Personnel

Information about recent hires, potential additions to our team, and other related matters include:

- We have completed the onboarding of Randy and Michelle Hart in the role of Child Care Workers. They are in the process of learning their role and shadowing several other couples to learn routines and procedures.

The final session of Supportive Supervision, presented by Benchmarks NC, took place on June 24th. We are now in the survey collection phase from participants and will work with the trainer once those results are received and processed.

New Employee Orientation was held on July 8th with 5 employees taking part.

Daruana Davis remains away from work as a result of her accident on June 13th. We have been leveraging other staff to help fill the gap created at the Community Support Center.

Census

As of 7/15/2026 the census on campus is 62 youth. This is the highest the census level has been since my arrival in October of last year. There are 49 youth in direct care and 13 youth in Independent Living.

All cottages on lower campus are now open, staffed, and occupied with children. Bemis remains closed.

Resource Leveraging

Updates on leveraging physical assets:

- Granville County Public Schools will be utilizing our cafeteria for their Back-to-School Meeting on July 27th for approximately 50 of their staff. MHCO will get the opportunity to share with counselors, school social workers, and others the services we have to offer the school system.
- We have renewed the MOU with Vance Granville Community College.
- We continue discussions with Strong Arm Baking about utilizing the cafeteria space for their production location. We facilitated a joint meeting with them and VGCC to talk about partnership, with all three parties being interested in moving forward.

Strategic Planning

Strategic planning documents, a rough draft, potential revisions, and other information were shared with the Vision Committee. We then sought to schedule time in July for the committee to review and continue the work, but scheduling a time conducive for more than two members to be present became difficult.

As a result, I offered each member of the Vision committee the chance to meet with myself and the Committee Chair virtually via zoom to discuss their thoughts and take any feedback. At this writing, only 2 members responded.

Brenda Dickerson Daniel provided positive feedback to the process thus far and the notes from that session are included in materials. Her feedback included: she was pleased with the rough draft, the considerations that were included, and the work the team on the ground has done thus far. Her thoughts for consideration included taking any expansion slowly, being mindful of the cost of upfitting and buildings, and providing the entire board training to more involved with fundraising.

Pat Smith is scheduled for her listening session on July 20th.

We have also realigned the schedule for the Thursday before the full board meeting to give the Vision committee four hours to continue the work of the strategic plan. We will open that invitation to anyone interested in attending.

Program

Homecoming planning is underway. We have reached out to all parade participants from the previous two years, the three Shrine Temples, and several other community representatives and thus far have received positive feedback and several commitments. We also have secured staging, entertainment, and work for the BBQ portion is ongoing.

Some feedback surrounding Homecoming has included a desire to move the parade to the city streets as was done in past festivals. I have met with the County Manager and have a pending meeting with the City Manager to discuss their thoughts and willingness to that idea.

Progress with CARE continues to move forward. All our internal trainers have passed their required testing, and our entire team continues to work through the book, reading guides, and related activities to prepare for our initial 5-day training scheduled for July 27th through July 31st. We have also scheduled the two additional training dates (8/10 – 8/14 and 8/31 – 9/4)

Dan Rice continues to work with Thomas Boyd with efficiencies within print shop operations. The differentiator of our print shop is speed, and steps are being taken to decrease processing time. Software is being condensed to one program, and steps are being taken for that program to feed directly into our finance software. The new copiers that have been installed have also increased output.

Relationship Management

Coalition of Residential Excellence; we were able to have Representative Don Davis cosponsor a piece of legislation (H.R.4972) that helps to solidify Children's Homes across the country as a valuable part of the continuum of care.

Triangle North Healthcare Foundation awarded us a grant in the amount of $21,000; $10,000 of that is for general operating and $11,000 is for the Community Support Center.

6/25 met with Jonathan Underwood about the continued partnership between the Grand Lodge and MHCO.

6/30 – Mission Triangle/VGCC Leadership cohort

7/8 – Mission Triangle/VGCC Leadership cohort

7/8 – Met with CDO of Trosa

7/10 – Prospective donor visits

Campus Life and Events:

The pool has gotten a great deal of use during these summer months. Youth are enjoying the opportunity to be together, engage in swim lessons, and enjoy the fun the pool provides.

Summer Enrichment Academy took place the week of July 29th where youth across campus participated in games, learning opportunities, crafts, and more.

Several of the cottages enjoyed a trip to Great Wolf Lodge, and indoor water park facility, sponsored by the Alumni Association. Wake the World is scheduled for 7/16.

Cottages celebrated 4th of July through a multitude of festivals, fireworks shows, and other activities.

Unfortunately, the two cottages who were scheduled to go to Camp Gray Rock will be unable to do so. Two days prior to the scheduled arrival of our first cottage the camp cancelled the program. We have reached out to donors who designated funds for that camp inquiring about their wishes for their funds.

Through feedback from both staff and youth, we are working to relaunch the annual MHCO yearbook. A photographer has been identified and scheduled. We also have several staff that have already volunteered to work alongside interested youth in design and printing.

Marketing and Outreach

Playground Campaign; the mailing generated approximately $142,000 of revenue for the "gift of play." Additionally, the Alumni Association designated $50,000 and a donor Kevin worked with pledged $50,000. A donor that I have been working with designated $85,000 and I am working with another potential donor who is considering a gift of $10,000.

We have had two vendors make site visits, and they are working on renderings and bids. A third vendor is due to visit in the coming weeks.

Attention is now being given to Homecoming and the events that surround that weekend.

Finances

As of June 30th, we are 1.75 million over budget for total revenue and $600,670 below budget for total expenses, giving us a 2.35 million net surplus year to date. During the finance committee meeting we will be making a recommendation to make a transfer to our investment account.

The excess revenue is largely due to an increase in planned giving and increases in both Masonic and General Public donations. For expenses, we are below budget in salaries, benefits, administrative expenses, and buildings and grounds. We are above budget in training, largely due to the contract with CARE.

While there is still work to be done, revenue in the print shop exceeds expenses year to date by $18,581. Both revenues and expenses are below budget for the year. The target is once efficiencies and processes are in place we can increase generated revenue.

Christopher Allabaugh

July 2026