ECONOMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE MEETING

February 10, 2021 from 12:00pm-2:00pm

Line opens at 11:50am

Co-Chairs- Trish Baker, Davidson County

Catherine Lytch, Brunswick County

Angie Karchmer, Gaston County

Will Wakefield, Caldwell County

**NCFAST**

* **P-14 Update Dan Meyer and Lisa Ashley 10 mins**

Dan will be leaving P 14 project and Lisa will be overseeing the project. Please reach out to Lisa if any questions about P 14 or Tribal options.

**County Readiness Call**

* The February Readiness Call with both Project 14s & Medicaid Transformation was held yesterday. The call recording and slide deck has been sent to County Champions & will be posted to FAST Help this week.
* The March Readiness Call is scheduled for Tuesday March 9th from 10:00-11:30am.

**P14 4.0 Managed Care Training & Readiness Updates…**

* The February NC FAST Release is scheduled for this upcoming weekend of February 13 - 14. The release will include the following updates:
  + 8 new tribal related Managed Care statuses
  + The item dropdown menu on the IHS Eligibility evidence verification pop-up will now include an option for “Manually verified by calling Federally Recognized Indian Tribe”, like the Tribal Member evidence verification pop-up.
* The updated job aids relevant to the NC FAST February Release will be posted to FAST Help on February 12.
* Training Release 2, which includes trainings related to Managed Care Open enrollment was made available on the Learning Gateway as of February 3rd. It includes 2 courses:
  + Managed Care and EBCI Tribal Option Navigation
  + Returned Mail Report
* Checklists related to this functionality were sent to County Champions on February 5th… This checklist should be used to track your county’s progress on activities that will ensure each county is prepared for Open Enrollment and Returned Mail records… All checklists are due back to Readiness Liaisons by March 12th.

**P14.2 Training and Readiness updates…**

* Thanks to the counties who have submitted their Readiness Questionnaires… We have received from 99% of counties… Those counties who may have Action items remaining, we want to ask that to prioritize those this week.
* Release 3 Training is now available on the Learning Gateway… **Training should be completed by EOD this Friday, February 12th…** Training reports have been provided on Fridays. The next training report will be sent to counties this Friday, February 12th
* We’ve received a few emails from counties stating that some individuals on the report are no longer in that program area. Our LG Admin is working on getting those individuals removed.
* Only the 5 Partner Counties (Alamance, Catawba, Robeson, Wake, & Yadkin) were auto enrolled in the recertification learning path in January... Non-Partner Counties will be auto enrolled in recertification training on **April 5th** to prepare for statewide recertification Straight Through Processing, beginning May 1.
* Release 3 will Go-Live as part of the February release this weekend and includes the following updates:
  + Automated Income Verification & Reasonable Compatibility
  + Automatic Determination of Income Counted
  + Additional IEG Questions for Medical Bills and Inpatient Hospital Stays
  + Updated task headers in the Electronic MAGI Application Received – Processing Incomplete work queue
  + Updated DHB-5059
  + Updated reports
  + Recertification Straight-Through Processing and Recertification Issues (we are targeting March 2021 for the 5 Partner Counties to begin piloting this functionality)
* Release 3 will **not** include:
  + Application Straight-Through Processing, including additional Processing Checks, Processing Checks page, and expanded Straight-Through Processing Incomplete Reasons
  + Eligibility-Based Auto Denial
  + Automated DMA-5097NT (Request for Information)
* The February Release also includes new Auto Newborn functionality that will eventually allow hospitals to submit notices of birth through ePASS. NC FAST will then utilize Straight-Through Processing to authorize the newborn’s coverage. The Auto Newborn functionality will be piloted by Wake County Human Services and WakeMed Hospital (New Bern Ave). More information explaining the functionality is being provided on P14.2 readiness calls and fact sheets. Additional information regarding when counties can begin using Auto Newborn will be provided post-pilot.

Working on updating county staff list. If you sent an email reporting an individual is no longer with a staff person, state working on updating

* **NCFAST training Certification and Level 1 Program Ashley Arrington 25 mins**

Core Functions Certification & Level 1 Training Program

Alamance Dare Forsyth Robeson and Wilson – Piloting –

80 Users in Progress – 7 new workers, 73 existing across designated Phase in

79 workers certified 42 have completed Level 1 training

100% on time – avg 21 days to complete both requirements

Profile Issues – Update programs associated with user profile

Update functions

Update Supervisor

Supervisor can see staff and reporting is done from Profile - important for users to keep profiles updated

Outdated Staff list – counties should review and update this

Flexibility for counties to enroll users

* Staff program transfer
* Continuing professional development

Hot topic

HTML/Flash issue – courses not updated prior to 12/31 have been identified and hidden all wbts hidden if not accessible. WBTs begin recorded and posting as quickly as can

Materials for hidden wbts should be there for review

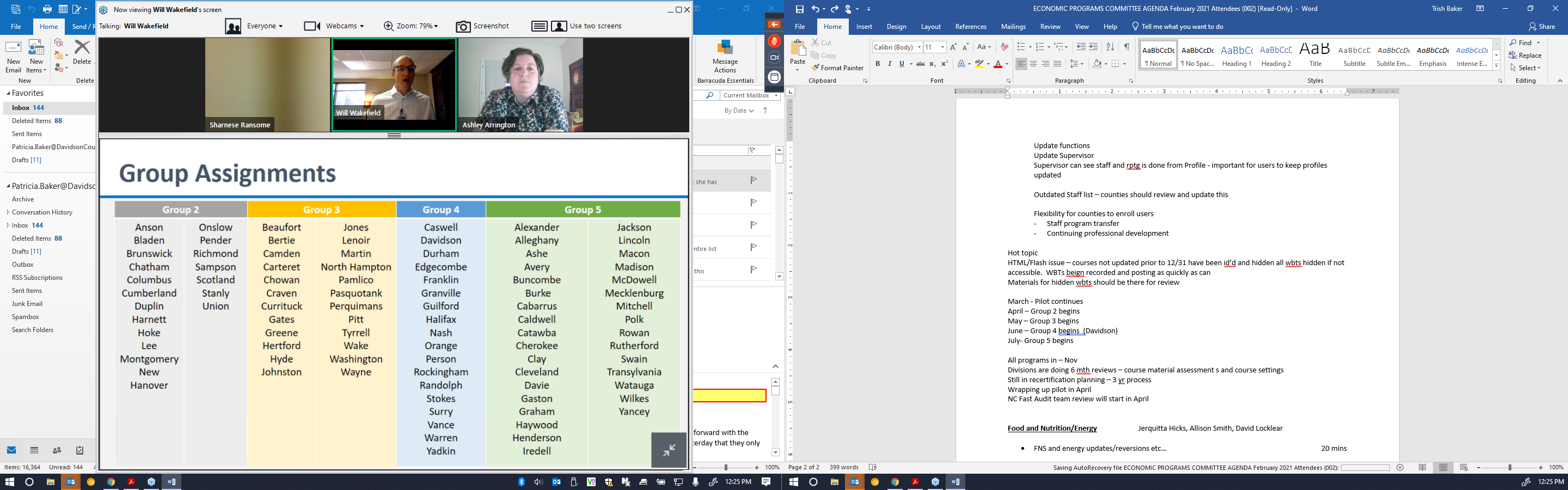
March - Pilot continues

April – Group 2 begins

May – Group 3 begins

June – Group 4 begins

July- Group 5 begins



All programs in – Nov

Divisions are doing 6-month reviews – course material assessment s and course settings

Still in recertification planning – 3-year process

Wrapping up pilot in April

NC Fast Audit team review will start in April

Point of Contacts can see all users in the Learning Gateway

Core Functions – 3 attempts to pass – this is tied to the legislative requirement

After the 2nd failure the user is locked out and remedial

They will have to go to a live or currently virtual course

Level 1 – there is a score but the requirement to pass was removed from the legislative mandate. The state uses the score to id training gaps,

FFM Open Enrollment – 2/15-5/15

**Food and Nutrition/Energy** Jerquitta Hicks, Allison Smith, David Locklear

* FNS and energy updates/reversions etc… 20 mins

David Locklear retiring March 1st, however last day is Friday, February 12th. 31 years in economic services. All questions should be sent to Jerquitta Smallwood if related to Energy, FNS, or PI.

DSS continues to work with Food Lion on online food purchases. State has been testing and press release and DCDL will go out later today. Food Lion online purchasing is different as they use instaline platform to use FNS Card. Do not purchase from Food Lion website. More information will be forthcoming this week.

BJ’s will be going line on Monday, February 15th for online purchasing. Information will be forthcoming

PEBT – state still working with DPI on a plan and toolkit. Received approval from USDA for school age children only last week. Starting next week, counties will start receiving information about PEBT such as flyers, poster, social media messages, toolkits, and Q&A’s.

Will issue benefits for past months first (Sept – Dec). Will not be issued on same day. USDA requires states to stagger the benefits. Need to ensure retailers have items on the shelf.

PEBT for Child Care Centers – state must develop a separate plan. State is working a plan for children in this group. More information will be forthcoming

CIP Updates – working on DCDL to address moratoriums to provide clarity when trying to assist families who are on payment plans, have not paid, etc. Reminder – every family needs to be assessed, cannot make blanket statements.

* Program Integrity Presentation 20 mins

Nikki Pickard – new program integrity consultant: responsible for answering all PI questions submitted by counties.

Is there a training for new PI staff? – state acknowledges that this is a need. Nikki will be developing a training. New PI staff can reach out to Nikki for material already created.

State conducted an analysis of questions and PI claims entered.

Things counties are doing well:

Adhering to 180 disposal of the case, timely hearings, submitting information timely.

Areas of improvement:

Staying abreast of all DCDL

Adhering to suspension of claims waiver. Current waiver ends Feb 28, 2021 but will be requesting to extend the waiver

Working TOPS report monthly

Waiver updates – state continue to request current waivers while under the pandemic declaration.