

**STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (SEC)
FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES
1604 Santa Rosa Road, Suite 137
Richmond, VA
(VIRTUAL MEETING)
Thursday, December 10, 2020**

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
Courtney Gaskins, Ph.D., Director of Program Services, Youth for Tomorrow
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
Michelle Johnson, County Administrator, Charles City County
Sandra Karison for Karl Hade, Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia
Karen Kimsey, Director, Department of Medical Assistance Services
Alison Land, Commissioner, Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services
The Honorable T. Montgomery "Monty" Mason, Member, Senate of Virginia
Andelicia Neville, Parent Representative
The Honorable Frank Somerville, Presiding Judge, 16th Judicial District, Juvenile and Domestic
Relations District Court
Amanda Stanley, President and CEO, DePaul Community Resources
Duke Storen, Commissioner, Virginia Department of Social Services

SEC Members Absent:

Bob Hicks, for M. Norman Oliver, M.D., Commissioner, Virginia Department of Health
Jessica Stern, Parent Representative

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 in accordance with state law via GoToMeeting 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 9:30 a.m. and welcomed everyone. He recognized Michelle Johnson, Charles City County Administrator as a new member of the SEC.

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

Aye: Secretary Carey, Duke Storen, Samantha Hollins, Valerie Boykin, Sandra Karison, Karen Kimsey, Alison Land, Courtney Gaskins, Amanda Stanley, Andelicia Neville, Sophia Booker, Mary Biggs, Eric Campbell, Willie Greene, Michelle, Johnson, Delegate Elizabeth Guzman, Senator Monty Mason, Frank Somerville and Lesley Abashian

Nay:

Public Comment 1

Public comment was made by Bill Elwood representing the Virginia Coalition of Private Provider Associations (VCOPPA) and the Virginia Association of Independent Specialized Education Facilities (VAISEF). He thanked Mr. Reiner for presenting at the VCOPPA Annual Critical Issues Symposium that was held last week.

Mr. Elwood also commented on the recently completed JLARC Report on the Review of the Children's Services Act and Private Special Education Day School Costs and he presented some general observations about the Report.

Executive Director's Report

Scott Reiner, Executive Director of OCS reported on the following items:

- Overview of CSA Utilization and Expenditures - Mr. Reiner presented a summary of FY2020 CSA utilization and expenditure data. Overall FY2020 net expenditures (\$438M) rose approximately 5% over FY2019 expenditures.
- Status of Strategic Plan Implementation
 - **SEC Policy Review and Alignment** – The workgroup has a total of 19 members and has held two meetings to date. The workgroup includes members that bring an equity and trauma informed perspective to the policy review. The first policy under review is the Family Engagement policy. An initial report of their work will be provided at the March SEC meeting.
 - **Leadership and Collective Action** - In support of outcome driven practices, Mr. Reiner reported that OCS has surveyed state agencies concerning their collection and reporting of outcomes data. A few responses are still outstanding. A report will be provided at the March SEC meeting.
 - **Evidence-based Practices** - A series of Evidence-Based training events which were originally planned for April 2020 are now being planned to be delivered virtually in the spring of 2021. Collaborative activities have resulted in the establishment of a

Center for Evidence-based Practices in Virginia. The initial MOU is between DBHDS and Virginia Commonwealth University.

Other areas of Strategic Plan implementation will be addressed during the SLAT report.

- *Recap of CSA (virtual) Annual Conference* - The 2020 CSA Annual Conference was held virtually on October 29 and 30. The keynote speaker was the Commonwealth's Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer, Dr. Janice Underwood. Over 1,000 attendees logged-in for one or both days of the Conference.
- *General Assembly Reports* - Mr. Reiner noted that members received copies of five reports that are due annually to the General Assembly. Those reports have been filed and are available on the Legislative Information System (LIS) website.

State and Local Advisory Team Report (SLAT)

Lesley Abashian, SLAT Chair provided the report. SLAT last met on November 5, 2020. As noted by Mr. Reiner in his report, 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. Two additional family members have been added to the workgroup.
- The Leadership and Collective Action Workgroup is working on deliverables around leadership competencies for local CSA leaders (CSA coordinators, FAPT and CPMT members).

SLAT members also decided to move SLAT meetings to a quarterly schedule with meetings held in the months preceding the SEC's quarterly meetings. This would bring SLAT's meeting schedule into alignment with the SEC's meeting schedule. SLAT's next meeting is scheduled for February 4, 2021.

Summary of the JLARC Report on CSA

Mr. Reiner provided members with the executive summary and recommendations from the recently released JLARC report on CSA. He noted that the full report is available on the JLARC website. He noted seven broad conclusions with a total of eighteen specific recommendations, including nine specific to private day special education and nine for the CSA program in general.

The large majority of the recommendations would require General Assembly action and additional resources. Mr. Reiner noted that OCS is ready to work to implement any of the recommendations as may be required.

Questions and Discussion of the JLARC Report

Members were provided an opportunity for discussion and to ask questions of JLARC staff members, Kate Agnelli, Keegan Edgar, and Stefanie Papps. In regards to several of the recommendations, members asked questions and noted opportunities for more integration of families into the CSA process, mental health parity, centralizing conversations and interactions with other child-serving agencies, and improvement in providing high quality, cost-effective services to children and families. Members also asked how the SEC could be supportive of next

steps moving forward. It was noted that several of the recommendations (16 and 17) are very consistent with part of the SEC's strategic plan.

Status Updates

Updates were provided on the following areas/projects:

- Family First Prevention Services Act – Kristin Zagar, VDSS
- Behavioral Health Enhancement – Karen Kimsey, DMAS
- COVID-19 Vaccination – Christy Gray, VDH

Public Comment II

There was no additional public comment.

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 11:35 a.m.