



Office of Children's Services
Empowering communities to serve youth

CSA 101 Improving CSA-"Our House"

The Children's Services Act Conference
"CSA at 25: Honoring the Journey"

Presented by Carol Wilson, Program Consultant

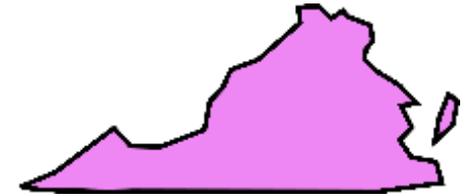
Introduction to Workshop



- Analogy of the structure of a house to discuss CSA
- Basics of CSA
 - CSA state law, policies and guidance
 - Core concepts of CSA –system of care (e.g., interagency collaboration, community based, individualized service planning)
 - Eligibility
 - Law, regulation, policies and guidance of CSA partner agencies
 - Federal law

The Beginning

- Why did Virginia build the house?



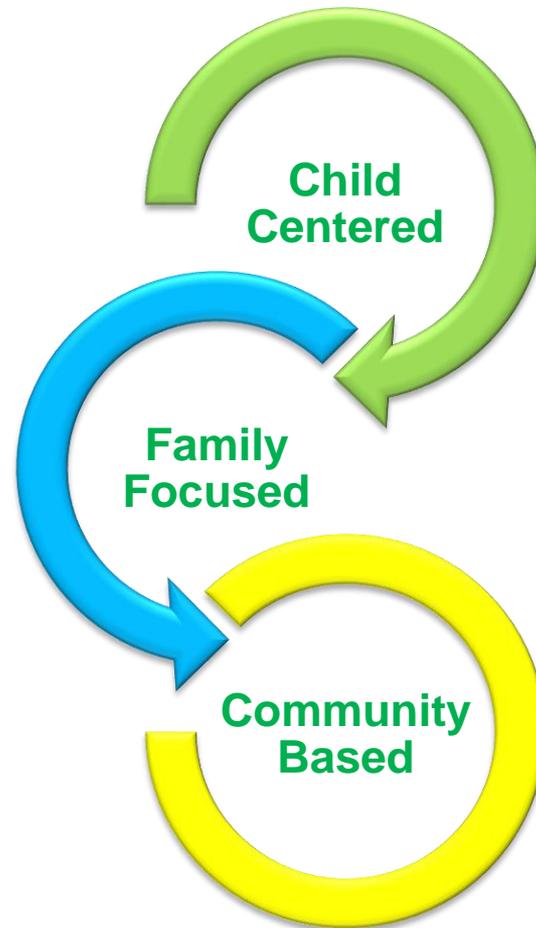
- Why did CSA come into existence?

- Department of Planning and Budget (DPB) 1990 study found:
 - 14,000 cases held by local Departments of Social Services (DSS), Court Services Units (CSU), Community Services Boards (CSB) and school divisions
 - 4,993 individual children and families
 - 22% annual cost increase in serving these children and families (emphasis on residential care)
- System of care model promoted by federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) coming into its own

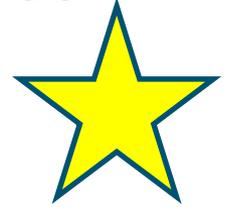
The Mission of the Children's Services Act (CSA)

- The mission of the CSA is to create a collaborative system of services and funding that is child-centered, family-focused and community-based when addressing the strengths and needs of troubled and at-risk youth and their families in the Commonwealth.

Mission of CSA

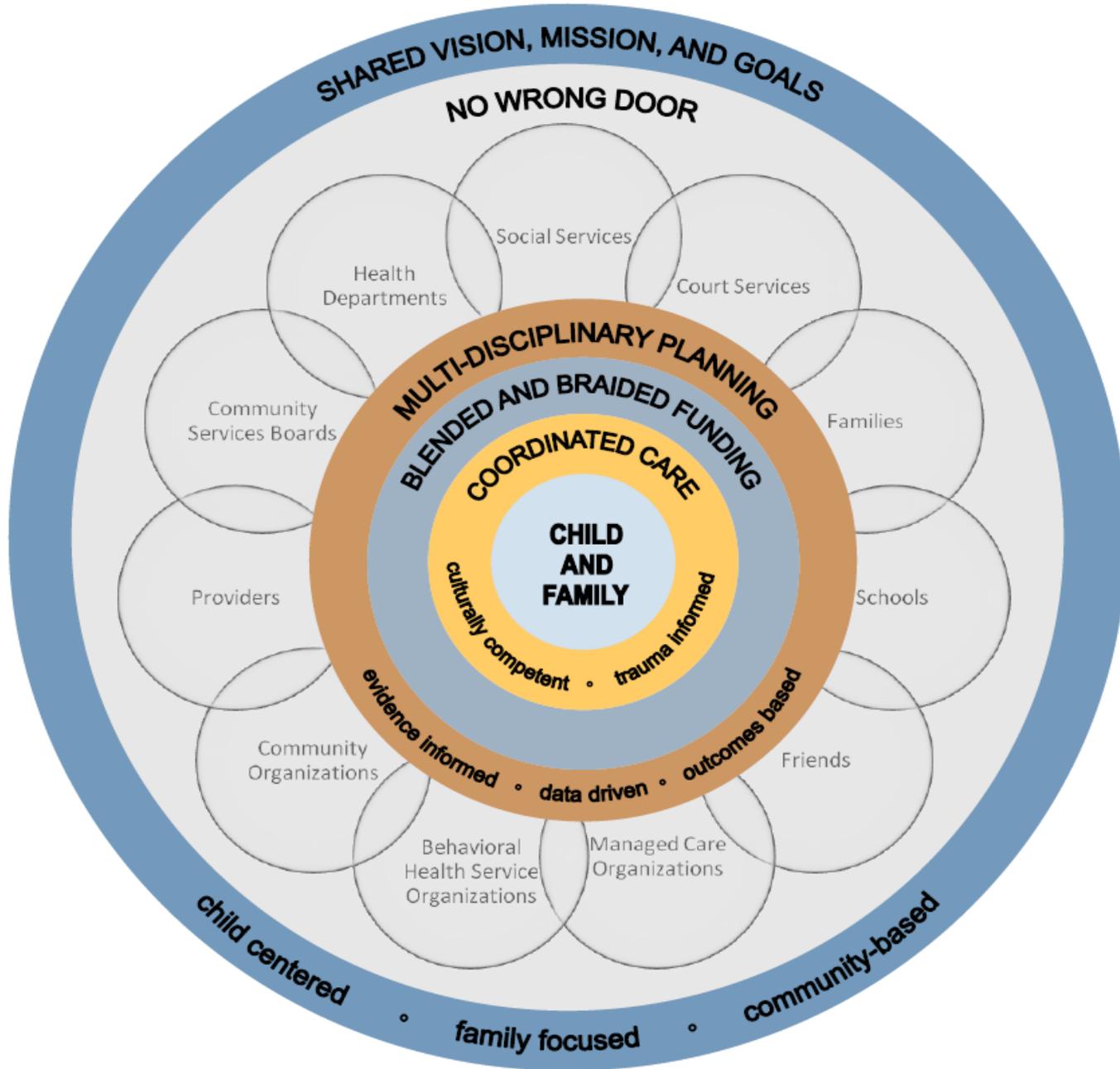


System of Care-CSA Values and Principles



- What do **you** think is most important?
 - Community-based
 - Multidisciplinary planning (interagency collaboration)
 - Strengths based
 - Individualized child and family specific services
 - Family focused
 - Eligibility
 - Braided/Blended/Flexible funding
 - Least restrictive environment
 - State/Local Collaboration
 - Quality Improvement, i.e., Utilization Review/Utilization Management

Virginia's Comprehensive System of Care



Blueprints and Plans

- The Code of Virginia =state law
 - Children's Services Act §2.2-5200 et.seq
 - Governance by the State Executive Council (SEC §2.2-2648)
 - Establishment of the Office of Children's Services (OCS §2.2-2649)
 - Procurement Act -Exemption from Competitive Bidding (§2.2-4345)
 - Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Exemption (§2.2-3703)
- Appropriation Act =State Budget
 - Item # 285



Blueprints and Plans

- Policy approved by the SEC (Examples)
 - Community Mental Health Services Policy 6.3 (2013)
 - Levels of Care for Treatment Foster Care Policy 6.2 (2014)
 - “Denial of Funds” policy 4.6 (2011)
 - Dispute Resolution Process 3.4 (2013)
- Guidance from the OCS
 - Technical assistance
 - Training
 - Audits
 - Documents and Resources
 - CSA User Guide

Structure of the House

- Foundation
- Roof
- Door
- Four Walls

Foundation of the CSA House

- Interagency collaboration

- CSA cannot exist without collaboration between agencies, families and other stakeholders such as private providers

- Artificial construct of agencies



Value of Collaboration

Can target resources more effectively



Have collective knowledge and experience



Have different perspectives on same issue



“The whole is greater than the sum of its parts.”



Transformational Collaboration

Collaboration, when done well, creates a new (syn)energy which can transform our approach to meet our goal.



Goal of Service System?

Do we (CSA, FAPT, CPMT, agencies, providers) offer services?

Is that the goal of the human services system?

No

Goal of "Services System"

- **Products**
 - Examples- (shoes, cars, toasters)
- **Services**
 - Examples-(dry cleaning, car repair)
- **Experiences**
 - Examples (hot air balloon rides, trip to Disney World)

Is this what you do?

Goal of Service System



Goal of Service System

A purple banner with a yellow border, containing the word "TRANSFORMATION" in yellow, bold, uppercase letters.

TRANSFORMATION

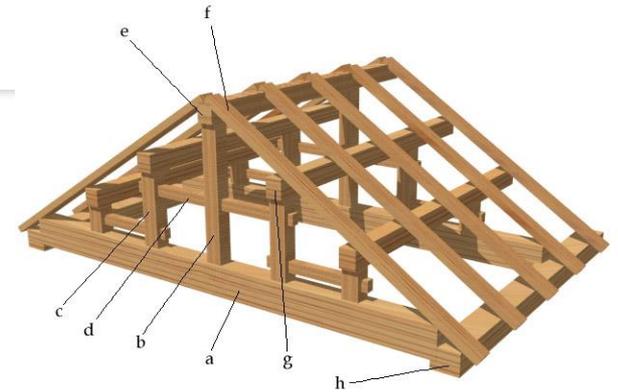
Helping people identify and meet their needs and use their strengths to function more successfully and lead safer, happier, productive and more fulfilled lives

Interagency Collaboration=Foundation

- Collaboration creates energy for change and transformation.
- Interagency collaboration is a tool the “service system” uses to achieve the goal of transforming lives.

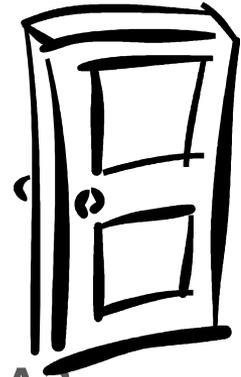


Roof



- What protects people in a house?
- Utilization review/utilization management (UM/UR) serves as a safeguard, a protection
 - UR-to assess, monitor and evaluate the child and family's needs are being met (e.g., are services addressing the child's needs? What might work better?)
 - UM-allows the Community Policy and Management Team (CPMT) to assess, monitor and evaluate the same from a local aggregate perspective

Doorway



- How do people get into the house?
 - How are children and families eligible for CSA?
 - COV §2.2-5212
 - COV §2.2-5211
 - Opinion of the Attorney General and State Executive Council Policy
 - Mechanism for Family Assessment and Planning Teams (FAPTs) to determine a child to be “in need of services” (CHINS)
 - State Executive Council Policy
 - Wraparound Services for Students with Disabilities

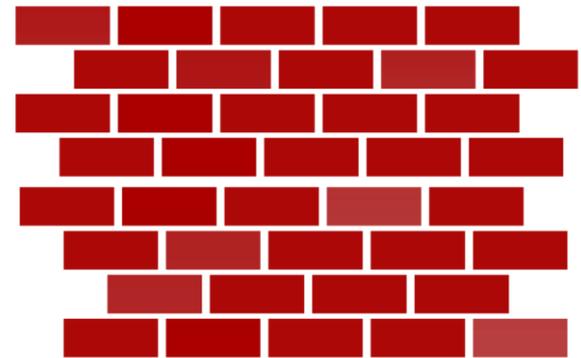
Eligibility Door

- **Statutory language in §2.2-5212**
 1. Children with significant emotional/behavioral challenges (defined in A and B)
 2. Foster children with IEP for private placement
 3. Children with IEP for private day or residential
 4. Children receiving foster care services as defined in §63.2-905
- **SEC Policy**
 - Wraparound Funds for Students with Disabilities
 - "CHINS" Policy and Guidelines

The Walls

Walls

- **Community-based**
 - Services are planned, delivered and evaluated at the local level
- **Child and Family Specific Service Planning and Delivery**
- **State and Local Collaboration**
- **Funding**



Wall #1-Community Based

- **Community based**
 - Presumes local stakeholders and leaders will know their community best
 - Resources
 - Needs and Strengths
 - Culture (what's acceptable and what's not)
 - Allows flexibility
 - Acknowledges that local governments are paying the match for services

Wall #1-Community-Based

- **But...local flexibility leads to?**
 - Everyone doing things differently
 - Lack of standardization of
 - Referrals and paperwork
 - When and how often FAPT/CPMT meet
 - Where CSA is housed
 - May be confusing for parents, providers and stakeholders
 - Jurisdictional disputes

Wall #2- Individualized Service Planning

- Child-specific individualized service planning-
 - What does this mean?
 - Why is it so important?
 - Does it mean only the child can be served? (No)



Wall #3-State and Local Collaboration

- **State CSA**
 - State Executive Council
 - State and Local Advisory Team
 - Office of Children's Services

- **Local CSA**
 - Community Policy and Management Team
 - Family Assessment and Planning Team
 - CSA Coordinator

- **OCS**
 - OCS is the state administrative arm of CSA and providing technical assistance and guidance to local governments

State and Local Teams

- SEC

- Membership –state agency heads, private providers, parents, local government
- Create policy and provide direction for state CSA
- Oversight of state pool of funds at state level

- CPMT

- Membership-local agency heads, private providers, parents
- Create policy and provide direction for local CSA
- Management of state pool of funds at local level

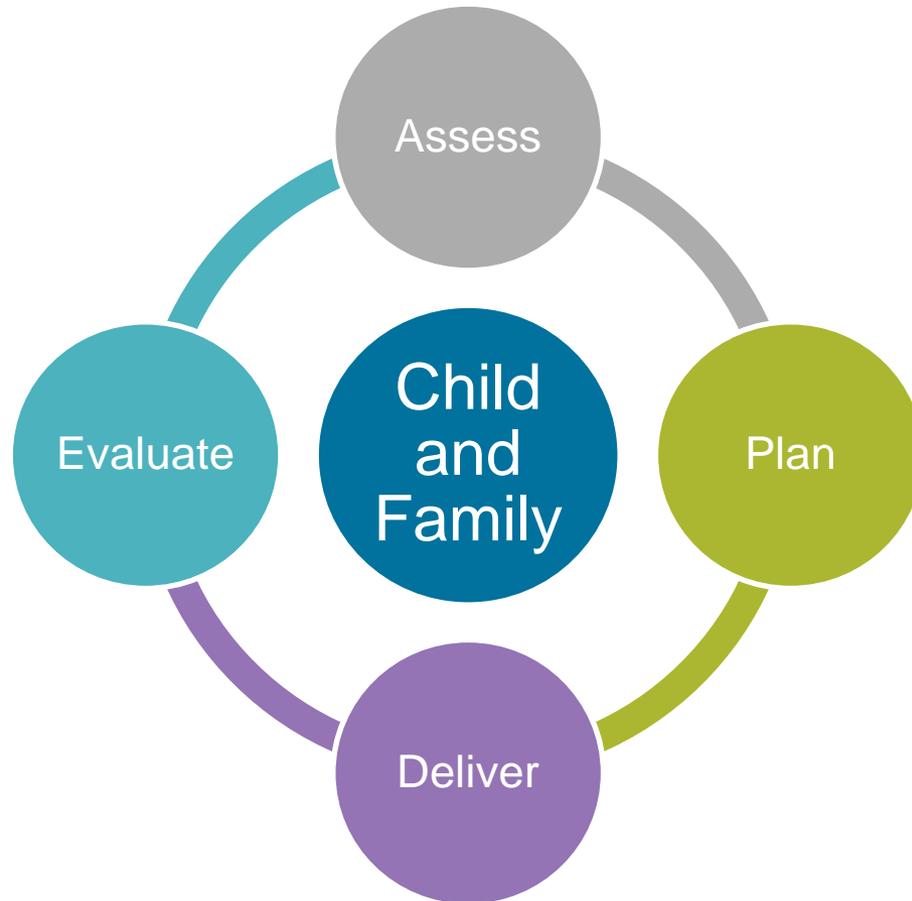
State and Local Teams

- State and Local Advisory Team (SLAT)
 - COV §2.2-5202
- “Advise the Council on state interagency program policies that promote and support cooperation and collaboration in the provision of services to troubled and at-risk youths and their families at the state and local levels;
- 2. Advise the Council on state interagency fiscal policies that promote and support cooperation and collaboration in the provision of services to troubled and at-risk youths and their families at the state and local levels;
- 3. Advise state agencies and localities on training and technical assistance necessary for the provision of efficient and effective services that are responsive to the strengths and needs of troubled and at-risk youths and their families; and
- 4. Advise the Council on the effects of proposed policies, regulations and guidelines.”

Family Assessment and Planning Team

#1 Responsibility of FAPT

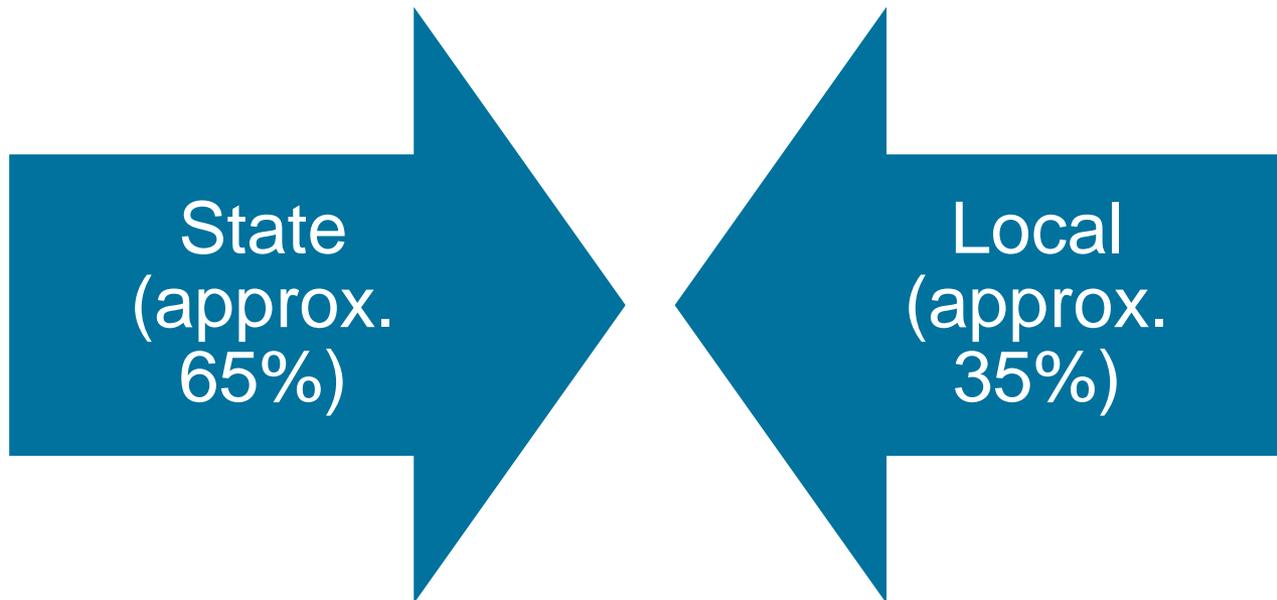
- Service planning
 - Assessment (CANS)
 - Service plan
 - Reassessment and review date and evaluate
 - Measure progress towards goals
 - Refine goals/strategies/services if needed
- Determine eligibility for CSA following statutory language, state policy and local CPMT policy



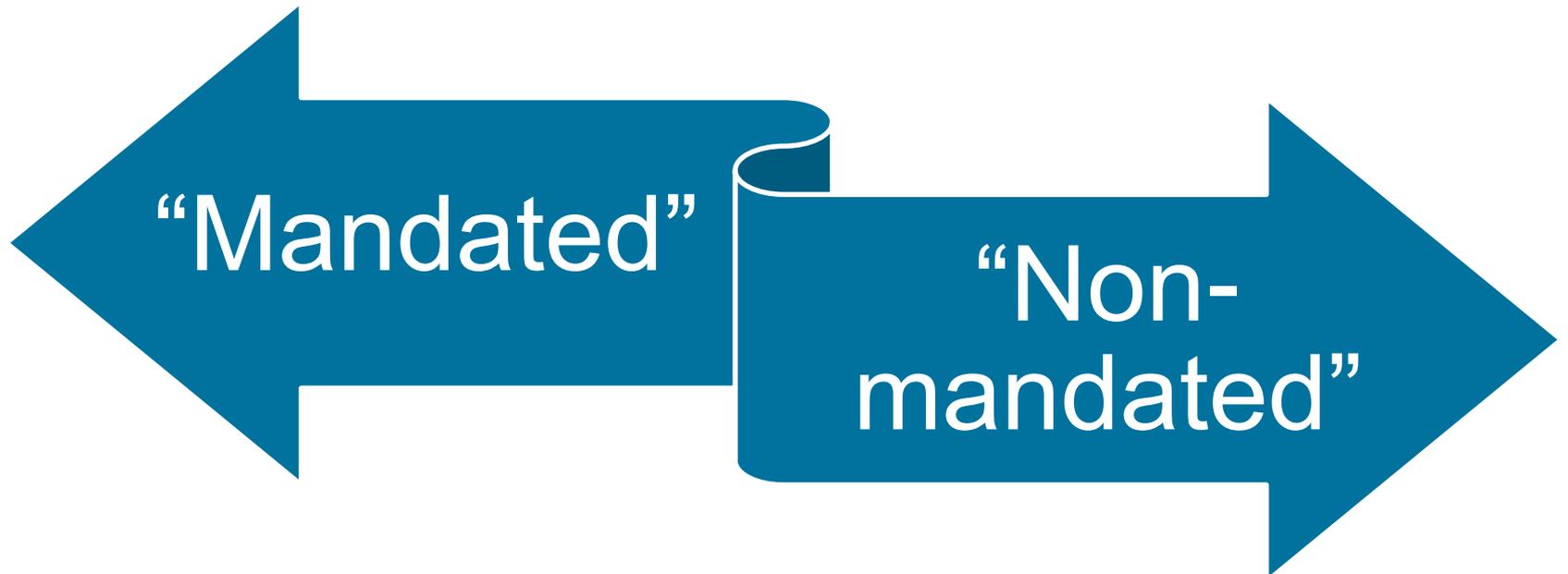
Wall #4 - CSA Funding

- Eight funding streams were combined to form the "State Pool" of funds for CSA
- VDSS (Foster Care State and Local, Block Grant)
- VDOE
- DBHDS

CSA Funding



CSA Funding



CSA Funding

- Each locality receives an allocation of “mandated” and “non-mandated” (“protected”) funding yearly.
- If mandated allocation is insufficient than a supplemental request is made to OCS.
- Localities may opt to not spend their “non-mandated” money (must have local match to spend).
- Each locality receives an allocation of administrative funding (minimum of \$12,500; maximum of \$50,000)

Maintenance, Remodeling and Updates

Maintenance and Updates

- Something isn't working or doesn't meet standards-repaired, replaced or added
- Better way to do something-upgrade is added
- More efficient or effective

Happens with law, regulation and policy changes

Maintenance and Updates

- May be prompted by changes in:
 - federal law
 - state laws governing CSA
 - laws and regulations governing our partner agencies (e.g. Fostering Futures, IACCT)
 - policies

Laws and policies may be influenced by current need, emphasis or crisis

Maintenance and Updates

- What are some examples of changing laws and policies that you've seen?

Remodeling and Updates-Examples

- Requirement for FAPT service planning and review to access state pool funds
- Approved Multi-disciplinary Teams (MDTs)
- Requirement for UM/UR added early on (1998) along with mandatory uniform assessment
 - CAFAS©
 - CANS

Remodeling and Updates-Examples

- Change in how TFC was funded from Medicaid funding to CSA/TFC Case Management (federal Deficit Reduction Act)
- Foster care prevention (time-limited)
- Attorney General Opinion which paved the way for FAPT to determine CHINS
- Provision of Intensive Care Coordination (ICC) (evolved over time)

Remodeling and Updates-Examples

- Family Engagement (Casey, Transformation VDSS)-led to match rate changes for CSA
 - What about educational services?
- Use of Medicaid as a funding source for specific services
 - Requirement in the Appropriation Act to use Medicaid prior to using state pool funds if “available” and “appropriate”
- “Services in the public schools” (federal/VDOE)

Remodeling and Updates-Examples

- VEMAT (VDSS)
- VICAP (Department of Medical Assistance Services or DMAS)
- SEC Community Mental Health Services policy
- Managed Care for foster children (DMAS)
- IACCT (DMAS)

Remodeling and Updates-Examples

- CSA Audits
- Fostering Futures (federal/VDSS)
- Family First Prevention Act (federal/VDSS)

Future of CSA

- System of Care model
- CSA will continue to evolve
- Goal is constant improvement

The End-Thank you!