

CSA TODAY

A NEWSLETTER OF THE OFFICE OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

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Director's Blog

Scott Reiner, Executive Director

Despite this past month's snow and ice storm (and the groundhog seeing his shadow), Spring is just around the corner. Equally exciting is the sense that we have begun to turn the corner on the pandemic. Like Spring, vaccines are "in the air." The sooner we can all get our shots, the sooner we can begin to return to all of the things we have so badly missed ... children in schools learning and interacting with their teachers and peers, comfortably going out for a meal, to a concert or sporting event with our friends and families, visiting relatives we haven't seen in person for months. Until then, please continue to do those things that keep us safe, wear a mask, keep your distance, and wash your hands.



As is true for each of you, the pandemic has not interrupted the critical tasks we are charged with to fulfill our mission of supporting the system of care and providing necessary services to youth and families in the Commonwealth. For OCS, the just-ended session of the General Assembly has been a busy one. Many proposed bills and budget amendments are related to the recent (November 2020) report from JLARC, the Joint Legislative Review and Audit Commission. JLARC's recommendations were discussed in detail in the previous edition of this newsletter and can be found here for your review: <http://jlarc.virginia.gov/landing-2020-childrens-services-act-and-private-day.asp>.

As of the adjournment of the General Assembly on March 1, the following are the upcoming changes of importance to CSA:

[HB2117](#) (Del. VanValkenburg)/[SB1313](#) (Sen. Mason) – These identical bills require all CSA funded private special education programs to be licensed by the Virginia Department of Education or an equivalent out-of-state licensing agency, and effective July 1, 2022, all CSA funded private special education programs to report their tuition rates in a (to be developed) standard reporting format. Beginning on July 1, 2021, eligibility for sum-sufficient CSA funding (for up to 12 months and a defined set of transition services) shall be available to students with disabilities returning to the public schools after at least six months in a private special education setting. Finally, the bills call for a workgroup to develop a detailed plan to transfer CSA funds for students in private day special education to administration by the Department of Education. The required participants, the scope of the group's mandate, and due dates for a preliminary and final report are spelled out in the enactment clause.

(continued on page 2)



Director's Blog (continued)

[HB2212](#) (Del. Plum) – Requires the director of the Office of Children's Services to provide for the effective implementation of the Children's Services Act (§ 2.2-5200 et seq.) in all localities by (i) regularly monitoring local performance measures and child and family outcomes; (ii) using audit, performance, and outcomes data to identify local programs that need technical assistance; and (iii) working with local programs that are consistently underperforming to develop a corrective action plan for submission to the Office and the State Executive Council for Children's Services. Very shortly, OCS will convene a workgroup with local CSA partners to "draw the boundaries" for this new activity. Additionally, the approved state budget requires OCS to develop a plan describing how we might modify our staffing and resources to ensure effective local implementation. This plan will look at how OCS can be a stronger partner to local CSA programs. The Appropriation Act also directs OCS to annually collect data on each local CSA program's staffing and administrative budget and to target technical assistance to the most under-sourced local programs.

[SB1328](#) (Sen. Mason) – This bill established a State Kinship Guardianship Assistance program that provides CSA-funded basic maintenance payments to family guardians of certain children who leave the foster care system to the care of a family member including fictive kin.

There are several other new laws under the Department and Board of Education's responsibility for private special education programs. These include:

- Mandatory reporting on the qualifications of teachers and the accreditation status of these programs.
- Development of regulations on seclusion and restraint that establish the same requirements as those for public schools.

Finally, [SB1307](#) (Sen. Dunnivant) directs DMAS to amend the state Medicaid plan to provide school-based health services to Medicaid-eligible students regardless of their IEP status. This new initiative is likely to provide a new avenue for children to receive Medicaid-funded services through their schools. Other states have had considerable success in expanding service through this model.

Implementation of these new laws and directives will occupy much time and attention from OCS in the coming months. We will seek the input of our partners as we move forward.

There is plenty of other activity happening in the CSA-universe. July 1 implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act, the "reboot" of our evidence-based practice implementation training in May and June, the annual CSA Service Gap Survey, to name but a few. More about those activities in future editions.

Until then, stay safe, get vaccinated when you can, and keep up your great work on behalf of Virginia's children, families, and communities.



CANS Reports Made Easy

Carol Wilson, OCS Program Consultant



Recently, I've been asked about reports in CANVaS and how to access them for use when working with children and families. Let's take a look at two reports, *the Individual Progress Report (IPR)* and the *Permanency Report*. Both of these reports compare the last two assessments for the child or individual caregiver with the initial assessment. If you as a case manager have entered at least one CANS for a child or caregiver, you can access these reports. The Permanency Report is only available for the DSS version of the CANS.

To find an IPR for a child, log in to your CANVaS account. On the "Reports" Menu, click on "Client Reports" and then "Individual Progress." When the "Report" page appears, the state (Virginia) and your Locality should already be populated. Type the child's last name in the "Child Search" bar. The "Child" and "Assessment Type" boxes will auto-populate. Click "View Report."

Here is a screenshot of what you should see for each domain:

Life Domain Functioning			
Question	CANS Reassessment - 5+ 07/31/2014	CANS Comprehensive - 5+ 04/02/2019	CANS Comprehensive - 5+ 06/18/2020
FAMILY	1	2	2
LIVING SITUATION	1	1	2
SLEEP	2	1	2
SOCIAL FUNCTIONING	2	1	2
SEXUAL DEVELOPMENT	0	0	0
RECREATION	1	1	2
DEVELOPMENTAL	0	0	0
COMMUNICATION	0	0	0
JUDGMENT	2	2	2
ACCULTURATION	0	0	0
LEGAL	0	0	0
MEDICAL	0	0	0
PHYSICAL HEALTH	0	1	0
DAILY FUNCTIONING	0	0	0
INDEPENDENT LIVING - Rate "0" for children < age 14	0	0	0

Child Strengths/Resiliency			
Question	CANS Reassessment - 5+ 07/31/2014	CANS Comprehensive - 5+ 04/02/2019	CANS Comprehensive - 5+ 06/18/2020
FAMILY	1	2	2
INTERPERSONAL	2	2	2

Primary_Mandate_...pdf ^

You can print the report by clicking the arrow by the "floppy disk" icon and select "Export to PDF." Then print (use landscape) as you would a CANS assessment report or you can download the ratings into an Excel spreadsheet. Click the arrow by the "floppy disc" icon and select "Export to Excel." You can then create charts and graphs for a more visual display.

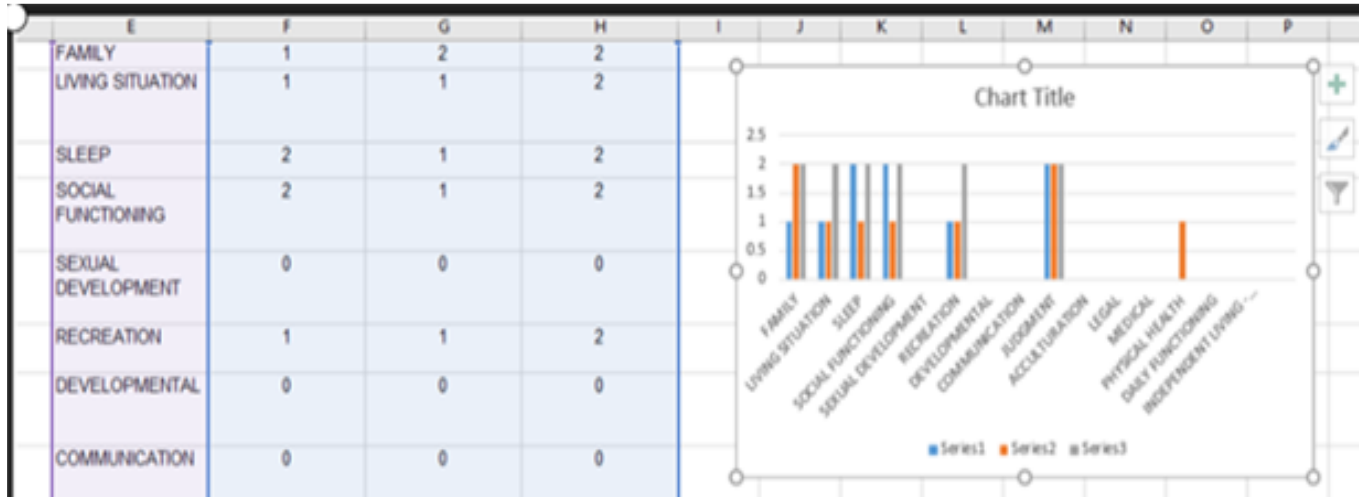
Even if you are not an Excel whiz, an easy way to create a graph or chart is to simply copy the items, dates and ratings from the selected domain and paste into an Excel spreadsheet.

The Permanency Report compares the last two assessments to the initial one for a caregiver. This report was developed for local department of social services staff to measure progress on specific CANS items. The Permanency Report is organized by the Protective Factors framework, and is only available on the DSS CANS.



CANS Reports Made Easy (continued)

Click on "Insert" and choose a "Recommended Chart" or a graph such as the one below:



To access the Permanency Report, access the "Reports" Menu, click on "Client Reports" and then "Permanency Report." Type the child's last name in the "Child Search" bar. The "Child" box will populate as well as the caregivers for whom there are assessments. If the child has more than one caregiver with assessments, select the one you want from the drop down box. Then, click "View Report."

The Permanency Report is a multi-page report and items are organized under the Strengthening Families Protective Factors: Safety, Knowledge of Parenting and Development, Identification and Use of Concrete Supports in Times of Need, Factors Contributing to Caregiver Resilience and Commitment to Permanency. Relevant items from both the Caregiver Strengths and Needs Domain and the Child Welfare Module are captured under these headings. Below is a screenshot of the first page of the Permanency Report.

Identification and Use of Concrete Supports in Time of Need			
Question	CANS Reassessment - 5+ 08/21/2017	CANS Comprehensive - 5+ 02/25/2019	CANS Comprehensive - 5+ 06/18/2020
INVOLVEMENT WITH CARE	0	0	2
ACCESSIBILITY TO CARE	0	0	2
FINANCIAL RESOURCES	1	0	2
ORGANIZATION	1	0	2
SOCIAL RESOURCES	1	1	3
RESIDENTIAL STABILITY	0	0	2
EMPLOYMENT/EDUCATIONAL FUNCTIONING	0	0	1
TRANSPORTATION	0	0	2
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT	0	0	1
Factors Contributing to Parent/Caregiver Resilience			
Question	CANS Reassessment - 5+ 08/21/2017	CANS Comprehensive - 5+ 02/25/2019	CANS Comprehensive - 5+ 06/18/2020
PHYSICAL HEALTH	1	0	1
EMPLOYMENT/EDUCATIONAL FUNCTIONING	0	0	1
MENTAL HEALTH	0	0	1
SUBSTANCE USE	0	0	1
DEVELOPMENTAL	0	0	0
PARENT TRAUMATIC REACTION	0	0	1



CANS Reports Made Easy (continued)

This second section of the Permanency Report shows progress made over time on CANS items previously rated a “2” or a “3”. New areas of need and “Issues Requiring Continued Intervention” are also presented, as shown in the screenshot below.

Issues Resolved in Most Recent Period (Change from 2 or 3 to 0 or 1)

SAFETY - Safety

HISTORY OF MALTREATMENT - Safety

HISTORY OF MALTREATMENT - Commitment to Permanency Plan Goal

RESPONSIBILITY IN MALTREATMENT - Commitment to Permanency Plan Goal

RESPONSIBILITY IN MALTREATMENT - Safety

RELATIONSHIP WITH ABUSER - Safety

RELATIONSHIP WITH ABUSER - Commitment to Permanency Plan Goal

KNOWLEDGE - Knowledge of Parenting & Child Development

DISCIPLINE - Knowledge of Parenting & Child Development

PARTICIPATION IN VISITATION - Commitment to Permanency Plan Goal

RELATIONSHIP WITH CHILD WELFARE WORKER - Commitment to Permanency Plan Goal

COMMITMENT TO REUNIFICATION - Commitment to Permanency Plan Goal

Issues Requiring Continued Intervention

Most Recent Rating of 3

Plan to Address Needs:

There are several other CANS reports, but try these out and think about how you can use them when working with child and families to create or review a service plan, set a new objective, modify services if something isn't working and to celebrate progress.

Did you know that there is a “How to Guide” for creating CANS reports just like the ones discussed in this edition of CSA Today?



Be sure to check out the CANVaS 2.0 Reports Manual at https://www.csa.virginia.gov/Content/pdf/CANVaS_2.0_Report_Manual.pdf



Fraud Risk Management: Are You Doing Enough?

Auditor's Corner

Submitted by Rendell Briggs, Program Auditor

If you assume that your organization has very little to no fraud and you take no proactive, mitigating measures to deter fraud, your organization could ultimately pay the price for the failure to address the risk adequately. The inability to distinguish, identify, and possibly deter fraud earlier could be a matter of missing the patterns that would give it away. The signals can be faint. Acting on them is essential. Ask yourselves... Are You Doing Enough?



"Opportunity and risk come in pairs."
- Frank Jones, Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration.

Optimistically, you would like to believe that you are doing what is necessary to mitigate fraud risk. In the event that you are not quite certain, consider the key factors listed below abridged from articles published by the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners¹ (ACFE) and Corporate Compliance Insights² as you assess your fraud-fighting strategy. You can access the full articles by clicking the links provided in the references.

1. Red Flags are Often Missed²

Stakeholders responsible for managing fraud risk may understand fraud drivers but may overlook faint indicators or "traces" that hint something out of line could be happening. Examples of red flags: compliance violations, missed training, customer complaints, and operational exception report issues. Individually, the transgressions may be viewed as minor offenses that do not warrant further investigation. Collectively analyzed, a different picture may emerge that calls for greater attention by management.

2. Consider the Environment¹

Stakeholders often assume customers, vendors and colleagues have the best intentions. This optimism limits staffs' skepticism — a crucial aspect of effective anti-fraud efforts. As you develop a more risk-aware culture, be sure to discuss potential fraud schemes during regular anti-fraud training to build awareness of opportunities to commit fraud.

3. Reactive Rather and Proactive Organizational Culture^{1, 2}

Organizations that do business without encountering problems may believe that they have adequate controls in place. However, accusations of alleged misconduct or a sudden investigation can blindside the organization and leave leaders scrambling to halt a fraud scheme and contain the damage. While proactively dealing with fraud through preventive efforts is the more effective approach, surprisingly few organizations take a proactive approach to fraud risk management.²

Fraud is a significant organizational risk. The sooner fraud indicators are recognized, there is a greater chance that losses can be recovered and control weaknesses can be addressed. Implementing effective deterrent mechanisms, whether management continuously monitors or not, reduces the likelihood of fraud occurring because of the perception that opportunists will be identified. Identifying and acting on signals of fraudulent activity are essential to uncovering emerging areas of risks. Are You Doing Enough?

If you found this article useful and would like to learn more about fraud risk, contact any of the program audit staff. Contact information is available on the CSA website (<https://www.csa.virginia.gov>). Also, be sure to check the OCS newsletter "CSA Today" for future articles.

References

¹"When thinking about fraud, consider your risk" by Linda Miller, Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, March 2018 (<https://www.acfe.com/article.aspx?id=4295001065>)

²"Monitoring Patterns of Behavior to Fight Fraud and Mitigate Risk" by Satish Lalchand, Corporate Compliance Insights, January 2019 (<https://www.corporatecomplianceinsights.com/monitoring-patterns-of-behavior-to-fight-fraud-and-mitigate-risk>); "7 Steps to Jump Start Your Anti-fraud Program by Peter Millar, Corporate Compliance Insights, August 2018 (<https://www.corporatecomplianceinsights.com/7-steps-preventing-detecting-fraud/>)



Do For, Do With, Cheer On...!!! High Fidelity Wraparound in Virginia

Anna Antell, LCSW



High Fidelity Wraparound (HFW) is an evidence-based planning process that brings together a team of formal and informal supports to develop individualized care plans for at-risk youth and their families. In Virginia, HFW is the process by which the service of Intensive Care Coordination (ICC) is delivered. ICC can be purchased using CSA funds, and the State Executive Council (SEC) Policy outlines the target population for the service.

HFW is coordinated by a Facilitator who ensures the model is followed to fidelity. The HFW workforce can also include Support Partners (Family and Youth) who use their lived experience to ensure the voice of the youth and family drive the process. The Facilitator, along with the Support Partners, helps the youth and family develop their team. The team consists of system partners, treatment providers and those important to the youth and family (natural supports). Over the course of 12-18 months, through (at least) monthly meetings, this team works together to help the youth and family achieve their self-defined vision by developing specific measurable plans.

The HFW Framework is rooted in System of Care values. HFW provides the youth and family with voice and ownership of the process and integrates planning of all professional team members. When done with fidelity, HFW reduces the need for intensive behavioral health services and out of home placements, and increases engagement by the youth and family with formal and informal supports. A recent Research Brief from a NY State pilot examined the differences in Medicaid utilization before HFW versus after HFW enrollment ([HFW and Medicaid Research Brief](#)). In 2017, the National Wraparound Initiative published a summary of rigorous research conducted on the effectiveness of HFW ([Rigorous HFW Research](#)).

For more information on HFW in Virginia please visit the CSA web site:

<https://csa.virginia.gov/Resources/FidelityWrapAroundCOE/0> and for national resources please visit the National Wraparound Initiative: <https://nwi.pdx.edu/>

The use of HFW in Virginia is growing, AND there are many untapped opportunities to implement this process throughout the Commonwealth. Please reach out to Anna Antell with questions!



Welcome Kristy Wharton- OCS Business & Finance Manager

Our new Business and Finance Manager, Kristy Wharton, joined the OCS team in January. A quick learner, Kristy has already become an integral member of OCS and believer/supporter of the CSA System of Care. Learn a little bit about Kristy as she introduces herself, in her own words-

"I'm very excited to join the CSA team and contribute to the mission and goals of CSA - to empower communities to serve youth. I have over 20 years of state and local government financial management experience and have spent the last 4 years at the Supreme Court of Virginia. Virginia is my home. I grew up in Montclair and came to Richmond to attend Virginia Commonwealth University.



A professor at VCU encouraged me to venture out of state to the University of Connecticut to broaden my educational experiences and it was there that I received a Masters of Public Administration. I have been in Richmond for over 20 years, raising my children Ella (14) and Sawyer (19), with my husband David. In the summer, you will find us enjoying our sailboat we keep on the York River, usually anchored in a beautiful inlet or town on the Chesapeake Bay.

My service to the commonwealth has brought me to all corners of Virginia, from Wise County in the southwest, Winchester in the northwest and Accomack to the east. Virginia is truly a beautiful, diverse and multifaceted place that I'm honored to call it home. I'm delighted to have been selected to join the CSA team and look forward to supporting you in serving youth across Virginia."



Updates about changes in the **Supplement Allocation Request process** were announced in [Administrative Memo #20-12](#) on December 14, 2020. The Supplemental Allocation Request process now includes the CPMT Chair in the automated approval flow. Additionally, the calculation of supplements will now be based on the effective match rate, rather than the base match rate.

OCS Administrative Memos are grouped under the calendar year in which they were issued and are available at <https://www.csa.virginia.gov/Resources/AdminMemos>.



Resource Round-Up



From the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Services...

The Office of Child and Family Services is pleased to present the Adolescent and Young Adult Substance Use Symposium: Pathways to Culture, Treatment, and Recovery. This free symposium will be a two-day event on April 7 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm and April 8 from 9:00 am-12:45 pm.

For registration and more information, click [here](#).



The VDOE's Office of Equity and Community has shared recordings of two recent EdEquityVA webinars on Culturally Responsive Teaching, including topics such as Mindfulness to Reduce Implicit Associations and Strategies to Support Culturally Responsive Teaching in Mathematics. Find information about all of the [EdEquityVA webinars and events on the Virginia is for Learners website](#).



Sign up

for free COVID-19 vaccine

& check your pre-registration status.

Talk to someone
(877) VAX-IN-VA
(877) 829-4682



1. Check the List

2. Sign Up

3. Verify & Update Your Record

Additional vaccine appointments may also be available at pharmacies through [VaccineFinder.org](#).

TA Question of the Quarter



Are there CSA policies or protocols regarding changes in a child's residence?

Yes, SEC Policy 4.2, Payment for Services and Change of Legal Residence outlines that the CPMT jurisdiction where a child legally resides shall be responsible for payment for the services identified in the child/family's Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP). When a child/family's legal residence changes, the former CPMT jurisdiction is responsible for providing written notification to the CPMT in the new jurisdiction that the child/family's residence has changed, forwarding child's/family's Individual Family Service Plan and other FAPT or MDT documents to the new CPMT jurisdiction, and informing service providers of changes in the child/family's residence.

The former CPMT jurisdiction pays for services until 30 calendar days after the new CPMT receives written notification of the child/family's residence in the new CPMT locality. When the residence of the child/family transfers to a new CPMT jurisdiction, the receiving CPMT jurisdiction must review the current Individual Family Service Plan and adopt or revise and implement within 30 calendar days. Issues of legal residence should be addressed by the legal services assigned to the CPMT.

See the [Policy Manual for the Children's Services Act](#) on the [OCS website](#) for more information.



Got Questions?

Get answers by using the OCS Technical Assistance Help Desk. OCS staff will receive your questions immediately and will respond quickly, with the goal of same-day responses.

You can also reach CSA staff by using the OCS Technical Assistance Help Desk on the CSA website or by clicking [here](#).



Would you like to be contributor to CSA Today?

If you have information you would like to share with CSA colleagues around the state, please follow the guidelines for submission located [HERE...](#)

