

**STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (SEC)
FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES
1604 Santa Rosa Road
Richmond/Henrico Rooms
Richmond, VA 23229**

Thursday, December 12, 2024

SEC Members Present:

Leah Mills, Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Resources for The Honorable Janet Kelly,
Secretary of Health and Human Resources (*SEC Chair*)
Carl Ayers for James Williams, Commissioner, Virginia Department of Social Services
John Budesky, County Administrator, Hanover County
The Honorable Kevin Carroll, Member, Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors
The Honorable Carrie Coyner, Member, Virginia House of Delegates (*virtually*)
Nicole Gore for Nelson Smith, Commissioner, Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and
Developmental Services
Natalie Handy, VP of Government Affairs & Advocacy, Health Connect America, Private
Provider Representative
Samantha Hollins, Ph.D. for Lisa Coons, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Virginia Department of
Education
The Honorable Jacob Holmes, Vice Mayor, City of Bristol
Mills Jones, Chair, State and Local Advisory Team (SLAT)
Sandra Karison for Karl Hade, Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia
The Honorable Chad Logan, Judge, 26th Judicial District, Juvenile and Domestic Relations
District Court
Jeff Lunardi for Cheryl Roberts, Director, Department of Medical Assistance Services
Andrea McMahon for Amy Floriano, Director, Department of Juvenile Justice
Anahita Renner, Parent Representative
Melvin Roy, Founder and CEO of Foster-U, Service Recipient Representative
Ron Spears, CEO, Elk Hill, Private Provider Representative

Other Staff Present:

Stephanie Bacote, Program Audit Manager, OCS
Mary Bell, Program Consultant, OCS
Rachel Friedman, Program Auditor, OCS
Marsha Mucha, Administrative Staff Assistant, OCS
Scott Reiner, Executive Director, OCS
Kristi Schabo, Senior Policy and Planning Specialist, OCS
Carrie Thompson, Research Associate Senior, OCS
Susan Whyte, Assistant Attorney General

Members Absent:

Susan Fischer Davis, MD for Karen Shelton, MD, Commissioner, Virginia Department of Health
Kathryn Hayfield, Commissioner, Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services
The Honorable Dalia Palchik, Member, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

Nancy Robbins, Parent Representative
The Honorable Schuyler VanValkenburg, Member, Senate of Virginia

Call to Order/Opening Remarks

Leah Mills, Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Resources, called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. On a motion by Carl Ayers, seconded by Jeff Lunardi, the SEC approved Delegate Coyner's request pursuant to §2.2.-3708.3 and SEC Policy 2.1.3 to participate virtually from her office in Chester, VA, due to a transportation issue.

The new local government representatives Mr. Budesky, Supervisor Carroll, and Vice Mayor Holmes were welcomed. Ms. Handy and Mr. Spears were congratulated on their reappointments to the SEC as private provider representatives. Introductions were made.

Mrs. Mills remarked on the recent Reclaiming Childhood Youth Mental Health Summit and Governor Youngkin's Executive Order 43, which created the Reclaiming Childhood Task Force to sustain ongoing collaboration of efforts to improve youth mental health outcomes.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Natalie Handy, seconded by Ron Spears, the SEC approved the September 12, 2024 meeting minutes. (Mr. Budesky, Supervisor Carroll and Vice Mayor Holmes abstained.)

SEC Policy Review

Repeal of Policy 4.3 – “Carve-out” of Allocation for Development of New/Expanded Services (Adopted April 30, 2013)

Ms. Schabo reported that, at the SEC's September 12, 2024 meeting, the SEC approved Policy 4.3 for a 60-day public comment period. This policy has never been used, and funds have never been appropriated for its intended purpose. No comments were received during the comment period.

After further discussion, the SEC repealed Policy 4.3 on a motion by Anahita Renner, seconded by Kevin Carroll.

Policy 4.5.3 – Administrative Funds

Ms. Schabo reported that the SEC approved Policy 4.5.3 for a 45-day public comment period on September 12, 2024. The proposed changes align the existing policy with a new administrative funding process utilized by OCS that is more streamlined and accessible to localities.

Ms. Schabo further reported that if the SEC approves today, the next steps would be to disseminate Policy 4.5.3 for a 60-day public comment period. After further discussion on a motion by Jacob Holmes, seconded by Carl Ayers, the SEC approved Policy 4.5.3 for a 60-day public comment period.

Repeal of Policy 4.4.2 – Medicaid Funded Services

Ms. Schabo reported that the SEC approved Policy 4.4.2 for a 45-day public comment period at its September 12, 2024 meeting. Policy 4.4.2 is a verbatim restatement of language that has been included in the Appropriation Act since 2009.

Ms. Schabo further reported that if the SEC approves today, the next steps would be to disseminate Policy 4.4.2 for a 60-day public comment period. After further discussion on a motion by Sam Hollins, seconded by Ron Spears, the SEC approved Policy 4.4.2 for a 60-day public comment period.

Policy 2.1.3 – Individual Participation in State Executive Council Meetings by Electronic Means

Ms. Schabo presented a Notice of Intent to Develop/Revise Policy for Policy 2.1.3 and a copy of the policy. Policy 2.1.3 provides guidance to the SEC regarding the parameters of electronic participation in SEC meetings or any committees established by the SEC.

The proposed changes bring the current policy into compliance with the guidelines set forth in §2.2-3708.2 and §2.2-3708.3, as amended, effective July 1, 2024.

During the discussion, several edits were suggested for consistency and clarity. Those edits were noted and will be made. On a motion by Carl Ayers, seconded by Andrea McMahon, the SEC approved Policy 2.1.3 for a 45-day public comment period.

State and Local Advisory Team (SLAT) Report

Mills Jones, SLAT Chair, reported on the following items:

- SLAT last met on November 7, 2024.
- Currently, two SLAT workgroups focus on several areas of the SEC's Strategic Plan. One workgroup is developing a model strategic plan template for localities to assist them with building their strategic plans. The second workgroup is creating a model CSA intake form.

Mr. Reiner noted that OCS is developing a model Family Survey form and best practice guidelines. SLAT will review the draft survey and guidelines, which will then be presented to the SEC for final review/approval.

- SLAT conducted a CSA Family Impact Survey. Mr. Jones shared findings from the survey with the SEC members.
- SLAT is also working on amending its bylaws in the elections and terms of office sections.
- Mr. Jones thanked CSA Coordinators Bryan Moeller and Rudy Zavala for their leadership of the CSA Coordinator Mentoring Program. He also thanked OCS on behalf of Cristy Corbin, the SLAT parent representative, for the parent scholarships to this year's CSA Annual Conference.

Presentation: New CANS Reports

Carrie Thompson, OCS Research Associate Senior, presented the new CANS Detail Reports, which are now available on the CSA Data and Outcomes Dashboard. The new reports provide users with program-level assessment summaries and trends.

OCS Executive Director's Report

Mr. Reiner reported on the following items:

- The CSA Annual Conference was held in October in Roanoke, and approximately 600 participants were in attendance. The 2025 CSA Annual Conference will be held October 15-16, 2025, at the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center.
- CSA FY2024 Closing – Fiscal year 2024 was successfully closed with no pending matters to resolve.
- Reports to the General Assembly – Members received copies of the five reports recently submitted to the General Assembly and a summary of CSA activities.
- Eligibility as a Child in Need of Services (CHINS) – As discussed at the SEC's September 12, 2024 meeting, a statutory change will be introduced in the 2025 General Assembly Session to include CHINS as an eligible population for CSA. The proposed legislation will have no fiscal impact.

Mr. Reiner further explained that this change was also recommended by the Commission on Youth (COY) Study of the Use and Impact of Relief of Custody on Care and Support of Youth. Delegate Coyner and Senator Favola will carry the legislation.

- SEC Strategic Plan – One of the two-year metrics in the SEC's Strategic Plan is developing a process to acknowledge areas of local excellence and best practices. Mr. Reiner presented a brief document on the process for SEC members to review.

Member Remarks/Updates

Members reported for their agencies and organizations on their projects, new programs, other ongoing activities and workforce issues. Members continue to work within their agencies and advocate through their associations for improvements to services and service delivery for Virginia's children, youth, and families.

Several members remarked on the CSA Conference and encouraged others to attend next year.

Closing Remarks and Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m. on a motion by Sam Hollins, seconded by Natalie Handy, and approved by the SEC. The next meeting is scheduled for March 13, 2025.