



---

**Meeting Notes**  
**Family Success Alliance Council Meeting**  
**Monday, June 19, 2017**  
**Whitted Human Services Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Hillsborough**

---

**In attendance:**

**Council:** Liska Lackey, Luke Smith, Nancy Coston, Ric Bruton, Rydell Harrison, Aviva Scully, Damon Seils, Cordelia Heaney, Jenn Weaver, Delores Bailey, Annette Lafferty, Mark Marcoplos, Mack Koonce, Annette Moore

**Absent:** Charles Blackwood, Nancy Coston, Sharon Freeland

**Staff:** Melvyn Blackwell, Mariela Hernandez, Coby Austin, Allison Young, Nancy Largent, Meredith McMonigle, Brittany Bullock, Angela Clapp, Antonia Cortes

**Guests:** Nick Allen, Beverley Scurry, Stefanie Marie-Cohen, Alesia Sangika, Julia Katz, Rosemary Deane, Ashley Moncado, Roslyn Moffitt, Janice Anderson, Brennan Bouma

**Welcome and Key Organizational Updates**

Liska L. began the meeting with a welcome. She invited anyone to share agency reports.

Mack Koonce announced that he will be transitioning out of the CEO role of United Way of the Greater Triangle, at the end of the month. He explained that his replacement has been preparing for this role for quite some time.

Liska noted that FSA has hired three new navigators. She noted that Navigators have been trained and will begin working out of their site offices early July. She explained that another navigator will start training early July.

Coby shared some developmental updates. She explained FSA and other partners will be working with a consultant temporarily, in order to come up with collaborative funding options.

Coby highlighted a private donor recently donated a minivan to FSA, and FSA decided to provide Bishop Victor Glover and Last Days Outreach Ministry the minivan.

Coby reported that the partners at the table decided not to move forward the BUILD Health Challenge grant application, which was focused on mental health systems of care and immigrant communities. The NC-based funder, BCBS of NC Foundation, remains interested in partnering to fund this type of work. UNC, El Futuro, and FSA will be meeting later this month to discuss how we can continue to address this issue.

Coby announced that FSA and Kenan Trust are continuing to build a relationship. FSA and Kenan will be scheduling a home visit.

Coby noted that FSA and Empowerment recently applied for the Glaxo-Smith Cline Impact Award. She expects to hear back from them, on whether to move on to the next round, or not, by next week.

Coby reported FSA plans to host K-readiness programs in both Zones again this year. She explained there will be enrichment programs for all three cohorts (rising kindergarteners, rising first graders, and rising second graders). Due to partnerships with DSS there were more free camp opportunities for all children.

Delores Bailey highlighted that Empowerment acquired two homes (2-bedroom, 1-bath) in zone 6 on in the Northside area. One of the homes will be for FSA navigator-enrolled families.

### **Innovation Grant Report**

Janice provided updates from the “MindUp” program at FPG. Janice discussed school-based mindfulness that was executed at FPG Bilingue. Janice explained how 15 staff members (in every grade) were trained in school based mindfulness. She noted some of the following challenges and successes.

Challenges: adapting to the lessons mid-school year, finding time to teach core lessons and practices, students that initially didn’t take the lessons and practices.

Successes: teachers reported students showed improvement in behavior, more student self-regulation; teachers reported they were better able to manage their stress; parents saw more self-regulations in their children at home, improved student organization, less classroom interruptions, decrease in student referrals to the office, reduced absenteeism, reduced bully incidents, reduced text anxiety. Janice noted that the program was a success overall.

Stefanie and Roselyn discussed Family Resource Center (FRC) Innovation Grant with Culbreth Middle School. The purpose of the resource center is to engage and empower parents to work with schools. They explained the FRC was opened in March. They provided the council with photos of the center. The staffs of the FRC are members of the community. They host workshops, and engaging activities for families. They are looking to partner-up with more organizations to improve the center’s impact. They explained they have been pleased with progress that has been made over the last year. The center is currently open 6hrs per week, and next year, it’s planned to be open 20hrs per week.

Rosemary discussed New Hope Elementary’s Family Academy. She explained the academy opened January 2017. The academy implements activities and exercises to engage families to work together. She noted that the parent attendance did decrease between the first and second sessions. She explained the decrease may have been to the lack of comfort or confidence for some parents. She noted that that as program host, their group was not prepared to meet all the needs of some of the parents that came out to the first session. She noted that the last session’s attendance increased greatly. That may have been due to the collaboration with math & literacy specialist, and Books on Break. She reflected that due to the fact dinner was served hot this may affected the attendance. She noted overall a lot of mothers benefited from the academy. Many of the mothers volunteered to be a part of a family outreach group.

### **New Navigator**

Liska and Meredith noted we did not have every new navigators present; therefore we will postpone the welcome until a later date.

### **Addressing Housing Issues Affecting FSA families: Mobile Homes Working Group and proposed Landlord Partnership Initiative**

Coby discussed housing and how it applies to a goal in our strategic plan. Mariela and Angela shared stories of families that have or are experiencing issues with housing.

Annette Moore discussed housing issues with the Council, and Housing Department's plans moving forward. She acknowledged that affordable housing is limited in the county. She explained there is a need for more affordable rental housing. Housing has 623 section 8 vouchers. There are 558 that are actually in a home. There are 41 vouchers have been issued to families, but have yet to find a place to live. Families have 90 days to find a home, but most end up losing their voucher as a result of there not being enough affordable housing. She announced that starting July 1, 2017 housing will feature a "homeless preference" with the voucher. This will enable those that have this preference to be able to get vouchers when they are in a better position. Annette explained that their department is working with DSS to acquire apartments as transitional or temporary housing for those that are in dire need and are not able to get a voucher. She noted that many residents have been experiencing difficulties when they ask landlords to make repairs on the property. She stated that some residents fear asking for repairs due to any negative attention this may bring their way. These issues are much more severe for the Asian community, Latino communities, and undocumented residents

She suggested that service departments and/or other Orange Co. offices work together to address rehabilitation of housing. She explained that when receiving state and federal monies the regulations and requirements are stringent.

Annette reported that their department will be receiving fewer funds for housing. She reported their home funds will only be \$286,000, which is much less than expected. She noted that Housing will be leaning more on the county for funding.

She discussed a new initiative to engage landlords. There will be a housing resource coordinator who will go out and try to work with landlords and consult with landlords about accept section 8 for their properties. Annette noted that the largest realtor (with most rental properties) in the county doesn't accept section 8. The Housing department is looking into a self-sufficiency program to enable residents to move out of section 8, as well as programming to allow residents to transition from being a renter to an owner.

Damen Seils suggested an intergovernmental collaboration to create a centralized way to collect data and respond to potential issues of discrimination.

### **Council Business**

Liska reminded members Rydell will be assuming the role of chair upon the next meeting. She discussed now identifying a co-chair. Liska nominated Jenn Weaver. Nancy seconded the motion, and all were in favor of said motion.