

## **Minutes**

**Committee Members in attendance:** Leslie Anderson, Jasmine Beach-Ferrara, Philip Belcher, Christy Cheek, Kit Cramer, Jane Hatley, Rich Johnston, Chavaun Letman, Dr. Susan Mims, Robert Pressley, Mistie Riesing-Cogbill, Glenda Weinert, Al Whitesides, Kidada Wynn.

**County support staff in attendance:** Rachael Nygaard, Rasheeda McDaniels, Burnett Walz, Kimberly Fullerton, Patricia Wallin, Max Taintor

**Welcome** and agenda review by Jasmine Beach-Ferrara.

### **Minutes**

A motion was made by Robert Pressley and seconded by Rich Johnston to approve minutes from November 5, 2019. Vote of approval was unanimous.

### **Old Business**

- **Update on Site Visits** – Rasheeda McDaniels presented site visit recap of visits held to date. A schedule was included in the packet with a list of upcoming site visits in December and January.

Committee discussion on site visit reflections:

- wonderful to see tangible results
  - excitement of recipients
  - helpful to hear about barriers
  - understanding of system as a whole
  - opportunity for deeper learning and idea sharing between sites
  - good to ask questions in context of being there
  - differing effects on centers such as impacts from child subsidy, regulation changes, etc.
  - see how the grants are benefitting the centers in reaching their goals
  - inspiring and motivating to see grants in action
  - expertise, passion & love shown by directors, teachers and staff
  - impressed with level of commitment and dedication in spite of adversity
  - importance of flexibility of funding
  - patterns and consistencies across centers, such as challenges with staffing and pay for teachers/staff and struggles with regulations
- **Funding Process** – Rachael Nygaard reviewed three draft documents with the Committee: Grant Guidelines; Grant Application; and Scoring Criteria. Committee members discussed each document, asked questions, and made the following list of proposed edits:

#### **Grant guidelines**

- Add clarifying language to indicate that funds will support early childhood care and education for children birth through age five with an emphasis on pre-k programs serving rising kindergarteners.

- Rename the projects/purposes section, stating that funding will be allocated for projects using the following strategies.
- Add the date of the Community Engagement Session.
- Put the paragraphs in chronological order by date in the Application Process section and correct typographical error.
- Change “Scale-up” to “Sustainability” under scoring criteria.
- Note that requests for contract extensions will be handled on a case-by-case basis.
- Note that insurance is an allowable expense and can be built into the budget.

#### **Application**

- Rename “Goal Served” to “Strategy.”
- Add clarifying language to indicate that funds will support early childhood care and education for children birth through age five with an emphasis on pre-k programs serving rising kindergarteners.
- Under “Results,” add language clarifying that impact should be in line with the goals of the fund.
- Under “Results,” add language clarifying that projects requesting slots should also include information specifying types of slots, e.g. full pay or subsidized.

#### **Scoring Sheet**

- Typographical change in header.

Jane Hatley moved accept the new forms with the proposed edits. Susan Mims seconded the motion, and approval was unanimous.

#### **New Business**

• **Performance Review** – Burnett Walz delivered a presentation about population-level measures & program-level measures. The presentation included a demonstration of the new Performance Dashboard for funded projects, which is published online with quarterly updates and links to full reports submitted by grantees. The presentation also included a listing of population-level measures and baseline data that have been collected so far. One committee request was to add information explaining each measure and citing the source. There was also a request to clarify and separately account for the information related to child care centers vs. family care homes. A copy of the presentation slides was included in the meeting packet.

#### **Next Steps**

- **January** - Per the FY2020 roadmap, the Committee had previously decided to hold a community engagement session in lieu of the January committee meeting. The Committee discussed possible dates/times and agreed to hold the session on January 9<sup>th</sup> in the late afternoon, possibly 3:30 to 5:00. Staff will look for locations.
- **February** – Staff will coordinate with the executive committee regarding plans for the February agenda and spring schedule.

**Public Comment**

- Amy Barry from Buncombe Partnership for Children thanked the Committee for its work on the grant application form. Comments included: it may helpful to add definitions of types of care to the funding application (infant toddler, pre-K, etc.); For strategy 5, add advocacy language; some projects do not lend themselves as well to collaboration, but the scoring system could penalize applicants that do not rank well under that criterion; need a process for how questions from the Committee to applicants will be handled; make it clear that only one strategy may be selected per project; add clarifying language to the multi-year funding request section regarding how many years may be requested.
  
- Kit Cramer made a motion to reopen discussion about the application, and Jane Hatley seconded. The Committee discussed Amy’s feedback. Kit Cramer moved, Jane Hatley seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved the following changes:
  - Add definitions for types of care (infant toddler, pre-k, etc.)
  - Add advocacy to the wording for the fifth strategy
  - Make it clear that each project must apply under only one strategy
  - Ensure that multi-year funding section is clear regarding years of maximum funding

**Next meeting** – Community engagement session on January 9, 2019, time & location to be determined.

**Adjourn** – Motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Glenda Weinert and seconded by Commissioner Robert Pressley. The motion carried unanimously.