

DRAFT MINUTES, VA FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND (VA-FACT) Board of Trustees Meeting, December 10th, 2019

Participation:

Trustees Present: Mary Riley (Chair), Allison Lawrence (Vice Chair), Frank Blechman (Secretary), Judy Kurtz (Treasurer), Beverly Crowder, Jennifer Gillyard, Tarina Keene, Kay Kovacs, Virginia Powell.

Trustees Absent: Carter Batey, Yvonne Bibbs, Robert Bolling, Linda Gilliam, Lilliana Hernandez, Yasmin Taeb, Duke Storen (Commissioner).

Staff Present: Nicole Poulin (Executive Director), Meghan Resler (Research Associate), Michelle L'Hommedieu (Attorney).

Guests Present: Brian Little, Southside TICN

Opening: Chairperson Riley called the meeting to order at 10:12 AM, at the Families Forward Conference Room, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Richmond, VA

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

Minutes: The minutes of the October 2019 Board meeting were approved as presented on a motion by Crowder, seconded by Powell.

Legislative Reception: Powell moved and Kurtz seconded a motion that FACT should authorize expenditure of up to \$500 to hold a Legislative breakfast as part of the January 21st "Trauma Advocacy Day (January 21st), provided that at least five FACT Trustees are able to confirm participation by December 20th.

Legislative Agenda: Powell moved and Gillyard seconded a motion to formally endorse the Voices for Virginia's Children Unified Policy agenda.

Ad Hoc Grants: Kovacs moved and Lawrence seconded a motion to approve an ad hoc grant of \$2,000 to support the Department of Criminal Justice June 2020 conference on the intersection of violence, family violence, sexual assault and child abuse.

Leadership: Gillyard moved and Crowder seconded a motion to authorize expenditure of up to \$7,800 to support Nicole Poulin's participation in the "Lead Virginia" leadership development program in 2020.

CAN Advisory Letter: Kurtz moved and Crowder seconded a motion to write to the Governor (with copies to relevant members of the Legislature and the Administration) urging increased financial support and staffing for the Child Abuse hotline.

Adjournment: Riley moved and everyone seconded a motion to adjourn at 2:15 PM.

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

Upcoming Legislative Session: Allison Lawrence reported that she is working closely with the advocacy staff of Voices for Virginia's Children. While money for FACT is not in the Governor's proposed budget, efforts are underway to get a budget amendment introduced to that effect, providing \$750,000 for TICNs support and research. The Governor is proposing significant new money for early childhood education and maternal health. Tarina Keene and Jennifer Gillyard offered to work with staff to develop a model Op-Ed for trustees to submit for local publication.

Guest presentation: Brian Little with the Virginia Department of Health reported that the Crater Health District is now providing central support for the Southside TICN, originally convened by the United Way. They have found that by building strong trusting relationships, and engaging energy around the trauma of race and culture, they have begun to move from "trauma informed" to "trauma responsive".

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Work in the schools to address truancy and arts programs of many kinds are providing real measures of improved resiliency.

Donations: All trustees were reminded that 100% support for FACT is needed before June 30th, 2020.

FOIA: Michelle L'Hommedieu reviewed both the law and policies regarding requests for information, and accordingly, the needs to keep information available to enable quick response. She provided a handout.

Treasurer's Report: Judy Kurtz reported that revenue from license plate sales was continuing down, although income tax checkoff revenue went up slightly.

Grants: The comment period on our 2020 grant framework document ends tomorrow. There have been no comments to date. The RFA will go out next week, with review of application in March for adoption at our next Board meeting.

Staff Report: The full report of the Executive Director was provided in the meeting package. Highlights included:

- Work with many partner organizations and advisory committees continues vigorously
- We are expanding our social media presence
- Our efforts to get our data portal back on-line have not yet been successful
- Our partnership with Voices for Virginia's Children continues to be very productive and positive.
- In partnership with VCU Gerontology and DMAS, the Person Centered Trauma-Informed Care in Virginia Nursing Homes Project has completed its initial training with good responses.
- All reports are in on time and positive from our grantees.
- Planning for our work on "capacity building" for non-profits will begin in January.

Committee Reports:

- Editorial & Planning: The next two Issue Briefs in the Systems of Trauma series will address Gender-based trauma, the first as it relates to women and the second as it relates to LGBTQIA people. Both are expected in 2020. Our Racial Trauma and Economic Trauma briefs have been very well received.
- CAN Committee: The Child Abuse Hotline is improving but still very short of resources. Wait times are down from 2 hours to 20 minutes, but still far too long. The line will likely handle 140,000 calls this year, demonstrating the great need. Under new legislation, 11 child trafficking cases have been opened (1 labor, 10 sex). Child-on-child sexual abuse makes up 25% of Child Abuse Centers caseload; these cases largely arising from criminal investigations.
- Marketing: Lawrence reminded Trustees that 2021 marks our 35th anniversary. She proposed having low-key 2020 FACT Child Welfare Awards, pointing toward a big event in 2021 bringing together all past honorees.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the FACT Board will be held in the March 25th, 2020 and will include social media training for Trustees.

Respectfully submitted,



Frank Blechman, FACT Secretary