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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Randolph Partnership for Children selected for infant-toddler pilot project

Funding creates two technical assistance professional positions to support area child care centers

ASHEBORO, N.C. (February 7, 2019) — Child Care Services Association (CCSA), on behalf of the NC Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) Council, announced in December that Randolph Partnership for Children was one of three agencies selected to participate in the Infant Toddler Technical Assistance (TA) Pilot Project.

The intensive Infant & Toddler Technical Assistance Model Pilot Project creates a transformative new coaching and mentoring model of technical assistance to enhance the quality of infant and toddler experiences in early child care and education settings. The pilot is designed to propel TA practitioners beyond the traditional focus on preparing teachers for assessment, and instead shift the TA paradigm to more advanced coaching around teacher interactions and outcomes for young children. TA practitioners improve environmental and instructional quality by providing intensive technical assistance utilizing resources from the Classroom Assessment Scoring System® (CLASS) and the Program Administration Scale® (PAS).

The project includes 3 years of funding (renewed annually), beginning with \$157,000 for the first year. The budget includes funding for the Partnership to hire two TA practitioners who will receive specialized training and be supported by Master Practitioners at CCSA. Once hired and trained, the Partnership's TA practitioners will work with eight infant and toddler classrooms (cohort 1) in their first year. In the second year, they will recruit eight additional infant and toddler classrooms (cohort 2). Participating classrooms will receive comprehensive support and enrichment materials.

“Knowing that 80% of brain development occurs in the first three years of life, we at the Partnership for Children are thrilled to be part of this exciting opportunity to enhance the quality of care and education for our county’s infants and toddlers and to help our early educators further increase their effectiveness in the classroom,” said Executive Director Lisa



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Hayworth. “The Infant Toddler TA Pilot Project is one of those rare opportunities that will stretch our thinking and raise the bar for high quality care for our youngest children.”

The NC Division of Child Development and Early Education (NCDCDEE) funded the NC CCR&R Council to ensure the successful delivery of the Intensive Infant/Toddler TA Delivery Model Pilot Project. CCR&R Council designated CCSA as the lead agency for the project. As a grantee, the Partnership will implement the project in Randolph County. The Children’s Council of Watauga County and Child Care Resource Center (formerly Work Family Resource Center) in Forsyth County were also funded.

The Partnership is in the process of filling two TA practitioner positions in order to fulfill the requirements of the project, expanding the Partnership staff to 14.

For more information on the TA Pilot Project, contact Andee Edelson at 336-629-2128 x30 or aedelson@randolphkids.org.

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About the Randolph Partnership for Children: Since 1999, the Randolph Partnership for Children (RPC), a non-profit organization, has made a positive impact on the lives of thousands of Randolph County children and their families. As the community’s lead organization for young children and their families, RPC brings together diverse agencies, individuals, organizations and communities to ensure all children enter school ready to succeed. RPC is a United Way agency. For more information, visit www.randolphkids.org.