

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## Community Assessment Highlights Needs of Randolph County Families

**ASHEBORO, N.C. (December 20, 2022)** In 2021, the Randolph County Commissioners unanimously approved funding to complete a community assessment, a collaborative request from the Randolph Partnership for Children and the Children's Home Society. The findings highlighted the community's strengths, brought awareness of opportunities for better support, and made recommendations on ways to begin reducing the number of children in foster care.

The Children's Home Society of North Carolina founded the Institute for Family with the intent of inspiring champions for families through family stories and advancing the development of a family well-being system. The goal is to supplement and reduce the need for a child welfare system. Their interest in completing a community assessment came from noting a disproportionate rise in children in foster care in Randolph County.

The study was conducted between January and July of 2022. The Institute's Community and Systems Impact Director Donna Wood presented the findings to the County Commissioners on Dec. 7, 2022. The findings included data analysis, an asset and opportunity scan, a media analysis, and over 100 resident interviews. The findings were presented to the public on Dec. 7, 2022, at a breakfast hosted by RCP and The Institute for Family.



*Donna Wood, Community and Systems Impact Director for the Institute for Family, presents assessment findings at the Community Assessment Report Release Breakfast on December 7. Photo Credit: Kim Radcliffe*



## PRESS RELEASE

The findings provide insight into areas of strength and areas for growth as stated by residents in the community. Residents most often identified a close-knit community and a peaceful physical space as assets while also noting transportation and economic hardship as the highest needed opportunities for better support.

Recommendations were provided to strengthen the community based on success in other locations. Suggestions included enhancing the relationship between overburdened caregivers and historical decision-makers, investing in solutions for economic hardships and transportation needs, and prioritizing resources in areas with lower community health and wellness scores.

More information about the study and its findings can be found at

<https://randolphkids.org/home/community-partners/community-assessment/>.

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**About the Randolph Partnership for Children:** Since 1999, the Randolph Partnership for Children (RPC), a non-profit organization, has positively impacted the lives of Randolph County's young children. As the community's lead organization for young children and their families, RPC works with and through diverse agencies, individuals, organizations, and communities to ensure all children enter school healthy and ready to succeed in school and life. RPC is a United Way agency. For more information, visit [www.randolphkids.org](http://www.randolphkids.org).

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