

Date: December 18, 2001

TO: Winston-Salem/Forsyth Campus-Community Diversity Consortium (CCDC)

FROM: Camille Catlett, Rosie Parrish, and Pam Winton
Walking the Walk

RE: Summary of December 6 CCDC Meeting

Thank you for your valuable contributions before and during the December 6th meeting of the Winston-Salem/Forsyth Campus-Community Diversity Consortium (CCDC). We used the meeting time productively to learn more about resources in your community that can support a more culturally, linguistically, and ability diverse and competent future workforce. We also worked together to identify future challenges and directions, and to establish priorities for Winston-Salem/Forsyth that are related to promoting diversity in early childhood intervention. This letter recaps the key events of that meeting, and several items requested by the group are attached.

- Participants introduced themselves and shared their personal interests in promoting diversity in the field. An updated list of CCDC members is attached (**yellow**).
- An overview of the **Walking the Walk** project was provided, including the resources and strategies that **Walking the Walk** offers to support diversity efforts in the areas of recruitment, preparation, support and linkages.
- Participants (CCDC members) described resources and initiatives that can support Winston-Salem/Forsyth diversity efforts. A consolidated list of those that the group came up with, including contact information, is attached (**purple**).
- CCDC members identified community priorities that a Community Action Team (CAT) representing the Winston-Salem/Forsyth area could play a part in addressing with support from the **Walking the Walk** project. These priorities will guide the planning for the May 29-31, 2002 **Walking the Walk** institute and the work of the CAT from Winston-Salem/Forsyth. Top priorities and additional priorities identified by the group during small group brainstorming sessions are attached (**blue**).
- The CCDC identified features to consider in selecting team members (CAT) who will address the Winston-Salem/Forsyth priorities as part of the **Walking the Walk** project. **Walking the Walk** requires that teams reflect diversity, higher education participation (faculty, community college, student, administrator) and community participation (practitioners, family members, adults with disabilities, agencies, initiatives). CCDC members felt that it is important to have Hispanic representation on the CAT, as well as early childhood students, practitioners and community leaders.

- CCDC members were asked, independently, to identify individuals to be part of the Winston-Salem/Forsyth CAT. Those nominations are currently being compiled and we will work closely with Birth-Kindergarten faculty at Salem College and Winston-Salem State University to make sure that the team selected reflects the diversity of the leaders in your community.
- At the meeting, local newspaper headlines relating to diversity were shared with the group. Per request, we have also included these (**gray**).

The CAT from Winston-Salem/Forsyth will travel to the **Walking the Walk** institute May 29-31, 2002 and will work together to develop strategies for addressing the priorities listed above. They will return to their community to try out different approaches for implementing and promoting change. Additionally, they will be responsible for sharing what they learn with other CCDC members. The importance of this commitment to return-and-share will be emphasized in the invitation to each CAT member.

A revised list of Winston-Salem/Forsyth CCDC members is enclosed. All CCDC members will receive a list of the Winston-Salem/Forsyth CAT team members as soon as they are selected. Additional information and resources related to **Walking the Walk** and diversity are now available at our website (<http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~walkingthewalk/>)

We appreciate your willingness to work with us in furthering Winston-Salem/Forsyth efforts to build a more diverse and competent workforce to serve young children (with and without disabilities) and their families and to build on and reinforce the collaborative personnel developments already underway. As a token of our appreciation for the time and energy you have invested in this project, please accept the enclosed resource guide as a gift, "Walking the Walk: A Guide to Diversity Resources for Trainers." We thank you for the time you spent both completing the **Walking the Walk** measures and enriching the collective vision for Winston-Salem/Forsyth.