

VIRGINIA FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND

BOARD MEETING MINUTES: October 17, 2017

Opening: The Board of the Virginia Family and Children's Trust Fund was called to order by the Chair, Mary Riley, at 10:15AM, Tuesday October 17, 2017, at the offices of Child Savers, 200 N. 22nd Street, in Richmond, Virginia.

Present: Board members Mary Riley (Chair), Lisa Specter-Dunaway (Vice Chair), Frank Blechman (Secretary), Judy Kurtz (Treasurer), Betty Wade Coyle, Beverly Tennessee Crowder, Linda Gilliam, Liliana Hernandez, Tarina Keene, John Oliver, and Commissioner Margaret Schultze (in part). Staff: Nicole Poulin (Executive Director) Meghan Resler (Researcher), and Michelle L'Hommedieu (Counselor).

Absent Board Members: Candace Abbey, Robert Bolling, Kay Kovacs, Yasmine Taeb, Allison Jones

Action Decisions: The Board formally and properly made the following decisions.

#1 Minutes: The minutes of the June 2017 Board meeting were adopted with amendments on a motion made by Betty Wade Coyle and seconded by Linda Gilliam.

#2 Lawyer-Client Privilege: John Oliver moved and Betty Wade Coyle seconded a motion to adopt a general policy avoid citing advice from our legal counsel in our minutes in the future to avoid raising issues of waiver of lawyer client privilege. This was approved unanimously.

#3 CPS Newsletter: Lisa Specter-Dunaway moved and John Oliver seconded a motion which was adopted to authorize a formal proposal that FACT should take over development and production of the state CPS newsletter.

#4 Marketing Timeline: Frank Blechman moved and Lisa Specter-Dunaway seconded a motion which was adopted to set a tentative deadline of December 1, 2017 for all Board members to submit outreach/marketing plans to FACT. The marketing committee will coordinate closely with all Board members to achieve this.

#5 Policy on Use of the "Program Support" line item in the budget: A motion made by Lisa Specter-Dunaway and seconded by Tarina Keene passed to adopt the draft policy submitted by Treasurer Judy Kurtz (p.20 in the Board packet) governing uses to which funds in the "program support" line in the budget could be used.

#6 Council on Youth Recommendation Endorsement Letter: Betty Wade Coyle moved and Lisa Specter-Dunaway seconded a motion, adopted by the Board, to authorize a letter from FACT to the Virginia Commission on Youth expressing support for their recommendations to the Governor (via the Children's Cabinet) regarding Trauma Informed Care (TIC). Particularly, the letter should support the recommended role of FACT as a manager of small grants funded by the Commonwealth.

#7 Grants: 1) Frank Blechman moved and Liliana Hernandez seconded a motion approved by the Board to support the framework for grants in the 2018-20 cycle. Similar to the current funding cycle, this award cycle will include funding for two "Systems Change Grants" up to \$50,000 grants (\$100,000 set aside), and six to seven "Service Grants" up to \$30,000 grants (\$200,000 set aside). These awards will be similar to the current cycle with the additional option of supporting "pilot projects focused on innovative expansion of trauma informed care practices. The total amount to be allocated for the two year period will be \$300,000.

2) Lisa Specter-Dunaway moved and John Oliver seconded a motion to authorize ad hoc grants to support the VCU Center on Aging Law Enforcement Training (\$1,000) and the Virginia Victims and Witness Network Conference (\$2,000). 3) Lisa Specter-Dunaway moved and Betty Wade

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Coyle seconded a motion which was approved to modify the ad hoc grant procedures so that in the future, recipients would have to add the FACT logo to event materials and submit a final report within 30 days after the event.

Reports and Discussions: The Board received and discussed the following reports.

New Members: We welcomed the appointment of three new members of the Board, receiving brief introductions from the two new (Crowder and Keene) members present. Thank you cards for members leaving the Board (Kennedy and Marsh-Carter) were circulated.

Contributions: Chair Mary Riley reminded all members of the Board old and new that it is important that every Board contribute what is appropriate this year before December 31st.

Executive Director Report: 1) Our first Annual Report is now available in electronic form. We've already received positive feedback on it. FACT will work with the Department of Corrections to print hard copies. 2) Our project with VCU's Gerontology Department to seek support from DMAS's Civil Penalties to develop a training focused on nursing home staff has been restructured and is moving forward. 3) The donor portal is finally functioning. 4) All quarterly reports are in on the local service grants and all site visits have been conducted. 5) Participation in various stakeholder groups has been very positive. 6) Two new "Issue Briefs" are in the works. 6) We are exploring with DSS an expanded role for FACT in CPS (see action #3, above). 7) We are also exploring the possibility of a state-level TIC coordinating body. 8) Our Director will be going to the National Alliance of Children's Trust and Prevention Funds conference in November at Little Rock, AR. 9) With the end of the McAuliffe administration there will be administrative turnover. It is unclear if Commissioner Schultz will seek or be reappointed (after over 20 years with DSS) and DSS Deputy Commissioner Jack Frazier is retiring at the end of the year. Betty Wade Coyle and Tarina Keene discussed the value of preparing a presentation or introduction to the new leaders. This could explain both the background of FACT, our current programs, and potential future roles, along with needed resources. Lisa Specter-Dunaway and staff also expressed interest in reviewing such a "briefing paper". 10) Lisa and Nicole met with Commissioner Schultz and Jack Frazier to thank them for their support over the years and discuss ideas to increase FACT's sustainability. The history of FACT was discussed. Early in her career, Commissioner Schultz served as Executive Director for FACT. At that time, the position was part-time. DSS has increased their support significantly over the years and increased the level of visibility of the program within DSS and other state agencies by moving the position under a Deputy Director.

Outreach: Meghan Resler discussed methods of outreach, including social media, personal contact, essays (blogs/op-eds) and in-person. She emphasized the value of personal stories and images to create emotional interest.

Marketing: We discussed how sagging revenue from our existing sources presses us to develop new partnerships and lines of support. We discussed how grantees could help promote our work including the license plates, and how we can use the web-site to give more recognition to supporters, including creating levels of support and appreciation. (See action item #4, above)

Treasurer's Report: Judy Kurtz presented the report (see the balance sheets & the P&L statement in the meeting packet). There were a few questions about what certain numbers represent, but no proposals to change the budget. (See action item #5, above. See the treasurer's report pp 13-17 in the Board packet.)

Commissioners' Report: Margaret Schultz reviewed the four "big" items on her agenda. 1) Safety of Virginia's Children. In this area foster care adoptions are up to a record level. The Safe Sleep initiative is moving along. 2) Engaging Non-Custodial Parents. Progress has been made easing support payments and providing job training for those who need it. 3) Regulation of Child

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Care. She is still battling to remove sunsets on several rules. 4) Upgrade Information Systems. This has been very tough, but the system now allows dictated field notes from field visits, and uploading of pictures and documents. She remains concerned about high turnover of social workers at the local level, linked to low wages. Additionally, Board members had the following questions: Judy Kurtz asked about burdensome local business rules are driving small child care providers underground and incentives to solve this. Commissioner Schultze responded that this is on DSS's radar but there was little control the department had on local agencies. Linda Gilliam asked about relief of child support requirements for incarcerated parents. Commissioner Schultze responded this issue is one the department has been working on. Craig Burshem has been leading the efforts for this. John Oliver asked about the effect of the Opioid Epidemic on DSS. Commissioner Schultze responded that it has exponentially increased the amount of children entering the foster care system. DSS has been charged with coordinating the Substance Exposed Infant Workgroup which has been examining strengths and barriers in response to this issue. The report from that group is expected to be out by the end of the year.

Commission on Youth: CoY Executive Director Amy Atkinson reported on their efforts to promote TIC. She asked for help from FACT Board members to generate positive comments on the CoY's recommendations regarding TIC (See action item #6, above).

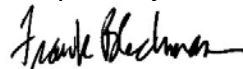
Voices for Virginia's Children: Emily Griffey, VoicesPolicy Director reported that their organization too is engaging on TIC. Particularly, they are studying what has been done in other states, and developing tools to document the costs and benefits.

Editorial and Publications: The next Issue Brief will address TIC for the homeless. It should be out in November. The next one will be about TIC and older adults, which should be out next Spring.

Child Abuse and Neglect (CAN) Working Group: Betty Wade Coyle reported that the Committee has had two meetings since the last board meeting. During the June meeting, Dr. Emily Douglas presented an overview of her research on fatal child maltreatment with a specific focus on issues related to child welfare workers and policies. Dr. Douglas also covered considerations and concerns surrounding child welfare workers' focus on strengths based perspective without a clear definition of strengths, protective factors and risk factors. Over 20 outside professionals including individuals from local departments of Social Services attended. The Committee is now focusing on issues related to CPS changes and services for substance impacted babies and children. There are vacancies and nominations would be welcome.

Adjourn: There being no further business, the Board meeting adjourned at 4:10PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Frank Blechman, Secretary