

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

### **September 2016 FACT Meeting Minutes**

Board Meeting Site: ChildSavers, 200 North 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, Richmond, VA 23223

#### **Members Attending**

Frank Blechman  
L. Robert Bolling (September 14 only)  
Betty Wade Coyle  
Robin Foreman-Wheeler  
Linda Gilliam  
Liliana Hernandez  
Pam Kennedy  
Kay Kovacs  
Nadine Marsh-Carter  
John Oliver (September 14 only)  
Mary Russo Riley (September 14 only)  
Margaret Schultze, VDSS Commissioner  
(September 14 only)  
Lisa Specter-Dunaway  
Yasmine Taeb (September 14 only)

#### **Members Not Attending**

Candace Bryan Abbey  
Judy Kurtz

#### **Also Attending**

Jack Frazier, VDSS Deputy Commissioner for Operations  
Nicole Poulin, FACT Executive Director  
Meghan Resler, FACT Senior Research Associate  
Michele L’Hommedieu, Office of the Attorney General  
Lisa Wright, SCAN, Trauma Informed Care Network Coordinator  
Andrea Long, The UP Center, Trauma Informed Care Network

**September 14, 2016**

#### **Call to Order and Welcome**

Chair, Lisa Specter-Dunaway called the meeting to order at 11:02 AM, introduced two new board members—Ms. Hernandez and Ms. Gilliam—and the new staff member—Ms. Resler, announced reappointments of current members, and announced that Mr. Blechman had secured a \$500 donation to FACT. Ms. Specter-Dunaway thanked Mr. Bolling for hosting the meeting at ChildSavers. Mr. Bolling provided a brief overview of ChildSavers’ mission and services. All attendees briefly introduced themselves.

#### **Review of Agenda and Mission Moment**

Ms. Specter-Dunaway provided an overview of the agenda and showed a video highlighting Marilyn Van Derbur, a former Miss America who is a survivor of childhood sexual abuse by her father.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Specter-Dunaway presented the June minutes that were sent in advance via email to board members. Mr. Oliver noted a typographical error on page 5. ON MOTION DULY MADE (Ms. Coyle) and seconded (Ms. Kennedy) the amended June minutes were approved. Motion carried with all present voting in favor.

Ms. Specter-Dunaway and other attendees responded to questions from new board members on items from the June minutes including expectations for financial contributions from board members and FACT's involvement with elder abuse and aging issues.

### **FACT Chair Report**

Ms. Specter-Dunaway noted current committee assignments and encouraged board members to let her know if they were interested in switching committees.

### **Executive Director's Report**

Ms. Poulin provided a written update to Board members and highlighted the following projects:

On-Line Donation Portal – Ms. Poulin worked with the DSS Procurement Office and the Department of Treasury and received three estimates for on-line donation providers including FACT's current website host and recommended contracting with Elavon, the Department of Treasury's provider, for its off-the-shelf solution through June 30, 2017, which is when FACT's current contract with the website host ends. At that time FACT will need to re-evaluate options for the website and online giving.

Ms. L'Hommedieu advised that FACT may need to issue an RFP for this service and that she would need to research the appropriate process. UPON MOTION DULY MADE (Mr. Bolling) and seconded (Mr. Blechman), the Board authorized Ms. Poulin to proceed with the staff recommendation to enter into a contract with Elavon through June 30, 2017 using funds allocated for Special Projects, subject to the approval of the Attorney General's office. Ms. Poulin is authorized to follow the procurement process if the Attorney General's office advises that such action is required instead of using the previously obtained estimates. Motion carried with all present voting in favor.

Ms. Specter-Dunaway noted that the Board will need to address the issue of providing a more efficient process for Ms. Poulin to proceed with expenditures that are already approved in the budget.

FACT Issue Brief - Rebecca Hjelm, FACT's former Senior Research Associate, has offered to provide technical support pro bono to FACT as Ms. Resler transitions into her position. Ms. Coyle suggested sending a letter of appreciation to Ms. Hjelm for her contributions to FACT. Ms. Specter-Dunaway agreed to work with Ms. Poulin to draft an appropriate letter.

Local Services Grants - All contracts have been finalized for services beginning July 1, 2016 for the two-year award cycle ending in June 2018. The first reports are due by October 15.

Potential Project Opportunity - The Department of Medical Assistance Services has funds available for special projects focused on improving services for nursing home residents. The funds come from fines levied against nursing homes for violations. Potential projects might include trauma-informed care training for nursing home staff and sexual assault of older adults. Ms. Poulin is talking with potential partners such as VCU's gerontology program, the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services, and the Action Alliance. Ms. Coyle mentioned the need for a central registry for those fired from nursing homes for abusing residents. Mr. Oliver mentioned the possibility of piloting the use of the ACEs screening in nursing homes and the need to have integrated care between nursing home medical directors and psychiatrists. Ms. Hernandez suggested focusing on the nursing homes with the most complaints as the pilot sites for staff training.

Support - The Virginia Department of Health was awarded funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for the "Core State Violence and Injury Prevention Program." FACT provided a letter of support for VDH's proposal and will work with VDH in an advisory role for activities focused on the prevention of family violence.

VOCA – State guidelines issued by the Department of Criminal Justice Services for federal Victims of Crime Act funds were released in June. They restrict the use of funds to addressing criminal justice issues and preclude prevention efforts. FACT can work with DCJS to advocate for expanding the guidelines for the 2018 VOCA funding cycle.

### **Commissioner's Comments**

Commissioner Schultze provided updates on the major department initiatives.

Eligibility systems modernization - Medicaid is done. SNAP and TANF are being piloted. CommonHelp is an online portal through which people can apply for assistance. The replacement of the child welfare information system (OASIS) is pending.

Safety permanency and well-being of children in foster care – Systems and processes were put in place to enable local Departments of Social Services to quickly begin extending Fostering Futures benefits to eligible youth; 20 young people have been enrolled. Virginia is one of eight states selected to participate into the Three Branch Institute on Improving Child Safety and Preventing Child Fatalities.

Modernization of child support practices – August was Child Support Awareness Month. VDSS made 40,000 phone calls and mailings to non-custodial parents offering to compromise their child support debt in August and September. 29 parents were referred to the family engagement program to assist them with removing barriers to paying child support. \$3.6 million in child support was recovered during this effort.

Safety quality of out of home care – VDSS is working on the legislatively mandated study of child care licensure exemptions. An independent contractor has been hired to facilitate the process.

### **Fund Development and Marketing Discussion**

Mr. Bolling reviewed the FACT Work Plan goals and strategies related to fund development and marketing, what has been accomplished, and remaining tasks. In June the board authorized Ms. Poulin to initiate contact with Purple Strategies and proceed with engaging VDSS Public Affairs if the private firm was not able to meet FACT's scope of work and timeframe. Due to communication delays Ms. Poulin has been in touch with both Purple Strategies and the VDSS Public Affairs staff and received responses from both.

The board discussed the differences between the deliverables, potential conflicts of interest arising from the managing director of Purple Strategies being the spouse of a board member, and pros and cons of working with each entity. Ms. Coyle suggested getting a specific contact person and preliminary date for presenting options and recommendations to the FACT subcommittee.

UPON MOTION DULY MADE (Ms. Gilliam) and seconded (Ms. Kennedy), the board authorized Ms. Poulin to engage Purple Strategies for FACT's rebranding. Ms. Coyle abstained from voting.

UPON MOTION DULY MADE (Mr. Bolling) and seconded (Ms. Marsh-Carter), the board approved the formation of a workgroup of not more than four members to advise on the rebranding project. Motion carried with all present voting in favor. Board members were encouraged to notify Mr. Bolling by the end of the day if interested in serving on the workgroup.

Mr. Bolling asked board members to make a financial contribution to FACT by June 30, 2017.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Ms. Riley presented the balance sheet and Profit & Loss statements through June 30, 2016, noting that the entire amount awarded in March 2016 for two-year grants are reflected in the FY2016 expenses.

Following a recommendation from Ms. Riley and UPON MOTION MADE (Mr. Blechman) and seconded (Mr. Bolling) the board authorized changing auditors. Ms. Poulin is authorized to work with procurement to seek, find and acquire a new auditor if possible. Motion carried with all present voting in favor.

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

### **Recess**

The board meeting was recessed at 3:40 PM.

**September 15, 2016**

**Welcome**

Ms. Specter-Dunaway reconvened the meeting at 9:35 AM and reviewed the day's agenda.

**Committee Reports**

**Grants Committee**

Ms. Specter-Dunaway presented a summary of the 2016-2018 grantees and noted the committee's recommended changes to the RFP process for the next funding cycle. The Board discussed additional recommendations for the RFP process. Several members expressed concern with the logic model as a tool in the RFP and suggested exploring other methods by which applicants could articulate and report on project outcomes. The board reviewed the Grant Monitoring Tool used for site visits, gave suggested changes to the tool, and circulated a sign-up sheet for conducting site visits with 2016-2018 grantees.

FACT received one ad hoc grant request for this quarter. After full discussion and UPON MOTION DULY MADE (Mr. Blechman) and seconded (Ms. Kennedy) a grant in the amount of \$2,000 to the Virginia Victim Assistance Network for its annual conference being held November 16-18 in Virginia Beach was approved.

**Child Abuse and Neglect Advisory Committee**

Ms. Coyle presented proposed changes to the membership section of the Child Abuse and Neglect Committee Charge and made a motion to approve the proposed changes. Mr. Blechman seconded. After discussion, Board members noted three corrections to the proposed language.

UPON AN AMENDED MOTION DULY MADE (Ms. Gilliam) and seconded (Ms. Kennedy) the Child Abuse and Neglect Committee Charge, as corrected and attached to these minutes, was approved.

Ms. Coyle provided an update on Vision 21, an initiative focused on early identification, intervention, and treatment for child and youth victims of abuse and their families and caregivers. The initiative is developing surveys/screening tools on child victimization for child services provider to pilot in two communities next year.

Ms. Coyle summarized the 2015 report of the Child Fatality Review Boards, noting that 52 children died as a result of founded cases of abuse and neglect and 72 children died in cases where abuse or neglect could not be proven. The Child Abuse and Neglect Committee is concerned that fatality statistics being collected by social services do not accurately reflect child fatalities statewide because some deaths are not reported to social services or are being screened out. The Department of Social Services is trying to address the issue through the Three Branch Institute.

**Presentations from the Field**

Representatives of the organizations that were awarded the systems change grants-- Lisa Wright of Greater Richmond SCAN and Andrea Long of The UP Center-- provided updates on their projects, which are focused on trauma-informed care networks in the Greater Richmond and Hampton Roads areas.

Adjourn

UPON MOTION DULY MADE (Ms. Kennedy) and seconded (Ms. Gilliam) the meeting was adjourned at 12:34 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Foreman-Wheeler, Secretary

## Family and Children's Trust Fund (FACT)



### Child Abuse and Neglect Committee

#### *Charge*

#### **Purpose:**

- Make recommendations to the FACT Board of Trustees regarding matters concerning the prevention of child abuse and neglect, family violence and the treatment of abused and neglected children and their families that impact the Virginia Department of Social Services, the Board of Social Services, the Governor and the children of Virginia
- Review regulations, guidance, practices and compliance of state and local Child Protective Services and make recommendations for change when necessary
- Communicate with the Departments of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, Criminal Justice Services, Education, Health, and Juvenile Justice, the Attorney General and the Governor regarding promising and best practices related to efforts to prevent and treat child abuse and neglect and violence within families
- Increase understanding, ownership, and investment in child protection across Virginia and advocate for needed resources to achieve the goals of protecting children, promoting child well-being, and strengthening families

**Resource Persons:** The Committee can request additional staff resources from the Virginia Department of Social Services to fulfill special requests, as necessary and practical. This might include support from Public Affairs, Research and Planning, etc.

**Committee Meeting Structure:** The Committee will be considered one of the federally-required Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) citizen review panels, and per CAPTA requirements, the Committee will meet quarterly.

**Reporting:** A report from the Committee will be made after each meeting to the FACT Board of Trustees and should become a regular agenda item at each FACT Board meeting.

**Membership:** The Committee will be chaired by a FACT Board Member and co-chaired by a citizen member selected by the committee, with support from the FACT Executive Director and the VDSS Child Protective Services Program Manager. The Committee Chair shall be appointed annually by the FACT Board Chair. The Child Abuse and Neglect Advisory Committee should include at least two FACT Board members as well as representatives from each of Virginia's state, child-serving agencies (the Virginia Departments of Education, Juvenile Justice, Social Services, Criminal Justice Services, Health, Behavioral Health & Developmental Services and the Attorney General's Office), a representative of the Virginia League of Social Services Executives, and child welfare professionals from around the state from both the public and private sectors. Members will serve until they step down or the FACT Board determines

they should be replaced. The FACT Board Chair, the Committee Chair, the FACT Executive Director, and the VDSS Child Protective Services Program Manager will propose changes to the Child Abuse and Neglect Advisory Committee membership when necessary.