

**VIRGINIA INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
Hanover Area Department of Social Services
Hanover, Virginia
June 13, 2007**

In the absence of the Chair, Vice-Chair Phyllis Mondak called to order the June 13, 2007 meeting of the Virginia Interagency Coordinating Council (VICC). Karen Durst then called the roll. Thirteen (13) VICC members were present. (Please see the attendance sheet following the minutes).

Mary Ann Discenza, Part C Coordinator, then provided the Part C Update. She reported on the following:

- Part C Budget
 - Information received in March from the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) indicated that the FFY 2007 Part C federal allocation would likely be \$10,403,448. However, notification was received of a final allocation amount of \$10,279,887. This is a \$123,561 reduction.
 - No changes have been made in the allocation amounts to local systems. Reductions were made in the budget line items of monitoring, public awareness and child find in order to balance the budget with the \$123,561 reduction.

- SFY 2008 Local Contract for Continuing Participation in Part C
 - The Local Contract was sent to local systems on May 01, 2007 with a return date of June 01, 2007.
 - The Part C Office is currently awaiting submission of the contract from two local systems. Thirty-eight (38) contracts have either been submitted or localities have received extensions.

- FFY 2007 Federal Application
 - The Federal Application was sent to OSEP, as required, on April 20, 2007.
 - Plans were initially made to include Virginia's revised policies and procedures along with the Federal Application.
 - The revised policies and procedures were sent to the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) for review. The OAG directed the Department that rather than policies and procedures that Part C in Virginia should develop regulations. After a meeting with the Commissioner, the OAG and Part C Administrators, it was determined that regulations will be developed assuring the increased emphasis on accountability. The policies and procedures were not included with the Federal Application.
 - Development of the regulations will wait until OSEP's Part C regulations are completed. The draft federal regulations are currently out for public comment with public hearings being held.

David Mills then presented information on the Infant and Toddler Online Tracking System (ITOTS). He shared the following:

- The Department is looking at moving into the next phase of changes with ITOTS.
 - The initial changes will involve OSEP reporting requirements.
 - Solutions, Inc. will likely be engaged to look at the data system.
 - A stakeholder group will be involved and will include managers and policy people.
 - Thirty (30) of the local lead agencies are Community Services Boards while the remaining ten (10) are through universities, municipalities, local Health Departments, schools, etc. The question exists as to how to integrate the remaining ten local systems into the Department's CCS3.

Bonnie Grifa then reported on Monitoring and Supervision. She shared the following:

- Public reporting of state and local data is being required by OSEP with the reauthorization of IDEA. The local and state reports are now ready.
- Staff has approved the reports and they must now go through the Department's approval process.
 - The Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia website, www.infantva.org, will be used for public reporting, as a minimum.
 - Links will be included with public reporting to the Annual Performance Report (APR) and State Performance Report (SPP) including a description of the indicators.
 - A brief description of the indicators will be provided with links to local and state data.
 - A teleconference was held in February to inform the field of the OSEP requirement regarding public reporting.
- OSEP will also be placing a determination status on each state based on specific factors that include content of the APR, financial information, dispute resolutions, etc.
 - The determination ratings will include "meets requirements"; "needs assistance"; "needs intervention"; or "needs substantial intervention".
 - The possibility of the withholding of funds exists related to the determination status.
 - Each state is required to place determinations on each local system.
 - A monitoring stakeholder group has been brought together and is providing recommendations on a state process for determinations. The group met in May and will finalize their work at the next meeting. VICC members have been participating in the group.
 - A teleconference was held in April to share information on OSEP's requirement for determinations. A second call is scheduled for August.

Bonnie Grifa also shared that some revisions are being made to the annual record review process. Jane Nell Luster from the National Center for Special Education Accountability and Monitoring (NCSEAM) has been providing assistance. A reduction has been made in the number of charts that must be reviewed. Local

systems will be given the months of July and August to complete the reviews with completion being required by August 31, 2007. Several systems have agreed to test the process.

It was reported that Part C staff have been meeting with Sharon Walsh, a national consultant, related to developing a process and protocol for focused monitoring. Two local systems identified as needing focused monitoring will be visited prior to June 2008 with a focus on transition. Two additional visits will be made focusing on child find. The following discussion occurred:

- There is concern about the impact the criteria could have on small localities.
 - Discussion has occurred regarding taking some small systems out of the comparison in order to protect the privacy of the families.
- How much of this process could be mirrored after that used by the Department of Education?
 - If the process were comparable to DOE, this would help parents as they transition through the systems and would encourage collaboration.
 - It may be helpful to talk with Paul Raskopf.

Cori Hill of the Integrated Training Collaborative (ITC) provided the following report:

- The 5th annual *Creating Connections* Early Intervention Conference was held March 19 and 20, 2007 at the Hotel Roanoke in Roanoke.
 - The keynote speakers were Dr. Kathleen Hebbeler, who provided a keynote on current information about outcome measurement from a national perspective, and Dr. Serena Wieder, who presented on social and emotional development in infants and toddlers.
 - Approximately 300 people attended.
 - Debriefing by the conference committee occurred following the conference.
 - Cori Hill expressed that there had been a strong feeling that the conference should be held in a location rather than Roanoke.
 - It was noted that very few families were in attendance.
 - It was asked by the VICC why so few families are attending.
 - The question arose as to whether there were enough topics for families.
 - Lack of childcare was cited as a possible reason for low family participation. It was reported that no hotels could be found that will permit childcare.
 - It was stated that the conference fee was reduced to \$25 for family members.
 - Suggestions were made of establishing a scholarship fund for families, providing respite dollars or establishing a family conference fund.
 - VICC support was invited in planning for next year's conference.

- The conference committee is open to suggestions or the involvement of new members.
 - It was suggested that the date for next year's conference be announced as soon as possible.
- The Communities of Practice in Autism will be held September 24, 2007 at the Omni in Charlottesville. This is an advanced level training for early childhood practitioners and families to learn about supports and services for very young children with Autism Spectrum Disorders.
 - Postcards will be sent to the field.
 - Applications are available for practice leaders.
- Local System Managers' Training will be provided for new system managers and for veteran system managers. (Please note that the dates for the training are October 16-17, 2007).
- A request was received from the field asking that information on the early intervention award winners be displayed on the Infant & Toddler website. David Mills has made those additions.
- The completed regulations will have an impact on Kaleidoscope Training. The question was raised as to whether a training should be planned for the Fall or wait until completion of the regulations. The new regulations will also impact the Orientation Module.

Cori Hill shared information on how the Integrated Training Collaborative is assisting in addressing the personnel shortage. She reported on the following activities:

- Mary Anne White, Cori Hill and Carol Granger attended the Great VA Teach-In, which is a career fair for educators.
 - Part C information was shared with interested participants.
 - Resumes were collected from participants and given to local systems.
 - A notebook was developed with information on vacancies.
- A bulletin board was provided at the Creating Connections Conference for individuals to post job vacancies.
- Part C Information was shared at the Institute of Higher Education Conference, which was held April 19-20, 2007.
 - Faculty were provided with information on linking student to local systems and navigating the Infant & Toddler Connection website.
- George Washington University will be providing an on-line certification program in the area of early intervention.
 - The program will be available in 18 months.
 - Students from any discipline can enroll.
- James Madison University is serving as the Local Lead Agency for the Infant & Toddler Connection of Shenandoah and has expressed interest in the personnel issue.
 - Many students are currently enrolled in the Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, Education and Psychology Programs of the University.
 - Interest has been expressed on integrating the Part C Supports and Services document into existing courses and also adding new courses.

- A poll was taken of the local system managers to see if the recent presentation at the American Speech and Hearing Association (ASHA) had resulted in new employees.
 - It was reported that a new speech therapist and physical therapist were hired through Rehab Associates.

Mary Ann Discenza also shared that two universities that serve as Local Lead Agencies had expressed a desire to bring together other university Local Lead Agencies sometime in July or August to discuss the issue of personnel shortages in Part C.

Mary Ann Discenza reported that the Commonwealth is currently recruiting registered nurses through incentives such as scholarships and financial assistance. Additionally, more creative ways are being explored for the provision of services. Telemedicine is being considered in areas with psychiatrists serving in consultative roles via technology. Funds have also been allocated to draw psychologists and psychiatrists to under served areas. Is this something that early intervention could do through work with universities? Follow-up discussion included the following:

- Physical Therapy programs will be going to the doctorate level for entry positions. This will further impact the shortage of therapists.
 - This will not affect existing therapists in the system related to highest standards requirements.
- Based on the public comment from Southside at the last VICC meeting, is it feasible to look into the possibility of establishing a grant to assist in addressing the personnel shortage?
 - Consideration could be given to the provision of services through videotapes and the use of technology with evaluations.
- The issue of personnel shortages needs to be looked at comprehensively. Negative impact is felt related to salary schedules, billable services, and work year schedules as compared to schools.
- Supporting the early intervention system by addressing the personnel shortage would be a beneficial topic for the next VICC Retreat.
 - The VICC Retreat is held every other year. The need exists for a special retreat.
 - A day could be set-aside in the Fall for a retreat with special topics being addressed.
 - Preparation needs to occur in advance in order to address the issues.
 - The following VICC members agreed to be part of the planning committee:
 - Delly Greenberg, Dina Kirby, Rick Beaman, Dr. Eva Thorp and Corinne Garland.
 - Potential dates will be sent for the meeting.

Tammy Whitlock, of the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS), shared that conversations are occurring related to Medicaid coverage special instruction. Medicaid is currently paying for occupational therapy, physical therapy and speech therapy. The following discussion occurred:

- Educators are providing direct services with Medicaid coverage being provided in other states.
 - One VICC member shared that educational services worked best for her son but were not covered by Medicaid.
- DMAS is continuing to address Managed Care Organization (MCO) issues. If DMAS policies change than MCOs must follow.
- If Medicaid institutes changes than maybe other insurance companies will make changes.
- Carve-out of Part C is not anticipated.

Public comment was then received.

Carol Granger, the System Manager for the Infant & Toddler Connection of Chesterfield, spoke on behalf of the Steering Committee of the Virginia Council Coordinator's Association, (CoCoA). The following italicized information is verbatim from the written report provided:

My name is Carol Granger, System Manager for the Infant and Toddler Connection of Chesterfield. I am speaking on behalf of the CoCoA Steering Committee.

We want to express our appreciation for the continued opportunity, on behalf of Virginia's youngest citizens, to share ideas, discuss concerns, and collaborate to strengthen services with the VICC and also with the Part C office.

We want to take this opportunity to recognize Pat Dewey, from the State Department of Health, for all her tireless work on behalf of infants and toddlers in the Commonwealth. We have enjoyed working with Pat in sharing ideas, problem solving, and making changes to the system of care for infants and toddlers, many of whom are involved in Early Intervention. We wish Pat a much-deserved retirement, and will sorely miss her input. Thank you, Pat, and please accept this recognition on behalf of the CoCoA Steering Committee and also the many families and children who have and who will participate in Virginia's Part C system.

We want to thank the Part C office for the opportunity to make comments for consideration during the public comment period of the FY 08 Contract and Policy and Procedures. We appreciate that several changes were made to the contract that systems have recently returned to the Part C office.

The CoCoA Steering Committee also wants to thank the Part C office and the Department of Education for organizing the regional workshops focusing on the transition from Part C to Part B. We understand from our colleagues who have already participated that it is a valuable and much-needed learning experience for everyone.

We are excited about the collaboration between the Department of Education and the Infant and Toddler Connection of Virginia that has resulted in funding to develop

Communities of Practice for Autism. We understand that the Integrated Training Collaborative is busy with the planning of the fall training, which will lead to the regional Communities of Practice. We look forward to hearing more details soon.

As you are aware, there continue to be personnel shortages. We commend the Integrated Training Collaborative for establishing on the web site a job opportunity section, for including on the Collaborative representatives from Virginia's universities that prepare students to work in the field of early intervention, and for participating in the DOE-sponsored Great Va. Teach-In. We anticipate there will continue to be acute personnel shortages, especially in some regions of the state, and we worry that these shortages will impact service access and compliance.

We want to express our appreciation to Kyla Patterson in her work to facilitate the IFSP stakeholders' workgroup. Almost all the work to recommend changes to the IFSP was done during very well organized conference calls led by Kyla. This conference call process not only allowed for broader participation across the state, but reduced the cost of participation because workgroup members did not have to travel. We look forward to the finished product and feedback from the IFSP being piloted. We also are looking forward to hearing about the work of the Atypical Development and Transition Workgroups.

We appreciate this opportunity to offer comments during this public comment period of the VICC.

Respectively Submitted: Carol Granger, CoCoA Chair

Members then discussed the process to be followed in responding to public comment from future VICC meetings. The consensus was that a response was needed in order to validate the individuals' public comments. Dr. Eva Thorp made a motion that time be allotted following public comment for VICC members to ask follow-up questions, clarify the comments and determine what may be needed as follow-up action related to the public comment. Feedback will then be directed to the speaker via a letter from VICC to be followed with a posting of the response on the Part C website at www.infantva.org. Delly Greenberg seconded the motion with all members approving the motion.

Related to public comment from the March 14, 2007 VICC meeting, members addressed the allocation of Part C funds and the revision of the formula for distribution. Historically, as much of the funding as possible is allocated to the local systems for direct early intervention services. The \$7.2 million dollars in state funding is completely designated for direct services. Over the past four (4) years, allocation amounts have been calculated using a three-year child count and an incentive for increased child counts. The current formula contributes to inequities in systems with incentives not being given for anything other than child count. Based on the recommendations from a stakeholders group, Part C funds will be allocated differently for the July 2008-2009 contract year. The following discussion occurred:

- Prevalence data is being looked at including the number of eligible children and Medicaid dollars.
- The increase in child count has gone down from 8% to 6.2%.
 - Personnel shortages and the previous decrease in funding may have played a role.
- Virginia is categorized as having a broad eligibility.
 - It is expected that 2% of the children should be receiving services. Virginia is currently serving 1.72%.
- Incentives should be considered as well as helping those systems that are struggling.
- Consideration should be given to the differing cost of living around the state.
 - Could a differential be provided to the Southwest to attract potential providers?
 - Could percentage limits be set so that systems don't lose considerable funding?

The previous public comment topic of The Federal Part C regulations was also discussed. Members were encouraged to look at the federal website for information on public comments. The revised regulations are presented in a 400 + page document. Public comments are being accepted until July 23, 2007. Mary Ann Discenza shared that the Council Coordinators Association has developed a side-by-side comparison of the regulations. They are also developing a position paper to be sent to members. It was asked if VICC should provide public comment related to the regulations.

Mary Ann Discenza also commented on the System of Payment, which was a previous topic of public comment. She shared that the change from revising policies and procedures to developing regulations had resulted in additional questions. Issues to be addressed include clarification on insurance questions and the need for training. The work of the stakeholders group will focus on ITOTS, the funding formula, Medicaid transformation and Virginia's System of Payment related to parent cost participation.

The question was asked as to who would be writing the letter to those who presented public comment from the previous VICC meeting. It was suggested that letters not be written until after the VICC minutes were distributed. It was stated that the letters would need the signature of the body of the VICC.

In the absence of Debra Holloway, Manager of the Family Involvement Project, and Heidi Faustini, the Parent-to-Parent Coordinator, a written version of the Family Report was provided for the VICC members. The following italicized information is verbatim from that written report:

Project staff continues to be active participants on the VICC steering Committee, Management Team, Integrative Training Collaborative, Autism Committee, Virginia Integrated Network of Family Organizations (VA-INFO), MR/EI Advisory Group, the Monitoring Workgroup, Hearing Workgroup, Child and Family Services Advisory Group and local and regional council meetings. The Family Involvement Project attended The Early Intervention Creating Connections Conference and assisted with conducting a

session, Transition: Families and Providers Working Together! Project staff also displayed program information at the Creating Connections Conference, the Connections Resource Fair and the Access Summit this quarter.

The Family Involvement Project continues to bring together all local parent representatives in the commonwealth to set goals and talk about issues. The group met twice this quarter and is working on improving family involvement on the local level. Project staff continues to conduct PTP trainings and provide matches to families when requested and has been attending the Northern VA Care Connections PTP sub-committee meetings to discuss ways the groups can work together to provide to families.

Project staff continues to host the ARCFIP list serve with 313 members.

The question was presented as to the family perspective of the Creating Connections Conference. Phyllis Mondak shared that those family members that presented at the transition session were also administrators. It was shared that Phyllis' participation helped to clarify issues related to transition from Part C to Part B.

VICC business was then addressed.

Karen Durst provided information on the recent VICC appointments by the Governor. She shared that Mary Lou Hutton had been reappointed for a second term on the VICC as a representative of the local system managers. The Governor also appointed Delegate Shannon Valentine as the legislative representative. VICC Chair, Brenda Laws was sending Delegate Valentine a welcome letter and Shirley Ricks was contacting her, as well.

Information was also shared regarding the upcoming VICC nominations for officers. A slate of names will be presented to the VICC members at least 30-days prior to the next VICC meeting to be voted on at that meeting. A Nominating Committee consisting of Mary Lou Hutton, Jeannie Odachowski and Dr. Eva Thorp are developing the slate of names.

Tammy Whitlock then provided further information on Medicaid. She reported the following:

- Meetings are being held every three weeks between DMAS and the Part C Office.
- Managed Care issues that have been addressed include the exemption process.
 - This process is now the same for everyone where it was previously separate for Part C.
- Beth Tolley contacts DMAS when she is notified of issues from the field.
- The issue of rates with MCOs is being addressed.
 - The question is being addressed as to why there was a discrepancy between Fee for Services and MCO rates.
 - Rates for MCOs are associated with CPT codes and are considerably lower than Fee for Services rates.

- Tammy Whitlock, Patti Davidson and others in DMAS are working with the Reimbursement Unit to determine the average reimbursement rate across the state for fee for service. This information will be shared with the MCOs.
- Local System Managers in Northern Virginia will participate in a pilot, which will include training with MCO staff about Part C. Information has been provided to DMAS from Northern Virginia early intervention systems about reimbursement rates and provider unavailability. The following were identified:
 - Medicaid numbers must be accurately entered.
 - There is a need for a provider list so the Medicaid and the MCOs know who they are.
 - MCOs do not require that providers be part of an outpatient rehabilitation facility. The MCOs can go out of network to reimburse non-network providers if there are no available providers within the network.
 - The issue of the unavailability of providers is being addressed.
- Medicaid's contract with MCOs indicates that MCOs must provide information on access to interpreter services.
 - Medicaid is currently checking on federal language to ensure that their contract language is accurate.
 - Confirmation is undergoing as to the Civil Rights Act requiring that under Fee for Services, translation services must be provided.

Discussion followed to include:

- CSBs are reimbursed at a 100% rate, which is a considerably higher rate than providers.
- The question arose as to why local systems wouldn't work to have CSBs contract with providers.
 - It was stated that the process to become an outpatient rehabilitation facility is long with localities not always being able to meet all of the requirements.
- Talks are underway related to moving Part C under EPSDT in order to provide more flexibility.
- Children can be exempt from Medallion II when there is no provider of MCO networks within a 30-60 mile area.
- All Part C children are considered as having special needs under MCOs and are eligible for special case managers.
 - All MCOs have early intervention case managers that can provide more intensive services and ensure that all services are being provided appropriately.
 - Those individuals designated as early intervention case managers will remain focused on changes occurring in Part C such as the new federal regulations.
 - One of the purposes of the Northern Virginia pilot is to connect Part C and the MCOs with a sharing of information related to early intervention.

- Beth Tolley expressed thanks to Tammy Whitlock and the others from DMAS who have been working closely with Part C to address issues and concerns.

The VICC then moved into VICC Business with VICC committee reports being provided.

The Advocacy Committee held a teleconference meeting on May 30, 2007.

- The Committee discussed what could be done related to public awareness.
 - A recommendation was made that letters be sent to all General Assembly members sharing information about the VICC.
 - Funds directed to public awareness are directly linked to child find with the issue of the more children that are identified the more funding is needed.
 - The system needs to move forward with child find and public awareness.
- The Committee will send a letter of welcome to Delegate Shannon Valentine and will ask her to join the Advocacy Committee.
- The Committee discussed getting more family members to attend conferences and parental involvement on local councils.
 - The idea of providing stipends was mentioned.
- Information on committee members is included in the December 2006 VICC minutes which are posted on the Infant and Toddler Connection of Virginia website at www.infantva.org.

The Public Awareness and Child Find Committee provided the following report:

- Bus plackers with information about Part C early intervention will be displayed in the City of Richmond.
- David Mills worked closely with the Governor's Office in the development of a public service announcement for early intervention that was released to radio stations for Early Intervention Month in May.
- The possibility of advertising through The United Way Early Learning Ads is being explored. The ads feature parents and children playing together in everyday routines and activities and could include information on contacting Part C if developmental concerns exist.

Discussion among members included:

- There is a need to feature pictures of children under 1 year of age since the system is focusing on increased the number of children birth to one year of age enrolled in early intervention.
 - Child Development Resources (CDR) has pictures of infants available that could possibly be used for enhancing the display boards. Parental permission would have to be obtained.
- Various local systems are participating in public awareness activities including some that are doing activities regionally. Newspaper articles, television spots, etc. are being done.
- Could an announcement about Part C services be included on televisions in physicians' offices?

- Sippy cups have been ordered that include the Infant and Toddler Connection of Virginia logo and 1-800 number.
 - The question arose as to whether any cups had been printed in Spanish.

Mary Ann Discenza then provided information to the VICC on the existing infrastructure needs. She reported the following:

- The main priority is revising the data system. This is needed to meet the accountability reporting requirements of OSEP and the General Assembly. The cost will be known following an analysis. There will be stakeholder involvement.
- Additional staff is also needed. An additional full time employee is needed for focused monitoring. Use of a part-time employee is being considered for peak periods.
- Technical assistance needs exist. A position has remained vacant since 2003. Related to technical assistance:
 - The Part C Office is looking at alternative ways of delivering technical assistance.
 - Local systems are being engaged in sharing how we can best meet their needs and provide support through training and development.
 - Coaching and mentoring by “seasoned” system managers is being considered.
- With the focus on accountability, outcomes and data, the services of an evaluator are needed.
- Dollars are also needed for training.
 - Funds are needed for service coordination training but other needs exist, as well.
 - A base budget is provided to the Training Collaborative but funding of one-time events and sustainability must be considered.

Discussion among members then followed and included:

- Some states use all of their federal dollars for infrastructure.
 - Information will be provided at the next meeting on states that are comparable to Virginia.
- Technical assistance is more critical than ever with determinations being assigned.

Mary Ann Discenza will provide information to the VICC at the September meeting regarding the dollar amount needed for infrastructure needs.

Agency reports were then provided.

Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired (DBVI): No Report.

Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DDHH): No Report

Department of Education (DOE): Phyllis Mondak

- The 4th Annual Shining Stars Conference will be held in Virginia Beach July 11-13, 2007.
 - Part C and Guide By Your Side will be setting up display tables.
 - Steve Bagnado will be presenting on assessment.
- A technical assistance grant on Inclusive Placement Options for Preschoolers (IPOP) is available to local schools. Inclusion options such as Head Start, Day Care, Part C, Preschoolers with Disabilities, etc. will be explored. The issue of daycares accepting preschoolers with disabilities will be included.
 - A manual will be available on “System Changes”.
 - T/TACs have resources available related to IPOPs.
- Transition Trainings have been scheduled throughout regions of the state in order for Part B and Part C to come together.
 - Information will be shared on the requirements for both Parts B and C.
 - Time will be allotted for individuals to discuss issues and work together.
 - The documents will be posted on the Part C website at www.infantva.org.
 - The trainings may become an annual event.

Department of Health:

Beth Tolley shared the following in the absence of Pat Dewey:

- The Hearing Workgroup, a subcommittee of the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Workgroup, met with information shared on Virginia’s Hearing Aid Loan Bank.
 - All but three of the available hearing aids are out on loan.
 - Information on the Hearing Aid Loan Bank will be provided on the Guide By Your Side table at the Shining Starts conference.
 - Acknowledge was given of Pat Dewey’s contribution toward the establishment of the Hearing Aid Loan Bank.
- The Guide By Your Side program has received thirty-three (33) referrals since January.
- A fact sheet has been developed for local system managers on the topic of what is expected for children with hearing loss.
- A web-based educational development program will be developed related to hearing loss. The program is expected to be an interactive module with resources and links.
- Debbie Pfeiffer has a list of public school teachers of deaf education and will share information with them as requested, including requests from the local early intervention system for consultation or contracting with the EI system.

Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS): Tammy Whitlock-No Further Report.

Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services (DMHMRSAS): Mary Ann Discenza shared the following:

- A System of Care-Evidence Based Practices training will be held September 16-18, 2007 at the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center in Roanoke, Virginia.
- The second annual Strong Roots for a Healthy Family Conference will be held in Richmond, July 27-28, 2007.

- In an effort to build system capacity, funding is being provided for slots for training child psychologists and psychiatrist. Eastern Virginia Medical School and the Medical College of Virginia (MCV) will be working with the DMHMRSAS to make this opportunity available.

Department of Social Services (DSS): Lyndell Lewis-No report.

State Corporation Commission’s Bureau of Insurance: Yolanda Tennyson

- Mary Ann Discenza shared that a question has come forth from the field regarding how to look at flex accounts related to the sliding fee scale and the Ability to Pay (ATP). Information was shared on the difference between a flex account and a medical savings account.
 - A flex account is the individual’s own money to use as needed for medical expenses.
 - A medical savings account can be established with some insurance companies for medical expenses. This can be used for co-pays and deductibles.
 - The question exists as to how to proceed regarding the payor of last resort issue and as to whether the accounts should be used.

Virginia Office for Protection and Advocacy (VOPA): No Report

Mary Ann Discenza shared that the Part C Office had been contacted by VOPA asking for information on the Annual Performance Report. This relates to the baseline data for the biennial assessment and plan.

Agenda items were then presented for the next VICC meeting, which will be held September 12, 2007 at the Henrico Mental Retardation Office off of Woodman Road (West Side Office). The meeting will begin at 9:00 and conclude at 3:00.

The agenda items include:

- Infrastructure Cost Report;
- Report from the VICC Retreat Planning Committee;
- Election of Officers;
- DMAS Follow-up;
- The System of Payment Report and Discussion; and
- Family Survey Data.

A reminder was given that local system managers will be meeting with Part C staff on September 11, 2007, from 1:30-3:30 at the Henrico Office. The VICC meeting was then adjourned with the option given for committees to meet.

Attendance

VICC Members

Frederick Beaman
Corinne Garland
Delly Greenberg

Part C Staff

Beverly Crouse
Mary Ann Discenza
Karen Durst

Virginia Heuple
Mary Lou Hutton
Dina Kirby
Lyndell Lewis
Phyllis Mondak
Sheila Nelson
Sharon Osbourne
Yolanda Tennyson
Dr. Eva Thorpe
Tammy Whitlock

Cori Hill
David Mills
Beth Tolley
Mary Anne White

Local System Managers

Carol Cousins, PD 14
Carol Granger, Chesterfield
Susan Shaw, Blue Ridge, Region 10
Alison Standing, Rappahannock