

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

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Betty Wade Coyle at 10:07 am on Thursday, September 3rd. The meeting included Hayley Mathews, Rita Katzman, Jo Ann Wilson-Harfst, Melissa O'Neill, Heather Board, Maribel Saimre, Jeanine Harper, Janet Lung, Cedric Moore, Lauren Allen, Carey Natoli and Johanna Schuchert. Ms. Coyle also welcomed Craig Patterson and Em Parente from VDSS.

Following committee member introductions and a review of the agenda, Ms. Mathews provided historical context regarding FACT and the committee's purpose for new committee attendees. She also provided an update on FACT's recent work, which included an update about FACT's Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn accounts. She also shared the National Center on Elder Abuse's Innovative Practices Database and indicated that the FACT Board would be considering the replication of a Virginia model this fall. Information regarding the 2015 FACT Report and Issue Brief was also mentioned, and recommendations were also made regarding stakeholder groups to target for outreach about FACT's data portal.

The committee reviewed the draft minutes from the meeting that took place on July 15, 2015. ON MOTION DULY MADE (Ms. Wilson-Harfst) and seconded (Ms. Katzman) moved to approve the minutes as presented. Committee Chair Coyle reviewed the agenda, and no revisions were made.

Following Ms. Mathews' report, Craig Patterson, Prevention Program Consultant with VDSS' Division of Family Services, provided an update on the Division's Kinship Diversion Study and Prevention Program. A written handout was shared with committee members, and Mr. Patterson reported on progress since his presentation to the committee in March 2015. Study findings are due to members of the General Assembly on January 1, 2016; however, final recommendations will be submitted to the Office of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs this fall. Mr. Patterson indicated that the committee would have an opportunity to provide feedback on the recommendations in the coming weeks. He also shared a copy of House Joint Resolution Number 638, which designates September as Kinship Caregivers of Children Month in Virginia.

Following Mr. Patterson's presentation, Em Parente, Foster Care Program Manager, conducted a joint presentation with Rita Katzman regarding child victims of human trafficking. A comprehensive overview highlighted key objectives in the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act of 2014 and the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015 (slide deck handout provided). The topic of the increase in VOCA funding for Virginia was raised, and committee members discussed various ways new funds could be used to better support victims of crime.

Following presentations from Mr. Patterson, Mr. Katzman, and Ms. Parente, committee updates followed. Ms. Katzman provided up update on CPS program activities. She reported that several sessions of CPS ongoing training are currently taking place across the state. Ms. Harper provided an update on the Greater Richmond Trauma Informed Care Network and reported that the group is considering doing a screening of *Paper Tigers* for the community. She also indicated that TICN and Richmond DSS is planning an ACEs Summit for October 2016. Ms. Wilson-Harfst indicated that the Virginia League of Social Service Executive's Child and Family Services committee is currently trying to resolve issues with the CPS appeals process. Ms. O'Neill gave a brief update about CASA work at DCJS and indicated that CASA will be celebrating their 30th anniversary this fall. Ms. Saimre reported on

Project Aware, which is a federal grant that is providing multi-tiered mental health supports in the schools.

The committee ran out of time to discuss additional updates from other members.

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday, December 3rd from 10:00 to 1:00 in Richmond.

The meeting ended at 12:43 pm.