

MINUTES, BOARD OF TRUSTEES
VIRGINIA FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND
December 12, 2017

Board Members Present: Chair Mary Riley, Vice-Chair Lisa Specter-Dunaway (between 10am-12pm), Secretary Frank Blechman, Treasurer Judy Kurtz, Robert Bolling, Betty Wade Coyle, Beverly Crowder, Linda Gilliam, Allison Lawrence Jones, Kay Kovacs, John Oliver, Yasmine Taeb. **Board Members absent:** Candace Abbey, Lilliana Hernandez, Tarina Keene, Margaret Schultze. **Staff Members present:** Executive Director Nicole Poulin, Research Director Meghan Resler, Counsel Michelle L'Hommedieu

Opening: Chairman Riley opened the meeting at Henrico Tuckahoe Library at 10:08AM with greetings for all, and asked each Trustee to introduce him/herself. Chairman Riley announced there wouldn't be a mission moment at the beginning of the meeting because SCAN Richmond would be screening the film "Resilience" at the end of the meeting.

Decisions: The Board took the following actions:

- **Minutes:** Linda Gilliam moved to accept the October 2017 minutes, Robert Bolling seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.
- **CHIP Reauthorization:** John Oliver moved and Robert Bolling seconded a resolution that FACT should put out a statement about the negative impact on Virginia if federal funding for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) is not reauthorized. This statement should be suitable for presentation as an op-ed and as transmission to members of Congress. Lisa Specter-Dunaway agreed to draft this statement. The motion was unanimously approved.
- **FACT RFP:** Betty Wade-Coyle moved and Linda Gilliam seconded a motion to approve the 2018 FACT Request for Proposals as presented by the grants committee. The motion was unanimously approved.
- **Proposal Reviewers:** John Oliver moved and Allison Jones seconded a motion to authorize Nicole Poulin to recruit readers/reviewers outside of current FACT Board of Trustees if needed to help process applications for the 2018-2019 funding cycle. The motion was unanimously approved.
- **Grants:** John Oliver moved and Linda Gilliam seconded a motion to approve a \$2,000 grant to support an upcoming conference by Family Forward. The motion was unanimously approved.
 - John Oliver moved and Allison Lawrence Jones seconded a motion to approve a \$2,000 grant to support an upcoming conference by the Virginia Sex Offenders Treatment Association. The motion was unanimously approved. Please note, Lisa Specter-Dunaway left the meeting before this decision and therefore was not present for the vote for a grant funding her organization.
- **Letter to The Governor Elect:** Betty Wade Coyle moved and Beverly Crowder seconded a motion directing FACT to draft a letter to the incoming Governor highlighting the work still needed to reduce child abuse and neglect. Specifically, the letter should endorse expanded Medicaid, Kinship care, and the Commission of Youth's recommendations. The motion was unanimously approved.
- **FACT Award:** Kay Kovacs moved and Betty Wade Coyle seconded a motion to recognize Johanna Schuchert and Margaret Schultze with 2018 FACT Recognition Awards at the Annual Child Abuse and Neglect Conference in April. The motion was unanimously approved.

Discussions: During the course of the meeting, many interesting and informative discussions occurred. These are very briefly summarized below.

- **Conflict of Interest:** Every Trustee has to complete a brief on-line training and submit a new "Conflict of Interest" form every year. VDSS staff will be contacting trustees with instructions on how to do so. The deadline this year is February 1st, 2018.
- **Contributions:** Every Trustee is expected to make a contribution before the end of the calendar year. It is important to show that FACT has 100% support from Trustees.
- **Governor's Budget:** The Governor will release his FY 2019-2020 budget next week. All Trustees need to watch to see if the Commission on Youth recommendations, including funding for "trauma informed care" (TIC), make it into the budget. In contact with legislators, Trustees should make an extra effort to

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explain what TIC is about. If money for FACT is included, it may come with a requirement to match which will increase the need for fundraising next year.

- Marketing: Personal and work issues have slowed progress on outreach, but Robert Bolling and Frank Blechman will be contacting every member of the Board to define tasks for the new year. Betty Wade Coyle urged caution in forming partnerships. The Board discussed that FACT should work with others, recognizing and thanking those who support FACT's work, but should not give them control of content.
- Staff roles: FACT staff can participate in fundraising efforts as long as there isn't a conflict of interest. This is a change from what the FACT Board and FACT staff had been advised in the past.
- FACT Financial Report: Judy Kurtz presented the financial reports.
- VCU Training Project: Nicole Poulin updated the Board on the developing project FACT is working on in partnership with DMAS and VCU. FACT is continuing to facilitate the relationship between and work with DMAS and VCU to develop a training centered around resilience for CNA's in nursing homes.
- Grants: Nicole Poulin updated that all reports from grantees have been turned in for the most recent quarter. All projects are going well.
- Materials: Nicole Poulin reported that FACT purchased new materials to help with marketing including hats, pens, letterhead and more Annual Reports and Issue Briefs. John Oliver pointed out that the pens are very nice but don't have the FACT website (url). FACT staff agreed to include the website on pens in the next order if possible.
- DSS Leadership: The new administration will bring new leadership. The Board of Trustees all signed a "thank you" card for DSS outgoing Commissioner (and great supporter of FACT) Margaret Schultze.
- Stakeholders/Networking: Nicole Poulin continues to spend considerable time networking with partners and on committees and working groups, including: Greater Richmond SCAN's Trauma Informed Care Network Policy Committee, Vision 21 Advisory Team and Resource Mapping Subcommittee, Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance VADATA (Meghan Resler attends these meetings), Virginia's National Governors Association Three Branch Institute Home Team and "Goal Three Committee", DSS's Substance Exposed Infants Study Group, VDSS Family Violence Prevention Action Team, Editorial and Planning Committee, National Alliance of Children's Trust and Prevention Funds' Birth Parent National Network Conference Calls, National Alliance of Children's Trust and Prevention Fund's Meeting in Little Rock Arkansas, VA Network of Victims of Crimes Conference, VA Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance Awards Luncheon. These contacts and associations are very valuable in expanding our network, making our products more useful to others, and gathering real experience/information from others.
- Social Media: Meghan Resler reported on FACT's newly launched blog. We are linking it to our presence on Facebook (and vice versa). Small experiments with Facebook ads and promotions have proved very beneficial for improving Facebook reach; the Board discussed the potential of continuing Facebook advertising with Board member sponsorship.
- Budget: FACT is carrying quite a large "reserve" fund. The Board decided to defer discussion of what to do with the reserve fund in the March meeting.
- Grants: The "reading dates" for applications for 2019-20 grants will be March 19-20th, a week before the next Board meeting. FACT expects more grants next year and will need help to evaluate them. Trustees Blechman, Jones, Kovacs, and Coyle agree to be readers. The Board discussed whether the Board's goals of achieving geographic diversity and subject matter diversity in making grant awards are clear enough in the RFP and what role the AG's office should play in reviewing the RFP before it goes out.
- Publications: Linda Gilliam, chair of the Editorial & Planning Committee, reported that work is underway on a third Issue Brief in FACT's Trauma-Informed Care series to be released next Spring. She reported that the first two briefs have been very well received and broadly distributed.

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- CAN Committee: Betty Wade Coyle, co-chair of the Child Abuse and Neglect Advisory Committee, reported on what the CAN Committee learned in their meeting the day before, including results of the Three Branch Institute which focused on risk assessment, workforce development and primary prevention. The Three Branch Institute's conclusions, meshing with a recent CDC report, show that we have a long way to go to prevent child abuse & neglect and reduce infant mortality. A brief discussion about the recently released report of the workgroup that was convened to review efforts in Virginia to address Substance Exposed Infants was also conducted during the Committee meeting. The report is available on-line and indicates an overall lack of consistency in reporting and response to the issue.
- TIC Education: Melissa McGinn and Jeanine Harper from Greater Richmond SCAN presented a film called "Resilience" (www.resiliencemovie.com) which documents the evolution of our understanding of trauma and its impact on the human brain, behavior and health, and the resulting need for and development of trauma informed care. They reported that they have used this film and workshops to reach over 3,000 people in the Richmond area. In the discussion that followed, they confirm that many in "healing" professions come to their work from their own early injuries. There was discussion around the ACEs study being replicated in other cultures, trauma-informed and trauma-responsive care in medical settings, and the protective factors needed for trauma prevention and healing.

Adjournment: With no other business on the agenda, the meeting adjourned at 3:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Frank Blechman, Secretary