

Virginia Interagency Coordinating Council (VICC) Meeting
The Arc of Virginia
December 11, 2013
Final Minutes

The December 11, 2013 Virginia Interagency Coordinating Council Meeting was called to order by Kelly Hill. The role was called by Karen Durst. There were sixteen (16) VICC members in attendance. Please see the attendance list following the minutes. The September 11, 2013 VICC minutes were corrected and approved with Kelly Hill making the motion to approve and Frederick Beaman seconding the motion.

Agency Reports

The Arc of Virginia, New Path Program

The following Arc of Virginia update was given by Debra Holloway. The following italicized report is verbatim from a written report that was provided.

VICC Family Report

The Arc of Virginia staff continues to provide technical assistance for families this quarter including assisting families with services questions and request about waiver information. We continue to participate in committees and workgroups including Virginia Autism Council, VCPD, ECHMH Board, ITC, and COPA.

The Arc of Virginia continues to be excited about and spreading the word about “New Path” The Support Network for Families in Early Intervention.” New Path is a program of The Arc of Virginia designed to help parents and families navigate the Early Intervention System. We have a monthly newsletter and New Path section of The Arc of Virginia site. (New Path tab at www.thearcofva.org) Our website is full of resources and information for families! We continue to provide information and referral to families who have children receiving early intervention services. We are working on increasing our Facebook presence and we are launching a contest where someone will win a gift card once we reach 200 likes. The Arc of Virginia has also provided trainings for families; we held 2 face-to-face trainings “Getting Started. What Families with Young Children with Disabilities Need to Know,” one in Northern Virginia and one in Charlottesville. We held 4 face-to-face training on Medicaid Waiver Supports at Fort Lee, The Infant and Toddler Connection of the Heartland, Valley Community Services Board and Richmond Behavioral Health Authority. We held 4 webinars one on Medicaid Waiver Supports, Diploma Options and two webinars on Early Intervention Advocacy. The Arc of Virginia also published an Action Alert having families contact the Governor and local representatives regarding Early Intervention funding.

Upcoming activities include supporting families to attend the Public Hearings on January 3rd. We will be hosting another Early Intervention Advocacy forum on January 14th at 12:00 p.m. Developmental Disability Advocacy Day is January 22nd along with our annual awards banquet and we will be hosting Getting Started. What Young Families with Children with Developmental Disabilities Need to Know, on January 30th from 3-5 at VersaBility in Hampton Roads (formerly The Arc of Virginia Peninsula). Look for our 2014 Advocacy Calendar featuring two families receiving early Intervention services at the Infant and Toddler Connection of Fairfax and Infant and Toddler Connection of the Middle Peninsula Northern Neck.

Virginia Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired (VDBVI) -No Report

Virginia Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (VDDHH) -No Report

VA Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Services (DBHDS)

Janet Lung informed us that the department is deeply saddened about the news reports regarding the Deeds family. The department is gearing up for an even busier General Assembly session than the session in 2008 that focused on the Virginia Tech tragedy. In that session 100 legislative bills were reviewed and 50 bills were passed changing the way people are prescreened for hospital care and new funding for crisis intervention. Janet went on to report that a huge amount of energy has been generated in light of the Deeds family tragedy and she is hopeful that the upcoming General Assembly session will bring about some changes and lots of new ideas that will have a good impact on the mental health system.

Virginia Department of Education (VDOE)

Phyllis Mondak only reported that she continues to work on the Part B Annual Performance Report (APR). The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) *Part B Annual Performance Report (APR)* will provides information specific to measuring the state's progress on indicators defined by the United States Department of Education Office of Special Education Programs.

Virginia Department of Education-Project HOPE-Virginia

Dr. Patricia Popp informed the VICC that she has begun to crunch the child count numbers for the last school year. In the 2012-2013 school year there were over 18,000 homeless children statewide, which was slightly higher than the 17,900 homeless children in the 2011-2012 school year. Dr. Popp also reported that their statewide seminar had an attendance of about 70 people. The seminar had speakers from Project HOPE-Virginia's National Association as well as the National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth. The statewide seminar was very well received.

Virginia Department of Health

Joanne Boise reported that they are trying to jump start activity to be able to link data systems to ITOTS. Joanne also reported that soon there will be a conversion of data from the ICD9 based system to an ICD10 based system, which is a diagnosis code. Because of this code change, there will probably be a decline in children diagnosed with hearing loss.

Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS)

Brian Campbell updated us on the monthly expenditures for claims payments. Brian reported that in November 2013 therapy costs were \$955,000.00, case management cost were \$530,000.00, and \$369,000.00 for others services for a combined total of \$1.8 million dollars. A total of 15,337 claims were paid. Under the Medicaid Program, there are 3,994 members enrolled and 292 FAMIS members enrolled for a total of 4,286 members. With this data it looks like kids are getting an average of 2 hours of therapy per month. Brian feels like this is not enough therapy and indicates issues in access of services.

Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS)

Aleta Lawson, Director of the Head Start State Collaboration Project for the Division of Childcare and Early Childhood Development informed the VICC that the Division of Childcare and Early Childhood Development manages the childcare subsidy payments for parents who need financial support for childcare and scholarships for childcare providers to attend college courses through Quality and Professional Development. Aleta is also the collaborative liaison between the legislature and the State of Virginia's head start program.

State Corporation Commission (CSS), Bureau of Insurance-No Report

Part C Update

The Part C update was written by Catherine Hancock and given by Janet Lung. The following italicized report is verbatim from a written report that was provided.

1. *Decision re: using Jan. 31st for the funding formula*
 - a. *Some LLAs are catching up on enrolling children. This is due to last year's fiscal challenges. If the Dec. 1st date was used to calculate funding allocations, these systems would have been disadvantaged and might not catch up and would remain in non-compliance or lose the gains that they had made.*
 - b. *The Dec. 1st date will be used for reporting to OSEP for Virginia's child count as required by OSEP*
 - c. *The change for the date of the funding formula child count is only for this year.*
 - d. *Four LSMs were consulted as part of determining the best action to take re: the date of the child count. Three of the 4 were positive about delaying the date for funding*

- allocation child count. The fourth said it wouldn't make much difference. After the notice was issued, 3 LSMs expressed appreciation for the change.*
2. *Development of a database to track monitoring and compliance data-*
 - a. *This will eliminate paper and pencil calculations that previously took many staff hours*
 - b. *Additionally, the database can be queried for information*
 - c. *We appreciate the efforts of Richard, who developed the database.*
 3. *Writing the APR- pleased with this year's results and Kyla will present this year's outcome and results*
 4. *Starting to work on the budget for next year- we don't have any information about what the federal funding will be*
 5. *Coaching initiative continues- we are making plans to have this presented in Southwest VA- Kyla will discuss in her presentation*
 6. *Incorporating outcomes into the IFSP continues- Kyla will also discuss this in her presentation*
 7. *State Regulations for Early Intervention- These emergency regulations are currently under the review of the Attorney General's Office. After that review, they will be reviewed by DPB, and the Secretary and Governor's Offices. When published, the regulations will implement the changes that were made in the federal regulations published in September 2011. Virginia is already complying with the federal regulations through the Practice Manual, but this will give them the status of administrative law.*

Professional Development

Deana Buck and Cori Hill provided information related to professional development. The VA Early Intervention Professional Development Center is on a roll with meetings, conferences, trainings, webinars and coaching. The Early Intervention Professional Development Center presented a poster session at the DEC Conference in San Francisco and the Association of University Center on Disability (AUCD) about the work of the ITC. Cori participated in a podcast with WMRA Virginia Insight titled "What's Best for the Youngest Among Us?" Accompanying Cori in the podcast was John Almarode, PhD, Assistant Professor of Early Education for James Madison University and Teresa Harris, PhD, Professor of Elementary and Early Childhood Education for James Madison University. Teresa Harris is the lead author of a new report on early childhood needs commissioned by the Virginia Department of Health and Virginia Department of Social Services and John Almarode is the co-author.

The Early Intervention Professional Development Center's website has had 6,740 visits, 4,208 unique visits, and 17,123 page views. In addition, the Early Intervention Strategies for Success Blog has had 6,000 visits, 15,503 page views, 4,115 unique visitors, 455 subscribers, and 16 new posts.

Public Comment

No Public Comment submitted.

Annual Performance Report/State Performance Plan

The Annual Performance Report/State Performance Plan update was given by Kyla Patterson. The following italicized report is verbatim from a written report that was provided. The handouts from the meeting are attached.

- *As a quick refresher ... every state was required by the US Dept. of Education to develop a State Performance Plan in 2004 that identified annual targets for the state's performance on a set of federally required indicators for the next 6 years. That plan was later extended for 2 more years, through June 30, 2013. Each year we must submit an Annual Performance Report (APR) that specifies our actual performance on each of those indicators compared to the target we established in the State Performance Plan. Today we'll be talking about our 8th and final APR for this State Performance Plan.*
- *As you might have seen if you reviewed the full draft of the APR that we sent with the summary, this is a lengthy report that includes data on Virginia's performance and activities that we've completed to maintain/improve our performance. Unlike previous APRs we've reviewed with you, this one does not include new improvement activities for the coming years. That's because this is the last APR for this SPP cycle.*
- *Between now and next December, we'll be developing a new State Performance Plan that will lay out our state targets and improvement activities for the next 6 years. I'll talk a little more about that after we look at this year's APR.*
- *Hopefully you had a chance to review at least the APR Summary sent to you last week.*
- *Page 1 of the summary we sent had a table showing the state target for this year for each of the indicators and how we actually did this year.*
- *We thought you also would be interested in seeing how Virginia has done over the entire 8-year period so we also sent you a table with the trend data. We didn't include the targets here, except to asterisk those that are federally-required to be at 100%, because we wanted to just give a picture of progress. It's important to remember that each of indicators represent requirements and outcomes that are important in ensuring quality services to children and families. This overview of progress allows us to see how well we're doing in certain areas and offers us a chance to see where there's still room for additional improvement. I'll just briefly highlight a few points:*
 - *Our performance on Indicators 1, 2, 7, 8 and 14 is very high over at least the last 2 years. Children are being served in their natural environments, they're getting into the system and having an IFSP written quickly (within 45 days of referral), they're beginning their services within 30 days of the family giving consent for the services listed on the IFSP, and they're receiving supportive transition planning and having information sent to their local school*

- division to assist with transition. We're seeing compliance percentages of 98% and above on these indicators.*
- *We made progress on a number of indicators this year too ... Indicators 4 and 9 so we've improved on the family outcomes and how quickly we're able to correct noncompliance (76% to 99%).*
 - *This is the first year we've included the data for Indicator 3 in this table. We have hesitated to include this data in a trend table because there is still a lot of work to do to ensure that we understand what the data is telling us. That's true not just in VA but nationally. Indicator 3 looks at children's progress compared to their same age peers, but we don't have a way right now to tie that progress data to the reason for eligibility, length of time in EI, types of services, etc. But, as we move to a greater focus on results (both in Virginia and at the national level), we are working to better understand this data and we wanted to talk a bit more about it this year.*
- *First, by way of orientation to what the percentages in the table are all about ... for each of the 3 child indicators, we report two percentages:*
 - *the percent of children who substantially increased their rate of development by the time they exited EI (that's the first number in each row), - [improved function nearer to or comparable to same age peers] --and*
 - *the percent who were functioning at age level by the time they exited (that's the second number) [improved to level comparable with same age peers or maintained functioning at level comparable to same age peers]*
 - *As you can see in the table, we increased our percentage for both numbers for each of the 3 indicators this year. The increase in percentage for both numbers for Indicator 3a was statistically significant (beyond what could be expected from random fluctuation alone), and the increase in percentage for the first number, the percent of children who substantially increased their rate of development was statistically significant for Indicator 3b.*
 - *You can also see that over time our percentages have fluctuated some and that our current percentages are lower than our baseline data was.*
 - *Because states had to ramp up their collection of the child indicator data, the baseline year includes data for fewer children and for children who had been in the system for a shorter amount of time.*
 - *It is not surprising that in the next year, as the pool of children increased and included children who had been in the system for longer (potentially those with more significant delays), the numbers went down.*
 - *In the first years, we were also working hard to ensure accurate data and local teams were still learning how to accurately and consistently rate children's status and progress on these indicators.*
 - *Most states have experienced the same kind of initial decreases and subsequent fluctuations as we have.*
 - *The good news is that Virginia has been recognized at the national level to now have high quality data on these indicators so we can begin to rely more on this data as being accurate. We are still working to increase the number of children on whom we have exit data. Exit data on children who*

are lost to the system or leave unexpectedly, but were in the system for at least 6 months, is often missed. Including data for these children will help to further increase the accuracy of the picture we get with our child indicator data.

- *I can also tell you that for the 2011 – 2012 data, Virginia’s percentages on all 3 of the child indicators was higher than the national average.*
- *I also want to mention 2 major activities that we started in FFY 2012 and are continuing, that focus on improving child and family outcomes by supporting evidence-based practices:*
 - *Based on recommendations from the Child Indicators Work Group, Virginia revised the statewide IFSP form and process and provided training, technical assistance and written resources to support fully integrating the child outcome indicators into the IFSP process. Statewide implementation of the revised IFSP form began on July 1, 2013. Support to local systems and providers included the following:*
 - *7 regional, face-to-face trainings across the Commonwealth: “Weaving Early Intervention into a Child’s and Family’s Everyday Life: Quality Practices for Improving Child & Family Outcomes.”*
 - *A statewide webinar on the IFSP form revisions and Practice Manual revisions supporting the new IFSP form and process*
 - *A statewide webinar on measuring the child indicators*
 - *Multiple sessions related to child indicator measurement and integration at the statewide early childhood conference*
 - *Revised documents, like the Child Indicators Booklet, Practice Manual*
 - *A year-long focus on coaching began in early FFY 2012 with a full-day institute presented by national experts at the statewide Creating Connections for Shining Stars Conference in July 2012. The Early Childhood Coaching Handbook, by Dathan Rush and M’Lisa Shelden, has been purchased for every local system manager. Additional work in FFY 2012 included intensive training of master coaches and additional local providers who are members of the master coaches’ local teams in 4 of the 6 regions in Virginia. Master Coaches participate in monthly technical assistance calls with Drs. Rush and Shelden for six months following the training. In some of the regions that have received training, communities of practices in coaching have been established in order to share information and provide support. The remaining two regions will receive the coaching training in the spring of 2014.*
- *Indicators 5 & 6 (Child Find, 0-1 and 0-3)*
 - *Indicator 5: 0.97%, down from 1.02% last year*
 - *Below Target = 1.03% and National average = 1.06%*
 - *Indicator 6: 2.72%, down from 2.77% last year*
 - *Below Target = 2.88% and National average = 2.77%*
 - *Budget shortfalls (26 of 40 local systems, 8 with reductions/cuts to services); even in those systems without waiting lists, no money for child find or public awareness*
 - *Focus on increasing state dollars, maximizing private insurance reimbursement*
 - *Success with General Assembly increasing funding (\$2,250,000 for FFY 2012, available in final quarter; \$6 million for this year)*
 - *Local systems have resumed child find efforts ... takes time to rebuild trust with referral sources.*

- *But numbers up (since April for 0-1 and since October for 0-3).*
- *Any questions about the APR data for this year before I talk about the State Performance Plan we'll now be developing for the next 6 years and submitting to OSEP by February 2015?*
- *Next SPP – SSIP*
 - *SPP will be a 6-year plan*
 - *Materials are not finalized yet, but from what we saw in the draft ...*
 - *Indicators – Will remove indicators 9 (timely correction of noncompliance) and 14 (timely and accurate data). We will continue to address correction of noncompliance within the other indicators (1, 7, 8) and OSEP already has access to the data they need in order to monitor timely and accurate data.*
 - *Increased focus on results*
 - *SSIP – State Systemic Improvement Plan*
 - *Instead of identifying improvement activities by indicator*
 - *Want this effort to ultimately impact child or family outcomes*
 - *Phase 1 (due 2/15) – data analysis, identification of an area of focus for improvement, analysis of the state's infrastructure to support improvement and build capacity, and a theory of action*
 - *Phase 2 (due 2/16) – The actual improvement plan: plan for needed infrastructure development; a plan to support local systems, programs and providers in identifying and implementing EBP; and an evaluation plan*
 - *OSEP and national TA providers already beginning to provide TA and support to states around this new SSIP requirement.*
 - *VICC will be involved as a stakeholder group*
 - *Expect to hear more on this as the SPP package is finalized and we learn more*
 - *Any questions?*
- *Sending the draft APR out to all local system managers and other stakeholders by the end of the week.*
- *Written comments from VICC members and other stakeholders are welcome through December 31.*

VCU and the Children's Museum of Richmond

Dr. Carole Ivey, Assistant Professor at VCU's Department of Occupational Therapy and Liz Pearce, Director of Parent Engagement at the Children's Museum informed the VICC that VCU's Department of Occupational Therapy has collaborated with the Children's Museum of Richmond on a project to enhance the social and learning experiences at the museum for children with disabilities and their families, so that all children, regardless of ability, will discover and continue to engage in inclusive opportunities at the museum. The goal of this partnership is to improve access, participation, and learning for all children, including those with disabilities.

OT and ECSE faculty and students, as well as staff from CHoR, are working with CMoR in:

- assessment and adaptation of the physical and learning environment;

- collaborative training to support the engagement of young children with disabilities and their families; and
- marketing to the community

This program will enhance the social and learning experiences at CMoR for children with disabilities and their families so that all children, regardless of ability, will discover and continue to engage in inclusive opportunities at the museum. This program is supported through a VCU Council for Community Engagement grant.

Plan Initiatives:

Goal 1: Minimize the physical and learning barriers at CMoR in order to maximize children's learning.

- Develop a strategic education plan focused on enhancing the learning of all students
- Enhance the visit experience through the use of assistive technology devices
- Embed teaching and learning strategies for children with disabilities in CMoR classes

Goals 2: Train early intervention and museum staff to support the engagement of young children with disabilities and their families in the innovative and hands-on learning activities at CMoR.

- Establish an advisory group designed to oversee the project
- Provide training on an ongoing basis
- Develop a system of sustainability for continuing education
- Conduct pre/post surveys/interviews with professionals and parents
- Demonstrate evidence-based practices

Goal 3: Provide VCU OT and ECSE students with a unique interdisciplinary learning opportunity that links research to practice, while supporting access to a natural community learning environment.

- Collaborate with CHoR clinical staff
- Foster opportunities for graduate level students to serve the CMoR community
- Enhance student's academic experiences through community services and application

Quality Improvement Committee

As a new member to the Quality Improvement Committee, Allan Phillips let Brian Campbell know that they will get together to discuss and make plans for the direction of the committee to determine what data they should be tracking that is informative and helpful to the VICC. Other members of the committee are Joanne Boise, Ginny Heuple, Patricia Popp and Glen Slonneger.

Insurance Committee Update

Kelly Hill attended the LSM meeting in Charlottesville on September 24th to talk about billing/coding/documenting for private insurance; changes as a result of the Affordable Care Act; and changes coming next year with ICD10.

Kelly also did a webinar with Deana and Kyla on November 1st as a follow-up providing detailed training in the area of coding, documentation, establishing medical necessity and introducing ICD10 information.

The impact of ICD10 on Part C and Medicaid was discussed. ICD10 is much more specific and there are few one-to-one transfers in diagnosis codes. Both providers and billing staff will need training. Lead Agencies are encouraged to check with their data systems to see if they are ready for the changeover. Duplicate coding is not allowed. ICD9 will continue to be used for all dates of service thru 9/30/2014. ICD10 will be used effective 10/1/2014. There may be an opportunity for dual coding trials next year but the insurance companies and Medicaid haven't indicated a date. Payment delays are expected to occur.

The discussion followed to have more information provided by the VA Insurance Bureau regarding the ACA and VA and to send out a new survey in January 2014 to see how Lead Agencies are doing now compared to January 2012 with insurance billing.

Child Find Information and Data

Please see attached handouts presented by Allan Phillips.

Other VICC Business

VICC Vacancies and Reappointments

Karen Durst reported that the terms of five VICC members expired as of September 30, 2013. Those seats have not been filled but according to the VICC By-Laws, the current members can remain in the position for up to 12 months after their term expires or until they are reappointed or another individual is appointed by the Governor. The expired seats represent two providers and 3 parents. The VICC seats for the Local System Manager, Legislator, parent, and Head Start representative are also awaiting the Governor's appointment or reappointment. The VICC Chair expressed a willingness to write a letter to the incoming Governor's Appointment Secretary requesting assistance in addressing the VICC membership appointments and reappointments. The terms for six other VICC members will expire September 30, 2014. Rick Beaman suggested that it would be helpful to have appointments made on a staggered schedule rather than October 1st so that there remains an experienced VICC membership rather than so many seats expiring at the same time. It was also suggested that the VICC By-Laws be changed to allow VICC members to remain an indefinite time in their positions while awaiting the Governor's appointment or reappointment of a representative rather than the current 12 months limit.

The following Action Items and December agenda items were identified:

- Early Childhood Foundation information to be sent to VICC members;
- Letter from VICC to LSMs and Part C Staff expressing appreciation and recognition on the progress that has been made in the Part C system;
- Yolanda Tennyson to speak to agency representative regarding the Affordable Health Care Act and how the Insurance Bureau will be monitoring;
- VICC Insurance Committee members to consider revision of the previous insurance survey and its distribution in order to obtain current information;
- Karen Durst to follow up on the Governor’s Appointment Office process with new Administration; and
- Information from Karen Durst to VICC members on current membership and expiration of terms.

The next meeting of the VICC will be held March 12, 2014. The location is the:

The Arc of Virginia
2147 Staples Mill Road
Richmond, VA 23230
(804) 649-8481

The meeting was adjourned.

VICC Members Present:

Glen Slonneger
Brian Campbell
Kelly Hill
Joanne Boise
Phyllis Mondak
Allan Phillips
Dr. Patricia Popp
Allan Phillips
Yolanda Tennyson
Dr. Lissa Power-deFur
Dr. Corey Herd Cassidy
Rick Beaman
Kate McCauley
Janet Lung
Aleta Lawson
Sonia Lopez

VICC Members Absent:

Leslie Hutcheson Prince
Edwin Scott Moran
Angela Leonard
Em Parente
Jeannie Odachowski
Sandra Woodward
Cathy Cook
Virginia Heuple

Family Representative Present:

Debra Holloway