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The National Center for Clinical Practice in Educator Preparation (NCCPEP) Announces Official Launch at Its Inaugural Council of Directors Meeting

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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School Districts and Educator preparation programs are brought together under The Center to establish, sustain, and advance clinical practice in educator preparation.

(June 24, 2019, Fairfield CT.) – The National Center for Clinical Practice in Educator Preparation (NCCPEP) announced its official launch during the inaugural meeting of its Council of Directors. The meeting was hosted by the Isabelle Farrington College of Education on the campus of Sacred Heart University.

NCCPEP, also referred to as “The Center”, will work with educator preparation programs (EPPs) and their PK-12 school partners to implement the foundations of clinical practice within local contexts. Clinical partnerships are the center point of effective clinical practice and are vital to ensuring the preparation of high-quality educators. Because of this, partnerships will serve as the central focus of The Center’s vision and mission.

Rene Roselle, Director of Teacher Education at Sacred Heart University and NCCPEP Director noted, “It is the perfect time for a Center to be created and dedicated to support clinical practice partnerships. The education profession, including the preparation of teachers, is a complicated and political space that is experienced differently in each state. The Center draws on the rich and varying expertise of its Directors and partners to provide individualized, site-specific support wherever a program might be situated in the clinical practice partnership continuum.”

Conceptually, The Center will focus work in the following categories to offer an array of comprehensive supports to advance the development of clinical programs. Members of the NCCPEP Council of Directors will each have responsibility for advising and leading development in these key areas:

- Clinical Partnership Development,
- Coaching & Program Support.
- Workshops & Professional Development,
- Constituent Outreach & Engagement
- Research, and
- Clinical Practice Credentialing.

According to Rodrick Lucero, NCCPEP President & CEO, “We will provide implementation strategies, support, and guidance to partnerships in their quest to establish robust, research-based, clinical preparation programs. It is within this paradigm that we believe we can address critical educator shortages in our nation while also recruiting and retaining more educators of color.”

The Center’s focus on partnership and collaborative learning affords a focused approach to expanding the impact and capacity of clinical educator preparation.

“Clinical practice affords opportunities for both candidates and mentor teachers to co-construct professional learning experiences in authentic contexts, which results in candidates who are better prepared to enter the classroom, and therefore are more likely to stay longer in the profession,” said Amanda Lester, NCCPEP Vice President & COO.

Debbie Reed, NCCPEP Director and Associate Instructor at the University of North Florida added, “The Center’s launch is timely and will support our profession by moving the nation boldly forward with clinical practice as the center in educator preparation. We must ensure that all teachers are prepared to work with every child in their classroom, using a collaborative, interdisciplinary, and inquiry focus.”

NCCPEP will work to support goals defined within local clinical partnerships in collaboration with clinical practice experts from around the country.

“We are thrilled about the tremendous excitement with which the launch of The Center has been met!”, Lucero added. “The Directors of The Center are committed to this work and are anxious to assist partnership sites in the implementation of clinical practice.”

Members of The Center’s Council of Directors include:

Michael Alfano	Dean	Sacred Heart University
Derek Decker	Faculty	Colorado State University
Donna Cooner	Faculty	Colorado State University
Chris Jochum	Director/Faculty	Fort Hays State University
Tom Myers	Special Education Director	Adams School District #12
Audra Parker	Faculty	George Mason University
Seth Parsons	Faculty	George Mason University
Debbie Reed	Special Education Faculty	University of North Florida
Rene Roselle	Director/Faculty	Sacred Heart University
Jennifer Roth	Assistant Principal	Fort Collins High School
Kristien Zenkov	Faculty	George Mason University
Karmen Kelly	CFO	NCCPEP
Amanda Lester	Vice President/COO	NCCPEP
Rodrick Lucero	President/CEO	NCCPEP

For additional information, visit: www.nccpep.org.