

MINUTES, VA FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND
Board of Trustees Meeting, Oct 1st, 2026
Virginia Museum of History & Culture, 428 N Arthur Ashe Blvd, Richmond VA

Participation:

Trustees Present: Nichele Carver (Chair), Jennifer Gillyard (Secretary), Amy Greear, Moira Holdren, Maria Salgado, Ian Danielsen, Kristin Zagar (VDSS Chief Deputy Commissioner) – arrived 1:15PM

Trustees Absent: Joseph Van Name, Stacy Nixon, Tiffany Garner, Theresa Orr, Reid Goldstein

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

Opening: Chairperson Carver called the meeting to order at 10:36 AM. A quorum was present.

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

Minutes Approval:

- Chairperson Carver opened the floor for comments and corrections on the previous Board minutes from the June 2026 meeting.
- **A motion was made by Trustee Greear to approve the minutes. Trustee Holdren seconded.**

Chair's Report: Chairperson Carver provided the report.

- The FACT Board of Trustees consists of 15 voting members. Six of these are appointed by the Governor, five are appointed by the Speaker of the House, and four by the Senate Rules Committee Chair.
- Five of the six seats appointed by the Governor had terms end in June 2026.
- In August, the Secretary of the Commonwealth announced a new appointee for FACT, Reid Goldstein. However, FACT staff have not been able to get any contact information from the Secretary's office after repeated attempts.

Child Abuse & Neglect (CAN) Advisory Committee Report: Trustee Danielsen provided the committee update.

- The CAN Advisory Committee met on September 21st. A copy of the minutes and the previous Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) letter were provided for Trustees.
- During the last meeting the Committee received an update on the progress being made by the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) on updating Virginia's Child Welfare Information System (CWIS).
 - Updates will likely take at least two years, after a new vendor has been approved, for a new system to be fully developed. Wide implementation will likely take five years or more.
- The Office of the Children's Ombudsman annual report will be coming out in October.
- There is currently a vacancy on the CAN Advisory Committee for a representative from the Department of Education. Trustees are encouraged to notify Trustee Danielsen of any individual for consideration.

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Treasurer's Report: Executive Director Poulin provided the update for Treasurer Van Name.

- Executive Director Poulin reviewed financial statements for Fiscal Year 2026 and current allocations in the Fiscal Year 2027 budget.
- There was discussion on the Request for Proposals (RFP) and an updated timeline.
- **A motion was made by Trustee Danielsen to update the Fiscal Year 2027 budget to include \$3780 in funding for bookkeeping services. Trustee Gillyard seconded.**

Grants Committee Report: Trustee Gillyard provided the update.

- The Board received a record number of 18 ad hoc requests this quarter.
- FACT Staff reviewed the applications with Trustee Gillyard and have provided a summary sheet for Trustees.
- Trustees reviewed the summary sheet and individual requests.
- The Grants Committee will meet prior to the December Board meeting to discuss the current ad hoc grant application process.
- **A motion was made by Trustee Gillyard to approve the ten organizational ad hoc requests and deny the eight organizational requests as reflected on pages 21-25 in the Board materials. Trustee Greear seconded.**

Staff Report: Executive Director Poulin provided the update.

- Executive Director Poulin reviewed the staff report provided. Highlights include:
 - The fatality reports published last year have been referenced and used in a variety of ways by different organizations, including the legislative workgroup established to Study Prenatal and Postnatal Substance Use.
 - With FACT's current staff and organizational structure, staff do not recommend hosting another high-level event. The 40th Anniversary event required a significant amount of staff time that delayed other project timelines.
 - The Problematic Sexual Behavior Project Phase III contract has been delayed. FACT has been included in the Commission on Youth's draft recommendations for Children's Advocacy Centers related to our work on problematic sexual behavior.
 - Executive Director Poulin is participating in 3 legislative workgroups: Study of Prenatal & Postnatal Substance Use, Study on Dynamics of Coercive Control in Child Custody Proceedings & CPS Screening Processes.
 - Executive Director Poulin met with multiple state policy leaders to discuss FACT's work and potential strategic planning activities- Including representatives from the Virginia Children's Partnership about a potential future partnership to support start-up costs for implementation of START (Sobriety Treatment and Recovery Teams) sites.

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VDSS Update: Chief Deputy Commissioner Zagar provided the update.

- Updates on the Child Protective Services centralized intake system, Senate Bill 640 <https://lis.virginia.gov/bill-details/20261/SB640> :
 - The study is due to the Governor on December 1st.
 - The plan is for staff to be brought on in July 2027.
 - In 2028 calls would be taken for some localities.
 - By 2030, all localities would be managed through a state intake system.
- There are additional workgroups focused on technical systems and finances related to VDSS.
- Senate Bill 133 created a workgroup focused on policies and practices related to substance exposed infants. The study is due December 1st.
- Virginia's updated Family First Prevention Plan was recently approved. Additional services have been added for reimbursement under Title IX-E funding, including START that was mentioned in the staff report.

Adjournment/Wrap up: Chairperson Carver concluded the meeting at 2:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Gillyard

Jennifer Gillyard, Secretary

Taylor Hohle

Taylor Hohle, Senior Research Associate