

Family and Children's Trust Fund (FACT)
Child Abuse and Neglect Advisory Committee Minutes



June 13, 2019
VDSS Central Regional Office

Committee Members Present: Jeanine Harper, GRSCAN; Katharine Hunter, DBHDS; Shannon Hartung, VDSS; Nicole, Poulin, FACT; Meghan Resler, FACT; Jane Tingley, Medical Examiner's Office, Betty Wade Coyle, CFC:PCAHR (by phone), Anya Shafer, DCJS; Ginny Powell, FACT Board; Melissa O'Neil, DCJS; Beverly Crowder, FACT Board, Heather Board, VDH (joined at 11:15)

Committee Chair Jeanine Harper called the meeting to order at 10:04am and committee members introduced themselves. Jeanine Harper went over the agenda and introduced the minutes, Ginny Powell motioned to approve minutes with one correction to a name spelling and Betty Wade Coyle seconded, minutes were approved with all in favor.

Committee Member updates:

Katharine Hunter, DBHDS: The Office of Child and Family services just hired a Virginia Mental Health Access Program (VMAP) point of contact, Bernadette Knight. One time funding has been secured to do some training on Trauma Informed Parenting and Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) and Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT). Everyone who uses the program is expected to become certified within one year. The agency is conducting these trainings to increase availability of the services and to meet Families First Legislation Evidence Based Practices requirements.

DBHDS will be starting an early childhood mental health learning collaborative in Southwest Virginia. Nicole and Jeanine will connect Katharine with the contact information for individuals in charge of coordinating a TICN in Southwest Virginia and Jeanine will connect her with Lisa Wright at GRSCAN who has done several learning collaboratives.

Anya Shaffer, DCJS

The grant period for VOCA funding will begin shortly. There have been some shifts with funding to support child abuse treatment services and funding for Child Advocacy Centers (CACs). In previous years, support for these programs was provided by both DCJS and DSS however this year DCJS is allocating support for CACs directly to DSS administer the funds, while funding for child abuse treatment services will be administered by DCJS.

There were a brand new solicitations for VOCA support this year that resulted in: (1) a hospital based solicitation with an evidence based violence intervention program, the Virginia Hospital Association was awarded this grant; and (2) a school based mental health solicitation, Warren County and Charlottesville were both awarded grants for pilot programs. Programs will look at the ways these two localities can coordinate resources in their communities and support more intensive and supportive mental health services for children who need.

DCJS is currently working with the community in Virginia Beach to create a crisis response after the mass shooting in the municipal building.

Melissa O'Neil, DCJS-CASA

DCJS will be hosting an upcoming conference: The Intersections of Violence, July 15th-17th in Hampton, free conference, registration is open, FACT is one of the sponsors.

There is a new resource available through the statewide CASA initiative. A website for Virginia CASA is now available that is external to DCJS, Virginiacasa.org. It contains information on the program and includes an interactive map for contact information on individual CASA programs across Virginia.

Jeanine Harper, GRSCAN

There is an exciting upcoming conference sponsored by the upcoming Southside TICN's: *Beyond ACE's The Impact of Race, Culture and Poverty*. It is scheduled to take place August 8th-10th in Petersburg, registration is open, and FACT is one of the sponsors.

FACT Update

Nicole Poulin

There is an additional upcoming conference that will occur the week after the Southside TICN. Virginia Early Childhood Foundation will be conducting an ACEs Summit, August 16-17th in Emporia that will be focused on early childhood exposure to trauma. Parents in the surrounding area will be encouraged to attend.

FACT is continuing its efforts to increase of trauma informed care across Virginia. The Board of Trustees voted in March to focus the next round of program grants on support for Trauma-Informed Community Networks in localities around Virginia. With support from VDH, FACT will be working with a consultant to establish a framework/structure for TICN's. The RFP for this support will be released in the fall of 2019.

Work has continued to facilitate investment by VDH of federal Preventive Health and Health Services (PHHS) Block Grant support to research at the use of the collective impact model for increasing trauma-informed care and communities.

Both the Virginia Summit for Trauma Resilience in Richmond and the Rural Summit for Childhood Success in Abington were great successes.

CPS Update

Shannon Hartung

Shannon updated the committee on the Human and Sex Trafficking assessment DSS is working on. When CPS workers receive a complaint they have the option of two tracks, either a family assessment of an investigation, there will now be a different track specifically for human trafficking.

VDSS is working on challenges affecting the functionality and the wait times of the state hotline. Solutions include implementation of standardized business processes and training curriculums for all hotline workers, which will help ensure all workers are providing professional, receptive, and timely responses to reporters. Wait times have been reduced.

VDSS is working on the Mandated Reporting website; it's being tested this week. Steps are being taken to ensure its right before it's put out to the public. It will be a portal for mandated reporters to complete a form that will be sent to the hotline and transferred directly into Oasis.

Structured Decision Making tool is ready and will be used on iPad mobile apps. They will release once everyone is trained and has iPads—probably around January.

Overview of Child on Child Sexual Assault

Stephanie Davis, CAC Program Coordinator, GRSCAN

National Children's Alliance and National Child Advocacy Center have started to focus on the issue of child on child sexual assault.

Nationally, about 20% of cases handled by CACs fall in category of child on child cases sexual abuse/youth with problematic sexual behaviors (PSBs). Richmond's program reflects this same rate. CPS doesn't take these cases, unless it the perpetrator is a babysitter, as that falls into caretaker role or there is previous knowledge of incidents of violence by caretakers in the home as that falls into the realm of neglect.

Child on child cases are considered any juvenile that is acting sexually on another juvenile. Response varies between jurisdictions. Sometimes families contact CACs to try to understand what to do. Some jurisdictions investigate the case just like a regular child abuse case knowing there is nothing they can do with the findings, but to see if anything else is found in the investigation. Sometimes, the child who is abusing has had something happen to them, which these investigations can illuminate. Many of these cases come out in schools; therefore, school resource officers are sometimes involved.

Challenges: Families don't know what to do and who to turn to. They feel discouraged when CPS doesn't take it and when the cases are referred to law enforcement there is no guarantee that any action will take place. Responses vary greatly from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. There is no uniformity of protocol across the state and a lack of jurisdiction coordination between law enforcement and CPS. Information on this topic is often left out of prevention efforts and there is a void services and resources for families.

Next Steps

Nicole, Ginny, and Jeanine will work together to put together CAPTA letter. VDSS will provide a formal response (within 6 months).

Next meeting there will be an update on VDSS Child Trends study on Diversion Care. If committee members have specific questions about study they are free to send them to FACT staff before meeting.

CAN Membership list was given at meeting, if members have any new members in mind for the committee let Nicole know.

We will consider developing a sub-committee to meet between quarterly meetings in our September meeting.

We will send a Doodle poll to determine next year's meeting dates by the end of June.

Jeanine Harper adjourned the meeting at 12:43pm.