

Region I (Richmond Area) CoPA Action Plan 2009

Definition of a Community of Practice- “groups of people who share a concern, a set of problems or a passion about a topic, and who deepen their knowledge and expertise in this area by interacting on an ongoing basis” (Wenger, McDermott, & Snyder, 2002)

CoPA Leader(s)

Jen Barnes-Maddox, Infant Educator, Chesterfield Infant Program (I&TC Chesterfield)

CoPA Core Group

Sharon Jones – program specialist, VCU TTAC

Sue Palko – program specialist, VCU TTAC

Bernita Sykes – systems manager, I&TC Henrico

Margaret Aunins – ECSE evaluation coordinator, Chesterfield Co Schools

Mary Swingle – I&TC Richmond

2009 Goals

Goal 1: Explore and develop an understanding of the differences in philosophies of diagnosis and intervention across programs that effect children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) across the lifespan (i.e., early intervention, school systems, medical community, higher education)

Goal 2: Explore the differences between medical and educational identifications for ASD

Goal 3: Develop a listing of family supports and resources around diagnosis and ongoing treatment

Goal 4: Share among programs how intensity and appropriateness of services are determined and delivered based on funding available