



**Commissioner  
Briefing Packet**

BEYOND THE PARKING L: BUILT FOR FAMILIES. POWERED BY COMMUNITY

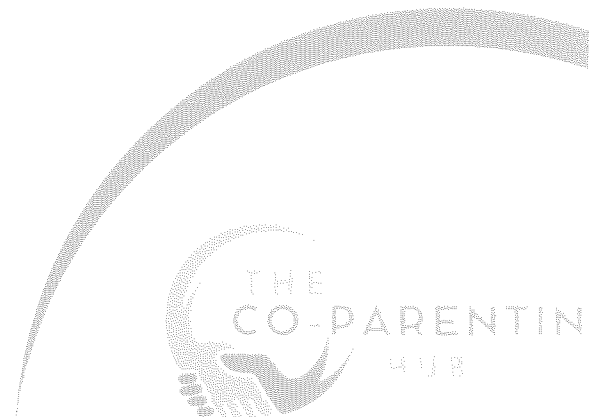
***Be a part of history, Help launch The Co-Parenting Hub,  
the nation's first community-built exchange center —  
founded by parents***

Prepared for:

**Commissioner Vilma D. Leake  
(District 2).**

Prepared By:

**Nia Brown  
Founder,  
The Co-Parenting Hub**





# Nia Brown

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August 6, 2025

Dear Chairman Jerrell,

Thank you for being a bold and compassionate voice for equity and justice in Mecklenburg County. I deeply admire how you lead with both heart and strategy—bringing attention to the needs of families, seniors, youth, and small businesses across District 4 and beyond.

As a mom and founder, I created The Co-Parenting Hub to help meet a growing need I saw right here in our community—families navigating the complexities of co-parenting, custody, and blended family dynamics, often without support. We serve parents and children who are trying to hold things together across two homes, often in crisis or conflict, and we aim to make that journey more peaceful, safe, and stable.

We're building a space where children can thrive, parents can learn to work together, and young moms and dads can get the tools they need to succeed. Our programs offer real support—from safe visitation space to donated furniture for second homes, co-parenting classes, and career pathways for teen parents.

Your leadership around equity, access, and support for vulnerable communities makes you someone we'd be honored to work alongside. I hope this info packet shows you what's possible—and how your voice and platform can help expand this vision countywide.

With appreciation,

*Nia Brown*

Nia Brown  
The Co-Parenting Hub  
Founder





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August 6, 2025

Dear Vice Chair Altmon,

Thank you for your unwavering commitment to protecting the most vulnerable in our community. From your years as a guardian ad litem and public interest attorney to your leadership on the Board of Commissioners, your advocacy for families, children, and justice is deeply felt throughout Mecklenburg County.

At The Co-Parenting Hub, our mission is rooted in that same commitment—to walk with families who are navigating the challenges of shared parenting, separation, and visitation without access to support. These moments can be heavy for children and parents alike, especially in underserved communities.

With your background in child welfare, juvenile justice, and social equity, we believe you will see the urgent value of this initiative. I invite you to learn more about the space we've created—one that offers stability, healing, and dignity to co-parents and children during some of their hardest moments.

Thank you for the work you've already done to protect families. I hope you'll consider championing The Co-Parenting Hub as a critical support for Mecklenburg's evolving family needs.

With admiration and gratitude,

*Nia Brown*

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The Co-Parenting Hub  
Founder





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August 6, 2025

Dear Commissioner Griffin,

It is an honor to share the vision of The Co-Parenting Hub with you—a new, community-centered nonprofit in Mecklenburg County designed to serve families navigating shared parenting, custody transitions, and parent-child reconnection. Your legacy of public education, legal advocacy, and community leadership inspires our belief that family stability and child-centered spaces must be at the core of a strong, equitable county.

As an at-large commissioner with a track record of improving institutional systems, we believe you will see The Co-Parenting Hub as a timely, strategic, and compassionate response to growing needs across Mecklenburg.

With admiration and gratitude,

*Nia Brown*

Nia Brown  
The Co-Parenting Hub  
Founder





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August 6, 2025

With Gratitude and Hope

Commissioner Leake,

We deeply honor your decades of unwavering leadership, your bold voice for justice, and the powerful legacy you've built uplifting children, families, and communities across Mecklenburg County. Your work—from founding Project Motivation to championing our most vulnerable youth—has paved the way for meaningful change.

At The Co-Parenting Hub, we share that same heartbeat.

Our mission is to create safe, healing-centered spaces for co-parents and their children—especially those navigating hardship, transitions, or the foster care system. Programs like the Second Home Project, Grace Café, Teen Parent Life, and our Bridging Hearts foster care support initiative are rooted in compassion and designed to stabilize, empower, and restore families.

As we work to launch The Co-Parenting Hub in Charlotte, your voice, support, and advocacy can help us bring this critical resource to families who need it most.

We invite you to stand with us—to help us ensure every child feels safe, seen, and supported.

With respect and appreciation,

*Nia Brown*

Nia Brown

The Co-Parenting Hub

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August 6, 2025

Dear Commissioner Powell,

Thank you for your ongoing service and commitment to the residents of North Mecklenburg and the broader Mecklenburg County. Your dedication to public health, environmental stewardship, and authentic citizen engagement reflects a deep understanding of what it takes to create thriving, connected communities.

As a fellow advocate for family well-being, I am honored to share with you the vision for The Co-Parenting Hub, a new nonprofit committed to building healthier co-parenting relationships and safe visitation spaces for families navigating separation, custody, or transition.

With your longstanding experience in health, education, and community partnerships, we hope this initiative resonates with your values and vision for District 1. The Co-Parenting Hub aligns with key priorities you've championed: inclusive support systems, resident-centered solutions, and collaborative, restorative services for Mecklenburg families.

This info packet outlines how we aim to serve children and caregivers through innovative programs like on-site family visitation, resource support for second homes, co-parenting workshops, and mental wellness spaces like Grace Café.

Thank you for considering how your leadership can help shape the future of family care in our county. I am grateful for the opportunity to present this initiative to you and look forward to learning how we can partner to serve more families—together.

Best Regards,

*Nia Brown*

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August 6, 2025

Dear Commissioner Meier,

Thank you for your leadership and the compassionate example you set as both a public servant and a mother. Your journey—from educator and community builder to elected leader—reflects a rare blend of heart and purpose that continues to inspire families like mine across Mecklenburg County.

As a former teacher in dropout prevention and a steward of racial equity, your work has created bridges where gaps once stood. Your commitment to lifting families out of poverty by addressing root causes—not just symptoms—mirrors the mission at the heart of The Co-Parenting Hub.

We built this vision with parents like you in mind—those who know firsthand the value of community, stability, and early intervention. Our goal is to create a safe, welcoming space where separated parents can exchange their children peacefully, access wraparound support, and model unity for the next generation.

Mecklenburg County deserves resources that are innovative, accessible, and deeply human. We would be honored to share our vision with you, and welcome your insights as we grow. Thank you for considering how your continued leadership might help bring this vision to life.

With admiration and gratitude,

*Nia Brown*

Nia Brown  
The Co-Parenting Hub  
Founder





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August 6, 2025

Dear Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell,

Thank you for your leadership and continued commitment to the families and economic future of Mecklenburg County. Your work as Chair of the Economic Development Committee and your background in both small business and counseling services show a deep understanding of what it means to create a thriving and compassionate community.

At The Co-Parenting Hub, we believe that economic and emotional well-being go hand in hand. We've built a space where co-parents, children, and caregivers can find peace, guidance, and stability in seasons of transition. Our programs aim to reduce court involvement, increase parent accountability, and uplift young parents who often struggle to find supportive environments.

As someone who has worn many hats—from business to counseling to community advocacy—we see your leadership as a bridge between economic innovation and meaningful human care. We hope this packet helps you envision the kind of impact The Co-Parenting Hub could have in District 6 and beyond.

With deep respect and appreciation,

*Nia Brown*

Nia Brown  
The Co-Parenting Hub  
Founder





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August 6, 2025

Dear Commissioner Dunlap,

Thank you for your unwavering leadership and decades of steadfast public service. Your long-standing commitment to justice, education, and equitable community resources has made a lasting impact across Mecklenburg County—and it deeply inspires the very foundation of The Co-Parenting Hub.

We believe that strong families are the backbone of strong communities. Yet far too many parents in transition—especially those navigating custody challenges or financial instability—lack access to safe, supportive environments to exchange their children or get the guidance they need to co-parent well. We're building The Co-Parenting Hub to change that.

Your voice, your wisdom, and your legacy in this county matter tremendously. We would be honored to have your guidance as we work to bring this vision to life, and to ensure that families in District 3—especially those facing the greatest challenges—feel seen, supported, and surrounded by community.

We would love the opportunity to meet with you or your office to discuss ways your leadership could help shape this effort, whether through visibility, introductions, or future collaboration. Your insight would be invaluable, and your support could help open doors that truly change lives. Thank you again for all you have done, and continue to do, for our children, our families, and our future.

With admiration and gratitude,

*Nia Brown*

Nia Brown  
The Co-Parenting Hub  
Founder





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August 6, 2025

Dear Commissioner Townsend-Ingram,

Your story rooted in service, shaped by resilience, and guided by a deep love for community—is exactly the kind of leadership that inspires change. From your advocacy for working-class families and HBCU students to your unwavering commitment to holistic, wraparound care, you have become a powerful voice for those who are often overlooked.

At The Co-Parenting Hub, we see so much of our mission reflected in your work. We, too, are striving to build something restorative, a place where families navigating hard seasons can find support, dignity, and real hope.

As a mother, educator, and advocate, you embody the kind of intentional leadership that changes lives. This brief packet was prepared with deep respect for your values and the impact you're making in District 6 and beyond. It's also an invitation to explore a shared vision for improving access to mental health support, family wellness, and economic stability for families facing transition and co-parenting challenges.

We would be truly honored to collaborate with you to help bring healing, structure, and joy to the lives of parents and children in Mecklenburg County.

With great respect and appreciation,

*Nia Brown*

Nia Brown  
The Co-Parenting Hub  
Founder



# About The Co-Parenting Hub

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The Co-Parenting Hub is the nation's first dedicated family exchange center to launch here in Mecklenburg County, designed to replace unsafe, informal meet-up spots—like parking lots, gas stations and other cold places, with trauma-informed, welcoming environments. We create spaces where children can transition between homes with dignity, stability, and peace of mind.

No more cold parking lots or emotionally tense hand-offs. Instead, families are met with warmth, structure, and support.

Through innovative programs and community partnerships, we strengthen co-parenting relationships while placing child well-being at the center. Every detail—from our programs to our physical spaces—is designed to build trust, foster healing, and bring moments of joy.

We are deeply committed to preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and promoting Positive Childhood Experiences (PCEs) by offering safe environments, predictable routines, and supportive adult relationships that protect children from stress and promote resilience. The Co-Parenting Hub isn't just a location—it's a movement. A fresh start. A new way forward where grace, respect, and growth guide every exchange.

## What Makes Us Unique

- **Not just a drop-off zone:** We combine safe exchanges with wraparound programs for parents and kids.
- **Community-based & family-centered:** Built outside of government buildings, inside trusted neighborhood spaces.
- **Life-readiness support:** Classes and services for young parents, returning fathers, and co-parenting success.
- **Holistic care model:** We integrate emotional wellness, housing resources, and career support under one roof.
- **Bridging with County & Courts:** Designed to ease the caseload of family court, DSS, and crisis centers by offering preventative support.

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## Our Mission Statement

At The Co-Parenting Hub, we replace cold parking lots and high-tension meetups with a safe, faith-rooted space where families can exchange children peacefully, co-parent with grace, and access life-changing support and resources.

## Our Vision

We envision a world where every child feels safe, loved, and supported—no matter how their family is structured. Through peaceful exchanges, empowering resources, and faith-rooted connection, we strive to rebuild trust and restore joy in every co-parenting journey.

# **COMMUNITY IMPACT OVERVIEW**

Supporting Families in North Mecklenburg Through The Co-Parenting Hub

## **District 3 Impact: Why The Co-Parenting Hub Matters Here**

District 3 is a cornerstone of Charlotte's cultural and generational strength, a community rich in tradition, faith, and resilience. Yet, many families—especially single and co-parents, continue to face hardship when trying to raise children in safe, stable environments.

Too often, custody exchanges happen in unsafe parking lots or emotionally tense settings. The Co-Parenting Hub is here to change that narrative for District 3 families.

We are committed to:

- Replacing unsafe meet-up spots with trauma-informed, family-centered spaces
- Offering programs that promote healthy co-parenting and child

## **District 3 Impact Map (Projected)**

- 350+ families/year benefit from furniture, visitations, or co-parenting programs
- 80+ supervised exchange appointments per month projected
- 150+ parents reached via workshops or Grace Café

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## **What The Co-Parenting Hub Will Offer families in District 3:**

### **• Safe, Supervised Family Exchange Space**

No more parking lot hand-offs. Families will be welcomed into a trauma-informed, child-first environment where children feel safe and transitions are peaceful.

### **• Support for Parents Rebuilding Stability**

We offer guidance, workshops, and personalized support for parents—especially those impacted by economic challenges or strained co-parenting relationships.

### **• Fathers Reconnecting with Kids**

Through our Bridging Back Dads initiative, we help non-custodial parents—especially fathers—reconnect with their children in a healthy, structured, and court-compliant way.

### **• Teen Parent Support**

District 3 has a growing number of young parents. Our teen parent programming provides mentorship, parenting classes, infant care support, and career planning to help young families thrive.

### **• The Second Home Project**

We deliver donated children's furniture and home essentials to parents working to create a second home environment after custody changes—ensuring children feel at home no matter whose house they're in.

## **With Commissioner Dunlap's Support, We Can:**

- Secure a permanent, centrally located facility for The Co-Parenting Hub
- Expand delivery of essentials to more families across District 2
- Collaborate with local churches, schools, and service agencies to identify and support families most at risk
- Provide stable jobs and volunteer roles for District 2 residents who want to give back

## **We Can't Do It Without You**

Commissioner Dunlap, your unwavering commitment to justice, equity, and community wellbeing has laid the groundwork for initiatives like ours to thrive. We hope to partner with you to bring this vision to life for District 3 families.

Let's make sure no more children have to experience stressful hand-offs in public parking lots, and that every parent in our district feels supported on their path to healthy co-parenting.

We'd be honored to work with your office to make this vision real.

**Lets Build Family support- Together**

## **PROGRAMS WE OFFER AT THE CO-PARENTING HUB**

The Co-Parenting Hub offers trauma-informed programs that support peaceful exchanges, emotional connection, and essential resources for families. We replace stressful meeting spots with safe, welcoming spaces—helping co-parents and children thrive through supervised visits, birthday celebrations, workshops, and home support.

### **Core Programs & Services**

#### **1. Parent Exchange Support**

A neutral, child-friendly environment for custody exchanges and supervised visitation — offering consistency, emotional safety, and peace of mind for parents and children.

#### **2. Debbie's Grace Café**

Our on-site café provides a warm, calming space for parents to wait or meet — designed to foster positive interaction and reduce conflict during transitions.

#### **The Second Home Project**

We provide bedroom furniture for a child's second home - supporting the there parent while create stability for the child in both homes.

#### **Children n care support**

**We helps foster children safely reconnect with their families through supportive visits and care.**

#### **4. Teen Parent Program**

A 3-part support series for young parents:

- Foundations First – Co-parenting & life skills
- Baby Closet- Provide baby essentials as in Bottles & Diapers

#### **5. Workshop Series**

Healing and leadership sessions that bring together real stories, expert guidance, and community resources to empower families and elevate local parent voices.

#### **6. Bridging Back Dads**

A restorative outreach initiative that supports non-custodial fathers in reconnecting with their children through mediation, trust-building, and practical planning.

#### **6. Shared Wishes**

The Shared Wishes program is a special shared celebration for co-parents on a child's exchange-day birthday. In just a few calm moments, parents sing together, give gifts, and show their child they are loved by both—together.

#### **6. Wrapped With Love**

Wrapped with love is a heartwarming program at The Co-Parenting Hub designed to ensure every child feels celebrated on their birthday—no matter their family's circumstances.

# WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

## Ways to Support Us

Together, we can replace parking lot hand-offs with safe, healing spaces.

In Mecklenburg County, too many children are exchanged in unsafe, high-stress locations. The Co-Parenting Hub is changing that by creating the region's first trauma-informed family exchange center.

**We've laid the foundation, but we can't do it alone.**

## Here's How You Can Help

### • A Dedicated County Budget Line Item

To support our trauma-informed services, including:

- Child-friendly, neutral exchange and visitation rooms
- Supervised visitation support and scheduling
- Programs for teen parents, displaced fathers, and undocumented families
- The Birthday Closet and Second Home Project for low-income families

**This line item would ensure access for families who may not qualify for traditional funding sources — including those on EBT, Medicaid, or without legal representation.**

### • Court System

**We are seeking your partnership to help us formally integrate into the family court system as a referral-based partner for:**

- Custody transitions
- Supervised visitation orders
- Reunification and non-custodial parent support
- Teen parent co-parenting assistance

### • Champion Our Search for a Building

Help us identify and secure a centrally located facility in Mecklenburg County to house our pilot Co-Parenting Hub. County-owned or underutilized spaces could be life-changing for families who need access to a neutral exchange center.

### • Connect Us to Key County Leaders

Make introductions to leaders in DSS, court systems, juvenile services, foster care programs, and relevant committees so we can ensure families who need us most know we exist.

### • Help Us Amplify the Mission

Share our vision through your district communications, social media, or community speaking opportunities. Your voice lends trust and visibility to this urgent need.

### • Introduce Us to Potential Funders and Supporters

We are actively fundraising to launch and sustain our pilot hub. Your introductions to local foundations, businesses, and philanthropic networks can help us meet our funding goal.

## Why County Support Matters

The challenges facing co-parents and their children often intersect with the very systems you oversee—child welfare, education, public health, and justice. Your support is vital because:

- There is **no centralized facility in Mecklenburg County** designed to provide supervised transitions, conflict-free exchanges, and co-parenting resources under one roof.
- **We are prevention in action:** Safe exchanges reduce trauma, prevent escalated conflict, and keep law enforcement from being repeatedly called to resolve domestic disputes.

**You have the power to help change how families navigate separation in Mecklenburg County.**

**Together, we can build a safer, more compassionate future—one family at a time.**