CHIP Advisory Council Meeting

June 9, 2026, 3:30pm
Teams Meeting

Attendees: Patty Hall, NRCA/CHIP; Leigh-Anne Hall, NRCA/CHIP; Jolee Crawford, NRCA/CHIP; Trina Porterfield, Pifer, NRVA/HEADSTART; Shannon Lowery, NRCA/CHIP; Carol Peters, NRCA/CHIP; Reya Young, WRC., Amanda Talbert, VA Dept, of Health, Samantha Sparks, Cheyenne Sellors, Mont. Co. DSS; Keli Lichty, NRV Cares, Ashley Hash, Carilion Clinic, and Melissa Dodson

Minutes

Agenda item: Program Updates

Discussion:

- Welcome-Introductions
  Patty opened with welcoming everyone and members did a short introduction.

- Expansion Update
  Patty gave an update on the MIEV grant and stated that it has been submitted. She also explained that the Wythe Co. Site was removed from the 2026-2027 grant, but we will still be serving the current clients in that area, and we have received one referral that we will serve. Patty gave an update on the referrals for May with a total of 30 new referrals and 20 have been accepted. It was also discussed that our caseworkers will now be called Family Specialist.

- Grants
  Patty gave an update on the two mini grants as both are exciting for our families. One of the grants is a "campaign" grant for families to refer a friend to CHIP. If the friend accepts and qualifies, both families will receive a $50 gift card of their choice. The second grant is a Family Fun Pack. This is an incentive for each family to keep up with their home visits for 3 months without missing a home visit appointment. Each family that qualifies will be entered in a drawing for a Family Fun Pack full of fun and excitement. The committee members gave several great activity ideas for the Family Fun Packs.

- Dental Access
  Our Carilion Grant has ended, and we can apply again in March for this grant. We have $576.54 remaining available funds for use. This program provides dental access and gas cards for our families. We foresee using this up quickly.

- Baby Shops
  Currently our Baby Shops are open and up and running in each of our Giles and Floyd locations. Both shops are receiving makeovers and between both baby shops, we have served 38 people.
  These locations are run by volunteers from the community. This service is free to our families and provides clothing up to size 5T as well as diapers, formulas, and baby supplies.

- Fact Money
  Families And Children Trust provides client assistance to our program. With this money we have been able to help our families with things such as cars parts, tick treatment items, highchairs for triples, 2 car seat stroller combos, air purifiers and filters. We have spent around $1,000 of the grant funds.

- Outreach
  Patty talked about our Outreach Specialist writing a CHIP Highlight and for this month it is spotlighting the baby shops. We have a diaper drive happening at NRCA on June 11th from 1-4pm. There is a plan in the works for a CHIP family to meet someone in our Legislation through either a home visit or a visit to the Legislator's office.

Agenda item: Service Snapshot

CHIP has served 169 families, YTD 256 children (0-6), and 39 children (7-18) have been served YTD. CHIP currently has an active caseload of 120 families and 173 children 0-6. 4 families received interpretation services. There are 2 families

on the waitlist. CHIP staff have made 2380 virtual encounters/Outdoor Visits/home visits year YTD. CHIP has 10 expecting mothers.

Agenda item: Program Updates and Announcements

Trina Porterfield spoke about the summer camps that are happening with HeadStart.
Samantha Sparks spoke about the photo shoot that will be happening at the haunted house on main street in Pulaski on Saturday, June 13th.
Amanda Talbert spoke about the Family Fun Fest and the events/activities that will be happening. This is on July 17, 2026, from 10:00-2:00pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for.

August 11, 2026