



Infant & Toddler  
Connection of Virginia

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Department of Mental Health,  
Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services

1220 Bank Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
P.O. Box 1797  
Richmond, Virginia, 23218-1797  
(804) 786-3710

Dear CSB Executive Directors, MR Directors, Council Coordinators, Fiscal Agents, and Interested Parties:

The Part C Infrastructure Task Force Report is attached and available for public comment from April 30, 2004 through June 1, 2004.

In August 2003, a group of stakeholders was convened by the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services (DMHMRSAS) to examine Virginia's Part C system, identify the system's unique strengths and challenges, and make recommendations about infrastructure changes that will improve Virginia's Part C system. The attached report provides a summary of the task force's work.

The pending Part C budget shortfall made it very difficult for the infrastructure task force to reach the point of consensus on any long-range vision for the Part C system. This public comment period is being used to solicit community input not only on the short-term recommendations of the task force, as described in the report, but also on considerations for long-range planning. The reader is strongly encouraged to review the infrastructure alternatives presented in Appendix G in order to ensure full discussion and consideration of a range of long-term options for Virginia's Part C system.

Your time to review and provide input on the Infrastructure Task Force Report is greatly appreciated. The Part C Office remains committed to working in partnership with the broadest possible group of stakeholders to shape a future that ensures an effective and financially-stable system of Part C supports and services for all eligible children and families.

Please submit your comments, no later than June 1, 2004, to:

Mary Ann Discenza, Part C Coordinator  
DMHMRSAS  
P.O. Box 1797  
Richmond, VA 23218-1797  
FAX (804) 371-7959

Sincerely,

*Shirley G. Ricks*

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*Mary Ann Discenza*

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Cc: Frank Tetrick