

AGENDA
State and Local Advisory Team (SLAT)
Thursday, October 3, 2019
Richmond Room
1604 Santa Rosa Road
Richmond, VA 23229
9:30- 12:00pm

	Person Responsible	Time Allocated	Outcome	Follow up?
Introductions and Opening Remarks	Karen Reilly-Jones	10 minutes		
Approval of Minutes	Karen Reilly-Jones	5 minutes		
Public Comment		5 minutes		
Review/Feedback from the SEC/SLAT Strategic Planning	Karen Reilly-Jones	15 minutes		
Member Updates: State: 1. DOH 2. DJJ 3. DSS 4. DBHDS 5. DMAS 6. DOE Local: 1. DSS 2. CSA 3. CSB 4. CSU 5. Judge 6. Parent 7. Provider 8. Schools	Jeannine Uzel Beth Stinnett Em Parente Pam Fisher Laura Reed Sabrina Gross Rebecca Vinroot Karen Reilly-Jones Ivy Sager Martha Carroll Hon. Ashley Tunner Shannon Updike Angela Neely	40 minutes		
OCS Report	Zandra Relaford	15 minutes		
Non-Mandated Report/Recommendations	Karen Reilly-Jones	1 hour		
Adjourn				

**MINUTES – August 1, 2019
STATE & LOCAL ADVISORY TEAM (SLAT)
CHILDREN’S SERVICES ACT
Twin Hickory Area Library
5001 Twin Hickory Road
Glen Allen, VA 23059**

Members Present: Karen Reilly-Jones, SLAT Chair, CSA Coordinators Network; Shannon Updike, SLAT Vice-Chair, VCOPPA; Nina Marino, DBHDS; Ivy Sager, CPMT – CSB Representative; Rebecca Vinroot, CPMT – LDSS Representative; Martha Carroll, CPMT – CSU Representative (*and representing DJJ*), Christina Owens, DOE; Em Parente, DSS; Shamika Ward, DMAS

Members Absent: The Honorable Ashley Tunner, Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Representative; Angela Neely, CPMT – School Representative; Andelicia Neville, Parent Representative; Jeannine Uzel, VDH; Beth Stinnett, DJJ

OCS Staff Members and Guests Present: Scott Reiner, Stephanie Bacote, Kristi Schabo, Maris Adcock, Rendell Briggs, Marsha Mucha (guest list attached)

Introductions and Chair Remarks

Karen Reilly-Jones, SLAT Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. She welcomed members and guests. Introductions were made.

Approval of Minutes

The June 6, 2019 meeting minutes were approved on a motion by Shannon Updike, seconded by Martha Carroll and carried.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Member Updates

Members reported on activities and the statuses of ongoing projects, new programs, grant opportunities, and upcoming conferences/events. Members also continue to work within their agencies and advocate through their associations for improvements to services and service delivery for the children, youth and families of Virginia.

Of particular note:

- Representatives of the CSA Coordinators’ Network have been meeting with stakeholders concerning the rising number of children placed for services outside of Virginia.
- The Central Virginia Partnership on Youth (CVPY) will host the Central Virginia CSA Training and Resource Day on September 20, 2019.
- The Virginia Coalition of Private Provider Associations (VCOPPA) will host its fall symposium on November 6-7, 2019.

OCS Report

Scott Reiner reported on the following items:

- *Training* – A new e-learning course is now available in the Virginia Learning Center (VLC). The course, Utilization Review for CPMT Members, provides a high-level overview of the Utilization Review (UR) requirements under CSA and how UR can be utilized to lead to improved outcomes for children and families.

Other training news:

- An e-learning course on CSA financials for local fiscal people is in the final stages of production.
- Training is available on the new Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) process. Localities should contact Zandra Relaford to arrange training.
- *FY2019 Services Gap Survey* – The Survey has been released and is now available on the CSA website.
- *September Joint Meeting with the SEC* – Preparations are underway for the joint SEC/SLAT meeting on September 19. Either the primary SLAT member or one of the alternates from each organization/agency represented on SLAT is asked to attend.
- *Private Day Special Education Outcomes* – The implementation advisory group (DOE and CSA) has been meeting to finalize the private day special outcome measures. The last planned meeting will be held on August 12. Collection of outcome data, which will be comparable to public school outcome indicators, is to begin with the 2019-2020 school year.
- *Update on Private Day Special Education Cost Study* – During the week of June 17, Mr. Reiner and Public Consulting Group (PCG), the entity conducting the study, held a series of regional meetings to receive input from stakeholders. The Cost Study report is due to the General Assembly on October 1, 2019.

To comply with the 2% cap on private day special education rate increases as required by the Appropriation Act, OCS has begun collecting the negotiated rates from localities for FY2020.

- *CSA Conference* - In order to avoid conflict with the number of conferences held in the spring, the 2020 CSA Conference is being moved to the fall along with a change in venue as the Conference has outgrown its current location.
- A series of regional trainings are being planned in coordination with other child-serving agencies for the spring of 2020. The trainings will focus on local implementation of evidence-based practices.
- *Meetings* – Mr. Reiner along with several OCS staff members met with Leslie Frazier from the Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Resources. Ms. Frazier is leading the Virginia Fosters Initiative.

Non-Mandated Survey Results and Next Steps

Mrs. Reilly-Jones provided background information on the request from the SEC to review the use of non-mandated funds, including barriers to use of the funds and best practices. Since there were several new members/alternates in attendance, she ask that members review the survey and summary of results apart from today's meeting.

Draft

A discussion began on eligibility for CSA funding as determined by the Code of Virginia and the designation of Child in Need of Services (CHINS). During discussion, Mr. Reiner noted that the terms "mandated and non-mandated" have become associated with and used in place of the correct terms "sum-sufficient" or "non sum sufficient" (protected) funds. After further discussion, members decided to convene a short-term workgroup to review the non-mandated survey and draft recommendations based on discussions from the last two SLAT meetings. Draft report/recommendations will be presented to SLAT at its October meeting for finalization. SLAT's final report will be presented to the SEC at its December meeting.

Adjournment and Next Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11.50 a.m. The next meeting will be held on October 3, 2019 in the Richmond Room, 1604 Santa Rosa Rd., in Richmond.

SLAT workgroup for "Non-Mandated" Study

October SLAT Report

Background: September 20, 2018, the State Executive Council (SEC) requested that the State and Local Advisory Team (SLAT) study the use of "non-mandated" CSA funds. The concern expressed was that there may be barriers to accessing funding and that localities are not fully maximizing the funding opportunity.

At the December 13, 2018 SEC meeting, Karen Reilly-Jones, SLAT Chair, presented a summary of the utilization of "non-mandated funds" in fiscal years 2017 and 2018.

FY 2017, \$5,084,329 spent on non-mandated services, 35% of budget

FY 2018, \$4,624,160 spent on non-mandated services, 32% of budget

- *More localities utilized non-mandated funds, up 3% from FY2017*
- *Top ten localities use the majority (67%) of non-mandated funds.*
- *Localities with high utilization rates (based on allocation) range in expenditures as low as \$9,782 to \$336,112. These localities also:*
 - *Vary in range in size and population, from Buena Vista (pop. 6,650) to Hampton (pop. 137,467)*
 - *Vary in geographical regions, spanning from the far West in Wise County to the Eastern Shore in Accomack County.*
- *The Tidewater region seems to have a high utilization of localities maximizing non-mandated funds.*
- *11.6 % decrease in unused funds from FY17 to FY18*
- *6.5% decrease in number non-participating localities*
- *Unused local allocations range from \$2,523 to \$1,073,425 (Local Average \$54,653)*

Between December 2018 and April 2019, SLAT developed a survey to address the concerns. On April 4, 2019, SLAT approved the survey and disseminated it to local stakeholders. The survey provided an educational opportunity as well as best practice guidance.

(From Survey)

Protected Funds (Non-Mandated)

Each year localities may utilize a specific amount of their total state base pool allocation, to provide services to children and families not in the mandated (sum sufficient) CSA population but who otherwise meet CSA eligibility criteria. This amount is typically referred to as non-mandated or "protected" funds.

The amount that each locality is permitted to protect is determined by a statewide formula. Each locality is informed of their level of protected funds prior to the beginning of each fiscal year. If the "protected" amount is not spent on non-mandated children, it may be used to address the funding needs of the mandated population.

These funds provide local CPMTs with flexibility in serving children and families who need interventions, services, and supports, but who do not meet the "mandated" CSA eligibility criteria. These children and youth are typically referred by the local court service unit, the community services board, local schools (not for private day placement), or by direct referral from families.

Did you know?

- *When meeting CSA program eligibility; services purchased with non-mandated funds can be used for an array of services such as intensive care coordination, parent coaching, therapeutic camp, residential treatment, assessments, etc.?*
- *That many referral sources can (and do) access non-mandated services like Court Services, Schools, and Community Services Board, Social Services, Interagency teams, and families?*
- *That 48% of localities (62) currently do not use their allocated non-mandated funds (average \$54,653 per locality)?*

SURVEY

There were over 100 responses from 65 localities (representing approximately 96% of localities using these funds). Respondents ranged from CSA Coordinators, to CPMT agency representatives, and local government administrators.

The survey provided helpful information from localities that actively use non-mandated funds:

55% Disagreed/strongly disagreed that barriers exist for full implementation for the use of non-mandated funds.

27% Agreed/strongly agreed that barriers do exist

Community based services represented the majority of services purchased with non-mandated funds; Mentoring, Parent coaching, assessment and evaluations being the top three.

89% of responding localities reported that the use of these funds positively supported the local mission of CSA.

76% reported that local resources are available to support the use of these funds.

75% agreed that the use of these funds are fully integrated into local practice

63% disagreed that there are local restrictions on funding services

There were 68 responses from 42 localities not using non-mandated funding (representing approximately 65% of localities not using these funds). Similarly, respondents ranged from CSA Coordinators, to CPMT agency representatives, and local government administrators.

The top four reasons reported for not using non-mandated funds are:

- FAPT determines other ways to serve with CSA funds (CHINS, SPED Wrap, Parent placements, etc.)
- Local match rate
- Not enough allocated to make it worth it
- Other themes: Uncertainty on process/eligibility, local preference, local funding...

Other survey takeaways:

- 53% agreed that there are gaps in local services that non-mandated funds could support
- 46% agreed that their locality had no interest in using non-mandated funding
- 44% disagreed that there are adequate resources available in their community

If these localities were to use these funds, *community-based services* were identified as most beneficial. The top three named:

- 1) Parent coaching/support
- 2) Out of school time programs (i.e. camp, after school programs, etc.)
- 3) Mentoring/Intensive Care Coordination (tied)

Directed by SLAT at the August 1, 2019 meeting, a SLAT workgroup, consisting of members and community stakeholders, met to summarize information and draft recommendations to the SLAT. Members reviewed the survey results and concluded:

Over all it seems that localities access local resources and funding opportunities to serve children and families. However, there are identified barriers that exist that may impact localities to fully access the CSA non-mandated/protected funds.

The workgroup recommended:

Easy/short term:

- 1) Develop specific training to CSA coordinators and CPMT members. (Lead: OCS and SLAT)
- 2) Re-brand the language, change from "non-mandated" to "protected" funds and use consistent language in the CSA User Guide and Manual. (Lead: OCS)
- 3) Develop Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) and/or For Your Information (FYI) tip sheets for CSA website. (Lead: OCS)
- 4) Collect local stories and best practices examples on "pre-CSA" community collective funding and successful use of protected funding for publishing on website and/or training. (Lead: CSA Coordinators)

More complicated/longer term goals for SEC to consider:

- 1) Explore eliminating limited allocation of protected funds and allow localities flexibility to request additional funds similar to the SPED Wrap allocation model or grant like process.
- 2) Merge SPED wrap funds and protected funds to allow localities to determine how to best use funds.
- 3) Explore using protected/SPED Wrap funds to support non IEP services in the schools.
- 4) Explore restrictions on use of protected funds and impact on local supplemental requests.

Workgroup met on September 13, 2019, members were: Angel Young-Gill, CSA Dinwiddie; Ivy Sager, Hanover CSB and SLAT member; Julie Dubee, CSA Hanover; Mills Jones, CSA Goochland; Rebecca Vinroot, James City DSS and SLAT member; and Karen Reilly-Jones, CSA Chesterfield/Colonial Heights and SLAT Chair