

DRAFT MINUTES, VA FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND (VA-FACT) Board of Trustees Meeting, December 13, 2018

Trustees Present: Mary Riley (Chair), Allison Lawrence (Vice Chair), Frank Blechman (Secretary), Judy Kurtz (Treasurer), S. Duke Storen (Commissioner), Carter Batey, Yvonne Bibbs, Robert Bolling, Beverly Crowder, Linda Gilliam, Jennifer Gillyard, Lilliana Hernandez, Tarina Keene, Kay Kovacs. **Trustees Absent:** John Oliver, Yasmin Taeb **Staff Present:** Nicole Poulin (Executive Director), Meghan Resler (Research Associate), Michelle L'Hommedieu (Attorney). **Guest Present:** Emily Griffey (Voices for Virginia's Children).

Opening: Chairman Riley called the meeting to order at 10:09 AM, at the FACT offices at 1604 Santa Rosa Drive, Henrico, VA. After introductions, the chair noted that a quorum was present and therefore regular business could proceed.

Decisions and Actions: The following actions were approved by the Board unanimously.

Minutes: The minutes of the June 2018 Board meeting were approved as presented on a motion by Bolling, seconded by Crowder. The minutes of the September 2018 Board meetings were approved as presented on a motion by Gilliam seconded by Kovacs.

Strategic Plan 2018-2021: The strategic plan initially presented in September was approved as modified as a framework for future action, on a motion by Kurtz, seconded by Gillyard.

Marketing: On a motion by Gillyard seconded by Bolling, the Board authorized the staff to draw up to \$30,000 from our reserve funds to hire a fundraising consultant for a period of not more and one year.

On a motion by Batey seconded by Gillyard, the Board agreed to explore whether the General Assembly would support increasing the fee for our license plates.

On a motion by Blechman seconded by Batey, the Board agreed to authorize spending up to \$5,000 to conduct an event in April in coordination with the Child Abuse Prevention Month. At this event the "FACT Award" would be presented.

Public Policy Agenda: On a motion by Hernandez seconded by Bolling, the Board approved FACT becoming a partner of Voices for Virginia's Children's Unified Legislative agenda, subject to review by the Office of the Attorney General.

Internal FACT Policy Changes: On a motion by Bolling, seconded by Keene, the Board agreed to three edits of internal policy:

- 1) Ad hoc requests must be submitted at least two months in advance of the event taking place.
- 2) The wording "for staff" was taken out of the Discretionary Fund Policy because support staff are employees of DSS, not FACT Staff.
- 3) Wording around reporting and membership was clarified in the CAN Committee Charge.

Participation from underserved areas: On a motion by Lawrence seconded by Gilliam, the Board approved expenditure of up to \$2,500 of "special project" funds to subsidize up to ten participants from underserved and rural areas to come to the Voices TIC Conference in the Spring of 2019.

Ad hoc Grants: On a motion by Hernandez seconded by Gilliam, the Board approved four ad hoc grants in the amount of \$2,000 each for VVAN, VfVC, VCU and VSOTA.

FACT Award: On a motion by Gillyard seconded by Lawrence, the Board agreed that the 2019 FACT Award should go to Sunny Shin of VCU.

Adjournment: On a motion by Lawrence seconded by Gilliam, the Board adjourned at 2:45PM.

Discussions: The following reports and discussions did not conclude with formal proposals for action, but do highlight areas on which the Board may want to act in the future.

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Strategic Planning: Now that the strategic framework has been adopted, the staff and Board leadership need to turn the goals into action steps by defining the how, when and who.

Marketing: All members of the Board need to update their lists of potential outreach targets. Further, Board members should consider making their annual contributions by the end of the year. The Commissioner wants us to move toward an annual goal of \$1 Million. This will have to involve both public and private sources, both large and small.

Events: FACT's 35th anniversary comes up in 2021. We should begin thinking about observing/celebrating this, including possible regional events.

Treasurer's Report: As of December 1st, we have \$601,000 cash on hand, with \$259,000 of that committed for 2019. The remainder is our reserve.

FACT will engage an outside CPA to conduct a bi-annual financial review, not a full audit.

Voices for Virginia's Children (VfVC) TICN Campaign: Emily Griffey reported that members of the General Assembly are slowly getting up to speed about ACEs and TIC. The Governor's budget calls for an increase in spending on school and community mental health resources. VfVC's goal in all this is to increase coordination and consistency across education/mental health and juvenile justice systems. January 30th will be a "lobby day". She reported that champions include Delegates, Peace, Keam and Carr, and in Senators Howell, Mason and Hanger. A question was raised about the need for new legislation to improve information sharing across public agencies. She replied that such legislation will be introduced this year, but will not be prioritized.

The Executive Director's Report: Our executive director Nicole Poulin reported that all of our awarded grant projects for this cycle are underway. Monitoring will pick up after the first of the year. We are not planning Board Member site visits this year, instead FACT staff will conduct site visits and Board Members can elect to visit grantees if they are interested. We will also ask grant recipients to come to Board meetings to report about their work.

Our participation in various state working groups, including the Children's Cabinet remains robust. Support for TIC is growing. We are facilitating connections with the VA Department of Health and Sunny Shin of VCU for a potential evaluation project of collective impact of TICNs in Virginia.

The VCU-Gerontology TIC Training project is in the final design stages with focus groups planned for the Spring. A stakeholder advisory group is being assembled, and will meet quarterly.

The benefit event Vintage is for Lovers RVA Holiday market got snowed out this past Sunday, but will be rescheduled in the Spring. Proceeds from the \$5 tickets for this market will be donated to FACT.

Meghan Resler, our research associate, now lives in Baltimore, and works remotely. This arrangement seems to be working very well.

All Board members are asked to respond when the state asks us to complete the annual "Conflict of Interest" form shortly after the first of the year.

The Commissioner's Report: Duke Storen, the DSS Commissioner began by acknowledging that the JLARC report on Foster Care services in Virginia cited serious problems. He noted that he thought the report did not give enough attention to efforts already underway to address the problems, but did not contest any of the findings. He noted that instability of the workforce, the biggest problem, is a local responsibility. DSS is exploring ways to increase its roles in oversight and accountability, and to intervene where local departments are failing. Further, he noted that new Federal Funds for prevention connected to "Families Forward" will require increased capacity at every level.

Editorial & Publishing Report: Linda Gilliam reported that the next issue briefs will continue a focus on trauma but through the lens of structurally embedded inequalities. The name of our series will be *Systems of Trauma: how societal problems affect and cause traumatic stress*. The series will have an intro followed by three briefs: Racial Trauma, Economic Trauma (specifically how it relates to domestic violence) and gender-based trauma. The intro will be released in March and a brief about racial trauma will be released in April.

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In addition, we are producing one-page summaries of four TIC Issue Briefs already done, for distribution during the upcoming General Assembly session.

The Child Abuse and Neglect Committee: DSS has responded to our advisory letter of May 2018. Follow-up questions have been submitted and further discussions are underway. These exchanges have been positive and productive.

Concerns about allegations of child abuse against resident unaccompanied migrant children at the Shenandoah Center have been raised and are still under investigation by several state and Federal agencies. The Committee will continue to seek further information to determine if there are issues that should be included in the annual advisory letter submitted to VDSS related to this matter.

The FACT Award: The Board would like to review this program at a future time, exploring criteria, process, and goals.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the FACT Board will be held on March 27th, 2019, not March 20th as printed on the agenda today.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the Board of Trustees adjourned at 2:45PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Frank Blechman, FACT Secretary