

**Family and Children’s Trust Fund (FACT) Board of Trustees  
March 2016 FACT Meeting Minutes**

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Board Meeting Site: VDSS Central Regional Office, Richmond

**Members Attending**

Candace Bryan Abbey  
Anne J. Atkinson  
Frank Blechman  
L. Robert Bolling  
Betty Wade Coyle  
Robin Foreman-Wheeler  
Kay Kovacs  
Judy Kurtz  
Mary Riley  
Lisa Specter-Dunaway  
Yasmine Taeb  
Jack Frazier, VDSS Deputy Commissioner for Operations (designee for Commissioner Schultze)

**Members Not Attending**

Pam Kennedy  
Kevin Keene  
Nadine Marsh-Carter  
John Oliver

**Also Attending**

Johanna Schuchert, Executive Director, Prevent Child Abuse Virginia  
Kristi VanAudenhove, Executive Director, Virginia Action Alliance  
Brian Craig, VDSS Procurement Officer  
Jennifer Williamson, Office of the Attorney General  
Rebecca Hjelm, FACT Senior Research Associate

**March 2, 2016**

**Call to Order and Review of Agenda**

Chairman Specter-Dunaway called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM and provided an overview of the agenda. She announced the resignation of Dawn Chillon due to personal commitments and appointment of Robert Bolling who will arrive later in the morning. Introductions were deferred until the later arriving board members are present. She acknowledged the assistance of Mr. Frazier in the successful process of hiring an Executive Director who she hopes will be onboard not later than the end of March 2016 as well as Rebecca Hjelm who has taken on many of the Executive Director responsibilities until the position is filled.

**Mission Moment**

Betty Wade Coyle, FACT Board member and member of the Eastern Region and State Child Fatality Review teams, provided an overview and background history of child fatality review in Virginia. She noted that reports of the state Fatality Review Team are on the state Medical Examiner’s website and

## **Family and Children's Trust Fund (FACT) Board of Trustees**

### **March 2016 FACT Meeting Minutes**

include recommendations for future prevention. She also shared the Executive Summary of the FY 2014 Report from the Eastern Region Child Review Team that contains summary statistics and recommendations for child abuse prevention, safe sleep, gun safety, water safety and child care safety.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

Secretary Atkinson presented the December 2015 minutes that were sent in advance via e-mail to Board members. ON MOTION DULY MADE (Ms. Coyle) and seconded (Ms. Riley) the minutes were approved without amendment. Motion carried with all present voting in favor.

#### **Treasurer's Report and Audit Findings**

Board members were provided copies of the balance sheet as of January 31, 2016 and the profit and loss statement for the period July 2015 to January 2016. Treasurer Riley reviewed statements, responded to questions, and agreed to clarify the expense category Grant Write Offs.

ON MOTION DULY MADE (Ms. Coyle) and seconded (Ms. Kovacs) the Treasurer's report was accepted. Motion carried with all present voting in favor.

Later in the meeting it was clarified that the Grant Write Offs category represents amounts awarded but unspent by grant awardees.

#### **Grant Funding Recommendations**

Ms. Kurtz provided an overview of the grant proposal review process noting awards were previously authorized by the Board in two categories: 1) systems change with a trauma informed focus and 2) direct services.

Ms. Kurtz reported that a total 36 proposals were received and that each proposal was reviewed by three reviewers. Grant committee members completed training and used a rubric to guide scoring. Reviewers received and reviewed proposals in advance of meeting on March 1, 2016 for discussion and formulation of recommendations for funding to the FACT Board.

Ms. Kurtz reported that five systems change proposals were received. A handout with descriptions of each of the systems change proposals was provided and the two recommended for funding were described.

UPON MOTION DULY MADE by the committee and seconded (Ms. Atkinson), the board approved the awarding of systems change grants in the amount of \$50,000 each to The UP Center and to Greater Richmond SCAN. Ms. Coyle abstained from voting on the systems change grant awards; all others present voted in favor.

Ms. Kurtz reported that 31 direct service proposals were received. A handout with descriptions of each of the direct service proposals was provided and those recommended for funding were reviewed. It was noted that the committee wished to award at least one initiative that addresses elder abuse. When a proposal addressing elder abuse was included in proposals recommended for funding the total exceeded the \$300,000 authorized by the Board by \$511.

## **Family and Children's Trust Fund (FACT) Board of Trustees**

### **March 2016 FACT Meeting Minutes**

UPON MOTION DULY MADE by the committee the board approved expansion of the funding pool by \$511 bringing the total pool to \$300,511 with all present voting in favor.

UPON MOTION DULY MADE by the committee and seconded (Coyle), the board approved the awarding of direct service grants in the amounts specified to Foothills CAC (\$29,000); Center for Child and Family Services, Inc. (\$28,700); Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters (\$28,521); NRV Cares (\$22,478); ChildSafe Center CAC (\$29,000); Collins Center (\$26,312); Christian Relief Services (\$29,000); and Family Service of Roanoke Valley (\$7,500) with all present voting in favor.

Chairman Specter-Dunaway and Ms. Kurtz led a discussion of lessons learned from the grant proposal review process. Strategies for providing additional guidance to prospective applicants and designing the funding announcement to reflect Board priorities were discussed. The review process, reviewer training, and use of a scoring rubric were all cited as features to retain in the future.

#### **Board Introductions**

Chairman Specter-Dunaway introduced newly appointed Board member Robert Bolling, a long-time child advocate. Members of the Board introduced themselves, welcoming Mr. Bolling to the Board.

#### **FACT Chair Report**

Chairman Specter-Dunaway reported that FACT-proposed legislation to clarify its status so that contributions to FACT are clearly tax deductible has passed without difficulty through the legislative process and is expected to be included in the consent items. Ms. Coyle and Mr. Blechman were thanked for their advocacy assistance. It was also reported that former FACT Board member and now Delegate Paul Krizek had proposed a \$250,000 appropriation for FACT but that when referred to committee it did not go forward. Delegate Krizek's advocacy for the FACT was gratefully acknowledged. Another bill barring sex offenders from obtaining a license plate appears likely to pass.

Chairman Specter-Dunaway asked Ms. Foreman-Wheeler and Ms. Atkinson to serve as members of a nominations committee that will present a slate of officer nominees at the June 2016 meeting.

Board members were encouraged to take advantage of opportunities to attend the upcoming state Child Advocacy and Child Abuse Prevention conferences that are receiving support from FACT. Ms. Coyle indicated she intended to attend both.

The new FACT logo is now in use, being added to documents and the FACT website.

It was also announced that because Ms. Hjelm has assumed some responsibilities of the Executive Director on an interim basis, the timeline for publication of the FACT Research Brief on trauma has been pushed back but should be available for review at or shortly after the June 2016 Board meeting. Research for the Brief has been completed and the next phase is writing.

Greetings were conveyed from Ms. Matthews, former FACT Executive Director, who has continued to

## **Family and Children's Trust Fund (FACT) Board of Trustees March 2016 FACT Meeting Minutes**

support the transition process.

### **Lunch and Committee Breakouts**

After a brief break for lunch at 11:40 AM, committees met in breakouts. The Board re-convened as a whole at 1:25 PM. State Prevention Presentations were advanced on the agenda to occur before committee reports.

### **State Prevention Presentations**

Johanna Schuchert, Executive Director, Prevent Child Abuse Virginia (PCAV) provided a presentation on the work of her organization and its role in Virginia as the state chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America/ Healthy Families America, and National Circle of Parents. Informational folders were given to Board members. PCAV has both affiliates and partners throughout the state that provide an extensive array of education and advocacy activities and direct services. Findings from recent evaluation of Healthy Families are quite promising showing evidence of breaking the cycle of abuse.

Kristi Van Audenhove, Executive Director, Virginia Action Alliance, provided a presentation on the alliance's work on prevention of sexual assault and domestic violence. Affiliate members work with survivors of violence and victims services organizations. Informational materials were given to Board members. Their prevention initiatives focus on collaboration with VDH, capacity building, the interconnection of prevention and social change, and campaigns.

### **Committee Reports and Workplan Updates**

#### ***Grants Committee***

Mrs. Kurtz reported that three requests for Ad Hoc grants had been received and that two were recommended for approval: 1) a grant in the amount of \$1000 to the Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services to support their Designing the Future statewide conference in May and 2) a grant in the amount of \$2000 to the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services to support their statewide The Intersection of Violence: Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Child Abuse conference in September 2016.

UPON MOTION DULY MADE (Grants Committee) and seconded (Mr. Bolling), the board approved grants to the Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (\$1000) and Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (\$2000). All present voted in favor.

Later in the meeting it was learned that supporting information for the third Ad Hoc grant request had been received. People Against Child Trafficking (PACT) requested support for a Lecture Series entitled "Teen Trafficking Prevention & Trauma Informed Responses in K-12" designed to raise awareness about teen sex trafficking.

UPON MOTION DULY MADE (Committee) and seconded (Ms. Coyle) the Board approved an Ad Hoc grant in the amount of \$2000 People Against Child Trafficking. All present voted in favor.

## **Family and Children's Trust Fund (FACT) Board of Trustees**

### **March 2016 FACT Meeting Minutes**

#### ***Child Abuse and Neglect Committee***

Ms. Coyle reported that two team award nominations and four individual award nominations had been received; however, one individual award nomination was incomplete.

UPON MOTION DULY MADE (Ms. Coyle for the committee) and seconded (Mr. Blechman), the board approved awards to the Fredericksburg Department of Social Services Protective Services Team and to Ford Flannagan, Manager, Virginia Repertory Theatre; Kathryn Jessee, Sr. Community Programs Specialist, City of Chesapeake; and Lisa Wright, Trauma-Informed Community Network Coordinator, Greater Richmond Stop Child Abuse Now. All present voted in favor.

#### ***Fund Development Committee***

Ms. Kovacs reported that Mr. Bolling had joined the committee and that the focus of their meeting today was on reviewing goals and objectives, categorizing priorities, and synchronizing the implementation of activities. Product of this deliberation will be presented at the June Board meeting.

Ms. Kovacs also reported that Board giving stood at about 71 percent and that the goal remained at 100%. Chairman Specter-Dunaway strongly urged Board members to make their contributions even if it fell short of the recommended amount because it is extremely important for FACT to report 100% Board giving. She suggested individuals may want to use social media to increase awareness and promoting giving to FACT. It was noted that there is excellent information on the FACT website.

Ms. Coyle urged the new Executive Director attend the national trust funds conference with particular focus on investigating funding sources and strategies employed by other funds.

#### **Commissioners Report**

In introducing Mr. Frazier, Chairman Specter-Dunaway Lisa reported she had made a presentation about FACT to the VDSS Board, was warmly received, and members expressed a great deal of interest in FACT.

Mr. Frazier began his report with a legislative update and shared a handout reflecting the current status of bills tracked by the Virginia Department of Social Services. As reported earlier by Chairman Specter-Dunaway, the FACT-sponsored legislation to clarify the tax status of FACT advanced in the legislative process without challenge. Mr. Frazier summarized the status of several agency-sponsored bills, some of which were prompted by need for compliance with federal laws and regulations. Of particular note was a bill to waive some non-safety foster care standards for kinship foster care; the action is seen as reducing barriers to relative care.

#### **Debrief**

Chairman Specter-Dunaway thanked Board members for their participation and stated the Board could feel good about what is being accomplished. She asked committee chairs to identify particular areas for focus and action at the June 1 meeting in Richmond. She also announced that the next presentations will focus on public and private elder abuse prevention efforts in the Commonwealth.

#### **Adjourn**

UPON MOTION DULY MADE (Ms. Foreman-Wheeler) and seconded (Mr. Bolling) the meeting was

**Family and Children's Trust Fund (FACT) Board of Trustees  
March 2016 FACT Meeting Minutes**

adjourned at 3:34 PM.