



<p>Part of growing the group is recruiting new members. Families said:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The team should reflect the community, so everyone has a voice at the table.</li> <li>• They would like more members from different cultures, different socio-economic backgrounds, and different education backgrounds.</li> <li>• Before they go out and recruit more members, they would like to have a strong core group that stays involved, whether they are in every meeting or not.</li> </ul> <p>Families said they continue to come to Family ALT meetings because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The team’s mission and purpose is important, and they get good feedback.</li> <li>• They are encouraged by the progress the group makes at each meeting and over time.</li> <li>• They feel responsible for the work.</li> <li>• They are encouraged by the fact that there have been changes as a result of their work and Ready/Ready’s work in the community.</li> <li>• Families feel they are beginning to have a better sense of the purpose of the team and how it fits into Ready/Ready’s work.</li> <li>• Seeing change happening gives them hope.</li> </ul> <p>ALT members received example talking points to use while recruiting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ready/Ready is working to build a responsive, innovative early childhood system. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Families discussed that a responsive early childhood system is one that meets the needs of children and families.</li> <li>○ The system has to be “outside the box” to be innovative.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The goal of Ready/Ready and Family ALT is for every child to enter kindergarten ready for school and life. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Most of a child’s brain development happens in the early years of life, so it is important to make the most of the opportunity to shape their life in a positive way early on.</li> <li>○ Even babies can benefit from simple brain-building activities like talking or singing to your child, reading to them, and playing with them.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Family ALT is for caretakers of children 0-5. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There are many other ways to remain involved in the work (see more details on the back page).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
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<b>C. Agenda Item: Preparing for the next meeting</b>	
<u>Summary of Discussion</u>	<u>Action Items</u>
<p>Families agreed to do some recruiting at their schools and churches. Rachael provided flyers that families can hand out or display for recruitment.</p> <p>At the next meeting, families would like to have a presenter come and give an informational talk on the kindergarten readiness domain Health &amp; Physical Development</p>	<p><b>FAMILIES</b> – See the <b>attached flyer</b> for November’s meeting. If your church, school, or workplace would like to hand out or put up flyers, email Rachael Burrello at <a href="mailto:rachaelb@getreadyguilford.org">rachaelb@getreadyguilford.org</a> for an electronic copy of the flyer.</p>

**Meetings will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month. Here’s the schedule for the remainder of the year:**

- **Monday, November 21, 5:30 to 7:30 pm**
- **Monday, December 19, 5:30 to 7:30 pm**

**Location: Martin Dixon Intergenerational Center, Bennett College, 600 Gorrell St. Greensboro**

## **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.

## **OTHER WAYS TO GET INVOLVED**

Ready/Ready's efforts focus on the 0-5 age range. There are other initiatives in Guilford County that focus on the K-12 age range:

- Guilford Parent Academy (through Guilford County Schools)
- School-based opportunities through PTA and other school focused activities, or to volunteer through GCS.
- The Say Yes Guilford Pre-K to Grade 5 Task Force has three sub-groups that focus on different parts of the Pre-K to Grade 5 pathway:
  - Kindergarten readiness
  - Reading at grade level by the end of Grade 3
  - High stakes proficiency in ELA and Math by the end of Grade 5
- Ready/Ready Design Teams, to work on designing parts of the system around each of the 10 Key Priorities. These teams will not have age limits, and family voice will be critical to their success.
- Families can sign up for the Ready/Ready e-newsletter to stay up to date on what is happening and find opportunities to get involved.

One parent gave an example of a responsive, innovative program at Hampton Elementary that is for students at the school. On Saturdays from 9:00 – 11:30, they provide a breakfast snack and have college students come and do fun educational activities at different “stations” for the children.