

August 2022

Children's Services Newsletter

In this month's article, I wanted to take some time to share about WNCSource Children's Services **three Trainee Programs**, which include Teacher Trainee, Substitute Trainee and Site Supervisor Trainee. The Teacher Trainee program, launched in March 2022, and has morphed since its inception because of updated guidance from the Office of Head Start (OHS) regarding CDA requirements and policy changes from the NCDCDEE around Lead Teacher education qualifications. The first trainee cohort will finish EDU 119 at the end of July. At this writing, they are determining their next steps. For example, as eligible, they may be continuing with one more semester at Blue Ridge Community College (BRCC) in a Trainee capacity, continuing work toward a CDA, or applying for any open position in which they are qualified.

Starting with the **Teacher Trainee** cohort that will begin in mid-August, trainees will enroll in BRCC's EDU 119 and upon successful completion of the course (in December), along with other defined WNCSource training and classroom time, they will then be able to apply for open positions within Children's Services in which they are qualified. They will complete all of their requirements to be eligible for hire by the end of the EDU 119 semester in December.

The **Substitute Trainee** program is a part-time program designed for those that cannot commit to a full-time work schedule and will complete either the CDA or EDU 119 in one semester. Trainees will meet all of the necessary requirements toward the CDA/EDU 119 and will receive the same training as current Substitutes receive prior to entering a classroom.

The **Site Supervisor Trainee** program was developed for those that have 3 to 5 years of management and experience supervising a team, but do not necessarily have a background in early childhood education. Trainees will be accepted into the program based on identified site needs and candidate qualifications. They will receive mentoring and take part in shadowing alongside current Site Supervisors

while they complete their required education for receiving their NC Child Care Administrators credential (s). Upon successful completion, they can apply for open positions.

The three Trainee programs will help Children's Services attract, educate, train and hire much needed teachers, teacher assistants, substitutes and Assistant Site and Site Supervisors.

An update on our **Changes in Scope**, which we shared in July's newsletter. Both Changes in Scope applications were submitted on July 22nd. In discussions with our Region IV Head Start Program Specialist, we are ahead of the curve in submitting and she is hoping the review and feedback/decisions take place in fast order.

One last update, we received our letter from the Office of Head Start on July 27 notifying us that our federal review, **Focus Area Two**, is upcoming and can happen approximately anytime in September and forward. There will be additional information and prep, so stay tuned for more!

Should you have questions regarding the Trainee programs, please reach out to Gina Dowd, Recruitment and Volunteer Coordinator gdowd@wncsource.org or reach out to me at lincarter@wncsource.org with any other questions.

Linda

Children's Services Director