

**STATE & LOCAL ADVISORY TEAM (SLAT)
CHILDREN'S SERVICES ACT
Richmond/Henrico Rooms
1604 Santa Rosa Road
Richmond, VA 23229**

**MINUTES
May 4, 2023**

Members Present: Rebecca Vinroot, SLAT Chair, CPMT - DSS Representative; Mills Jones, SLAT Vice-Chair - CSA Coordinators Network; Katharine Hunter DBHDS; Cristy Corbin, Parent Representative; Em Parente, DSS; Lesley Abashian, CPMT – Local Government Representative (*virtually*); Laura Reed, DMAS; Kyndra Jackson, VDH; William Stanley, CPMT – CSU Representative; Shannon Updike, VCOPPA

Members Absent: Linda McWilliams, DJJ; The Honorable Marilyn Goss, Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Representative; Lisa Madron, CPMT – CSB Representative; Susan Aylor, CPMT – School Representative; Sabrina Gross, DOE

CSA Staff Members Present: Mary Bell, Marsha Mucha, Scott Reiner, Kristi Schabo

Welcome/Opening

Rebecca Vinroot, SLAT Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. and welcomed everyone. Kyndra Jackson was recognized as a new SLAT member representing VDH. Introductions were made. Mrs. Vinroot noted that Lesley Abashian asked to attend the meeting virtually because of illness. Her virtual attendance was approved on a motion by Mills Jones, seconded by Cristy Corbin and carried.

Public Comment Period

There was no public comment.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the February 2, 2023 meeting were approved on a motion by Em Parente, seconded by Shannon Updike and carried.

Status Items

- Three-Tiered Match Rate – Mr. Reiner provided background information noting that, in 2007, the General Assembly implemented the three-tiered match rate system to encourage reduced utilization of residential care and to increase the number of children served in community-based settings.

Based on a discussion at the December 2022 SEC meeting, the SEC suggested a review of the current match rate structure and SLAT was asked to take part in that review. At the February 2023 SLAT meeting, members discussed pros and cons of the current match rate structure and whether they should develop recommendations for SEC consideration.

For today's discussion, members received a report demonstrating the impact of the three-tiered match rate system though the data submitted through the LEDRS system and used to reimburse localities. Members reviewed the data and discussed its further implication to localities if

changes were made to the match rate system. After further discussion, SLAT decided to report these findings to the SEC at their June 2023 meeting but decided not to make recommendations for changes at this time. Mrs. Vinroot will include this in her report at the upcoming SEC meeting.

- FAPT Retreat Resource Manual – Mrs. Abashian reported that the workgroup is developing examples of materials (i.e. agendas, etc.) and related training options/activities in support of team building to include in the FAPT Retreat Resource Manual. She expects to have some work products available for review at the August SLAT meeting.

SEC Report

Mrs. Vinroot reported the SEC has scheduled longer meetings to address a number of agenda items. Other items discussed at the March 2023 SEC meeting have been or will be addressed during today's SLAT meeting.

OCS Updates

Mr. Reiner reported on the following:

- Legislative Update –
 - Adoption of the state budget is pending.
 - SB1513 - Added the Director of the Department of Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) to the SEC. The legislation also adds a representative from DARS to SLAT.
 - Legislation that would have allowed FAPTs and CPMTs to waive confidentiality did not pass in the General Assembly. The intent of the legislation was to allow FAPTs and CPMTs to share information with local law enforcement and/or threat assessment teams established by local school boards, if the team determined that a child posed a threat of violence or physical harm to themselves or others.
- IT Changes (Multi-factor Authentication) – In order to enhance security measures, all users of the CSA reporting systems have transitioned to OKTA multi-factor authentication. All CANS users will be transitioned by May 22, 2023.
- Time-to-Service Study – Individual CSA offices received a survey and data collection tool in order to determine the length of time from referral to CSA to service delivery.
- CSA Annual Conference - Mary Bell, CSA Program Coordinator, reported that CSA's 12th Annual Conference would be held at the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center, October 17 and 18, 2023. Pre-conference sessions for CSA coordinators, members of FAPTs and CPMTs will held on October 16, 2023. Proposals for breakout sessions are due by July 14, 2023.
- Co-Pay Policy Workgroup – Kristi Schabo, CSA Senior Policy and Planning Specialist, reported that the workgroup is currently soliciting local CSA offices for examples of parental contribution policies to guide the workgroup in developing a model parental contribution policy. The workgroup will be meeting over the summer and hopes to have a draft policy finished in the fall.
- Legislative/Budget Timelines – Information has been received from the Governor's Office concerning the timelines for submission of proposed legislation and/or budgetary items for the 2024 General Assembly Session. Mr. Reiner has asked the SEC members for their suggestions/ideas. Local CSA offices have also been asked for their input through the CSA Coordinators' Network.

New Business

- SLAT Bylaws – Members received a copy of the SLAT bylaws with suggested revisions. Members were asked to review and provide feedback in advance of the August 2023 SLAT meeting. Once revisions are finalized, the bylaws will be submitted to the SEC for final approval.
- Election of Officers –In order to facilitate the election of the SLAT Chair and Vice-Chair for the upcoming fiscal year, Ms. Schabo reported that Article VI of the SLAT bylaws would need to be suspended. A motion was made by Shannon Updike, seconded by Laura Reed, and carried to suspend Article VI of the SLAT bylaws to facilitate the election of officers.

Mills Jones, SLAT Vice-Chair, assumed the duties of the chair and nominated Mrs. Vinroot for SLAT Chair. He called for any additional nominations. There being none, nominations were closed on a second by Christy Corbin. Mrs. Vinroot was elected SLAT Chair for FY24 on a motion by William Stanley, seconded by Christy Corbin, and carried.

Rebecca Vinroot, SLAT Chair, reassumed the duties of the chair and nominated Mills Jones for SLAT Vice-Chair. She called for any additional nominations. There being none, nominations were closed on a second by Shannon Updike. Mr. Jones was elected SLAT Vice-Chair for FY24 on a motion by Shannon Updike, seconded by Lesley Abashian and carried.

Member Updates

Members reported for their agencies and organizations on ongoing projects and new programs. Members 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.

- Dr. Karen Shelton has been appointed as the new Commissioner of Health.
- Kepro has been selected by DMAS to replace Magellan as of November 1, 2023.
- VDSS has established a new pilot program that enhances payments to qualifying foster care families. The Exceptional Circumstances Payment will provide additional payments on a limited basis to those foster care families caring for children with high levels of need.
- DBHDS is closely monitoring the pending state budget that includes funding that would provide for the expansion of school-based mental health services and expansion of the statewide crisis services system.
- NAMI – VA will host a combined Family and Youth Summit in Chesapeake this June.
- The CSA Coordinators' Network currently has 19 active mentors across the state. Since April 2022, the mentors have assisted 34 new CSA Coordinators.
- Members of the CSA Coordinators' Network are serving on the FAPT Retreat and CSA Policy Workgroups.
- A VCOPPA Critical Issues Symposium will be held virtually on May 23 and 24, 2023.

Adjournment

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for August 3, 2023.