

Child Welfare Advisory Committee: Permanency Subcommittee Charge

Overview

This charge will define the objectives, roles, and responsibilities of the Permanency Subcommittee (“the Subcommittee”) of the Child Welfare Advisory Committee (CWAC), for the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS). It will also identify membership and operations of the Subcommittee.

Scope

This Subcommittee will be the entity within CWAC to advise the full committee on issues pertaining to permanency within child welfare issues. The Subcommittee will focus its scope on several policy areas within child welfare programs:

- Adoption
- Health Care
- Transitions Out of Foster Care
- Family & Youth Engagement (the “practice” of Permanency)
- Support of Relative Placements
- Support of Return to Biological Family
- Educational Stability of Youth In Care

Objectives

The objectives of the Subcommittee include:

1. Advise the full CWAC committee on policy, training & practice issues within the Subcommittee scope.
2. Advise the full CWAC committee on the pertinent areas of the five-year Child and Family Services Plan and any other relevant reports within the Subcommittee’s scope.
3. Advise the full CWAC committee on any relevant areas of the Subcommittee scope related to Virginia’s Program Improvement Plan, if necessary.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Subcommittee will advise, assist, and offer feedback to the full CWAC committee on topics falling within its scope, and will report back to the full CWAC committee as to any delegated tasks therein.

Structure and Composition of the Permanency Subcommittee

The Subcommittee is composed of interested members of the full CWAC committee, and includes representation from an array of stakeholder groups. When necessary, the Subcommittee may consult other relevant stakeholders and staff outside the

Subcommittee and the full CWAC committee for input. Current membership includes:

Abigail Schreiner, HopeTree Family Services (Co-Chair)
Chauncey Strong, Fairfax County Department of Family Services (Co-Chair)
Amy Woolard, Voices for Virginia's Children (Co-Chair)

Em Parente, Virginia Department of Social Services
Traci Jones, Virginia Department of Social Services

Amy Atkinson, Commission On Youth
Shannon Brabham, Roanoke County Department of Social Services
David Bringman, Virginia Department of Social Services
Jennifer Cooper, Virginia Department of Social Services
Heather Crutchfield, Norfolk Department of Family Services
Heather Davis, Newport News Department of Social Services
Wilhelmina Davis, Virginia Department of Social Services
Ericca Facetti, Connecting Hearts
Pam Fisher, Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services
Jill Forbes, Fairfax County Department of Social Services
Latanya Hairston, Department of Medical Assistance Services
Jennifer Jones, FACES of Virginia Families
Christie Marra, Virginia Poverty Law Center
Melissa O'Neill, Department of Criminal Justice Services and Court Appointed
Special Advocates
Phyllis Savides, Albemarle Department of Social Services
Nicole Shipp, Charlottesville
Tamara Temoney, Hanover Department of Social Services
Debbie White, Tazewell County Department of Social Services
Carol Wilson, Office of Children's Services