NC State Collaborative For Children and Families Founders

Joel Rosch, Co-Chair, (I was asked to co-chair the collaborative because I was a neutral, and did not represent any agency or group involved with actually delivering services to children and families.)

I'm a recently retired senior research scholar at the Center for Child and Family Policy at Duke University. My research focused on service delivery systems, especially services for children. Prior to coming to Duke, I was a lead planner at the North Carolina Governor's Crime Commission, where I worked with local communities to develop effective programs for courtinvolved youth. While serving on a number of task forces, including the North Carolina Child Fatality Task Force and the North Carolina Child Death Review Team, I saw the need for better collaboration between the disparate systems that served children and families. These experiences lead to a broader interest in child policy.

Over the last two decades, I've been involved in the redesign of most of North Carolina's child serving agencies including: the juvenile justice system, educational services for at risk youth, the child protective service system, the child death review system, the substance abuse treatment system, North Carolina's graduated driver's license program, and the child mental health system. I was regularly called upon to by each of those systems for help with grant applications, and to promote system integration policies consistent with system of care principles.

I co-chair (first with Pat Solomon) the North Carolina State Collaborative for more than a decade, working to establish a system of care for children and families. In retirement I continue to work with a number of groups advocating for children.

Quote: "The best way to get people to collaborate is to hold them accountable for things they could not do by themselves". What attracted me to the collaborative was the commitment of my colleagues to improve the lives of children, something they understood that their own systems never do by itself.

Patricia (Pat) Solomon, Co-Chair Parent Representative/Coordinator of NC Families United (Past)

I'm a parent and grandparent of children and grandchildren with special needs which includes depression, ADHD, and reading disabilities. In the beginning of the collaborative, I was hired as the Coordinator for NC Families United through a contract from NC DHHS through ECAC. The goal was to "walk the talk" of a System Of Care for children, youth, and families in NC. NC Families United the family organizations across the state to form a unified voice.

I became the co-chair of the Collaborative when I got lost and was late for a meeting one day. I'm what you'd call directional challenged. When I walked in, I had become the co-chair of the Collaborative with Joel Rosch. I maintained this honor for 6 years. I continued as a PRN (as needed) nurse for Sandhills Center during this time. I was working there when I had to get into advocacy for my child. I'd always found this agency to be an advocate for the people they served and it continued to be a great fit for me. Currently, I'm retired from Sandhills LME as a Quality Management Auditor/Reviewer and PRN nurse. I work part-time for my church, Beverly Hills Baptist, as their secretary. I currently sit on Samaritan Colony's Board of Directors. This is a male substance abuse treatment facility in Rockingham. We are working on securing funds to build a female treatment facility as well. Substance abuse is threatening our families, communities, and in fact our nation. Another Board that I am on is the Richmond County Health and Human Service Advisory Board. This is another collaborative group providing important work to our community.

I continue to advocate for all people and remind everyone that families with special needs are not a "one and done" issue. It is generational with life-long consequences. I will always be a lifelong member of the Collaborative, and I continue to be a member of NC Families United. I Share my information from the State Collaborative and try to help my community help our children, youth, and families.

My quote:

"I always felt like everyone sitting at the State Collaborative table was there for the right reasons. This made it easy to trust and respect them which is required to have the kind of strength in unity we enjoyed; therefore, enabling us to improve the lives of children, youth and families in North Carolina."

Martha Kaufman DHHS – Mental Health Child Services Representative

<u>Director, Family Services/Willie M. Program</u>, Surry-Yadkin Area Program – a precursor to SOC in NC, building cross-agency programming (1984-1987)

<u>NC Central Region Child/Family Coordinator (DMH/DD/SAS)-</u> oversight, technical assistance, management and budgeting for 19 counties in implementation of Child and Family Services, including Willie M; and oversight of Children's Psychiatric Unit, John Umstead Hospital. Expanding cross-agency/regional program development and collaboration (1987-1990)

State Project Director, NC PEN-PAL (Pitt-Edgecombe-Nash Public Academic Liaison) SAMHSA grant (5 year/\$5M). PEN-PAL was NC's first SOC grant and one of the 22 original SOC grants in the country. Developed and managed preservice, in-service training, technical assistance for workforce development through public-academic partnership with East Carolina University schools/departments of Social Work, Psychology, Child and Family Relations, Nursing, Medicine/Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, and Education. Oversaw development of first graduate level collaborative teaching course to prepare students to work in SOC across NC. Advocated for/oversaw development of grass roots family support and advocacy organization, WE CARE (With Every Child and Adult Reaching Excellence), advancing inclusion of parents of children/youth with SED in all project management, training, service delivery and evaluation. Created Family in Residence Program in collaboration with WE CARE at ECU (incorporating family members as curricula development partners and as faculty in graduate classes). Conceptualized/implemented 11-county expansion of the PEN-PAL Project, laying groundwork for development of the NC Families and Communities Equals Success (NC FACES) federal grant award. <u>Primary author of NC FACES grant</u> application to the Center for Mental Health Services, 5 year/\$8 million grant awarded in October 1997 for 11 counties. NC was only state to receive 2 SOC grants upon award. (1993-1997)

<u>State Director/Principal Investigator for NC FACES grant</u>. Developed/managed workforce development contracts with 5 University of North Carolina campuses, a private 4-year college and a community college to develop SOC training for university students, community stakeholders, families and agency service providers through regional Public Academic Liaisons (PALs). Oversaw development of regional family support and advocacy coalitions to promote sustainability of local family organizations beyond the period of federal support (laid the groundwork for NC Families United development). (1997-1999) Represented federal Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) Children's Mental Health Initiatives in *1998 Congressional Briefing to report on progress of the SOC federal program*. PEN-PAL was featured as the model program for SOC in the briefing, including development of WE CARE. (1998)

<u>Primary author for System of Care Network grant</u>, for SAMHSA's Center for Mental Health Services. This 5 year/\$8 million federal grant awarded to the NC DMH/DD/SAS to improve and evaluate services for children and youth with serious emotional disturbances and their families, a further expansion of SOC in NC. (1999)

Senior Management Coordinator, Washington Business Group on Health, National Resource Network for Child and Family Mental Health Services (NRN), Washington, D C. Provided technical assistance and management of 41 federal and state-funded Systems of Care across the US. Co-author of monograph for national dissemination highlighting experiences of 28 states and territories in SOC implementation. Responsible for oversight of out-stationed technical assistance staff (education, juvenile justice, mental health, and child welfare specialists) and liaison between the Business Group and the National Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health to build and model family-professional partnerships. (1999-2000)

Director (Chief), Child and Family Services, North Carolina Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services, Child and Family Services Section, Raleigh, North Carolina. Established conceptual design and template for statewide comprehensive SOC approach for implementation of new legislation (At Risk Children) to better serve children and youth with complex mental health needs involved in mental health, child welfare, public schools, public health, and juvenile justice service systems; established statewide requirements and implementation of policies/procedures, including implementation of statewide Community Collaboratives to maximize fiscal and other resources, and Child and Family Teams for all service planning and delivery. Established allocation of flexible funds to communities for promotion of family involvement, support and advocacy. Conceptualized and developed North Carolina State Collaborative for Children and Families, a management structure comprised of families, family advocates and top-level management in health, behavioral health, child welfare, juvenile justice and related public and private service and support policymakers. (200-2002)

<u>Secretary</u>, Board of Directors, <u>National Federation of Families</u> for Children's Mental Health (2003) and <u>Vice President</u> (2004)

The following three initiatives represent design and implementation of SOC as the framework to:

Demonstrate that a local community could successfully implement a robust SOC with use of only local funding sources. Designed and oversaw implementation of new services and approaches including Rapid Response Homes to divert children from out of community placements; Care Review to bring community leaders, families and other stakeholders together to help CFTs struggling to help meet the needs of children and families, as well as providing a quality improvement function for CFTs. Durham SOC was a strong success, winning several awards and saving the county over a \$1M in funds previously used for court-ordered out of state placements. Those funds were reinvested in community SOC infrastructure. Lead agency, The Durham Center. (2003-2008)

Integrated Care. Demonstrate that local pediatric medical practices and their patients could strongly benefit from SOC approaches, including implementation of a 2-person team (early childhood specialist and community parent of child with special health care needs), physician and cross-agency training in the Positive Parenting Program (Triple P). As Local Project Director for NC Project LAUNCH, at the Alamance County Health Department in Burlington, NC. Alamance received designation as is the only implementation site in NC for the NC Division of Public Health. LAUNCH funded innovating service development for children 0-8 and their families, funded by SAMHSA. 5-year grant. Project became national model. (2011-2015)

Integrated Care. Demonstrate that children, youth and adults could benefit from SOC approaches in physician offices, and by importing medical staff into behavioral health community settings. Building upon LAUNCH model, implemented 2-person teams in all settings, 1 member a behavioral/health specialist and the other a parent/family member from the local community. Created a Whole Person Integrated Care model to promote best practices, positive health outcomes, and sustainability. The design integrates behavioral and physical health along with public health approaches that promote health and actively address Social Determinants of Health. : Partners NC System of Care Expansion Grant, a 5-year \$4M grant from US DHHS/SAMHSA to integrate SOC and Whole Person Integrated Care (2017)Lead agency: Partners Behavioral Management LME, Gastonia NC. (2015-2018)

FEDERAL SOC GRANTS DEVELOPED & FUNDED:

- Key author: Partners NC System of Care Expansion Grant, a 5-year \$4M grant from US DHHS/SAMHSA to integrate SOC and Whole Person Integrated Care (2017)
- Co-author: Alamance Alliance. \$7 Million award to NC Alamance County Department of Social Services (2008)
- Key Author/writing team: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families (ACF). Child Welfare Systems of Care. \$500,000 award to NC DHHS/Division of Social ServOices (2003)
- SOC NETWORK (1999)

• NC FACES (1997)

QUOTE: "As a Family Member of 2 children with complex and enduring special needs, my career has largely been spent working 'inside the system' to help build services and supports that would ultimately build on strengths, preferences and meet the needs of families whose children need coordinated and comprehensive services based upon best practices, common sense, compassion and respect. I longed to see my own children have access to such a service system. They were and are my litmus test. Those of us dedicated to supporting children, families and youth at risk for and/or having complex needs have the benefit of a wide range of best practices in public health, medicine, peer support, behavioral health, social determinants, as well as brain science. However, application of this knowledge can only be effective for families when we work together to truly transcend the boundaries that separate us and our viewpoints. Power, control and divisiveness whether personal, organizational, or political destroys the robust but fragile energy it takes for SOC to work as reflected in its values and principles. We must rise above our divisions to create a dynamic can-do energy and determination to apply what we know SOC is - with integrity, trust, transparency, energetic creativity, and much perseverance. This is how/when SOC succeeds in its mission."

Rebecca Huffman – DSS SOC Representative

I was the NCDSS System of Care grant Coordinator for the first system of care in child welfare when I joined the Collaborative.

I am now the child welfare workforce specialist for the Children's Bureau.

My quote is that: "the Collaborative was groundbreaking and ahead of its time in understanding the critical need for agency collaboration along with participation by families with lived experience to improve the health, safety, and wellbeing of all communities across NC."

Lana Dial – Administrative Office of the Courts

Lana Dial is an active member of the Lumbee Tribe (<u>www.lumbeetribe.com</u>), Triangle Native American Society (<u>trianglenative.org</u>) and American Indian Women of Proud Nations (<u>aiwpn.org</u>). She is a native of Hoke County, North Carolina, and is the first born of five children, having one brother and three sisters. She holds a BA in English, Master of Public Health in Nutrition and Master of Science degree in Maternal Child Health and Program Policy from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She retired from the North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts (within the Judicial Branch of state government) January 2012 where since 1995 she was responsible for directing all aspects of the Foster Care and Adoption Court Program. After retirement Lana was asked to serve as co-chair of the Collaborative with Libby Jones for almost two years.

Lana has lived in the Triangle area of North Carolina since 1987, an area with one of the largest Native American populations in the state. She demonstrates her on-going commitment to peaceful and respectful human relations and expanded opportunities for all by serving as a member of the NC Commission of Indian Affairs

(https://ncadmin.nc.gov/about-doa/divisions/commission-of-indian-affairs/commission-memb ers); volunteering with NC-AARP's Minority Outreach Program; serving as a member of a) Triangle Native American Society's board of directors; member, b) UNC-CH's Alumni Committee on Racial and Ethnic Diversity, c) UNC-CH's Graduate Education Advancement Board and d) other boards and advisory committees of not-for-profit organizations such as the Lake Johnson Harbor Homeowners' Association and Triangle Interfaith Alliance (interfaithalliance-nc.org).

Honors include being awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine and United Tribes' "Distinguished Service Award to the Indian Community".

Quote: "I appreciate and celebrate the Collaborative and the early efforts to create an inclusive group of individuals and representatives of service providers as well as those who are recipients of those services. The work of this body has been intentional in that respect and has long had been needed, continues to be needed and is greatly respected."

Donn Hargrove - Dept of Juvenile Justice Service Representative

I am the retired (2006) Deputy Secretary of the Dept of Juvenile Service (now part of the Dept of Public Safety)in 2000 based on the wisdom of past Governor Jim Hunt, the dept was a cabinet level agency that stressed the importance of child welfare for the future of NC...working with other agencies and depts. was our mandate....we as a state community did a lot of fine work with families

Quote

"You can't always get what you want....but if try try try, you will get what need...."

Kirsten Peterson Frescoln – Administrative Office of the Courts/Juvenile and Family Treatment Courts Representative

Kirstin was one of the original "Friday breakfast bunch" who would meet at Children's Mental Health to problem-solve and examine legislation, rules, and funding that either impeded or facilitated family-based children's services. Frescoln joined the Administrative Office of the Courts in 2000 where her role was to develop and support Juvenile and Family Treatment Courts across the state. She became Director for NC Treatment Courts in 2005 but left in 2011 to pursue a doctorate. In 2018, she became a Senior Program Associate at Children and Family Futures where she provides training and technical assistance to support family treatment courts across the United States.

She has more than 25 years' experience developing, implementing, and evaluating community-based programs and policies to improve the health and well-being of vulnerable individuals and families. She has worked at the local, state, and federal level; former positions include North Carolina Drug

Treatment Court Manager, Senior Consultant for the National Drug Court Institute, Senior Research Associate with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Center for Urban and Regional Studies, and Maternal, Infant, and Child Home Visiting Coordinator with the North Carolina Division of Public Health, Children, and Youth. Through her private consulting firm, Facilitated Community Solutions, she has provided technical assistance and training for the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Juvenile Justice, Center for Court Innovation, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, National Drug Court Institute, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, Children and Family Futures, and Reclaiming Futures, as well as numerous local and state entities. Publications include examination of the impacts of federal policy on treatment courts, the health impacts of relocation from distressed public housing, and evaluations of self-sufficiency initiatives within public housing in journals such as Social Science and Medicine, Housing Policy Debate, Intl Public Health Journal, and Housing Studies.

She is a Certified Public Meetings Facilitator and Mediator and has a doctorate from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Public Manager Certification from North Carolina State University, and bachelors in Foreign Affairs and History from the University of Virginia.

Quote:

My quote is one that Children and Family Futures has adopted. "We are Better Together!" - Families are better together and agencies and organizations achieve better outcomes when they work together.

Ms. Susan E. Robinson, <u>M.Ed.NC</u> DHHS, DMHDDSAS.

Ms. Robinson has more than thirty-five years of experience working with children and youth with serious emotional disorders and disabilities and their families. She is a member of the Child Behavioral Health Team in the Community Mental Health Section of the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services.

As the Collaborative was forming, Ms. Robinson served as the Division's Head of the Prevention and Early Intervention Services Branch in the Child and Family Mental Health Section. As the Collaborative evolved, minute taking rotated among agencies, then it seemed to work more fluidly for one to do so, Susan took on this role as one of the Division's contribution to the collaborative. Through the strength of the Collaborative's partnerships a number of child, youth and family initiatives were advanced from vision to taking concrete next steps, including the IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) Shared Agenda and the state's first Blueprint for School Based Mental Health was developed and used to advance community school-based mental health planning across the state. With renewed vision and department level leadership, the School Mental Health Initiative and School Mental Health Policy were advanced. First and foremost, of course was the co-leadership of the Collaborative and any of its collective work by a family and agency partner, and now also youth and young adult partners.

Ms. Robinson has served as the Child Planner and Manager for the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant and staff to the Planning Council. She serves as the Division's Crisis Counseling Services Coordinator implementing Hope4NC statewide, as coordinator for suicide prevention, early childhood mental health, school based mental health services, and initially engaged family and youth leadership development with Family Support Network as an adviser beginning in 1984, with NAMI NC in 1989 and in recent years with NC Youth M.O.V.E. In 1989 and years following she effectively implemented the first early childhood mental health system of care and research grants funded in the nation, underscoring the need for more focus on infant and toddler mental health and consultation best practices under NC's PL-99-457 Individuals with Education Act for Birth to 5 years old and now promoted nationally by SAMHSA. Serving as Principle Investigator, she was awarded and implemented the nation's first National Resource Center for Crisis Nursery and Respite Care Services through the Administration for Children Services for 10 years along with implementing three state crisis respites services grants for state's most vulnerable young children and families. This resource center's work laid the foundation for the FRIENDS National Center for Community Based Child Abuse Prevention.

Ms. Robinson uses a rich blend of experiences from her work with communities in NC, prior years in upstate New York, and nationally, partnering with children and families, leading non-profits, schools, community centers for MHDDSA services, coordinating volunteers in homeless shelters, and in program design, policy development and business management to effect change. She is the 2015 recipient of the System of Care Champion for NC Children, Youth and Families Award presented by the North Carolina Children, Youth and Family Collaborative. She currently serves as the Collaborative's Parliamentarian. More importantly today, she brings her life experiences as one touched by suicide, passionate focus on efforts to build and sustain resilience, and her greatest joy and job as a parent that keeps her grounded and focused on making the connections and making a difference.

Quote:

Borrowing from Joseph Campbell, "We each as children, families, adult children, and members of families, we are each on a hero's journey. We are each and together on a journey to join in and give to something bigger than oneself to a greater whole for the greater good. Belonging together as a part of this collaborative, impacts how we belong to one another and what we can accomplish standing stronger together."

Libby Jones - Libby Jones, Parent Representative/Director of SUCCESS (Past)Secretary for the Collaborative (Past) Co-Chair

I am a parent of 3 grown children and grandmother of 3 adorable grandkids. All 3 of my children, and later one grandchild, had special needs including ADHD, learning disabilities, severe depression, OCD and Bi-polar disorder.

I became involved with the NC FACES SOC grant in 1997. The NC FACES grant was in 4 areas of the state, Guilford, Sandhills, Buncombe and Gaston. Each of the 4 sites named their own site and I was in Guilford County under the GIFTTS grant. I became a Family Partner (Family Advocate then Parent Partner). We started our own local family organization which we called **SUCCESS** and I was the director. As parents involved with the SOC grants we met regularly 3-4 times a year and spent 2 days training and bonding with each other. To this day I still enjoy the friendship and support from some of these parents across the state. As parents of children/youth with emotional/behavioral needs we saw the need for and developed a

statewide family organization which is NC Families United, Inc. I was the first board president of NC Families United.

I started attending the State Collaborative with Pat Solomon. One of the things that impressed me was the relationships and feelings of trust between everyone. As a parent who struggled with my children, I loved the way everyone from multiple agencies were working together to help children and youth with mental health issues and to help and support the families of these children and youth. After Pat resigned, I became the Family Co-Chair for the Collaborative. I served in this role for 9 - 10 years. After the grant ended, I became a contract trainer with UNC-G and then became the Family Support Director for NCFU.

I am now a Nationally Certified Family Partner (was in the first group in the country to be certified and this group set the bar for everyone else) and I am an Advanced Level Trainer (Master Level) locally, statewide and nationally. I am still a member of the State Collaborative and advocate for children and for families. I am a past member of the State CFAC and serve on Sandhills CFAC. I am still a member of NC Families United.

My Quote:

"In a Child's life, everyone is accountable."

Bill Hussey - Department of Public Instruction/Mental Health Consultant and Parent Representative -

In 2001 I was a partner in Strength Based Systems, working with schools and mental health systems to coordinate work with children and families. Our focus was to develop child and family teams that advocated for integrated plans that supported a child and their families in all areas of service. I was 3 years removed from directing the Willie M program for DPI. In 1998 the state of North Carolina was able to remove itself from the Willie M class action lawsuit but that created a partial vacuum in children's service for children, specifically those with severe social and emotional disabilities.

Systems of Care, Child and Family Teams, Parent Advocacy, Community Collaboratives and the State Collaborative were all elements developed through the large federal mental health grants the state had received from the Federal Government. These grants had provided large pilot programs that helped North Carolina to develop all the parts of the puzzle to create a broad systems response for children and families.

I was also a parent of teenage daughter who was sexually traumatized and in need of the services defined above. In that role as a parent with a child with social and emotional concerns, I joined NC Families CAN and was part of the transition to NC Families United. I was and still am a true believer in family participation and in a families' voice in the development of plans and structures, that based on the knowledge of our children, we knew were right. I have since served as the State Director for Exceptional Children where I continued to work towards strengthening mental health support in the schools. We were able to pass a Mental Health policy at the State Board but lost out to legislative involvement. The NC School Mental Health Initiative which was the primary supporter of the State Board Policy is a very active and a strong advocate of services and of the new federal grant and the 3 pilot sites; Beaufort

County, Cleveland and Rockingham County. Having a State Board Policy is still important to create a systematic process to support students.

I am now retied but working for DPI to expand Medicaid dollars for both Exceptional Children and for regular education students who are enrolled in Medicaid. The idea is to expand both types of services and to work on improving rates. Schools are still fee for service and it is important that school rates are the same as community rates for like services. My quote is odd following my last paragraph – "We need to have the legislature see the need to increase state dollars for children's mental health services – Medicaid is not sufficient - and leaves a group of children and families without appropriate services."

Quote:

"My quote is odd following my last paragraph – "We need to have the legislature see the need to increase state dollars for children's mental health services – Medicaid is not sufficient - and leaves a group of children and families without appropriate services."

Kelly Jones Nguyen became the first Youth Leader for Powerful Friends Youth under NC Families United. - Powerful Youth later became Youth M.O.V.E. Kelly participated in the Collaborative and would bring youth to make presentations. She is currently working as an EMT and going to school to be a Paramedic and is unable to participate in the panel today

Quote: "Failure is not an option." Susan B. Anthony

Chuck Harris – DSS Section Chief Retired is unable to participate in the panel today but was a leader in the Collaborative and made huge steps in the System Of Care for Children and Families.

Education

- Political Science, B.A.1971, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N.C.
- Master of Social Work 1979, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N.C.
- Master of Public Administration 1986, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

Public Human Services Experience

2010 – present Independent contractor to public human service agencies. Clients include DSS agencies in Mecklenburg, Macon, Haywood, Transylvania, and Union counties

2009 – 2010 Buncombe County Dept. of Social Services Program Administrator for Child Welfare Services

2003 – 2009 Durham County Department of Social Services Assistant Director for Child Welfare and Adult Services Served as Interim DSS Director, May, 2004 to August, 2005 1994 - 2002 N.C. Division of Social Services Chief, Children's Services (State Child Welfare Director)

1989 – 1994 N.C. Division of Social Services Assistant Chief, Employment Programs

1979 – 1989 Caldwell County Department of Social Services Supervisor, Family Services, 1979-1985 Promoted to Assistant Director, 1985 – 1989

<u>Non-Profit Human Services Experience</u> 1971 - 1973 VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) Banquete, Texas (migrant community near Mexican border) Nueces Co. Community Action Agency

1980's Founder, Incorporator, Original Board Member Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Council of N.C.

Founder, Incorporator, Original Board Member Caldwell Friends (Governor's One-to-One Mentorship Program in Caldwell County)

Founder, Incorporator, Original Board Member Caldwell Council on Healthy Families (prevention of child abuse/neglect through public awareness, parent education)

Board Member 4 years, Board Chair 3 years Shelter Home of Caldwell County (first one in state)

2003-2009 System of Care Council (coordinating efforts of child-serving agencies – public, private, non-profit – in Durham County)

2008-09 Original Board Member Durham Connects (in-home visitation, health assessments of newborns)

Recognitions

- National Association of Counties, Kinship Care Program
- Ralph W. Ketner Award, N.C. Association of County Commissioners
- Best Practice Award, N.C. Association of County Directors of Social Services
- Co-recipient, Partnership to Improve Services Award N.C. Council of Community Programs
- Featured in Managing Care for Children and Families publication of the National Child Welfare Resource Center Summer, 2003

- Appointed, Drug Treatment Court Advisory Committee, N.C. Administrative Office of the Courts
- National Adoption Excellence Award, One of 14 recipients honored by U.S. Dept. of HHS
- Elected to represent southeastern U.S. on Executive Committee, National Association of Public Child Welfare Administrators. Re-elected 2000. Served 2 two-year terms; did not run for re-election in 2002.
- Special Recognition Award, Caldwell County Board of County Commissioners