

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: After each meeting, a report from the Committee will be made to the FACT Board of Trustees as a regular agenda item at each FACT Board meeting.

Membership: The Committee will be co-chaired by a FACT Board Member and a citizen member. The FACT Board Member co-chair shall be appointed annually by the FACT Board Chair. The citizen co-chair shall be selected by the committee, with support from the FACT Executive Director and the VDSS Child Protective Services Program Manager. 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.

Committee Charge – November 2013, Revised December 2018