

**VCPD GoToWebinar/Telephone Meeting**

**April 14, 2015**

**MEETING SUMMARY**

**Present**: Deana Buck, Toni Cacace-Beshears, Sandy Wilberger, Jaye Harvey, Sharon Veatch, Kathy Gillikin, Robin Grossman, Sarah Jo Jones (new Western Facilitator), Kristen Ingram, Cindy Kern, Aleta Lawson, Sharon Lindsay, Susanne Rakes, Margo Vaughan, Peggy Watkins, Leslie Moore, Cori Hill, Kris Meyers, Sue Mahmood, Karen Lange, Pat Popp, Kym Poole, Ipek Taffe

**Celebrations**

* This is NAEYC’s Week of the Young Child.
* CSEFEL training is occurring his week.
* The Child Care Aware provider celebration will be held on May 2, 2015. Over70 providers have been nominated. Registration is still open.

**State Level Activities**

With regard to General Assembly action regarding **Child Care**, Sharon Veatch shared that the General Assembly passed a bill lowering the licensing threshold from six to five children for family child care homes. The omnibus bill also requires unlicensed family child care providers to tell families that they are not licensed. The bill requires fingerprint background checks but the law will not apply to religious exempt and voluntary registered providers. At issue is that the CCDBG requires fingerprint checks for all child care providers including voluntary and religious exempt. The governor has offered an amendment that will be considered by the General Assembly tomorrow. If they do not accept the change, ultimately Virginia will lose 5% of funding which equates to at least five million dollars. Religious exempt child care centers have been lobbying the GA not to accept the budget amendment as they believe it to be a separation of church and state issue. Child Care Aware has an alert out and members can contact legislators asking them to support the fingerprint background check.

Cheryl Strobel reported that the Senate Finance and House Appropriations committees have made changes to the **Virginia Preschool Initiative** eligibility criteria through the budget process. The focus is on a limited number of eligibility criteria and family income in particular. The VDOE issued Supts. Memo. #081 on April 3, 2015 that gives guidance to LEAs on this change. The VDOE has webinars scheduled to support LEAs in meeting the revised criteria.

Kathy Gillikin shared that Virginia’s **Child Care Development Block Grant** (CCDBG) state plan is now due on March 1, 2016. VDSS still needs to address several items in the new Act and anticipates some significant changes being necessary to comply with the CCDBG regulations. The new state plan will be out for public comment.

**Workgroup Activities**

The **Quality Assurance Workgroup** did not meet this month, but members are looking at the “*What makes an Effective Early Childhood Professional Developer”* document and pulling out key competencies to include in a flyer or brochure that will be user friendly. The QA Workgroup needs a new convener or co-conveners.

Task: If you are interested in being a convener or co-convener, let Jaye know.

The **Regional Consortia Workgroup** met today. Four individuals/subgroups have submitted drafts of the content for the Train-the-Trainer modules. At today’s meeting, Central Consortia representatives asked that the purpose of this workgroup be explored. The discussion lead to a proposed change in the meeting schedule to be instituted. Each region will host a call, which will increase regional involvement

Cori shared that 138 people are registered for the **Creating Connections to Shining Stars Conference** so far**.** The VCU T/TAC is working with Jaye and Cori to get the “go green” app ready to be used. A welcome letter and short description have been developed, and buttons have been designed. Child Care Aware has allocated funds to sponsor regional VCPD members to attend. The session topics are equally distributed among infant/toddler, preschool, and general early childhood content.

Task: Publicize the event widely. Remind staff to register and obtain their hotel room as soon as possible as the room block is filling up.

**VCPD Membership**

We discussed how VCPD members are sharing information regarding VCPD within their organizations. Our goal is to be cross-sector. It was suggested that we maintain our focus on professional development and cross-sector work. There was a suggestion that we create a blog/Facebook page where each of the VCPD agencies/organizations posts information. Sharon will have a high school student this summer who might be able to help with this.

Task: Jaye to add this suggestion to a future Governance agenda for consideration.

**Regional Consortia Updates**

**Central** has planned their second Summit for May 1, 2015. The agenda includes a variety of updates on state level activities, networking activities, and a professional development skill building component.

**Eastern** has identified the three providers for the scholarships to the CCSS Conference. There are a number of collaborations underway with Norfolk Quality, Tidewater Community College, VSQI training, etc.

**Northern** is completing planning for their third Summit on April 22, 2015 at the GMU Manassas Campus from 9:30-3:00 pm. 30 or so participants are registered so far.

**Piedmont** is planning a PD event in June in the southern end of their region using one or more modules from the VCPD train-the-trainer curriculum. The Interactive, Participant- Centered module content will be shared. They hope to include Head Start and Smart Beginnings personnel.

**Western** reported on a regional leadership forum with Bucky Boone and 38 participants that focused on long range planning for Smart Beginnings. Other training planned for the Western area includes Art in ECE Classroom, Teachstone PreK CLASS, and John Almarode discussing adult education theory and implications. A VCPD subgroup is working on evaluation methods with a universal tool.

**Meeting Dates**

A meeting schedule for 2015-16 was disseminated to all via e-mail. Dates are also posted on the VCPD website at [www.vcpd.org](http://www.vcpd.org)

**Website**

The Conferences section of the website has state and national events posted.

As requested at the April meeting, the Heckman Equation is now on our website under *Resources.* The Commonwealth Council on Childhood Success has also been added to the website.

A link to the new *Transforming the Workforce for Children Birth through Age 8* from the Institutes for Medicine and National Research Council is on the website under “*What’s New?”*  A summary is available.

Task: Continue to send resources and announcements to Jaye for the website.

**Announcements**

* Virginia has a full team heading to Connecticut at the end of May to participate in the **Early Childhood Personnel Center (ECPC)** project at the University of Connecticut. Our team includes Sandy Wilberger- 619, Cori Hill- EI, Deana Buck- PPD, Christine John- doctoral student, Kathy Gillikin and Angela Lawman- early childhood, Angela Langhrer- parent representative, and Jaye Harvey-VCPD. Other states are participating in this grant funded opportunity whose goal is to build a comprehensive system of personnel development for individuals serving young children receiving Part C and Part B services.
* Sandy shared that VCPD is offering an **Institute for two and four year EC and ECSE faculty** on October 22-23 in Charlottesville. (UPDATE: Dates may change.) The planning group has invited Dr. Mary Louise Hemmeter to share information about the revised DEC Recommended Practices and how they can be integrated into pre-service syllabi. Up to this point, VCPD has concentrated more on in-service, and bringing the Virginia Institutions of Higher Education (IHE) group together again will bring the pre-service component of PD into our work. We may develop a VCPD IHE workgroup. This workgroup might also serve as a home for Blended Practices licensure and also a Bachelor’s programs in ECE.
* **Project SEED** is holding its final round of CSEFEL trainings.
* **ASQ training** series with follow-up coaching is underway in the Eastern region. Sharon V reported that Child Care Aware purchased **ASQ kits** to be used in training. Kits are housed in each Smart Beginnings coalition.
* The T/TACs have been provided funding from VDOE 619 to offer **CSEFEL train-the- trainer** sessions in all regions of the state. Check with your T/TAC to determine what they have planned.

**Continuous Improvement**

* **What Worked?** Number of people in attendance
* **What could be improved?** Keeping announcements related to PD, pick a topic so that we update each other, or provide updates ahead of time.

**Upcoming Meetings**

* May 12
* June 9 face-to-face meeting at the Eastern Henrico Government Building
* No July meeting due to CCSS Conference July 8-10
* August 11