

MINUTES – June 5, 2014
STATE & LOCAL ADVISORY TEAM (SLAT)
COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES FOR AT RISK YOUTH & FAMILIES
Dining Hall, UMFS
3900 W. Broad Street
Richmond, VA

Members Present: Victor Evans, SLAT Chair, CSA Coordinator Representative; Karen Tompkins, Vice-Chair, Private Provider Representative; Shawn Rozier, CPMT – LDSS Representative; Pat Haymes, DOE; Cristy Gallagher, Parent Representative; Ronald Belay, CPMT - CSU Representative; Penny Combs, Private Provider Representative; Angela Neely, CPMT – School Representative; Brian Campbell, DMAS; Jack Ledden, DJJ; Jeannie Decker, CSA Coordinator Representative; Alex Kamberis, VDSS, Janet Lung, DBHDS

Members Absent: The Honorable Anita Filson, Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Judge Representative; Chuck Walsh, CPMT – CSB Representative; Jodie Wakeham, VDH

Guests and Staff Members Present: Jennifer Cooper, Karen Reilly-Jones, Mills Jones, Di Hayes, Tammy Becoat-Eclou, Traci Jones, Matthew Stanley, Amy Lehman, Leah Mills, Melanie Bond, Susan Clare, Chuck Savage, Brady Nemeyer, Marsha Mucha

Introductions and Chair Remarks

Victor Evans, SLAT Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. He welcomed members and guests and asked for introductions. Mr. Evans reminded members of the purpose of SLAT as noted on the bottom of each meeting's agenda.

Susan Clare noted that Judge Filson sent her regrets that she could not be in attendance today.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the April 3, 2014 meeting were approved on a motion by Shawn Rozier, seconded by Jack Ledden and carried.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

SEC Goals and Strategies

Goal 1, Strategy 5

Inadvertent fiscal incentives (Medicaid match, family-of-one eligibility, education costs, adoption subsidy)

Mr. Evans provided background information on the discussion from the April SLAT meeting. He noted that today's discussion would be a continuation of that previous discussion concerning gap in funding for educational costs when parents place youth into residential facilities for non-educational reasons. At the conclusion of the discussion, SLAT will decide what to report to the SEC at their upcoming meeting/retreat.

To aid in the discussion, members received a copy of the questions used to facilitate the discussion at the April meeting, a chart indicating the number of youth in Medicaid funded Level C residential treatment facilities (*CSA and non-CSA*), and a document with eligibility criteria (*state pool funds, CHINS,*

DMAS/level C residential treatment). It was noted that prior to 2000, when Virginia amended its state plan to access Medicaid funding for residential placements and treatment foster care, residential placements were funded entirely by CSA.

During discussion members noted the following factors as possible contributions to the problem:

- Difference in process for families to access services across localities. Many families don't know about CSA.
- Need for training and education for families.
- Need for additional funding for case management and the local administration of CSA.
- Licensing and ethical obligation of providers to serve youth regardless of fiscal circumstances.
- Systemic issues – such as who can refer to FAPT and fiscal incentive of not referring to FAPT.
- Children unknown to CSA when services are not accessed through FAPT process. Child and family may have access to additional services through the FAPT process.
- Need for clarification on eligibility and/or statutory/policy changes (i.e., all CONs through one entry point).
- DMAS policy that allows the Certificate of Need for residential treatment to be completed by an acute care team or CSB in addition to a local CSA team.
- Information/guidance from local acute care facilities (i.e., hospitals) directing parents to have their child placed in a residential treatment facility immediately upon discharge without coordination with a locality's CSB or CSA office to determine local ability to support the family with nonresidential services.

Additionally, requests were made for more information to provide clarity on why children are placed without local CSA involvement.

It was also noted that, over the last several years, CSA savings have been returned to the state's general fund to be applied to other areas of the state's budget. It was hoped that these savings would be reinvested in CSA for prevention services.

A report from today's discussion will be prepared and disseminated to SLAT members for their review and comment before Mr. Evans presents to the SEC at their June meeting/retreat.

Review of SLAT Bylaws

Mr. Evans called on SLAT members to present on their assigned sections of the SLAT bylaws. Members presented their thoughts and made recommendations for updating/making changes to the bylaws. Revisions will be drafted and disseminated to SLAT members for review and comment.

Election of FY15 SLAT Chair and Vice Chair

Jack Ledden reported on behalf of the Nominating Committee (*Jack Ledden, Cristy Gallagher and Ron Belay*). The Nominating Committee recommended the following slate of officers:

- Ron Belay – SLAT Chair
- Karen Tompkins - Vice-Chair

Mr. Evans called for nominations from the floor. There being none, the Nominating Committee's recommendation was carried on a motion by Pat Haymes and seconded by Cristy Gallagher.

SLAT Training Committee Report

Shawn Rozier reported for the SLAT Training Committee. He distributed a copy of statewide training events for June – August 2014 and a written Training Committee report (*attached*). At the close of his report, Mr. Rozier thanked SLAT for the opportunity to serve as Chair of the SLAT Training Committee. He moved that Victor Evans become the new Chair of the SLAT Training Committee. A second was received from Karen Tompkins and the motion carried.

OCS Update and SEC Retreat Preparation

In deference to the time, Mrs. Clare explained that she would provide an update on OCS activities at the next meeting. She thanked Mr. Evans and Mr. Rozier for their service as SLAT Chair and Chair of the SLAT Training Committee, respectively.

Mrs. Clare reported that SLAT members are invited to attend and participate in the SEC Retreat to be held on June 20, 2014 beginning at 11:00 a.m. at Elk Hill in Goochland. She asked that members let her know if they will be attending. Mrs. Clare further reported that, in addition to SEC and SLAT members, a number of stakeholders have been invited to participate in the Retreat. In order to maximize stakeholder input, an on-line survey is being conducted along with five regional roundtables. The survey results and summary of roundtable discussions will help inform the Retreat discussion of four topics:

Group 1 – There exists a gap in funding for education when youth are placed into a residential treatment facility through non-CSA processes. Group facilitator: Michael Farley

Group 2 – State facilities face challenges meeting the needs of youth with severe behavioral/mental health issues. Group facilitator: Debra Ferguson

Group 3 – Youth placed into foster care for reasons of delinquency and truancy experience poor outcomes as compared to youth placed for reasons of abuse and neglect. Group facilitator: Margaret Schultze

Group 4 – There is a need to ensure appropriate representation of stakeholder interests in SEC decision-making processes. Group facilitators: Dr. Hazel and Joe Paxton

Materials will be sent out to all participants prior to the Retreat.

SLAT Member Updates

Mr. Evans asked members to report on activities within their agencies or organizations. Members reported briefly on new leadership at DJJ and DOE and new programs within their agencies. It was also reported that May was Children's Mental Health Month. A number of events took place during May in recognition of the designation. SLAT member and parent representative, Cristy Gallagher, has been nominated to serve on the Board of Directors of NAMI-VA.

Members also 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.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.