

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

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 11, 2026

SEC Members Present:

Toni Blue, Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Resources for The Honorable Marvin Figueora,
Secretary of Health and Human Resources (**SEC Chair**)
The Honorable Laura Jane Cohen, Member, House of Delegates
Nedra Moncrief-Craig, Ph.D., Commissioner, Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS)
Cheryl Gallon, Deputy of Programs and Operations for Steve Ford, Director, Department of Medical
Assistance Services (DMAS)
The Honorable Amelia Ross-Hammond, Member, Virginia Beach City Council
Samantha Hollins, Ph.D., for Jenna Conway, Superintendent of Public Instruction,
Virginia Department of Education (VDOE)(**virtual**)
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
Andrea McMahon for Bob Bermingham, Director, Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ)
The Honorable Barbara Null, Member, James City County Board of Supervisors
Anahita Renner, Parent Representative
Ron Spears, CEO, Elk Hill, Private Provider Representative
Carl Street, Jr., Vice President for Behavioral Health Services, Youth for Tomorrow,
Private Provider Representative
Alyssa Ward, Ph.D., Chief Deputy Commissioner, for Daryl Washington, Commissioner,
Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS)
Kristin Zagar, Chief Deputy Commissioner, for Duke Storen, Commissioner,
Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS)

Other Staff Present:

Stephanie Bacote, Audit Manager, OCS
Gezelle Glasgow, Administrative Manager, OCS
Scott Reiner, Executive Director, OCS
Dr. Kristi Schabo, Policy and Operations Officer, OCS
Courtney Sexton, Program Consultant, OCS
Susan Whyte, Assistant Attorney General

Members Absent:

John Budesky, County Administrator, Hanover County
The Honorable Kevin Carroll, Member, Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors
The Honorable Jacob Holmes, Mayor, City of Bristol
Nancy Robbins, Parent Representative
Melvin Roy, Founder and CEO of Foster-U, Service Recipient Representative
The Honorable Schuyler VanValkenburg, Member, Senate of Virginia
Cameron Webb, MD, Commissioner, Virginia Department of Health (VDH)

Call to Order/Opening Remarks

It was noted that the Executive Director would preside over the meeting, as the Deputy Secretary was present but unable to speak due to a temporary loss of voice. Executive Director Scott Reiner called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. A quorum was established and the agenda approved.

Member Introductions

Council members introduced themselves to fellow members, OCS staff, and members of the public. Delegate Lauren Jane Cohen was recognized as the newly appointed member in attendance.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Excellence in CSA Recognition

As part of the SEC's Strategic Plan, the SEC has developed a process to acknowledge local CSA programs for excellence and best practices. The Excellence in CSA Award, established in March 2025, recognizes a local CSA program's commitment to positively impacting the lives of children, youth, and families through collaboration, authentic engagement, and a system of care.

Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Resources and SEC Chair Toni Blue presented the SEC's June 2026 Excellence in CSA Award to the Lee County CSA program on behalf of the Council.

Representatives from Lee County in attendance included:

- Glenda Collins, CPMT Chair
- Emily Ashley, CSA Coordinator

Approval of Minutes

The March 12, 2026, meeting minutes were approved on a motion by Barbara Null, seconded by Anahita Renner.

SEC Policy Review

Policy 4.5.1 – Protected Funds

Dr. Kristi Schabo, OCS Policy and Operations Officer, presented a Notice of Intent to Develop or Revise Policy 4.5.1. Protected Funds. Proposed Policy 4.5.1 changes to the existing policy align

the policy with the standard policy format adopted by the SEC in September 2022 by adding sections 4.5.1.1 (Purpose), 4.5.1.2 (Authority), 4.5.1.3 (Definitions), 4.5.1.4 (Protected Funds), and 4.5.1.5 (Policy Review), as well as footers to denote dates of Adoption, Effect, Revision, and page numbers. If approved by the SEC today, the next steps would be to disseminate policy 4.5.1 for a 45-day public comment period ending on July 30, 2026.

On a motion by Anahita Renner, seconded by Barbara Null, the SEC approved Policy 4.5.1 for a 45-day public comment period.

Policy 4.6 – Denial of Funds

Dr. Kristi Schabo, OCS Policy and Operations Officer, presented a Notice of Intent to Develop or Revise Policy 4.6, Denial of Funds. The proposed changes to the existing policy 4.6 align the policy with the standard policy format adopted by the State Executive Council in September 2022 by adding sections 4.6.1 (Purpose), 4.6.2 (Authority), 4.6.3 (Definitions), 4.6.4 (Denial of CSA State Matching Funds), 4.6.5 (Investigating Suspected or Determined NonCompliance by a Local CSA Program), and 4.6.6 (Policy Review), as well as footers to denote dates of adoption, effect, revision, and page numbers. If approved by the SEC today, the next steps would be to disseminate Policy 4.6 for a 45-day public comment period ending on July 30, 2026.

On a motion by Barbara Null, seconded by Dr. Amelia Ross-Hammond, the SEC approved Policy 4.6 for a 45-day public comment period.

State and Local Advisory Team (SLAT) Report

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

- SLAT last convened on May 7, 2026; however, a quorum was not present.
- May was recognized as National Foster Care Month, and the meeting offered an opportunity to highlight statewide efforts to support children, families, and foster care partners.
- The Sponsored Residential Workgroup remains on schedule and will present its final report at the SEC September meeting.
- VDSS provided an update regarding the Preventing Sex Trafficking Designation for congregate care providers under the Family First Prevention Services Act. The designation and updates to guidance will enable access to Title IV-E federal funding for eligible foster care placements.
- VDOE provided an update regarding CSA training on the appropriate use of transition funds for students moving from private placements back to public schools.
- Concerns were raised regarding the circumstances under which “virtual” private day services are permitted or not permitted, indicating the need for further clarification and guidance.

OCS Executive Director’s Report

Mr. Reiner provided an update on recent OCS activities and welcomed the newly appointed Honorable Delegate Lauren Jane Cohen. He also expressed appreciation to Ronald Spears, thanking him for his service, as this meeting marked his final participation.

CSA Service Name Redesign Project

- Mr. Reiner provided an update on OCS's ongoing initiative to review and refine the standard CSA Service Names. He explained that the project involves updating current definitions to improve clarity, adding new services to reflect evolving practice needs, and removing categories that are outdated or overly broad. This work is part of a broader effort to enhance consistency and accountability across local programs. The revised service framework is expected to be finalized and presented to the SEC at its September meeting.
- DMAS is scheduled to deliver a detailed presentation at the September meeting on the Behavioral Health Redesign, which the CSA Service Names will reflect.

Framework for Effective CSA Governance, Accountability, Flexibility, Program Integrity, and Effectiveness

- Mr. Reiner noted that this effort aligns with ongoing process improvements for the Children's Services Act and will offer a practical toolkit for localities to use.

Mr. Reiner shared that program consultants Mary Bell and Courtney Sexton, attended a Language and Disability Access Training Program hosted by the Virginia Board for People with Disabilities and developed a simplified infographic outlining the rights of individuals seeking services through CSA.

Mr. Reiner provided a brief update on the status of the CSA budget, including proposed appropriations in the yet-to-be adopted Appropriation Act for FY2021-2028.

Member Remarks/Updates

Mr. Reiner thanked all members of the SEC for their hard work and dedication in assisting children and families.

Members provided updates on relevant upcoming events and ongoing activities within their respective agencies and organizations. Members also highlighted their continued efforts to strengthen services and improve service delivery for children, youth, and families across the Commonwealth through both agency work and advocacy efforts.

Closed Session

On a motion by Anahita Renner, seconded by Barbara Null and carried that the State Executive Council convene in a closed meeting pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3711(A)(1), for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter and that the Council request that Susan Whyte, legal counsel to the Board as well as Jennifer Wright, Human Services Compliance Program Manager for the matter participate in the closed meeting. Ms. Null seconded the motion.

Return to Open Meeting

Deputy Secretary Blue reconvened the meeting in open session. The State Executive Council certified that only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the

motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the closed meeting.

Closing Remarks and Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:37 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for September 10, 2026.