



# Winston-Salem/ Forsyth Community Action Team 12-month Update

<b>Mission: Recruitment and hiring of a culturally competent workforce representative of the community to work with young children and their families</b>	
<b>Goals</b>	<b>Highlights of Progress</b>
<b>GOAL 1: Develop sensitive educational environments that are responsible to multiple cultures, perspectives, learning styles and personal differences</b>	<p>The team configuration has changed as people moved and transferred to other positions; however, there continues to be wonderful collaboration between the colleges and the community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Darlene Perez-Brown (Occupational Therapy) visited Audrey Davis' Living Water childcare center. With her college class, Perez-Brown worked with the students, as well as did a training presentation for staff. There are plans to offer the same training for parents. Medical students also visit the childcare center.</li> </ul>
<b>GOAL 2: Train and recruit faculty within the system to champion the importance and relevance of culture in early childhood and culturally competent workers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WSSU received a FIPSE grant to increase the number of minority teachers (including in the Birth-Kindergarten/B-K program). There are a number of components to the interdisciplinary grant, including: recruitment and retention; curriculum content enhancement; more intensive field experiences; a summer academy for high school students; travel abroad/ cross-cultural opportunities; and mentoring. Fifty students begin the program this summer.</li> <li>• Forsyth Tech and WSSU are working on articulation agreements that can help students move more easily from associate level work to baccalaureate level work.</li> <li>• Forsyth Technical Community College has made a significant commitment to diversity-guided reform of coursework and practica and programs. Syllabi have been reviewed and revised to reflect greater emphasis on diversity. Faculty professional development plans now include diversity as a priority. On May 20 Forsyth Tech will begin offering a credential completely in Spanish through Continuing Education. Several community partners, including the Forsyth Partnership for Children and the Hispanic Action League have collaborated in making this possible.</li> </ul>
<b>Next Steps</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to work on the recruitment of a diverse workforce within the community, specifically in the B-K programs.</li> <li>• Walk the path slowly and pick up more partners (a new goal).</li> <li>• Develop stronger outreach to the community and parents (hope to help prepare parents for board participation).</li> <li>• With Walking the Walk mini-grant, review syllabi that are currently being used. Secure new methods, resources and partners for increasing the emphasis on diversity.</li> <li>• Continue collaboration to identify barriers to making diversity-related changes in what we teach and how we teach. Target both college level teaching and community-based training.</li> </ul>	