



Executive Director Arnold Eby
President Karen Poteet
Vice-President Thomas Rector
Secretary Sue DonDiego
Treasurer Peggy Kirby

National Foster Parent Association Annual Membership Meeting
December 10, 2022
Via online platform

The annual membership meeting of the National Foster Parent Association, known as NFPA, was held via Social Media platforms on Saturday, December 10, 2022, beginning at 10:00 AM CT with the NFPA Board of Directors President, Karen Poteet being present and presiding over the meeting with the Secretary being present with, elected Secretary pro tem Tammy Wells taking minutes.

October 2, 2021, membership meeting minutes were posted, no corrections were noted, based on a **motion** by Sue DonDiego and a second by Shawn Johnson, NFPA President Poteet deemed the minutes approved by general consensus through an online voting portal.

Financial position for calendar year 2021 and total assets for the Organization was \$483,827.18

NFPA Executive Director, Arnold Eby gave a welcome and turned the meeting over to NFPA President Karen Poteet for the overview of the organization's successes and impacts of NFPA in 2021.

- June 2023 NFPA will host an in-person Educational Conference to be held in Reston VA. Where we will once again be able to gather in person for our 2022 annual membership meeting.
- Virtual conference - *Forward* was held in June of 2021. During that conference NFPA With the partnership of the Dave Thomas Foundation was able to provide 37 scholarships for foster, kinship, and adoptive parents to attend the virtual conference. During our virtual conference there were 2134 video sessions that were completed with over 20 nationally known presenters that donated their time and their expertise to present on various child welfare issues including such renowned individuals as Chan Helman, PhD from the University of Oklahoma, Dr. Bessell Vanderkolk, Christina Bethel, and Barb Clark from NACAC.
- NFPA was able to award five educational scholarships to young adults in a variety of categories for them to be able to further their education beyond high school. Categories included youth currently in foster care, youth who had been adopted, youth who were in kinship care, and a biological child of a foster family. One continuing education scholarship was given to a young adult seeking continuing education beyond the first year of a higher education program.
- In 2020 at the very start of the COVID-19 pandemic NFPA launched the National Foster Parent Association Training Institute known as NFPATi. NFPATi came about with the support and partnership of the Centene Corporation. The launch of these training events gives foster, kinship, and, adoptive families access to trainings anytime 24/7 365 days a year and can be accessed at NFPATi.org during the calendar year 2021 eleven 1730 training certificates were issued to foster kinship and adoptive parents through the NFPATI training and Centene and FPA have committed to collaborate to create new curriculum and training and give caregivers quick and easy access to education that really targets the issues that foster kinship and adoptive families commonly encounter.
- The National Foster Parent Association has an advisory board of state affiliates. This advisory board is called the Council of State Affiliates or better known as CoSA. There are several states involved in this Council which plays an important part to the NFPA, and that is that CoSA is able to reach out to foster, kinship, and adoptive families in their State who need supports nearby them and to know what state policy affects them greatly in providing quality of care to children in out of home care. The development of Cosa is a great priority of the NFPA. Eight of our council state affiliates partnered with Children need Amazing Parents, better known as CHAMPS advocacy campaign via money grants facilitated by NFPA for state level advocacy work. CoSA



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completed, updated, and revised the NFPA Code of Ethics for foster parents which is now known as the NFPA Foster Parent Guiding Principles that is available on the NFPAonline.org website.

- Coffee with Caregiver episodes hosted by our former Executive Director Irene Clements were aired and sponsored by United Healthcare. Those 23 episodes were viewed by an audience of 2,101 individuals. All those Coffee with Caregiver episodes are still viewable on the NFPA website at nfpaonline.org.
- Each year NFPA produces a federal tax guide for foster, adoptive, and kinship caregivers in 2021 the tax guide was produced for the 2020 tax year in partnership with Bills Tax Service of Illinois. The tax guide is an annual benefit from members only and has been well received by members due to knowledge on the federal level that aids and gives guidance to foster, kinship, and adoptive parents as well as their tax preparers.
- NFPA partnered with the Ritz Corporation and provided technical assistance for the development of a commercial advertising 'A Taste of Welcome' Ritz created the commercial to celebrate foster parents on Mother's and Father's Day of 2021. The commercial can be viewed on the NFPA website within the Annual Membership Report of 2020 or on the NFPA website NFPAonline.org.
- NFPA participated and represented our members in various meetings and campaigns from Depart of Homeland Security campaign on Human Trafficking to Child Welfare League of America (CWLA) conference planning committee, the Safe Coalition on Human Rights, interplay involved in planning of National Foster Care planning month with HHS Children's Bureau, and partner planning with Children need Amazing Parents (CHAMPS) campaign. NFPA also worked with the American Academy of Pediatrics.
- NFPA Board of Directors transitioned longtime Executive Director Irene Clements and announced the hiring of Arnold Eby at the end of 2021. Mr. Eby officially assumed the Executive Director role January 1, 2022.

With no further business NFPA President Poteet **concluded the meeting.**

Submitted by
Tammy Wells, Secretary pro tem
June 12, 2023