

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

Thursday, June 13, 2024

SEC Members Present:

Leah Mills, Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Resources for The Honorable John Littel,
Secretary of Health and Human Resources (*SEC Chair*)
Carl Ayers for James Williams, Acting Commissioner, Virginia Department of Social Services
Beth Coyne for Karl Hade, Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia
The Honorable Carrie Coyner, Member, Virginia House of Delegates
Nicole Gore for Nelson Smith, Commissioner, Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and
Developmental Services
The Honorable Willie Greene, Mayor, City of Galax
Natalie Handy, VP of Government Affairs & Advocacy, Health Connect America, Private
Provider Representative
Kathryn Hayfield, Commissioner, Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services
Samantha Hollins, Ph.D. for Lisa Coons, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Virginia Department of
Education
Mills Jones, Acting Chair, State and Local Advisory Team (SLAT)
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 McMahan for Amy Floriano, Director, Department of Juvenile Justice
The Honorable Dalia Palchik, Member, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors
Anahita Renner, Parent Representative
Nancy Robbins, Parent Representative
Ron Spears, CEO, Elk Hill, Private Provider Representative

Other Staff Present:

Morgan Barry, Associate Attorney General
Mary Bell, Program Consultant, OCS
Marsha Mucha, Administrative Staff Assistant, OCS
Scott Reiner, Executive Director, OCS
Courtney Sexton, Program Consultant, OCS
Susan Whyte, Assistant Attorney General

Members Absent:

Susan Fischer Davis, MD for Karen Shelton, MD, Commissioner, Virginia Department of Health
The Honorable Christopher Faraldi, Member, Lynchburg City Council
The Honorable Margaret Angela Franklin, Prince William County Board of Supervisors
Michelle Johnson, County Administrator, Charles City County
Melvin Roy, Founder and CEO of Foster-U, Service Recipient Representative

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 behalf of Secretary Littel, she welcomed everyone and made introductions.

Mrs. Mills reported that Mr. Greene's term on the SEC would expire on June 30, 2024. She recognized Mr. Greene for his perfect attendance as a member of the SEC and highlighted his service to the Commonwealth and his local community of Galax over the years. On behalf of the SEC, she presented him with a certification of recognition.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Carl Ayers, seconded by Kathryn Hayfield, the SEC approved the March 14, 2024 meeting minutes.

SEC Policy Review

Policy 4.5.2 –Time Frames Regarding CSA Pool Fund Reimbursement

Mr. Reiner reported that, at the SEC's March 14, 2024 meeting, the SEC approved disseminating A Notice of Intent to Develop/Revise Policy for SEC Policy 4.5.2 –Time Frames Regarding CSA Pool Fund Reimbursement for a 45-day public comment period. That comment period has ended, and Mr. Reiner reviewed the comments received during that 45-day public comment period.

Mr. Reiner further reported that if the SEC approves, the next steps would be to disseminate the draft revised policy for a 60-day public comment period, with the intent of final adoption of the revised policy at the SEC's September 12, 2024 meeting.

After further discussion, on a motion by Dalia Palchik, seconded by Natalie Handy, the SEC approved disseminating revised draft policy 4.5.2 for a 60-day public comment period to end August 16, 2024.

Policy 4.1.1 – Eligibility as a Child in Need of Services (CHINS)

Mr. Reiner presented a Notice of Intent to Develop/Revise Policy for Policy 4.1.1. If the SEC approves, the Notice will be disseminated for a 45-day public comment period. Mr. Reiner provided background information regarding eligibility as a CHINS. He reported that a stakeholder workgroup had developed the draft revised policy being presented today, along with a draft revised Documentation of Eligibility Form and Model CSA Parental Agreement. Revising the policy aligns it with current statutes and practices.

Mr. Reiner further reported that changes made to the VDSS definition of foster care placement only pertain to foster care cases under the VDSS's purview. Because of that change, the CSA's ability to serve CHINS through community-based services to prevent foster care placements no longer exists. To correct this issue, a statutory change to add CHINS to CSA eligibility would need to be made.

Members discussed whether or not to disseminate the notice of intent to revise the policy for a 45-day public comment period or to address the needed statutory change. After further discussion on a

motion by Delegate Conyers, seconded by Dalia Palchik, the SEC agreed to address the statutory change. Delegate Conyers, Senator VanValkenburg, Carl Ayers, and Judge Logan will work on the project.

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

Mr. Reiner presented a Notice of Intent to Develop/Revise Policy for Policy 4.3. If the SEC approves, the Notice will be disseminated for a 45-day public comment period.

Mr. Reiner provided background information on the policy's intent when it was first adopted. The notice of intent is to repeal the policy that has never been utilized, as the required funds have not been appropriated to allow for the activities addressed in the policy.

After some discussion, on a motion by Dalia Palchik, seconded by Jeff Lunardi, the SEC approved disseminating the Notice of Intent to Develop/Revise Policy for a 45-day public comment period.

Presentation on Youth Mental Health and Safe and Sound

Dr. Alexis Ablasca and Mira Signer presented on Governor Youngkin’s multifaceted approach to youth mental health and wellbeing.

Request from the Commission on Youth (FAPT Confidentiality)

Mrs. Mills reported, as discussed at the SEC’s March 14, 2024 meeting that the SEC received a request from the Commission on Youth to clarify policies related to confidentiality limits during FAPT and CPMT meetings. She further noted that the SEC asked for a review of relevant information from the CSA User’s Manual at the March meeting.

Closed Meeting

On a motion by Delegate Coyner, seconded by Senator VanValkenburg, the SEC agreed to go into a closed session to consult and seek legal counsel concerning the Commission on Youth's request.

Reconvene in an Open Meeting

The SEC reconvened in open session on a motion by Carl Ayers, seconded by Dalia Palchik. It certified that, to the best of each member’s knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the State Executive Council.

On a motion by Delegate Conyers, seconded by Dalia Palchick, the SEC asked that Delegate Conyers, on the SEC’s behalf, speak with Senator Favola concerning the request from the Commission on Youth.

State and Local Advisory Team (SLAT) Report

Mills Jones, Acting SLAT Chair, provided the report. SLAT last met on May 2, 2024, and received several updates, including the proposed/revised CHINS policy and the work of the Universal Referral Work Group of the Safe and Sound Task Force.

SLAT will form two workgroups to focus on areas of the SEC's Strategic Plan. A SLAT workgroup will develop a model strategic plan template for localities to build their strategic plans. SLAT will also convene a workgroup to create a model CSA intake form.

Mr. Jones also reported that SLAT held elections for Chair and Vice Chair for the upcoming fiscal year. Mr. Jones will serve as Chair, and Sabrina Gross (DOE) will serve as Vice Chair.

Mr. Jones presented new SLAT member nominations and reappointments to the SEC for approval. On a motion by Sam Hollins, seconded by Ron Spears, the SEC approved the new and reappointed members to SLAT.

FY2025 OCS Training Plan

Mr. Reiner presented a draft of the OCS Training Plan for FY2025 for the SEC's consideration and approval. Mr. Reiner highlighted several aspects of the training plan. At the end of his presentation and discussion, on a motion by Willie Greene, seconded by Natalie Handy, the SEC approved the FY2025 OCS Training Plan as presented.

Mr. Reiner also presented the FY2024 OCS Training Progress Report, which included in-person and online training (through the OCS domain on the Virginia Learning Center).

OCS Executive Director's Report

Mr. Reiner reported on the following items:

- SEC Strategic Plan – Members received a laminated copy of the SEC's Strategic Plan as adopted at the September 2023 SEC meeting.
- CSA Budget – The Governor's biennial budget for 2024-2026 included an increase in CSA funding of \$36 million in FY2024 and an additional \$12 million in FY2025. Mr. Reiner will have a breakdown of CSA expenditures available at the September 12, 2024 meeting.
- Family Guide Video – A CSA family guide video has been completed. A link to the video is available on the CSA website.
- Annual CSA Conference – This year's conference will be held October 16 – 17, 2024, at the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center. Beth Macy, author of Dopesick, will be the keynote speaker.
- OCS Reports – Mr. Reiner noted that members received copies of two OCS reports. The first report was on the Enhanced Technical Assistance (ETA) Program by OCS Program Consultant Courtney Sexton. The second report was a Program Audit Activity Update by Stephanie Bacote, OCS Audit Program Manager.

Member Remarks/Updates

Delegate Coyner reported that the Commission on Youth would be hosting listening sessions on special education dispute resolution.

Closing Remarks and Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m. on a motion by Anahita Renner, seconded by Carl Ayers, and approved by the SEC. The next meeting is scheduled for September 12, 2024, at 1604 Santa Rosa Rd.