



**DRAFT TEAM CHARTER: 11/04/2016  
FAMILY ACTION LEARNING TEAM**

OUR PURPOSE is to ensure that the perspectives of families with young children are central in the decision-making process as our community works together to build a responsive, innovative early childhood system in Guilford County.

OUR GOAL is for every child to enter kindergarten ready for school and ready for life. We understand that this process begins even before birth and continues during every stage of development.

WE ARE primary caretakers of children ages 0-5 in Guilford County, NC. At least one child age 0-5 lives with us; we are responsible for their care, and we support their success.

WE ACT in three key roles in the early childhood system:

- Consultants who offer perspectives and feedback about how we can better prepare children in our community for kindergarten;
- Partners who are directly involved in the design and decision making related to programs, projects and plans within Guilford County's early childhood system; and
- Change agents who do what matters to families, and who galvanize others to join them.

OUR ACTIVITIES take many forms, and may include:

- Learning about child development, available services, and how we can better prepare our community's children ready for kindergarten
- Testing tools and communications that will be used with families
- Giving feedback on plans, projects and processes focused on changing the early childhood system
- Serving as advisors to partner organizations and committees
- Planning and carrying out projects that we develop to benefit families with young children

WE MEET on the third Monday of each month, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Child care and a meal are provided. Transportation assistance is available. Interpretive services are provided when needed.

WE COMMUNICATE by email and by phone. Between meetings, members can expect:

- Reminders to RSVP to upcoming meetings
- Updates on planned meeting content such as presentations
- Meeting minutes
- Notification of any planned team activities

EACH OF US WILL bring passion, talents, and expertise to the group to support and contribute to active problem-solving in our community. We treat one another with respect, learn together, and work together to achieve the goals of the Family ALT. We are accountable for, and hold each other accountable for: following the group's working agreements; completing the tasks we volunteer for; communicating in a timely fashion if we cannot complete a task; and having some fun along the way!

WE OPERATE as part of Ready for School, Ready for Life's decision making structure. As such, we hold the initiative accountable for: bringing family voice to all of the work conducted as part of the initiative, including the implementation of the 10 key priorities (see below); communicating in a timely and effective manner; providing staff support and facilitation resources; and removing barriers to family participation in this work.

OUR FACILITATOR ensures that every participant is fully engaged during meetings and that the team drives to outcomes. The facilitator guides the group through active problem-solving and helps the group build and maintain momentum during each meeting and over time.

OUR TEAM LEADERS attend all or most meetings, and co-create meeting agendas and content. Team leaders may also co-facilitate parts of meetings, and may take on additional roles and responsibilities over time.

#### EARLY CHILDHOOD SYSTEMS CHANGE PRIORITIES: GUILFORD COUNTY

1. Ensure all new parents are connected to critical early childhood information and community supports/services.
2. Connect more young children and their families to needed services by embedding coordinated developmental screening and referral processes into settings that provide services for families with young children.
3. Improve family access to needed programs through the creation of an effective referral and coordination network for young children and their families.
4. Leverage and expand early literacy resources/services to meet community need by determining and launching priority program and system changes.
5. Leverage and expand parenting resources/services to meet community need by determining and launching priority program and system changes.
6. Improve school readiness by addressing affordability and accessibility of high-quality child care in Guilford County.
7. Create seamless and easy transition experiences for children and their families by aligning Pre-K and kindergarten priorities, curriculum, and transition processes.
8. Ensure the local early childhood system is responsive to and respectful of family needs and voice.
9. Increase public demand for school readiness by implementing a public awareness campaign focused on building community buy-in about the importance of early learning and development (0-8).
10. Embed continuous improvement orientation within the local early childhood system.