

**VCPD Face-to-Face Meeting**

**October 14, 2014**

**MEETING SUMMARY**

**Present** Sandy Wilberger, Jaye Harvey, Katy McCullough, Sharon Smith-Basey, Phyllis Mondak, Peggy Watkins, Jody Roberts, Susan Rakes, Sue Mahmood, Kathy Gillikin, Aleta Lawson, Karen Lange, Pat Kennedy, Kym Poole, Emily Keenan, Leslie Moore, Marilyn Rice, Marta Szuba, Sharon Veatch, Cheryl Strobel, Bethany Geldmaker, Peggy Watkins, Sharon Lindsay, Cindy Kern, Mylinda Moore, Jackie Robinson Brock

**Updates on State Level Initiatives**

Early Head Start/Child Care Partnership Grants – Aleta Lawson

Approximately 10-12 applications were submitted from Virginia. Nationally, 560 were submitted: 60% for partnerships, 20% combo of partnerships and expansion, 15% expansion only, and 5% couldn’t be identified. Virginia has been allocated $7.4 M. At $12,500 per child, that money goes fast!

Negotiations begin in December. Then proposals go to the Regional Office for further evaluation and to finalize amounts. Slots should be available for children by the end of March/early April. Bethany Geldmaker was a reviewer of applications. Head Start also has been involved in the Preschool Expansion Grant development process.

On October 3, 2014, Health and Human Services pulled together a group of childhood advocates to see how we could better design a training and TA system. They shared four key questions. Listening groups have also been scheduled.

Task: Determine deadline for responses for the four questions.

VPI Expansion Grant – Cheryl Strobel

Virginia’s grant proposal was submitted yesterday! All early childhood partners were an integral part of the submission. 32-33 states submitted an intent to submit. The feds will select between 7 and 12 to be awarded. If Virginia is selected, it will be significant: a new paradigm, new infrastructure, etc. will be part of the implementation package. The Governor has said that he is advocating strongly for it. Kathy Glazer was the lead on the proposal development.

Eleven communities were selected for inclusion in the Expansion Grant by VECF with input from other agencies. They were looking broad stroke, prioritizing areas in need of school/program improvement, seeking a balance of urban and rural, etc. Richmond City, Prince William, Norfolk, Giles, Sussex, Brunswick, Chesterfield, and Henrico are among those school divisions selected. The hub will be the public schools, and the grant has a duration of four years. The grant proposes VPI+ (plus), meaning that LEAs will be do everything VPI requires plus what the federal grant requires, e.g., comprehensive services. Funds will support private providers to employ a bachelor’s level teacher (to cover that difference in pay). Participation in a quality tiered rating system is mandated. Fiscal/program accountability will be the responsibility of the VDOE. The administrative set aside at the state level is 5%. There could be some state level planning for PD (for consistency). VCPD is mentioned in the grant application as assisting at the state and regional level. We also submitted a letter of support.

The goal is to look at VPI+ as a pilot. It could go statewide/be sustainable overtime. At present, 20% of VPI slots are currently not used. Efforts to address barriers to using slots and/or to reallocate the VPI funds are underway.

Bethany noted that many federal applications are looking at credentialing and professional development. Faith-based programs are not on the federal radar. A new term in use is, “New American Children” meaning children born in the US, whose parents may be legal or illegal immigrants. Bethany also asked who from the Department of Health was involved in the grant application preparation. No one present had knowledge of Health Department representation.

Commission on Youth Early Childhood Education Workgroup on Quality

This group last met on June 17. They pulled together recommendations and staffer Amy Atkinson presented them at the Full Commission meeting on September 16, 2014.

1. *Establish a coordinating council to convene stakeholders and decision makers (*including the Commonwealth Council on Childhood Success)
2. *Build quality by linking training supports to teachers that emphasize interactions with children*. Bob Pianta is promoting a curriculum on teacher-child interactions that he/Teachstone is developing; legislature, in-service, licensure on teacher child interaction.
3. *Improve access to and quality of Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI*); review funding formula for VPI, JLARC review to address barriers, Board of Education to develop quality framework for VPI, allow private providers to meet quality standards to access VPI funds.

Public comment closed yesterday. Both Child Care Aware and Head Start submitted comments to consider broader than education settings.

Commonwealth Council on Childhood Success

Lt. Governor Ralph Northam is chairing the Council. Aleta Lawson, Phyllis Mondak, and Toni Cacace-Beshears were appointed. The Council is looking at child care quality, school readiness (family engagement, curricula and quality of classrooms in public schools), and health and safety. Public relations, communication, and data collection will be addressed. They will meet twice this winter and once in the spring in order to make recommendations in June 2015. Outside representatives will be pulled in as needed. <http://www.ltgov.virginia.gov/ini_childhoodsuccess.htm> is the link to the Council website.

There is a separate council that addresses mental health; however, it seems likely that early childhood mental health would come up in school readiness.

**VCPD Workgroup Updates**

See handout.

**Regional Consortia Updates**

See handout.

**Professional Development System Planning**

Previous Efforts

*NPDCI Landscape*: VCPD completed this process twice. Results from the Spring 2011 study were shared as a handout. The Landscape reviewed content by system re: Who (PD learners), What (PD content provided and the competencies those were based on) and the How (format/approach, intensity). Also captured the characteristics of survey respondents: gender, age, discipline.

Current challenge: Seeing more child care directors providing their own internal training in order to contain costs. Concerns about quality and content. Looking for more remote, interactive training opportunities that are research-based.

*VCPD Matrix* (Fall 2010): This table lists training topics with an indication of which member agency provides training by topic. Please do not distribute. Out of date.

*Regional Consortia Summit Reports* (Summer 2013). Each region has this content. Level of content (awareness vs more in-depth), intensity, distance learning, materials in languages other than English (35% yes).

Task: Jaye to follow up to see that regional reports are posted on regional webpages.

Current Inventory

See attachment.

VCPD members did a gallery walk to review information from the various agencies. Reflections and comments included:

* Everyone has their own things—still in silos related to competencies, etc.
* VDOE has the most comprehensive system in place.
* It helps to build on what others have developed.
* Child Care Aware uses a tracking system for those who work within the system for child care center or family childcare homes that is linked back to training and technical assistance, but there is no approval process for trainings offered.
* The registry that is under development at VDSS will include training completed with competencies aligned for the trainings. Competencies also will align with career pathways. Registry will be able to print training record for all staff within a program. Trainers will be tracked and qualifications verified. When a trainer finishes a training, as an approved trainer she will enter all who attended into the system. Directors will be able to print a training history for their staff.
* A person could be tracked in the VDSS registry and also in CCA.
* Noticed use of different terms and definitions of terms (qualifications vs competencies).

Task: Jaye to obtain answers for the inventory from the following systems:

* Department of Health Child Care Consultants
* Early Intervention
* Infant Mental Health

Task: Governance to follow up on the agreement that VCPD should revisit the Matrix to update it with current content from our current members.

Task: Governance to revisit the Landscape to consider whether or not to update.

Task: Governance to revisit our Partnership Agreement and make sure it’s reflective of our membership systems.

**Small Group Work Sessions**

Train-the-Trainer Project – Peggy Watkins

Regional Consortia and other members plan to develop four train-the-trainer modules. (See handout.) They are developing content based on the “What Makes an Effective Early Childhood Professional Developer? document developed by the Quality Assurance Workgroup. They are reviewing existing resources.

Task: Bonnie and Jackie to share independent trainer evaluation process used in CSEFEL. This could be a good resource for us.

Task: Peggy and Sharon S-B to follow up on opportunities for training developers to participate in the Adult Learning course through the Community College Workforce Alliance.

VCPD Provider Competencies/VDSS TA Competencies Alignment – Kathy Gillikin

This group worked on aligning the PD provider competencies VCPD developed with draft VDSS TA competences. Completed approximately half of the competencies.

**Announcements**

* Phyllis has retracted an email re: a webinar on inclusion.Line availability is limited. The webinar will be recorded and shared after the event.
* Child Care Aware is recruiting 50 providers to pilot CCA Shared Services as a product for savings and improving business practices. Also a great resource for TA providers. Tailored for VA. If you know child care providers who would like to be part of the pilot, contact Jody Roberts. No cost to participate in the pilot.
* The Department of Defense can offer at least one training. A training event regarding school age care is planned for November or December. Please let Karen know if there are other significant events.
* Remember to check our VCPD web page under the Conferences tab for upcoming events. Also check under “What’s New.” There is a good webinar from the American Psychological Association coming up on Friday regarding the effects of poverty on young children.
* VDSS has 3 listserves (interested parties, quality initiatives, subsidy vendors) that can be used to distribute information.

**Continuous Improvement**

What Worked

* A lot of quality small group time
* Having workgroups submit updates in writing. Thanks for submitting them before the meeting!
* Competencies exercise
* Jaye’s organization and facilitation skills work very well for this group!
* Not having to drive into downtown Richmond (free parking, easy on/off interstate)

Suggestions for Improvement

None

**Upcoming VCPD Meetings**

* November 18, 2014 Phone/GoTo
* December 9, 2014 Face-to-face Meeting

**Attachments to Meeting Summary:**

* VCPD Workgroup Updates
* Regional Consortia Updates
* Landscape Survey Results (Spring 2011)
* Professional Development System Planning
* Train-the-Trainer Project Overview