

MR/EI/Part C Advisory Committee
April 29, 2005
DRAFT

Attendees: Tom Geib, Executive Director, Prince William CSB; Mary Ann Discenza, Part C Coordinator, DMHMRSAS; Debbie Burcham, MR Director, Henrico Area CSB; John Clary, MR Director, Colonial CSB; Betty Crance, MR Director, Allegheny Highlands CSB; Jim Gillespie, MR Director, Rappahannock Area CSB; Allan Phillips, MR Director, Fairfax-Falls Church CSB; Debra Holloway, Family Involvement Project; Carol Burke, Part C System Manager, Rockbridge CSB; Carol Granger, Part C System Manager, Chesterfield CSB; Alison Standring, Part C System Manager, Rappahannock Area CSB.

The purpose of this meeting was to identify fiscal priorities for the 06-08 Biennium to forward to VACSB for legislative advocacy.

The following areas of importance were identified:

- Growth to fully implement entitled services, eliminate waiting lists, and comply with Federal Regulations
 - Growth has been identified at 8% per annum
 - The per child request to the Legislature should be increased by a 3% COLA per annum
 - FY06 Caboose 687 more children x \$2,854 = \$1,960,700
 - FY07 742 more children x \$2,939 = \$2,180,700 plus FY06 Caboose 687 children x \$2,854 = \$1,960,700 TOTAL = \$4,141,400
 - FY08 802 more children x \$3,027 = \$2,427,654 plus FY07 742 x \$2,939 = \$2,180,700 plus FY06 Caboose 687 children x \$2,854 = \$1,960,700 TOTAL \$6,569,051
- Adequate funding due to funds diverted in order to comply with Federal Requirements
 - Though not yet verified in writing, OSEP has stated concerns to the DMHMRSAS regarding the supervision and monitoring system of Part C in Virginia and that Federal Part C money should be directed to finance a more appropriate level of oversight. As a result, we will ask the Virginia Legislature to appropriate \$500,000 for direct services in order to maintain current levels of direct services.
- Data
 - We propose a one-time cost of \$1.5M and \$500,000 ongoing to be funded for the next three years to develop and maintain a management information system. Federal Part C money will be used to finance costs associated with Federal requirements which is within the scope of the allocation that Virginia historically used for direct services.
- Costs associated with provision of services in Natural Environments
 - DMHMRSAS estimates 10% of consumers still lack services in the natural environment as determined by the IFSP primarily due to a lack of staff and financial resources to pay travel time

- Though we recognize the need, we are unable to recommend an overall cost and a method of distribution
- Personnel
 - Workforce development
 - Continued education
 - Retention
 - A study of workforce needs for Early Intervention personnel needs to be conducted. There is a serious shortage of trained personnel. This vacuum negatively impacts the system's ability to deliver services. Salary scales for Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Speech Language Pathology, and Special Education may also need to be reviewed in comparison to competing markets for these personnel. University curricula and capacities should be examined in light of their ability develop better career paths and prepared early intervention personnel.