

LICC Meeting Minutes 10.16.25

Welcome: Lynda Turlington welcome everyone. Nikki Hinnant, LICC Chair called the meeting to order.

Review/Business

Approval of minutes from August meeting – motion to approve by Shameka McClean, motion seconded by Clara Clinton

Funding availability & grant information – Carmen Martell, Treasurer, reported current balance is \$ 3918.54. We spent some money on 200 goodie bags to hand out next week at truck or treat.

Truck-or-Treat child find activity is October 23rd at the Lillington Ball Park – we need volunteers for set up at 8:30 am, event begins at 10:00 am, please sign up today.

Update on future developmental health fair – Lynda Turlington reported that Janine Bogwicz from HCPC is brainstorming about this– considering March or May of 2026, have a developmental screening health fair, use community partners to help accomplish vision and hearing screenings. Avis said health department would be willing to participate and assist. LICC funding could be used to pay for pelican's snowballs or bouncy houses for example. Agency tables could do an activity with the children i.e. face painting. Consensus is that March may be a better time for the event. Event name ideas: i.e. Happy Healthy Little Me Day, Ready Start Grow Screenings. Lynda will send out an invitation to vote on a name and date for the event.

New LICC landing page on HCPC website – Lynda reported that Janine has added this to the HCPC website and demonstrated how to navigate the page.

Vote for June meeting – do we want to have a June meeting? Yes – add June 18 to calendar, Mandy Sonnenberg with ECAC, offered to present on a topic re: end of school year, supporting exceptional children, tool kits for summer time.

Please reach out to Lynda if you would like to present in an upcoming LICC Mtg.

Presenters

Avis Watkins-Smith, Harnett Co Health Dept, Care Management for At-Risk Children

Our program started in 1984 as CSC Child Service Coordination, 1987 Baby Love, and has a lot of moving parts today. We work with medical providers making referrals, mental health healthy blue, foster care, and a huge data platform.

CMHRP - Care Management for High-Risk Pregnancies - doctors will refer to this program via the data platform. Avis receives these referrals and will triage the individual out for follow up to nurses and social workers within 72 hours. These are Medicaid eligible clients. They will follow up and enroll the patient in care management and collaboration begins and goes throughout the pregnancy and until 2 months postpartum. Each worker has about 65 women per case load.

They work in partnerships with a variety of resources, i.e. SAFE of Harnett County, HCPC etc. Using the database platform and meeting performance measures for DHHS.

You can see where the needs are – whereas in the past you could not do this work as efficiently. Also, when a client moves this system follows them and they can continue to be served in new place of residence. There are 8 care managers in Harnett County who work together w/social workers and nurses.

CMARC – Care Management for At Risk Children – serving (at risk) children birth to age 5. Their goal is to improve your child's care by linking you to services that will meet specific needs of child and family.

- All NICU's in the state are aware of this program and will refer to this program.
- Assisting with transportation, mental and physical health of the mother while baby is still in NICU.
- Assist with follow up when baby comes home from NICU.
- Healthy Blue will take over foster care starting Dec 1st.
- Plan of Safe Care – if a child is born in the hospital and is substance effected, DSS gets involved and makes a referral to assess the needs of the family holistically, work with the child and link to services until they are ready to be “deferred”. They can be picked back up if the need arises.
- Parents are incarcerated or in high-risk environment. High lead levels in the home.
- Coordinate w/HCS EC preschool dept re: developmental concerns and need for therapy and the Diaper Bank at HCPC. HCPC provides diapers and their program provides education.

LUNCH BREAK

Dante Poole, Life Sculptors or Western Harnett Leadership Initiative

“Western Harnett Leadership Initiative” -began with first meeting on December 3, 2024, a group of individuals coming together. Includes Barbecue, Johnsonville, Anderson Creek communities. This is open to anyone in the community. Friends and neighbors looking out for one another are already leading. So far, they have 52 individuals who are participating in this conversation.

In 10 words write a sentence that tells how you impact the community.

“Inspiring others to learn to lead better and live whole.”

He lives in Cameron, 32 miles from this location. When his families need help, they must come here to get help. They cannot go to neighboring counties of Cumberland and Moore County to be served.

How do we share resources and provide connections for people? We know there are people doing great work in the community already. How do we connect people to the support and help that they need?

“A problem only exists in the absence of the right conversation.”

His team developed a safety net for conversations with a social contract. Created a safe place for conversations that needed to happen.

We asked questions like...

- Who is the most underserved and overlooked population in our community?
- What are the most pressing challenges and barriers impacting our community and how does it affect their everyday lives?
- What strengths and assets in our community can we leverage to serve these people?

Each meeting ends with “Next Steps.”

What are our opportunities together? What needs our attention right now? Who’s missing at this table?

- Next Meeting is October 30th at 3:00 pm at New Life Church 2297 Hwy 24, Cameron
- Meeting Every 4th Thursday of the month
- dante@lifesculptors.org

Liz Woods, Chatham County Partnership for Children

Child Care Resource and Referral – she is beginning work with this program.

Liz shared a new Harnett County Childcare Supply and Demand Snapshot report.

- These numbers are concerning.
- We have only 74 childcare providers in Harnett County.
- Desired capacity of all providers in county = 2824 slots (162 in homes and the rest in centers)
- We have 11,000 children aged 5 and below.
- We have a great need for childcare in this county. With the military population added into this picture – we are in crisis.
- Birth – 2 you have 10 children competing for every slot in this county.

The new tool to help with this problem is a new website/search engine.

Child Find – www.findchildcarenc.org

Search filters by town, or by availability, or by providers who accept childcare subsidy, by rate, by special needs, by open and closing time. Providers have their own access to this website and how their information is shared. A parent can view their star ratings and any violations the center has. Parents can message and/or call through the platform.

There is a call center to speak with a specialist at 855-231-8717.

Agency Updates (members can share info with one another)

Save-The-Dates – Future LICC Meetings – 11:30-1:30 pm

December 18, 2025

February 19, 2026

April 16, 2026

June 18, 2026

August 20, 2026

Meeting was adjourned at 1:35 pm.