exit conference will occur on April 23 that will conclude the audit of FY2007-08. WCSS had no findings and the report, once finalized, will be posted on the state website. A link will be shared with the board when the report is available.
- NCPC has requested feedback from local partnerships on Principles of Allocations, which serves as guidance for making funding decisions. Staff will submit a summary by the end of the week. Two areas that we feel merit review include consideration of narrowing the range of percentages of funding in relation to calculated need and in using additional factors if PBIS is used as a performance measure including the starting measure, the % of need funded, time factor and PBIS growth.

Committee Reports:

Allocations Committee: Attachment C.1 outlines the committee's recommendations for program funding for FY2009-10. Board Chair, David Zonderman, outlined how the meeting would proceed, reminding the board of their responsibility to recuse themselves from participating in any deliberation and voting on any program discussed in which they have a Conflict of Interest. Dr. Zonderman went on to thank Allocations Committee Chair, Kevin Cain and the entire Allocations Committee for their work during one of the most difficult funding cycles.

Allocations Committee Chair, Kevin Cain, took the floor, thanking the committee for their work. He noted that the committee worked with a funding budget reflecting a 15% decrease from that of FY2008-09 along with using the guiding criteria outlined for them during the February 25, 2009 Board of Directors meeting which included:

- ✓ Continued need in the community
- ✓ Partner performance
- ✓ Alignment with Board identified priorities
- ✓ Availability of Funding

Mr. Cain said that there were certain cuts made across programs detailed in attachment C.1. When applied to all programs, these cuts led to a savings of \$46,698.

As outlined in attachment C.1, the Allocations Committee recommends approval of up to \$14,603,411 in funding for 13 providers to implement 24 activities in FY2009-10. The funding recommendations for FY2009-10 are as follows:

1. Recommendation of funding up to \$8,084,429 to Wake County Human Services for Child Care Subsidy Service – Abstaining from deliberation and vote were Mary Ellen Anderson, Nell Barnes, Shirley Herndon, Giang Le, Michelle Miller-Cox and Camille Schaffer. Kevin Cain moved to accept the Allocations Committee recommendation to fund Wake County Human Services up to \$8,084,429 for Child Care Subsidy Service, no second was required. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-45)


Initial

Wake County SmartStart Board of Director Meeting Minutes

6/24/09
Date
April 22, 2009

2. Recommendation of funding up to \$2,749,477 to Wake County SmartStart, Inc. for More at Four – Abstaining from deliberation and vote were Arvelis Byrd, Shirley Herndon and Shanté Martin. A small discussion ensued regarding whether the potential changes to the program were given consideration in the review process. Since no decisions have been confirmed, the recommendation was based on the existing program. With no further discussion, Kevin Cain moved to accept the Allocations Committee recommendation to fund Wake County SmartStart up to \$2,749,477 for More at Four, no second was required. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-46)
3. Recommendation of funding up to \$372,319 to Wake County SmartStart, Inc. for Quality Enhancement Initiative in Child Care Centers and Family Child Care Homes – Abstaining from deliberation and vote was Shirley Herndon. Kevin Cain moved to accept the Allocations Committee recommendation to fund Wake County SmartStart up to \$372,319 for Quality Enhancement Initiative in Child Care Centers and Family Child Care Homes, no second was required. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-47)
4. Recommendation of funding up to \$372,319 to Wake County SmartStart, Inc. for Quality Maintenance Initiative in Child Care Centers and Family Child Care Homes – Abstaining from deliberation and vote was Arvelis Byrd, Shirley Herndon and Michelle Miller-Cox. Kevin Cain moved to accept the Allocations Committee recommendation to fund Wake County SmartStart up to \$372,319 for Quality Maintenance Initiative in Child Care Centers and Family Child Care Homes, no second was required. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-48)
5. Recommendation of funding up to \$379,423 to Wake County Human Services for Child Care Health Consultant Program – Abstaining from deliberation and vote were Mary Ellen Anderson, Nell Barnes, Arvelis Byrd, Shirley Herndon, Giang Le, Michelle Miller-Cox, Carol Mitchell and Camille Schaffer. Kevin Cain moved to accept the Allocations Committee recommendation to fund Wake County Human Services up to \$379,423 for Child Care Health Consultant Program, no second was required. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-49)
6. Recommendation to de-fund Community Partnerships, Inc. for Inclusion Resource Project (IRP) – Abstaining from deliberation and vote were Nell Barnes, Shirley Herndon and Michelle Miller-Cox. It was noted that the decision to de-fund this program was made after careful deliberation. The deciding factors were availability of funds, partner performance (difficulty reaching greatest needs population), a change in need over time and funding to another program which targets the same population. Kevin Cain moved to accept the Allocations Committee recommendation to defund Community Partnerships, Inc. for Inclusion Resource Project (IRP), no second was required. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-50)
7. Recommendation of funding up to \$119,256 to Project Enlightenment, Wake County Public Schools for Consultation and Support for Child Care Providers – Abstaining from deliberation and vote were Nell Barnes, Shirley Herndon and Michelle Miller-Cox. A question arose as to whether the wage issue that had been ongoing in past years had been resolved and it has been resolved. Kevin Cain moved to accept the Allocations Committee recommendation to fund Project Enlightenment up to \$119,256 for Consultation and Support for Child Care Providers, no second was required. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-51)
8. Recommendation of funding up to \$119,504 to Motherhead, Inc. for L.I.N.K.S. (Literacy Invites and Nurtures Kids Success) – Abstaining from deliberation and vote were Nell Barnes and Arvelis Byrd. A question was raised as to why funding for this program was recommended at a higher rate than the current rate in contract as of 2-15-09 (\$74,698). This program was new last year and started later in the funding year so the rate reflected this year is for a full year of funding for FY2009-10. With no other discussion, Kevin Cain moved to accept the Allocations Committee recommendation to fund Motherhead, Inc. up to \$119,504 for L.I.N.K.S. (Literacy Invites and Nurtures Kids Success), no second was required. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-52)

 Initial
Wake County SmartStart Board of Director Meeting Minutes

6/24/09
Date
April 22, 2009

9. Recommendation of funding up to \$13,145 to Wake County Public Libraries Bookmobile Services to Young Children for Stories Together – Abstaining from deliberation and vote were Dale Cousins and Camille Schaffer. Kevin Cain moved to accept the Allocations Committee recommendation to fund Wake County Public Libraries Bookmobile Services to Young Children up to \$13,145 for Stories Together, no second was required. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-53)
10. Recommendation of funding up to \$97,032 to Child Care Services Association for Choosing & Using High Quality Child Care Project – Abstaining from deliberation and vote were Nell Barnes, Arvelis Byrd, Shirley Herndon and Michelle Miller-Cox. Kevin Cain moved to accept the Allocations Committee recommendation to fund Child Care Services Association up to \$97,032 for Choosing & Using High Quality Child Care Project, no second was required. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-54)
11. Recommendation to defund Child Care Services Association for Child Care WAGE\$ Project – Abstaining from deliberation and vote were Nell Barnes, Arvelis Byrd, Shirley Herndon and Michelle Miller-Cox. It was noted that this decision was reached due to availability of funds, direct impact on children and alignment with board priorities. With no further discussion, Kevin Cain moved to accept the Allocations Committee recommendation to defund Child Care Services Association for Child Care WAGE\$ Project, no second was required. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-55)
12. Recommendation of funding up to \$115,000 to Child Care Services Association for Professional Development Planning for Child Care Providers – Abstaining from deliberation and vote were Sandy Dietrich, Shirley Herndon and Michelle Miller-Cox. A question arose about whether we would be able to require specific types of training such as the orientation training. It was unknown if that training is still offered or if it was offered through another agency. Staff would look into this and share findings with the board when available. With no further discussion, Kevin Cain moved to accept the Allocations Committee recommendation to fund Child Care Services Association up to \$115,00 for Professional Development Planning for Child Care Providers, no second was required. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-56)
13. Recommendation to defund Project Enlightenment, Wake County Public Schools for Child Screening, Referral and Support Program – Abstaining from deliberation and vote were Nell Barnes and Shirley Herndon. It was noted this program was recommended for defunding because this service is the responsibility of the Wake County Public School System. With no further discussion, Kevin Cain moved to accept the Allocations Committee recommendation to defund Project Enlightenment, Wake County Public Schools for Child Screening, Referral and Support Program, no second was required. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-57)
14. Recommendation of funding up to \$97,058 to The Salvation Army for Family Outreach and Resource Services – There were no abstentions noted. Kevin Cain moved to accept the Allocations Committee recommendation to fund The Salvation Army up to \$97,058 for Family Outreach and Resource Services, no second was required. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-58)
15. Recommendation of funding up to \$75,000 to Wake County Human Services for Nurse Family Partnership – Abstaining from deliberation and vote were Mary Ellen Anderson, Giang Le and Camille Schaffer. With no further discussion, Kevin Cain moved to accept the Allocations Committee recommendation to fund Wake County Human Services up to \$75,000 for Nurse Family Partnership, no second was required. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-59)
16. Recommendation of funding up to \$102,745 to Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Raleigh, Inc. for School Readiness Services for Hispanic Children – There were no abstentions noted. Kevin Cain moved to accept the Allocations Committee recommendation to fund Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Raleigh, Inc. up to \$102,745 for School Readiness Services for Hispanic Children, no second was required. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-60)


17. Recommendation of funding up to \$93,000 to Wake County Human Services for Child Health Outreach (CHOW) – Abstaining from deliberation and vote were Mary Ellen Anderson, Giang Le and Camille Schaffer. Kevin Cain moved to accept the Allocations Committee recommendation to fund Wake County Human Services up to \$93,000 for Child Health Outreach (CHOW), no second was required. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-61)
18. Recommendation to defund Motherhead, Inc. for Motherhead/Fatheread. The decision for defunding this program was made based on availability of funding, partner performance and alignment with board-identified priorities. Discussion was called and hearing none Kevin Cain moved to accept the Allocations Committee recommendation to defund Motherhead, Inc. for Motherhead/Fatheread, no second was required. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-62)
19. Recommendation of funding up to \$92,910 to Literacy Council of Wake County for Project LIFT (Literacy Instruction for Families Together) – Abstaining from deliberation and vote was Dale Cousins. Kevin Cain moved to accept the Allocations Committee recommendation to fund Literacy Council of Wake County up to \$92,910 for Project LIFT (Literacy Instruction for Families Together, no second was required. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-63)
20. Recommendation of funding up to \$394,028 to Project Enlightenment, Wake County Public Schools for Parents as Teachers Home Program – There were no abstentions noted. Kevin Cain moved to accept the Allocations Committee recommendation to fund Project Enlightenment, Wake County Public Schools up to \$394,028 for Parents as Teachers Home Program, no second was required. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-64)
21. Recommendation of funding up to \$78,000 to SAFEchild for Crianza Con Carino (The Nurturing Program for Spanish Speaking Families) – Abstaining from deliberation and vote were Mary Ellen Anderson and Gemimah Rodriguez. Kevin Cain moved to accept the Allocations Committee recommendation to fund SAFEchild up to \$78,000 for Crianza Con Carino (The Nurturing Program for Spanish Speaking Families), no second was required. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-65)
22. Recommendation of funding up to \$284,926 to WakeMed Health & Hospitals for WakeMed Hospital-Home Intervention Program – Abstaining from deliberation and vote was Mike Smith. Kevin Cain moved to accept the Allocations Committee recommendation to fund WakeMed Health & Hospitals up to \$284,926 for WakeMed Hospital-Home Intervention Program, no second was required. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-66)
23. Recommendation of funding up to \$114,656 to Telamon Corporation NC Head Start for Telamon Corporation Family Literacy Program – Abstaining from deliberation and vote was Arvelis Byrd. Kevin Cain moved to accept the Allocations Committee recommendation to fund Telamon Corporation NC Head Start up to \$114,656 for Telamon Corporation Family Literacy Program, no second was required. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-67)
24. Recommendation to defund Learning Together for BEST Buddiez – Abstaining from deliberation and vote were Mary Ellen Anderson, Nell Barnes, Arvelis Byrd, Shirley Herndon and Camille Schaffer. The decision to defund this program was determined based on availability of funding, another funded program providing a similar service and partner performance. With no further discussion, Kevin Cain moved to accept the Allocations Committee recommendation to defund Learning Together for BEST Buddiez, no second was required. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-68)
25. Recommendation of funding up to \$200,297 to Lucy Daniels Center for Early Childhood for Social/Emotional Interventions for Young Children: Secure Path – Abstaining from deliberation and vote was Mary Ellen Anderson. Kevin Cain moved to accept the Allocations Committee recommendation to fund Lucy Daniels Center up to \$200,297 for Early Childhood for Social/Emotional Interventions for Young Children, no second was required. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-69)


Initial

6/24/09
Date

26. Recommendation of funding up to \$92,595 to Wake County Human Services for Enriching Families and Nurturing Children – Abstaining from deliberations and vote were Mary Ellen Anderson, Giang Le and Camille Schaffer. Kevin Cain moved to accept the Allocations Committee recommendation to fund Wake County Human Services up to \$92,595 for Enriching Families and Nurturing Children, no second was required. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-70)
27. Recommendation of funding up to \$138,806 to Project Enlightenment, Wake County Public Schools for Supporting School Readiness – There were no abstentions noted. Kevin Cain moved to accept the Allocations Committee recommendation to fund Project Enlightenment, Wake County Public Schools up to \$138,806 for Supporting School Readiness, no second was required. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-71)
28. Recommendation of funding up to \$255,778 to Wake County SmartStart for Program Coordination and Community Capacity Building Project – There were no abstentions noted. Kevin Cain moved to accept the Allocations Committee recommendation to fund Wake County SmartStart up to \$255,778 for Program Coordination and Community Capacity Building Project, no second was required. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-72)
29. Recommendation of funding up to \$211,708 to Wake County SmartStart for Program Improvement and Evaluation – There were no abstentions noted. Kevin Cain moved to accept the Allocations Committee recommendation to fund Wake County SmartStart up to \$211,708 for Program Improvement and Evaluation, no second was required. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-73)

With no other business to address Board Chair, David Zonderman entertained a motion to adjourn at 10:07am from Michael Weisel, Hannah Poteat seconded. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-09-74)



Board Secretary Signature

6/24/09

Date