



NC START East Advisory Council  
June 29, 2021  
Meeting Minutes

❖ Introductions

Jason Cone, Clinical Director BCPS; Cathleen Schultz, Lenoir County Schools Counselor; Kim Beneck, Eastpointe Clinical Director; Dr. Doniparthi, Eastpointe Assistant Medical Director; Uzama Price, Alliance Complex Child Clinical Psychologist; Rhonda Walton, Vidant Medical Center Case Manager Supervisor; Rachel Noell, IDD Consultant, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services; Tonia Joyner, Assistant Director of Mental Health Education, Eastern AHEC; Meagan Valenti, Tedi Bear Therapist; Jessica Hendrix, Le'Chris ISS/IDD Coordinator

NC START: John Callahan, East Director; Michelle Klutz, Regional Director; Sara Stanton, Clinical Director; Suzy Mayberry, Clinical Team Lead; Taylor White, Clinical Team Lead; Steve Tuzo, Resource Center Director; Ariana D'Avello, Therapeutic Coaching Team Lead; Kerri Shaw, Assistant Director

❖ Program Updates

- START East completing in person crisis assessments with families, community providers, and hospitals while adhering to COVID safety protocol
- <https://rhahealthservices.org/nc-start/nc-start-east-advisory-council/>
- <https://centerforstartservices.org/MHIDD-PDS>

❖ Capacity Building Discussion

- Overall consensus of increasing direct support staff (DSP) training to increase capacity and support those with complex IDD/MH
  - Those stepping down from developmental center into the community, often providers lack the experience and knowledge of complex IDD/MH
- Sara Stanton and Suzy Mayberry to meet with Tonia Joyner on July 20<sup>th</sup> to discuss DSP community training needs
- Meagan Valenti identified borderline intellectual functioning individuals often fall into a gap of service needs
- Dr. Price is writing an article for Alliance newsletter about NC START system involvement. Dr. Price will share the article once it is completed

❖ Reviewed START Therapeutic Coaching service and trends

❖ Reviewed START referral, resource and coaching data for April & May

- April: 10 new enrollments    May: 3 new enrollments    June: 6 new enrollments
- Total number of referrals: 31

❖ Next Meeting September 28, 2021 at 1pm

❖ Conclusion