

**STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (SEC)
FOR CHILDREN’S SERVICES
1604 Santa Rosa Road, Suite 137
Richmond, VA
(VIRTUAL MEETING)
Thursday, March 11, 2021**

SEC Members Present:

The Honorable Daniel Carey, M.D., Secretary of Health and Human Resources
Lesley Abashian, Chair, State and Local Advisory Team (SLAT)
The Honorable Mary Biggs, Member, Montgomery County Board of Supervisors
Sophia Booker, Service Recipient Representative
Valerie Boykin, Director, Department of Juvenile Justice
Eric Campbell, City Manager, City of Harrisonburg
The Honorable Willie Greene, Mayor, City of Galax
The Honorable Elizabeth Guzman, Member, Virginia House of Delegates
Samantha Hollins, Ed.D. for James Lane, Ed.D. Superintendent of Public Instruction, Virginia
Department of Education
Sandra Karison for Karl Hade, Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia
Karen Kimsey, Director, Department of Medical Assistance Services
Mira Signer for Alison Land, Commissioner, Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and
Developmental Services
The Honorable T. Montgomery “Monty” Mason, Member, Senate of Virginia
The Honorable Frank Somerville, Presiding Judge, 16th Judicial District, Juvenile and Domestic
Relations District Court
Ron Spears, CEO, Elk Hill
Amanda Stanley, President and CEO, DePaul Community Resources
Jessica Stern, Parent Representative
Duke Storen, Commissioner, Virginia Department of Social Services

SEC Members Absent:

Bob Hicks, for M. Norman Oliver, M.D., Commissioner, Virginia Department of Health
Andelicia Neville, Parent Representative
Michelle Johnson, County Administrator, Charles City County

Other Staff Present:

Marsha Mucha, Administrative Staff Assistant, OCS
Scott Reiner, Executive Director, OCS
Susan Whyte, Assistant Attorney General

Roll Call of Members

Scott Reiner noted that the COVID-19 state of emergency precludes assembling the required number of individuals in a central location. The meeting was held virtually via GoToMeeting in accordance with state law and was being recorded.

Mr. Reiner conducted a roll call of the membership for attendance purposes.

Opening Remarks

Secretary Carey called the virtual meeting to order at 9:31 a.m. and welcomed everyone. He recognized Ron Spears, CEO of Elk Hill as a new private provider representative replacing Courtney Gaskins who has taken a new position with the federal government in Washington, D.C.

The minutes of the December 10, 2020 meeting were approved on a motion by Mary Biggs, seconded by Valerie Boykin and approved by roll call vote as follows:

Aye: Secretary Carey, Duke Storen, Samantha Hollins, Valerie Boykin, Sandra Karison, Karen Kimsey, Mira Signer, Ron Spears, Amanda Stanley, Sophia Booker, Jessica Stern, Mary Biggs, Eric Campbell, Willie Greene, Delegate Elizabeth Guzman, Senator Monty Mason, Frank Somerville and Lesley Abashian

Nay:

Public Comment 1

There was no public comment.

Executive Director's Report – Leadership and Collective Action

Scott Reiner, Executive Director of OCS reported on and shared the results of a survey completed by OCS of state agencies concerning collection and reporting of outcomes data. This project was completed in support of outcome driven practices as part of the SEC's Strategic Plan implementation. The completed survey results ("Catalog of Outcomes") will be shared with the SEC membership and posted to the OCS website.

Mr. Reiner noted that there were very few common outcome measures across agencies. VDSS and CSA share family based foster care and exits to permanency outcomes. OCS has also collaborated with DJJ on the recidivism rates of children/youth under the age of 18 who have exited the CSA system.

Presentation and Discussion

A presentation on utilizing data was made by Chief Data Officer of the Commonwealth, Carlos Rivero. Mr. Rivero spoke on data governance which he said is the foundation of data management. He reviewed why data governance is important, the benefits of data management, and the roles and responsibilities of the data governance process. He also presented information on the Commonwealth's Data Trust, which makes data available to trust members through a standardized data sharing agreement process. This process promotes trust among members through common rules for data security, privacy and confidentiality.

At the conclusion of Mr. Rivero's presentation, there was a brief discussion and Mr. Rivero answered questions from SEC members. Secretary Carey thanked Mr. Rivero for his presentation and for sharing models of the Data Trust with the SEC.

Mr. Reiner asked if Mr. Rivero would meet with him and several members of the SEC for a discussion of how CSA and its participating agencies could use the information presented to address the Strategic Plan goal of becoming a data and outcome-oriented organization. Mr. Reiner asked that interested SEC members let him know of their interest.

Executive Director's Report – continued

Mr. Reiner reported on the following items:

- Relevant General Assembly Actions –Several bills originated from recommendations in the JLARC report. SB 1313 (*Mason*) and the identical HB 2117 (*Van Valkenburg*) impacts CSA funded special education. The legislation includes:
 - Requirement that only educational programs licensed by DOE will be eligible for CSA funding.
 - Addition of a new group to the eligible populations for CSA: students previously placed in approved private school education programs for six months or more and who will receive transitional services in a public school setting for less than 12 months
 - Requirement to establish a workgroup to develop a plan to transfer to DOE, CSA funding and responsibility for private day or residential special education placements. A preliminary report is due November 1, 2021 with a final report due November 1, 2022.

HB 2212 (*Plum*) – Requires OCS to provide for the effective implementation of CSA in all localities by:

- Regularly monitoring local performance measures and child and family outcomes
 - Using audit, performance, and outcomes data to identify local programs that need technical assistance
 - Working with local programs that are consistently underperforming to develop a corrective action plan.
 - Providing 1 FTE and funding to implement these requirements
 - Reporting to the General Assembly in November 2021
- Evidence Based Practices Readiness Training Events - A series of evidence-based training events which were originally planned for Spring 2020 are rescheduled for virtual delivery in May and June 2021. This is a collaborative effort, in both planning and funding from multiple SEC agencies and local partners. Please let Mr. Reiner know if you would like to attend.

State and Local Advisory Team Report (SLAT)

Lesley Abashian, SLAT Chair provided the report. SLAT last met on February 4, 2021. SLAT has two workgroups meeting on areas of the SEC's Strategic Plan:

- The Empowering Families workgroup is developing a guide for youth and families to build understanding about access to needed services.
- The Leadership and Collective Action Workgroup is working on deliverables around leadership competencies for local CSA leaders (CSA coordinators, FAPT and CPMT members).

SLAT will have a more in-depth report on these items for the next SEC meeting. Ms. Abashian noted that SLAT is committed to and invested in working on priorities between localities and the SEC in areas such as the Family First Prevention Services Act. SLAT is also available to the SEC as needed to engage in other endeavors.

Public Comment II

There was no additional public comment.

Member Updates

- DJJ – Ms. Boykin reported on 1) SB 1456 - eligibility of juveniles younger than 11 and commitment to the Department of Juvenile Justice. HB 1878 - juvenile intake and petition and appeals to magistrates on findings of no probable cause; 2) JLARC study of DJJ; 3) Bon Air approved as vaccination center and offered as a vaccination site for the community.
- VDSS – Mr. Storen reported on several aspects of the American Rescue Plan Act including 1) expansion of the child income tax credit; 2) funding for investment in child-care in Virginia – focus on child care deserts and underserved populations; 3) free and or reduced lunches through the summer; 4) extension of unemployment benefits through September. He will provide a summary to circulate to the membership.
- Parent representative – Jessica Stern will share free resources (Connect Our Kids) with SEC members. These resources can assist with implementing the family finding and family engagements toolkits provided by VDSS.
- DBHDS – Mira Signer reported on 1) funding restored for ACES; 2) collaborating with a number of partners on the Marcus Alert System which promotes a behavioral health response to individuals in crisis while limiting the role of law enforcement; 3) legislative funding and language to allow diversions from CCCA.
- Supreme Court of Virginia – Sandra Karison reported 12 new juvenile and domestic relations district court judges will be receiving pre-bench training; 2) spring annual conference for judges will focus on trauma informed court practices; 3) wrapping up several child and family collaborative projects with VDSS.

Closing Remarks and Adjournment

In closing, Secretary Carey thanked everyone for their commitment to serving youth and families during these challenging times.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.