

Family & Children's Trust Fund (FACT) of Virginia
Child Abuse & Neglect Committee Minutes
Henrico Tuckahoe Library
December 12, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Committee co-chair Betty Wade Coyle at 1:10pm on Tuesday December 12, 2017. The meeting included co-chair Jeanine Harper, John Oliver, Beverly Crowder, Meghan Resler, Jeanine Harper, Melissa O'Neal, Bianca Casper, Jenna Easton, Nancy Toscano, Chris Spain, Malcolm King (for Katherine Hunter), Nicole Poulin, and Carl Ayers (presenter).

The committee reviewed the draft minutes from the meeting that took place on June 8th 2017. ON MOTION DULY MADE (Ms. Harper) and seconded (Ms. O'Neal) and unanimously carried, the minutes were approved as presented.

Following the approval of the minutes, Mr. Ayers presented on the Three Branch Initiative and the Substance Exposed Infant study:

Three Branch Initiative

This is a competitively awarded federal grant that requires a coordinated effort of all three branches of government - judicial, executive and legislative – in addressing a key issue affecting the care and welfare of children. Virginia received its first Three Branch Grant in 2014 to address the use of Psychotropic Medicine in Foster Care. The current Three Branch Grant is addressing child fatalities. The grant provides technical assistance in bringing high level people to the table from all branches of government to address the identified issue. This approach better ensures backing throughout the government to put recommendations into action. The grant work involves the following initiatives: utilizing community level predictive analytics for child welfare to identify those communities with the greatest risk; assessing the accuracy and efficacy of the screening tool assessments used; improving primary prevention; and enhancing child welfare work force recruitment and retention. There are only 19 days left on the 18 month grant. Successes have included:

- Data Sharing: The development of a MOA between the Office of Chief Medical Examiner and DSS for sharing data on child abuse and neglect and child fatalities for analysis
- Applied risk mapping: (based upon a model used in criminal justice that takes publically available data on census and crime to predict where crime is going to happen) The goal here is to identify communities of "high risk" in regard to child welfare and focus resources there.
 - Ms. Harper brought up discussion around resource/asset mapping that the Inspire Workgroup that has already done in Richmond City and agreed to connect individuals linked to the Inspire Workgroup with Ms. Poulin who will connect them with Mr. Ayers.
 - Ms. Easton asked if there are any controls in place to create some sort of "equity lens". Mr. Ayers responded there isn't anything that specifically addresses an "equity lens".
 - JO question about comparing overall child fatalities with those child fatalities directly linked to child abuse and neglect

- Legislation enacted by the 2017 General Assembly: HB1786, HB1086—Substance Exposed Infant Legislation; HB2162; SB1868—Requires local CPS units to respond to every valid call/report about a child under 2 within 24 hours—because they’re the highest risk age group)
- Safe Sleep campaign- A campaign that combines baby boxes with education to promote safe sleep. 3000 people have signed up for baby boxes. They developed a statewide campaign and got everything out in 6 months, working with VCU medical center, PCAV and Home visiting programs.
- Child Welfare Worker Recruitment and Retention: Updated training system and now working with Rutgers University to develop practice profiles and coaching to develop a qualitative child welfare reporting model. VDSS is also making transcription for reporting available so child welfare workers don’t have to go back to the office to do paperwork; similarly a mobility application will allow Child Welfare workers to do most of their paperwork on an iPad in the field.

Substance Exposed Infant (SEI) Study

The report from the Substance Exposed Infant Study was posted yesterday (12-11-17)

<https://rga.lis.virginia.gov/Published/2017/HD19/PDF> . The study found that the concept of “substance exposed” is being interpreted differently in different parts of the state. As a result, the answers to questions about substance abuse depend on the community you’re addressing. The study provided short term and long term recommendations. One of the recommendations from the report is to examine how Three Branch legislation is responding to SEI.

Ms. Wade Coyle proposed the Child abuse and Neglect committee ask the FACT Board to recommend Medicaid Expansion, and the committee agreed to her proposal.

Ms. Poulin updated the committee on FACT initiatives including a proposal in partnership with VCU Gerontology to use DMAS Civil Money Penalty Funds to develop and implement an online curriculum for CAN’s working in Nursing Home Facilities focused on trauma-informed practices and resilience. Ms. Poulin also described her participation in the meetings of the various stakeholder groups in which she participates. She summarized and handed out to the members the outreach and education materials FACT has developed, including Issue Briefs and an Annual Report.

Mr. Spain provided an overview of the 2017 CFSR Final Report. Because substantial conformity was not reached in the areas of safety, permanency, well-being, and multiple systemic factors, a program improvement plan (PIP) by the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) is required. Noteworthy, however, VDSS was found to be in substantial conformity with regard to the following systemic factors: Statewide Information System, Quality Assurance, Agency Responsiveness to the Community, and Foster and Adoptive Parent Licensing, Recruitment, and Retention. VDSS is currently drafting a PIP, a process that includes stakeholder input; specifically, Mr. Spain is providing an opportunity for input by stakeholders at the Child Welfare Advisory Committee meeting set for Friday, December 15, 2017, and invited members of the Committee to attend. The structure of that meeting will be a world café through

which participants will have an opportunity to provide input on each of the goals of the current PIP draft as begun by the VDSS Program Managers.

Ms. Harper updated the committee on the Commission on Youth Proposal involving Trauma-Informed Care. During a November 8th meeting, the commission voted to send a letter to the Governor to encourage him to include in his budget the budget items outlined in the proposal. Ms. Harper also gave an overview of SCAN's work with the Greater Richmond Trauma Informed Network (GRTICN).

Ms. Coyle nominated JoAnna Schuchert to receive an award at the annual Child Abuse Prevention Conference in April and all present were in favor. Ms. Coyle also proposed the committee send a letter to the governor to underline the importance of the GRTICN, Medicaid expansion and Kinship Care

The meeting adjourned at 4:04pm