

MINUTES – April 2, 2015
STATE & LOCAL ADVISORY TEAM (SLAT)
COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES FOR AT RISK YOUTH & FAMILIES
Richmond Room
1604 Santa Rosa Road
Richmond, VA

Members Present: Ronald Belay, SLAT Chair, CPMT - CSU Representative; John Dougherty, Private Provider Representative; Penny Combs, Private Provider Representative; Tamara Temoney, Ph.D., CPMT – LDSS Representative; Pat Haymes, DOE; Jeanne Decker, CSA Coordinator Representative; Katharine Hunter, DBHDS; The Honorable Frank Somerville, Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Representative; Angela Neely, CPMT – School Representative; Brian Campbell, DMAS; Chuck Walsh, CPMT – CSB Representative; Audrey Brown, Parent Representative; Jodie Wakeham, VDH

Members Absent: Jack Ledden, DJJ; Carl Ayers, VDSS

Guests and Staff Members Present: Janet Areson, Kyle McMahon, Mills Jones, Karen Reilly-Jones, Leah Mills, Tammy Becoat-Eclou, Susan Clare, Scott Reiner, Annette Larkin, Marsha Mucha

Introductions and Chair Remarks

Ron Belay, SLAT Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. He welcomed members and guests. Mrs. Clare reported her retirement from state service effective July 1, 2015.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the February 5, 2015 meeting were approved on a motion by Angela Neely, seconded by Chuck Walsh and carried.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Executive Director's Report

Legislative Update

Mrs. Clare reported on legislation passed during the 2015 General Assembly Session:

- SB850, sponsored by Senator Favola, changes the name Comprehensive Services Act for At-Risk Youth and Families to the Children's Services Act.
- SB1041 and HB2083. Requires CPMT's to include a process for parents/persons with physical custody of a child to refer to the FAPT.
- HB2141 – Corrects a technical error in language where "Community Policy and Management Team" is referred to as "Community Management and Policy Team."
- SB1151 – Requires the parent representative on the SLAT to have a child who has received services within the purview of the CSA and eliminates the requirement that local representatives to SLAT serve on a CPMT. *(From review/amendments to SLAT bylaws.)*

Mrs. Clare also reported that two studies were included in the Appropriation Act:

- A study by the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, in cooperation with the Secretary of Education to provide recommendations regarding the role of the SEC. A report is due by December 1, 2015.

- A study by the SEC to examine and make recommendations for funding the educational costs for students whose placement in or admittance to state or privately operated psychiatric or residential treatment facilities for non-educational reasons has been authorized by Medicaid. A report is due by September 1, 2015.

The SEC determined that the work/reports provided to the SEC by the original Taskforce and the current Workgroup would be utilized for the report.

Expiring Terms of SLAT Representatives

Mrs. Clare reported that terms would be expiring at the end of June for SLAT representatives in the following constituent groups: CSU, private providers and CSA coordinators. She noted that there are no term limits for SLAT representatives. OCS will be in contact with those groups to solicit nominations. Appointments to SLAT are anticipated to be made by the SEC at its June meeting.

SEC Report

Non-Educational Residential Placements Policy Proposal

Mrs. Clare reported on the March 19, 2015 SEC meeting. She explained that, at the SEC's December meeting, members voted to establish an SEC workgroup as recommend by the task force examining the issue of serving youth referred to residential treatment facilities for non-educational reasons and outside of the CSA process. The workgroup was to consider a policy implementation date and address areas of concern around certain recommended timeframes. The Workgroup reported at the March 19 SEC meeting and presented a draft policy for the SEC's consideration to disseminate for a 60-day public comment period.

The SEC received the Workgroup's report and approved dissemination of the draft policy for a 60-day public comment period. The draft policy has been widely distributed and also posted to the CSA website. Public comments are due by COB, May 29, 2015.

A Workgroup is being established to begin addressing a number of actions and matters for the SEC to consider prior to policy implementation. This Workgroup will also review the public comments received and report to the SEC at its June meeting. Mrs. Clare noted that, although an implementation date for the policy has not been set, the SEC acknowledged that there are best practices that can be implemented now such as collaborating earlier in the process when a child is being considered for residential treatment. The SEC also endorsed the development of a "universal notice" to parents which would be provided to families to outline service options, CSA process, parent rights and responsibilities, etc.

A number of SLAT members will be involved with the Workgroup. If others would like to be involved, please let Ron Belay or Scott Reiner know.

Workgroup – Increasing Public Awareness of and Access to Multidisciplinary Planning

Mrs. Clare reported that three of the four small groups convened during the last SEC Retreat identified the need and/or made specific recommendations regarding increasing public awareness of local CSA teams and improving family access to local CSA teams for service planning. In addition, the Workgroup appointed by the SEC to make recommendations regarding non-CSA parental placements into residential treatment facilities recommended that the SEC take action to improve public awareness of and access to local CSA teams.

At the SEC's March 19 meeting, the SEC approved the charter for the workgroup. OCS staff member, Brady Nemeyer, will coordinate the workgroup. The workgroup is to provide final recommendations to the SEC no later than September 2015.

SLAT Training Committee Report

Jeanne Decker reported on behalf of the SLAT Training Committee. Ms. Decker explained that, at the last SLAT meeting, SLAT had asked that the SLAT Training Committee review and provide comments on the draft FY16 OCS Training Plan. Ms. Decker reported that the SLAT Training Committee reviewed the draft training plan and provided a few suggestions for the final plan.

Ms. Decker asked SLAT Training Committee member, Karen Reilly-Jones, to present the final version of the CSA Community Inventory document and the accompanying User Guide developed by the SLAT Training Committee. Use of the Community Inventory will be voluntary. After the presentation and discussion, a motion was made by Jeanne Decker, seconded by Chuck Walsh and carried to make the Community Inventory available to localities as a self-directed planning tool. The Community Inventory and User Guide will also be posted on the CSA website.

Ongoing SLAT Training Committee activities involve state level training resources to enhance training on CSA and how best to make that training available to target audiences who need to have knowledge of CSA. Training partnership activities include discussions on how to improve system training, collaborative training opportunities, how to share training through e-learning and accountability for training requirements.

Training Update

Scott Reiner reported that the FY16 OCS Draft Training Plan was presented to the SEC for its first reading at their March 19 meeting. He noted that the SLAT Training Committee had offered several suggestions that will be incorporated into the final draft presented to the SEC for approval at their June meeting.

Other training activities reported by Mr. Reiner included:

- Upcoming 4th Annual CSA Conference to be held in Roanoke, April 20 and 21. Over 500 have registered for the conference. This year's conference theme is "An Informed System of Care" with Dr. Gary Blau, Chief of the Child, Adolescent and Family Branch of the Center for Mental Health Services, US Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration as the keynote speaker. Mr. Reiner reminded everyone that it wasn't too late to register for the conference.
- A New CSA Coordinators' Academy was held March 10 – 12 with 22 new CSA coordinators in attendance. Mr. Reiner thanked those SLAT members who participated in the Academy.

OCS will also be participating in four upcoming Best Practices Courts and, beginning in May, another series of High Fidelity Wraparound and Family Support Partner trainings. SEC members voted to establish an SEC workgroup as recommended by the task force.

At the conclusion of the SLAT Training Committee report and Mr. Reiner's report, Mrs. Clare thanked everyone involved in training activities for their hard work. She specifically thanked Janet Areson and Karen Reilly-Jones for their efforts over the years to make training a priority.

Appointment of SLAT Nominating Committee

Mr. Belay reported that it was time to begin the search for a new SLAT Chair and Vice-Chair for the upcoming fiscal year. He appointed the following SLAT members to serve as the Nominating Committee: Jack Ledden (Chair), Angela Neely and Chuck Walsh. The Nominating Committee will report at the June SLAT meeting.

Committee Member Updates

Mr. Belay asked members to report on activities within their agencies and organizations. Members continue to work within their agencies, serve on workgroups and advocate through their associations for improvements to services and service delivery to the children, youth and families of Virginia.

Members also reported on upcoming events, trainings and conferences. May is Children's Mental Health Awareness Month. The National Foster Parent Association 2015 National Conference will be held June 25-28 in Norfolk. Hampton will be presenting a "fish bowl" FAPT meeting during the conference.

New/Other Business

There was no new or other business to discuss. A presentation from the Workgroup on Standardizing Data Elements will added to the June SLAT agenda.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.