

## VA FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND

(VA-FACT) Board of Trustees Grants Committee Meeting, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023

### Virtual Meeting (Microsoft Teams)

#### Participation:

Trustee Committee Members Present: Tarina Keene (Committee Chair), Season Roberts, Tavares Floyd

Trustee Committee Members Absent: Tyler Hart and Abigail Wescott

Other Trustees Present: Linda Wilkinson

Staff Present: Nicole Poulin (Executive Director), Michelle L'Hommedieu (Office of Attorney General - FACT Counsel) and Taylor Hohle (Senior Research Associate)

**Opening:** Committee Chair Keene called the meeting to order at 11:38 AM

#### Review of Current and Proposed Grant Projects

- Executive Director Poulin drafted a document with recommendations on grant projects and sent it out to the Committee prior to the meeting. These recommendations come from current projects and proposed projects that have been brought to Executive Director Poulin.
- Executive Director Poulin and FACT Counsel L'Hommedieu explained the procurement challenges that remain for larger projects. There are significant capacity issues faced by the VDSS Procurement Office regarding existing staffing and increased demand due, in part to, the additional federal relief funds being administered through VDSS. Smaller, \$10,000 or less, targeted projects don't require support from the VDSS and more viable.
- Executive Director Poulin provided background for the FACT Emergency Funds Project:
  - Currently this program has contributed funds to 60-75 families throughout Virginia. These families were not able to access other support for critical needs; examples of which include: rental assistance, car repairs, past parking tickets needing to be paid to obtain employment.
  - There has been a low response rate from the Trauma-Informed Community Networks (TICNs) for this project. Additionally, there is funding that will be allocated to the TICNs through the American Rescue Plan Act funds through VDSS that may accomplish similar goals. These reasons have led to a recommendation to move the focus away from supporting the TICNs, to other service programs throughout Virginia in partnership with other state agencies.
  - Working in partnership with other state agencies increases FACT's networking and coordination efforts; while also ensuring that the local programs receiving FACT support are being monitored by a state program to increase assurance of program capacity to adhere to best programmatic and accounting practices.

- Executive Director Poulin reviewed her recommendations:
  - Recommendation: Continue or expand existing Emergency Funds Project (total allocation \$70,000-\$140,000) (This project started in 2020)
    - Continue the movement on Skyward, a pilot project with Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) to award funds to support 2 Juvenile Court Services Units (CSUs):
      - Option 1: Continue at the current allocated total amount of \$10,000 (\$5,000 per CSU)
      - Option 2: Increase the number of awards and/or amount of awards to \$20,000 (\$5,000 for 4 CSUs or \$10,000 for 2 CSUs)
    - Continue to partner with the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) to support Balance of State Homeless Intervention Projects, in providing Domestic Violence and Homelessness Services programs in 12 designated rural regions in Virginia. (This project began in 2023)
      - Option 1- Continue at current allocation amount of \$60,000 (\$5,000 for 12 local planning group/ 73 localities)
      - Option 2- Increase the award amounts to localities to \$120,000 (\$10,000 for 12 local planning groups/ 73 localities)
        - The Board would need to modify the small grant policy statement language to increase to \$10,000
    - Expand Emergency Funds Project (Total cost \$100,000)
      - Partner with Early Impact Virginia to support 20 Home Visiting Programs serving low-income, at-risk families in Virginia.
        - Early Impact worked with the Hampton Roads TICN to utilize Emergency Funds Project funding to assist a family.
        - Option: Allocate \$100,000 to 20 Home Visiting Programs, serving these economically disadvantaged localities in Virginia (\$5,000 per award)
  - Recommendation: Support Expansion of Leadership for Empowerment and Abuse Prevention (LEAP) (Total cost: \$20,000 – VDH will reimburse \$10,000)
    - Partnership for People with Disabilities has created an evidence-based sexual assault prevention program focused on disabled populations. Each training is co-lead by someone with a disability.
    - FACT could partner with Virginia Department of Health and Partnership for People with Disabilities to support the creation of two satellite LEAP Centers within Virginia. This would enable other disability service agencies to collaborate with the VCU LEAP Project to train staff who could incorporate LEAP's healthy relationship principles into their day-to-day activities
    - Funds would be used to support two disability service providers (\$10,000 x 2 providers), in different localities, to support their staff and people with disabilities to become certified LEAP trainers. Funds would be used to provide stipends, cover staff time, and support training and travel costs.
      - The Board would need to modify the small grant policy statement language to increase to \$10,000

- Recommendation: Support a 2-year project to implement Phase 2 of the FACT Problematic Sexual Behavior Project (Total cost \$100,000 – this will require support from VDSS Procurement, prospective start date 1/1/2024 or 7/1/2024)
    - Year 1- Justice 3D to develop a 3-day Train the Trainer curriculum and tool kit for Multi-Disciplinary Teams, who respond to these cases within localities. Development will include working with the previously established FACT PSB Advisory Workgroup and conducting a full day stakeholder meeting to discuss desired content of the training.
      - Total costs for year 1- \$50,000 (approximately 600 hrs of staff time x \$83 per hr)
    - Year 2- Justice 3D will select, with the assistance of the FACT PSB Advisory Workgroup, 3 pilot communities to send 4 MDT members to provide the train-the-trainer program at a location to be determined. These trainings will be conducted by 2-3 professional trainers from different professional backgrounds and perspectives (law enforcement, social work, prosecutor). The 12 attendees will be instructed in best practice responses, skills for implementation as well as how to present the community response to problematic sexual behavior material to their community. Pre and post tests will be administered.
      - Total cost for year 2-\$50,000 (approximately 300 hrs of staff time x \$83 and \$25,000 to provide stipends to localities and cover travel costs)
    - There is a potential for this project to use Sole Source in Procurement as a way to speed up the process but this is difficult to achieve and requires Governor approval.
    - A potential phase three of this project could focus on evaluation and increasing the broader impact outside of Virginia
  - Recommendation: Support 10 Ad Hoc State Impact Training Events (Total \$30,000 - \$3,000 x 10 awards)
  - The total of all the proposed allocations: \$320,000-\$390,000. The conservative estimate of upcoming income is \$400,000.
- There was discussion around the state reimbursement procedures and how to support smaller non-profits who may not have the funding upright.

### **Discussion of Committee Recommendations**

- Trustee Floyd made a motion that the committee recommend, to the FACT Board, to continue the current allocated total amount of \$10,000 for the Skyward Fund. Trustee Roberts seconded.

- Trustee Floyd made a motion that the committee recommend, to the FACT Board, to continue to allocate the current amount of \$60,000 (\$5,000 for 12 awards) to the Balance of State. Trustee Roberts seconded.
- Trustee Floyd made a motion that the committee recommend, to the FACT Board, to allocate \$100,000 (\$5,000 for 20 available awards) to home visiting programs. Trustee Roberts seconded
- Trustee Floyd made a motion that the committee recommend, to the FACT Board, to allocate \$20,000 to partner with Virginia Department of Health in expanding the Leadership for Empowerment and Abuse Prevention (LEAP) program. Trustee Roberts seconded.
- Trustee Floyd made a motion that the committee recommend, to the FACT Board, to allocate \$100,000 to support a 2-year project to implement Phase 2 of the FACT Problematic Sexual Behavior Project (\$50,000 per year). Trustee Roberts seconded.
- Trustee Floyd made a motion that the committee recommend, to the FACT Board, to support 10 ad hoc state impact training events for up to \$3,000 each (for a total of \$30,000). Trustee Roberts seconded.

**Meeting adjourned at 12:39pm.**