



**The North Carolina Partnership for Children
Fund Development Committee Meeting
January 12, 2026 Minutes
9-10 a.m.**

Members Present: Erika Williams, PhD – Chair, Tembila Covington, and Stuart Mills
Others Present: Joe Brownlee, Amy Cubbage, Yvonne Huntley, Safiyah Jackson, Katie Landi,
and Maura Pherson – recording secretary

The Fund Development Committee (Committee) of the North Carolina Partnership for Children (NCPC) Board of Directors (Board) met on January 12, 2026 via Zoom video conference. Chair Erika Williams called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. The presence of a quorum was established.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

A motion was made by Stuart Mills and seconded to approve the agenda. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Stuart Mills and seconded to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2025 Fund Development Committee meeting. **Motion carried.**

Grant Submission Updates

Z. Smith Reynolds granted NCPC a one year \$50,000 award for general operations. NCPC has also received a first-time \$100,000 grant from First Citizens. The grant will fund the support of Smart Solution Mobility Mentoring and marketing efforts for Tri-Share. It was announced that Fred Hunter has been hired as Director of Program & Business Development, to further implement the Tri-Share Program and develop the Family Navigation Portal.

NCPC received notification that NCPC has been named as a subrecipient to a multiyear grant awarded by The Leon Levine Foundation to Book Harvest. The total grant is \$5,070,459 for programmatic expansion in Tier 1 Counties. Book Harvest to fund a dual enrollment initiative with the NCPC's Dolly Parton Imagination Library (DPIL) and Book Harvest joining forces to provide books to newborn children in hospitals in five target counties (Robeson, Scotland, McDowell, Wayne, Richmond) and enroll them to receive further books through DPIL. NCPC will receive funding for this initiative from Book Harvest that will go to local partnerships for administration. This will focus on Southeastern Regional Medical Center, Scotland Memorial Hospital, Mission Hospital McDowell, and UNC Wayne Hospital in Tier 1 counties.

NCPC received a gift of \$10,000 from a family foundation's Donor Advised Fund (DAF). It was from a donor with no obvious ties to NC or Smart Start. Good reminder of the benefit of donors gifting to organizations in a meaningful way.

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Customer Relationship Management (CRM)

NCPC is now using Bloomerang CRM. It is in the process of completing onboarding. Some of the other local partnerships are also using this system. It is meant to be used to increase donations and streamline donor processes.

2026 Smart Start Conference

The Committee reviewed a prospect list for 2026 Smart Start Conference sponsorships showing the past conference supporters. Katie Landi reviewed a chart for updated sponsorship levels that were created by looking at packets from other conferences with similar attendance. For the first time, NCPC is seeking a signature sponsor to raise the visibility level like other large conferences. The Committee brainstormed ideas for other potential sponsors for the Smart Start Conference. Sponsorships have increased over the years, and the Fund Development and Communications departments are continuing toward increasing support through sponsorships.

Recap action items and follow-up:

- Reviewed funding updates
- Reviewed updates for Bloomerang
- Will review brochure for Smart Start Conference

Adjournment

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

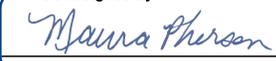
Minutes submitted by:

Signed by:


 Katie Landi, Committee Liaison

3/10/2026 | 12:09 PM EDT

Date

Signed by:


 Maura Pherson, Recording Secretary

3/10/2026 | 10:49 AM EDT

Date