

Final

North Carolina Council for Women  
Quarterly Meeting  
Public School Forum  
June 8, 2012

**Location:** 3739 National Drive, Suite 100  
Raleigh, NC 27612

**Time:** CFW Board Meeting 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

**Attendees:** *Meena Ahuja, Ann Gerhardt, Alexander Gomes, Dr. Valerie Johnson, Phil Kline, Diane Kuehn, Dr. Julie Lapham, Karen LeVert, Jane Martin, DOA Deputy Secretary June Michaux Carolyn B. Morrison, Muriel Offerman, Melissa Reed, Judge Robin Robinson and Jenny Ward (Chair)*

**Absent Members:** *Robin Coates, Michelle Gooding, Kate Deiter-Maradei, Amber Koonce, Lisa Piñero and Laura Wallace*

**NC CFW Staff:** *Executive Director Beth Briggs, Assistant Director Mary Williams- Stover, and Administrative Assistant, Charlotte Hanemann*

**Guests:** *Christy Agner Legislative Liaison, Judge Robin Hudson, Jackie Jordan, Todd Moore Grant Administrator for Council for Women, Kathleen Balogh, Linda Murphy and Julie Owens, Regional Directors for Council for Women.*

**I. Welcome and Introductions – Jenny Ward, Chair**

Board Chair Jenny Ward welcomed everyone to the meeting and reviewed agenda. The Council members introduced themselves. Ms. Ward thanked the members for attending and for their commitment to the work of the Council. Ms. Ward reviewed the functions and duties of the Council for Women Board and the conflict of interest statement. Judge Robin Hudson was invited to swear in new council member Michelle Gooding; however Ms. Gooding was unable to attend this meeting. Ms. Ward informed the commission that Amber Koonce resigned as a member of the commission.

**II. Approval of Minutes- Jenny Ward, Chair**

Minutes were approved as written.

**III. Displaced Homemakers Grants Review**

**History of the Displaced Homemaker Program Grant Review Process – Meena Ahuja**

The Council for Women Review Team consisted of Diane Kuehn, Carolyn Morrison, Jane Martin, Julie Lapham, Kate Deiter-Maradei, Meena Ahuja, Valerie Johnson and Alex Gomes. The CFW grant administrators and regional directors evaluated each program and designated each as HIGH, MODERATE or LOW in their levels of compliance and performance. Programs considered LOW in compliance and performance will be recommended to the Council for Women board for

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review. The applications for programs considered MODERATE or HIGH and all new applications will be fully reviewed by the review team. We received 38 applications in all; one application was eliminated for not qualifying for not meeting requirements. The Council will need to eliminate two programs since 35 programs can receive grants.

**Open floor for comments and input of the review process:**

Ms. Briggs discussed the spreadsheet given to all board members and reviewed what the CFWs staff and review team suggestion on programs.

- Diane Kuehn was pleased with the review process and ability to discuss with the team the scoring matrix. Her concern was scoring programs for past performance and how that maybe an issue for new program applicant.
- Julie Lapham was pleased with the process, she also reviewed all application submitted. Her concerns are the review team is only given 6-8 application to review. If programs were compliant and considered a low risk by CFW staff their application were not forwarded for review to review team. She also felt there are assumptions that new programs are “worse” than existing compliant programs. In all Julie felt process was better than previous years and only needed a few tweaks.
- Ann Gearhart only participated in the strategic change of the review process and did not participate in the review process of actual applications.
- June Michaux stated the DOA legal team was involved and felt comfortable with the evaluation process. She also stated she likes this process of including the regional directors input into consideration of the application grant process.
- Muriel Offerman stated she felt this process is better than processes in the past. This was the consensus of the board members.

Ms. Briggs discussed the importance of confidentiality during this process. She stated materials sent to board members are considered confidential until agreed upon and voted by the council members. There was an incident in Linda Murphy’s region where a program was aware of the review process and suggestions for grant funds before any decision was made.

**Review of applications:**

Ms. Briggs reviewed and discussed each program application using the scoring matrix. Please see the attached FY12-13 DH Assessment spreadsheet.

Programs of concern include:

Chatham County Family Violence & Rape Crisis Services considered at moderate compliance. Regional Director Bernetta Thigpen stated the program in the last six months has not been able to document the mandated services required by the CFW but was reporting outcomes on the quarterly reports. Ms. Thigpen is working closely with this program. Beth open discussion up to the council: Julie Lapham feels it is unjust to hold programs accountable when their collaborating partners are not submitting information in a timely manner. This program serves 25% of Latino clients and the only program of its kind in the county. To lose funding would be devastating for the clients served in this county. Meena Ahuja suggested offering technical help;

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she sees this as short term issue that can be resolved. The Council for Women Regional Directors and Grants Administrators has recommended not funding this program.

Halifax County – Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe considered at low compliance. Regional Director Bernetta Thigpen has worked closely with program to bring them compliant, several site visit, meetings with Board and directors. Issues with this program include Programmatic issues, staffing issues and reversion of funds for prior fiscal year. Todd Moore, CFW Grants Administrator has issues with program reporting in a timely manner and daycare subsidies. The Council for Women Regional Directors and Grant Administrators has recommended not funding this program.

New Hanover County – YWCA of the Lower Cape Fear considered at low compliance. Issues with this program are Fiscal, reporting, programmatic, and staffing issues. This program is currently under corrective action. There was reversion of funds for previous fiscal year. Regional Director Linda Murphy questioned if the program was offering the mandated services. Jackie Jordan, CFW Grants Administrator stated this program was not in compliance from July until this past May and ongoing issues with compliance and reversions over the last several years. The Council for Women Regional Directors and Grants Administrators has recommended not funding this program.

Robeson County – Robeson Committee on DV, Inc. considered at moderated compliance. Issues with this program are Programmatic and staffing issues. This program is under corrective action and there were revisions of funds last fiscal year. The Regional Director Julie Owen is working closely with this program. Issues with staffing included high turnover but has stabilized. Ms. Owens has no concerns with the new executive director and staff. Ms. Owens will continue to work closely with this program. The Council for Women Regional Directors and Grants Administrators has recommended funding this program.

The new programs that submitted applications were:

Dare County – Outerbanks Hotline, Inc

Durham County – INSTEPP, Inc

Jackson County – Reach of Macon for Jackson County

Surry, Stokes and Yadkin Counties – YVEDDI

Wake County – Interact

Wake County – Literacy Council of Wake County

It was agreed upon to only fund one Wake County Program, the council decision was to fund Interact of Wake County.

Program to receive funds for fiscal year 12-13 are as follow:

Alamance County – Women’s Resource Center

Brunswick County – Hope Harbor Home, Inc

Buncombe County – YWCA of Asheville

Catawba County – Catawba Valley Community College

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Chatham County – Family Violence and Rape Crisis Services  
Cherokee County – Task Force on Family Violence/REACH, Inc  
Cleveland County – Cleveland County Abuse Prevention Council, Inc  
Columbus County – Southeastern Community College New Choices  
Craven/Jones Counties – Coastal Women’s Shelter  
Cumberland County – Center for Economic Empowerment Development (CEED)  
Dare County – Outerbanks Hotline, Inc  
Durham County – INSTEPP, Inc  
Guilford County – Women’s Resource Center of Greensboro  
Iredell County – 5<sup>th</sup> Street Ministries/Diakonos  
Johnston County – Harbor, Inc  
Macon and Jackson Counties – Reach of Macon  
Mecklenburg County – Mecklenburg Co. Women’s Commission  
Mitchell County – Mitchell County Safe Place  
Orange County – The Women’s Center, Inc  
Pamlico County – Pamlico Community College  
Pasquotank County – Albemarle Hopeline  
Person County – Safe Haven of Person County  
Pitt County – Center for Family Violence Prevention  
Robeson County – Robeson Committee on DV, Inc  
Rockingham County – HELP, Inc  
Rutherford County – Family Resources of Rutherford County  
Sampson County – UCARE, Inc  
Surry, Stokes and Yadkin Counties - YVEDDI  
Swain County – Swain/Qualla SAFE, Inc  
Transylvania County – SAFE, Inc  
Wake County – Interact  
Warren County – Citizens Against DV, Inc  
Wilkes County – SAFE, Inc  
Wilson County – Wesley Shelter

The motion was made by Diane Kuehn for the Council of Women Advisory board to agree not to fund the following programs: Halifax County - Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe, New Hanover County – YWCA of the Lower Cape Fear, Wake County – Literacy Council and agree to fund the balance of the existing programs and new programs and for the Fiscal Year 12-13. This motion was second by Melissa Reed and third by Julie Lapham.

**IV. Public Awareness Campaign – Jenny Ward**

Ms. Ward gave an update on the public awareness campaign. Diane Kuehn and Phil Kline and Karen Parker have been a great support and active with this project. The campaign had a great kickoff event in Charlotte on March 22, 2012. Ms. Ward will be meeting with Karen Parker in

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Iredell County next week to share a mini version of the event in Charlotte to possibly have an event soon in Iredell County. The campaign website is up and running. The committee is working on funding, seeking private corporations to donate. Piedmont Natural Gas has recently made a donation. This is a pilot program between Mecklenburg and Iredell and hoping to expand statewide next year.

**V. Executive Director's Report Highlights – Beth Briggs, Executive Director**

- **Status of Women Report**

At the last Council meeting we discussed the contract with the Institute for Women Policy Research's (IWRP) and engaged in conversation about topics to incorporate in the report. Ms. Briggs stated the report is paid in full, with contributions from Wells Fargo and the Council for Women. Research has begun with a rollout date of October 11, 2012. Ms. Briggs asked the council members to help with the rollout in their area.

- **Governor's Hall of Fame Celebration**

Governor Perdue has asked the Council for Women to take on the role of coordinating and organizing the 2012 Governor's Hall of Fame Celebration, normally a part of the NC Women's Conference. This year the conference will not be held due to the Democratic Convention in Charlotte. Council members will be asked to volunteer to help with the selection process.

- **Council for Women's New Office Location**

The Council for Women office will be relocating to the Department of Administration 116 West Jones Street Raleigh, NC 27609 on July 2, 2012.

- **DH Conference held September 20, 2012 – Mary Williams-Stover**

Ms. Stover discussed holding a statewide conference for the Displaced Homemaker Programs. This will be a one day conference held in Winston-Salem. This conference will bring together executive directors, program coordinator and volunteers from across the state to share strategies for building self-sufficiency and success for the Displaced Homemaker Programs. Ms. Briggs suggested combining the next board meeting with this conference.

**VI. Legislative Agenda - Christy Anger, Legislative Liaison**

Ms. Anger stated the Legislative session was moving quickly. She stated the House budget was out and reflected one percent spending increase. The Department of Administration absorbed about forty-three percent in budget cuts. There were no reductions to funds pertaining to domestic violence, sexual assault or Displaced Homemaker Programs. The Senate budget was

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not release as of this date. Ms. Agner shared a handout with a few bills that may affect the Council. The bills discussed were the Displaced Homemaker Program included as a workforce program, Boards and Commission Efficiency Act of 2012 and Amendment to Grounds/Termination of Parental Rights.

**VII. Open Floor :**

Ms. Briggs suggested combining the next board meeting scheduled for September 21, 2012 with the Displaced Homemaker Program Conference held on September 20, 2012 in Winston-Salem. The motion was made to the council to attend and participate in the conference by Julie Lapham, seconded by Melissa Reed, with all in favor.

Ms. Ward asked the Council to change the date for the November board meeting scheduled for November 16, 2012 to November 9, 2012 at the same location (Public School Forum). The motion was made by Melissa Reed and second by Julie Lapham, with all in favor.

**Closing/Adjourn Meeting – Jenny Ward, Chair**

Ms. Ward thanked the members for their commitment to the Council and for attending. The meeting adjourned at 1:45 pm.