



Activities in State Government Related to Youth and Families 2012

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Activities in State Government Related to Youth and Families provides a synopsis of in the Legislative, Executive and Judicial branches' initiatives in the following subject areas:

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HUMAN SERVICES *Effective 05/14/12*

Updated throughout the study year

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Commission staff welcomes comments at any time and invites submission of updates or corrections.

GENERAL

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Governor's Office	<p>The Council on Virginia's Future is established by Code as an advisory council in the executive branch. The purpose of the 18-member Council is to advise the Governor and General Assembly on the implementation of the Roadmap for Virginia's Future as part of the larger state budgeting process. The Council was enacted in 2003 to develop a vision and long-term goals for Virginia's future. It was also tasked with developing a performance leadership and accountability system for state government that aligns with and supports achievement of the vision.</p> <p>Its mandated purpose is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide a long-term focus on high-priority issues; • create an environment for improved policy and budget decision-making; • increase government accountability and transparency; • improve government performance; and • engage citizens in dialogue about Virginia's future. <p>The Council regularly reviews progress on implementation of the Roadmap process and updates the Roadmap as needed.</p> <p>To facilitate assessment, it has developed as its premier initiative Virginia Performs, a performance leadership and accountability system whose most public face is its website, Virginia Performs. This "scorecard" for Virginia aligns agency-level outcomes with broader statewide goals for the Economy, Education, Health & Family, Public Safety, Natural Resources, Transportation, Government & Citizens. Three new indicators have been recently added: energy, civic engagement, and government operations.</p> <p>There are eight legislative members and ten non-legislative members. General Assembly membership includes the Senate President Pro Tempore, the House Speaker, the Senate and House Majority and Minority Leaders, and chairs of the money committees. Other Council members include Cabinet staff and leaders from the private sector. The Governor serves as chair.</p> <p>The Council is assisted by the Department of Planning and Budget, the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission, the Auditor of Public Accounts, and the money committees.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Senator Miller, as Senate Finance Committee member, serves on the Council.</p>	<p>The Council on Virginia's Future met on October 3, 2011 to review recent accomplishments in state performance management and to explore challenges and opportunities for increased economic growth in Virginia. Presentations included an update on various Council initiatives (including Virginia Performs) and on the state's performance management system; a showcase of 3 highly successful education projects supported by the Productivity Investment Fund; and an analysis by prominent economists of state regional economic clusters and the key drivers of economic growth.</p> <p>The 2012 meeting calendar has not been announced.</p> <p>The Code requires the Council to submit to the Governor and the General Assembly an annual executive summary no later than the first day of each regular session of the General Assembly. The Council's 2011 <i>Virginia Report</i> is available at http://www.future.virginia.gov.</p> <p>The Virginia Performs website integrates access to all measures and allows users to quickly view the complete listing for each category.</p> <p>Persons wishing to receive quarterly e-newsletters can sign up on the Council's website. The Virginia Performs website integrates access to all measures and allows users to quickly view the complete listing for each category.</p>
Governor's Office	<p>A Commission on Government Reform and Restructuring was established in January 2010 by Executive Order 2 for the purpose of conducting a thorough review of Virginia state government:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify opportunities for creating efficiencies in state government, including streamlining, consolidating, or eliminating redundant and unnecessary agency services, governing bodies, regulations and programs; • Explore innovative ways to deliver state services at the lowest cost and best value to Virginia taxpayers; • Seek out means to more effectively and efficiently perform core state functions, including potential privatization of government operations where appropriate, and restore focus on core mission oriented service; and • Examine ways for state government to be more transparent, user friendly and accountable to the citizens of the Commonwealth. <p>The Commission is comprised of eight legislative members and up to 20 citizen members representing finance, planning, business and government. The Secretaries of Administration and Finance, and the Council on Virginia's Future's Vice Chair, serve as ex officio, non-voting members.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Delegate Brink serves on the Commission.</p>	<p>The Commission's April 12, 2011 meeting included a ceremonial bill signing with Governor McDonnell.</p> <p>On August 31, 2011, the Commission heard progress reports on their 2010 initiatives and received work group reports from the Health & Human & Human Resources, Natural Resources, Administration/HR, Finance, and Commerce & Trade.</p> <p>On November 14, 2011, the Commission received formal work group recommendations and took action in anticipation of the 2012 General Assembly Session.</p> <p>Meetings are streamed live to the public on the Governor's website and the Reform Commission's website, http://www.governor.virginia.gov and www.reform.virginia.gov, respectively.</p>

GENERAL (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Office of the Attorney General	<p>Virginia Rules provides a legal education program for middle and high school students. Its purpose is to educate young people about Virginia laws and help them develop skills needed to make sound decisions, avoid breaking laws, and become active citizens in their schools and communities.</p> <p>The initiative was previously an on-site training vehicle, but technology has led Virginia Rules to expand its purpose and outreach. Using a web format, Virginia Rules now offers on-line, self-directed training in a range of topics relevant to school administrators, parents, students and professionals working both in the field and in schools.</p> <p>From the website, instructors can access and download lessons with student worksheets, student topical handouts, and supplemental materials. Virginia Rules lessons have been correlated with Virginia Standards of Learning (SOLs). These can be used either as reference for developing local training or for addressing specific issues when situations in the field arise.</p> <p>A portion of the website is funded through federal and state grants.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>On-site training previously offered by the Department of Criminal Justice Services has been integrated into web resources on the Virginia Rules "Teens Learn and Live the Law" website— www.virginiarules.com.</p> <p>Virginia Rules features 19 lessons designed for middle and high school students and this web site for use by students, parents, and Virginia Rules instructors. Instructors are able to access and download lessons with student worksheets, student topical handouts, and supplemental materials. As the website is developed, portals for students and parents and instructors will be expanded to point these users to information on the site developed just for them, and other off-site resources of interest.</p> <p>Instructors wishing to investigate training materials are given access to these resources through an Instructor Center.</p>
Virginia General Assembly	<p>The Model General Assembly (MGA) program is designed to introduce high school students to the legislative process of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Selected students represent their schools as executive officers, senators, delegates, legislative officers, pages, reporters and lobbyists while debating legislation in committees and on the floors of the House of Delegates and the Senate of Virginia.</p> <p>The program, which is co-sponsored by the Virginia YMCA, conveys the importance of citizen participation and public service, while introducing future leaders to Virginia's system of government.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Delegates Brink, Peace, and Crockett-Stark participated in the 2012 Session,</p>	<p>Over 200 students in grades 9-12 attended the March 29-31, 2012 Model General Assembly Session in Richmond.</p> <p>The 2013 MGA is scheduled for April 11-13.</p>
Virginia General Assembly	<p>The Capitol Classroom provides on-line information about Virginia's government and legislative process for students in kindergarten through high school, with additional information for teachers. Using age-appropriate materials, the website provides a range of information which can be used in classrooms and/or independent study.</p> <p>The site also provides detail on Student Programs, including the Senate and House Pages Program, Boys State, Girls State, the Model General Assembly, and the America's Legislators Back to School Program. Back to School, which is a component of a civics education initiative of the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), follows a national model and offers legislators educational materials geared for middle and high school students as tools for teaching.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>Virginia ranked as #3 in the nation for the number of legislators informing students about the legislative process through the Back to School Program. Currently, participating legislators utilize state-of-the-art tools to teach middle and high school students. A new <i>You Rule</i> booklet and DVD informs young people that students can have a voice in the democratic system. Classrooms are able to join four students as they discover how, in American democracy, citizens really do rule and young people have a voice in the democratic process.</p> <p>The website can be accessed by clicking <i>Capitol Classroom</i> on the General Assembly website at http://legis.virginia.gov.</p>

COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Office of Comprehensive Services	<p>The State Executive Council's (SEC) purpose is to assure collaborative programmatic policy development, fiscal policy development and administrative oversight for the efficient and effective provision of child centered, family focused and community based services to eligible emotionally and behaviorally troubled children and their families in the least restrictive, appropriate environment.</p> <p>Further, the SEC assures that the Governor and Cabinet Secretaries are well-informed in matters related to these areas. Two members of the General Assembly serve on the Council.</p> <p>The 2012 General Assembly (HB 135, Kilgore/SB 396, Hanger) increased the number of local government representatives on SEC from three to five.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The SEC is required by Code to biennially publish and disseminate to the General Assembly and Virginia's Community Policy and Management Teams (CPMTs) a biennial progress report on comprehensive services for children, youth and families and a plan for such services for the succeeding biennium. The current report, <i>Biennial Progress Report on Comprehensive Services to Children, Youth and Families - February 2012</i>, has been published as RD 102 (2012) and can be accessed on the General Assembly's Legislative Information System website. The report is required in odd-numbered years, thus the next report is due in December 2013.</p> <p>SEC met on February 28, its first 2012 meeting. Agenda items included Reorganization, the June 5-6 statewide conference in Roanoke, and the CSA Proposed Description of Work.</p> <p>The SEC met on April 18. Secretary Hazel noted that Virginia was collaborating with the federal government in locating housing for 600 unaccompanied minors from South America. He asked the members to assist with finding temporary placements for these youth.</p> <p>The SEC approved the report from the Treatment Foster Care (TFC) Workgroup. The 2011 Critical Gaps Survey results were also shared with the members. The Executive and Finance Subcommittees offered status reports. Updates were provided on the DSS customer portal, the CSA Training Plan, the Systems of Care grants, the Proof-of-Value project for data integration and analysis, and the CSA dashboard. CSA Regional roundtables have been scheduled around the state between the months of April and May.</p> <p>Upcoming 2012 meetings are scheduled for June 6, September 20, and December 20. The June 6 meeting is scheduled to coincide with the CSA Conference, <i>Strengthening the Core to Increase Flexibility</i>, scheduled June 5 and 6 at the Hotel Roanoke.</p> <p>SEC meetings, which are scheduled by the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, are held at least quarterly. Agendas and minutes for all meetings are available at www.csa.virginia.gov</p>
Office of Comprehensive Services	<p>The State and Local Advisory Team (SLAT) was established to better serve the needs of troubled and at-risk youth and their families by advising the State Executive Council (SEC), managing cooperative efforts at the state level and providing support to community efforts. The team is appointed by and responsible to the SEC.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>At its February 2, 2012 meeting, SLAT members and stakeholders discussed Care Coordination and case management. Collection and analysis of outcomes data from DSA and DSS systems is expected to help ensure consistent outcomes for children and families. The charge to a new SLAT committee on CSA Training and Best Practices was adopted; this committee will support on-going training efforts.</p> <p>On April 5, agenda topics included Richmond's Foster Care Medicaid Managed Care Pilot and issues related to care coordination. The budget language authorizing the statewide expansion of children served by foster care into Medicaid managed care was also discussed. Anticipated implementation for this expansion is spring 2013 with statewide implementation April 2014. Community mental health rehabilitative services are a "carved out" service.</p> <p>The members then discussed CSA funding for behavioral health services if the recipient did not meet the eligibility criteria set forth by the Virginia Independent Clinical Assessment Program (VICAP) for a Medicaid funded mental health service. The members discussed whether a policy statement was needed. No action was taken at this meeting.</p> <p>Upcoming SLAT meetings are planned for June 7, August 2, October 4, and December 6. Meeting agendas and minutes are available at www.csa.virginia.gov.</p>

COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Office of Comprehensive Services	<p>Intensive Care Coordination Pursuant to § 2.2-2648 of the Code of Virginia, the State Executive Council (SEC) is required to oversee the development and implementation of mandatory uniform guidelines for intensive care coordination for children who are at risk of entering, or placed in, residential care through the CSA program.</p> <p>A more intensive form of case management—Intensive Care Coordination—has been designed to provide close support and community return for children placed in or at-risk of residential care through CSA.</p> <p>Item 274-C-2d of the 2010-2012 Appropriation Act required that, under the direction of the SEC, local Community Policy and Management Teams (CPMTs) and Community Services Boards (CSBs) work collaboratively in their service areas to develop a local plan for intensive care coordination (ICC) services that best meets the needs of the children and families.</p> <p>Local CPMTs and CSBs worked together to determine the most appropriate and cost-effective provider of ICC services for children in their community who are placed in, or at-risk of being placed in, residential care through the Comprehensive Services Act for At-Risk Youth and Families program, in accordance with guidelines developed by the SEC.</p> <p>The SEC and Office of Comprehensive Services established guidelines for reasonable rates for ICC services and provided training and technical assistance to CPMTs and fiscal agents regarding these services.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>ICC has been implemented in three phases. The first two (Development of Guidelines and the Implementation Workgroup) have been completed. Phase 3—Technical Assistance and Training—began in February 2009. An Intensive Care Coordinators (ICC) Network was formed to assist localities with implementation of ICC. Tracking of the implementation status at each CSB and providing technical assistance is ongoing.</p> <p>After the ICC Guidelines were developed and adopted, an Implementation Workgroup was formed to address the issues of role confusion and functions, rates for ICC and provision for technical assistance. In 2009, the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) sponsored an information-sharing forum.</p> <p>All children receiving ICC services are also a part of a Family Assessment and Planning Team (FAPT), which helps coordinate services and identify what will be most helpful within the child's home. This service is not appropriate for all children; the FAPT has the role of referring those children for whom it will be beneficial.</p> <p>CSBs across Virginia provide ICC, along with other private providers. As of April 2011, ICC is provided by 32 of 40 CSBs. Funding to expand service availability is available through CSA.</p> <p>Further information about ICC is available at vafamilyconnections.com.</p>
Office of Comprehensive Services	<p>Utilization of Residential Facilities for Treatment of Children Pursuant to § 2.2-5200 of the Code, Community Policy and Management Teams (CPMTs) are required to ensure that services and funding are consistent with the policies of preserving families and providing appropriate services in the least restrictive environment, while protecting the welfare of children and maintaining public safety. Localities must submit to the Office of Comprehensive Services (OCS) information on utilization of residential facilities for treatment of children and length of stay in such facilities.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>Item 274-B-d of the 2010-2012 Appropriation Act requires the OCS to report to the Governor and Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees on utilization rates and average length of stays statewide and for each locality by December 15 of each year.</p> <p>Since FY 2009, all measures reported upon reflect decreased utilization of residential care for youth funded through the CSA. The cost of residential care has decreased 31% and the number of youth served in residential settings has decreased 26%.</p>
Office of Comprehensive Services	<p>Transfer of Comprehensive Services Billing System</p> <p>Item 274-L of the amended 2010-2012 Appropriation Act required the Office of Comprehensive Services (OCS), in collaboration with the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS), to explore the possibility of transferring the comprehensive services billing system to the Department of Medical Assistance Services.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The amended Appropriation Act required the OCS to report to the Governor and the Chairmen of the money committees October 1, 2011 on the costs and potential savings of transferring the system and a timeline for implementation.</p> <p>Localities were given a deadline of October 15, 2011 to report their FY11 information to OCS, including demographic, service, and expenditure information by child for all CSA services. On September 29, 2011, the OCS Executive Director requested an extension to their reporting deadline. The final report will be completed in the near future.</p>

COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES *(continued)*

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Office of Comprehensive Services	<p>Expenditures Associated with Children who Do Not Receive Pool Funding and Have Emotional and Behavioral Problems Pursuant to § 2.2-2648 of the Code, the State Executive Council (SEC) is required to report and analyze these expenditures, as well as to identify funding streams for purchasing services in addition to pooled, Medicaid, and Title IV-E funding.</p> <p>Both reporting requirements will be included in the biennial state progress report on comprehensive services to youth and families delivered to the General Assembly and Community Policy and Management Teams.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The 2012 biennial state progress report to the Governor and the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees was published as <i>Report Document 102</i> (2012). It can be accessed on the General Assembly's Legislative Information System website.</p> <p>This report noted that, since 2008, two strategies were implemented which decreased reliance on residential care as a service to youth. One strategy was the implementation of service categories and accompanying incentive match rates with the local government match rates 25% above the base match for residential services and 50% below the base match for community-based services. A second was the Children's Services Systems Transformation initiative which changed local practice to increase use of community-based services. These two initiatives had a significant impact on the overall service expenditures under CSA and also</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reduced the number of residential placements; • increased family-based placements, and • reduced the number of youth in foster care. <p>To date, however, the state has not yet achieved its target of 50% of all services funded under the CSA being community-based services.</p> <p>The next biennial report is due December 2014.</p>
Office of Comprehensive Services	<p>Technical Assistance to Localities Item 274-B-6 of the 2010-2012 Appropriation Act allocates \$50,000 for each year for a combination of regional and statewide meetings for technical assistance to local Community Policy and Management Teams (CPMTs), Family Assessment and Planning Teams (FAPTs), and fiscal agents.</p> <p>Training shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cost containment measures; • building community-based services; • utilization management; • use of alternative revenue sources; and • administrative and fiscal issues. <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The State Executive Council (SEC) is required to approve a training plan before the beginning of each fiscal year. Budget language also requires that the Office of Comprehensive Services (OCS) create and maintain a calendar of training events, which must be made available to local governments. The web-based cross-system CSA Interagency Training Calendar is a collaborative effort of the Departments of Social Services, Education, Medical Assistance Services, and OCS. The calendar can be accessed at www.csa.virginia.gov.</p> <p>The Appropriation Act requires CSA to report on all regional and statewide training sessions in the fiscal year to the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees and to the members of the SEC by December 1 of each year.</p> <p>At the April 18, 2012 SEC meeting, the Proposed 2013-2014 Draft Training Plan was discussed. The Plan highlighted audiences and training topics, including conference planning and implementation, outreach planning, on-line training, New CSA Coordinators' Academies, site based technical assistance and an "Ask the OCS Help Desk" feature.</p>
Medical Assistance Services/ Behavioral Health and Developmental Services	<p>Medicaid Waivers for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities and Developmental Disabilities</p> <p>The 2011 Acts of Assembly directed the Departments of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) and Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS), in consultation with appropriate stakeholders and national experts, to review the current Intellectual Disabilities, Day Support and Individual and Family Developmental Disabilities Support waivers. There were five stated goals to guide the collaborative study, including strengthening the delivery of person-centered supports, enabling individuals to remain in the community setting of their choice, enabling more individuals to be served, and increasing efficiency and cost effectiveness, and providing.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>DMAS was directed to identify improvements and report on the proposed waiver changes and associated costs to the Governor and the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees by October 1, 2011. Because of on-going discussions with the Department of Justice, the report was delayed, but was published in January 2012 as <i>Report Document 76</i>. It can be accessed on the General Assembly's Legislative Information System website.</p> <p>The report notes that, within the next three years, the waivers must be renewed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid. The renewal process offers an opportunity to renew and replace older waivers with new waivers to more comprehensively address the changing needs of individuals and their families.</p>

COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Office of Comprehensive Services	<p>Guidelines for Therapeutic Foster Care Services</p> <p>Item 274-M of the amended 2010-2012 Appropriation Act directed the State Executive Council (SEC) to authorize guidelines for therapeutic foster care (TFC) services, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • standardized definition of therapeutic foster care services; • uniform service needs criteria required for the utilization of therapeutic foster care services; • uniform placement outcome goals to include length of stay targets when the service is indicated; and • uniform contracting requirements when purchasing therapeutic foster care services. <p>The SEC was directed to authorize the use of regional contracts for the provision of TFC services and to require the Office of Comprehensive Services (OCS) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • work with stakeholders to develop these guidelines for the provision of TFC; and • develop regional contracts for the provision of TFC, with the goal of decreasing the unit cost of social services and maintaining or increasing the quality and effectiveness of the services. <p>The SEC was to focus its attention on rural areas and areas with few service providers. Training on these guidelines was to be provided for all local departments of social services, Family Assessment and Planning Teams, Community Policy and Management Teams and TFC services providers.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Workgroup Member</p>	<p>The amended Appropriation Acts required the Director of the Office of Comprehensive Services (OCS) to report the progress of these efforts to the SEC at its regularly scheduled meetings.</p> <p>In addition, Item 274-N 1-3 of the amended Appropriation Act requires the OCS to report the following information to the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees beginning September 1, 2011 and each year thereafter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • funding for therapeutic foster care services, including but not limited to the number of children served annually, average cost of care, type of service provided, length of stay, referral source, and ultimate disposition. In addition, the OCS shall provide guidance and training to assist localities in negotiating contracts with therapeutic foster care providers; and • funding for special education day treatment, residential services, and services provided in public schools, including but not limited to the number of children served annually, average cost of care, type of service provided, length of stay, referral source, and ultimate disposition. <p>The Special Advisor for Children's Services convened a workgroup to assist with this process. Subgroups were assigned to address one of the following topics: guidelines; contracting; outcomes; and training. The workgroup reported its recommendations at the December 15, 2011 SEC meeting.</p> <p>The SEC adopted the TFC Guidelines at its April 18, 2012 SEC meeting.</p>
Office of Comprehensive Services	<p>Serving Children and Youth Using Non-educational Support Services</p> <p>Item 274-O of the amended 2010-2012 Appropriation Act directed the State Executive Council (SEC) to develop a plan to serve children and youth eligible for CSA in the least restrictive environment through the appropriate use of non-educational supportive services. Strategies shall include but not be limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • establishing clear guidelines for the provision of non-academic, home- and community-based services to children; • providing training to localities on the use of CSA pool funds for supportive services for children outside of school to maintain them in their homes and current school placements; and • providing training to localities on the provision of supportive services in the public school setting. <p>The plan was developed with input from key stakeholders, including the State and Local Advisory Team (SLAT), children's advocacy groups and special education experts.</p> <p>At its January 10, 2011 meeting, the SEC voted to clarify the appropriate use of pool funds in the case of the population of children and youth the special education mandate. The new policy states:</p> <p>The special education mandate cited in § 2.2-5211 B1 may be utilized to fund non-residential services in the home and community for a student with a disability when the needs associated with his/her disability extend beyond the school setting and threaten the student's ability to be maintained in the home, community, or school setting.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The SEC is to report its findings and recommendations to the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees on October 1, 2011. The Office of Comprehensive Services requested and was granted approval to delay submission of this report until December 15, 2011. The 2012 biennial state progress report to the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees was published as <i>Report Document 392</i> (2011). It can be accessed on the General Assembly's Legislative Information System website.</p> <p>The report noted that a significant decrease in expenditures for these services based on clarification on the SEC policy on use of these CSA funds. The intent of the policy was to prevent more restrictive placements; data, however, failed to show that the use of funds had the intended impact.</p> <p>At its December 2011 meeting, the SEC recommended eliminating the extension of this mandate.</p> <p>The Governor subsequently included this recommendation in the introduced budget. The Conference Report restored funding for this service.</p>

CHILD WELFARE

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Office of the Governor	<p>Virginia's Early Childhood Advisory Council, originally the Governor's Working Group on Early Childhood Initiatives, coordinates executive branch early childhood programming and strengthens public and private programs. The Council, chaired by the Secretary of Education, brings together high-level staff from cabinet offices and State agencies in the areas of Education, Health and Human Resources, Economic Development, Finance and Policy. Created by Executive Order 91 in September 2009, the Council remained in effect until December 31, 2011.</p> <p>The Office of Early Childhood Development (OED) staffs the Council and coordinates programs and services for young children and their families, with the goal of optimizing opportunities for Virginia's children to reach kindergarten healthy and prepared for school success.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The next meeting of the Council is scheduled for May 31, 2012.</p> <p>Meeting minutes are available at http://www.earlychildhood.virginia.gov/meetings.shtml.</p>
Social Services	<p>The Board of Social Services consists of nine members appointed by the Governor based on qualifications and experience that demonstrate the member's suitability to consider and act upon needs and decisions within the board's area of responsibility. Members of the board are appointed for a term of four years, and no member is eligible to serve more than two successive full terms. The board includes a member from each of the welfare regions of the state. Standing committees are Adult Services, Child Services and Poverty.</p> <p>A Strategic Planning Committee operating under the name Virginia Social Services System (VSSS) serves as a partnership of key organizations responsible for the administration, supervision and delivery of social services. VSSS has implemented a strategic plan to set a course and measure progress. Members representing local departments of social services, the Virginia Community Action Partnership (V-CAP) and DSS are responsible for developing strategic goals, objectives and measures for DSS. The Committee operates under a charter which provides detailed information on the committee, its roles and responsibilities.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The Board typically meets quarterly.</p> <p>On February 15, 2012, the Board received an update on the Child Fatality Committee, training for CPS workers, and the Department's Customer Portal.</p> <p>Agenda items at the April 18, 2012 meeting included the Division of Family Services Prevention Program and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) diet. Various regulatory packages were discussed, including the regulations for licensed adult day care centers, child support enforcement, and adult services standards.</p> <p>A conference regarding the delivery and roles of local agencies and how they are served is planned for April 25. Meeting dates for 2012 are June 20-21, August 15-16, Oct. 17-18, and Dec. 12-13.</p> <p>Meeting agendas and minutes are available at www.dss.virginia.gov.</p>
Office of the Governor/ Social Services	<p>Virginia Early Childhood Foundation (VECF) was created in December 2005 upon recommendation of the Early Learning Council Task Force, which was charged with recommending strategies to improve Virginia's ability to provide early learning experiences to children from birth to age five.</p> <p>In making the recommendation, the Council cited the need for a state-level 501(c)(3) entity to lead an aggressive agenda to build the state's infrastructure for an effective early childhood system. As a nonprofit public-private partnership, VECF provides collaborative leadership to foster Smart Beginnings for Virginia's young children and grants, training and technical assistance to local communities to build their capacity to provide early childhood services.</p> <p>VECF relies on the shared leadership of local councils to provide strategic planning, effective integration of programs and services, decision-making and accountability for local delivery, implementation and outcomes.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Delegate BaCote serves on the Foundation Board.</p>	<p>On or before October 1 of each year, VECF must submit to the Governor and the Chairs of the money committees a report on the actual amount, by fiscal year, of private and local government funds received by the Foundation. <i>Report Document 223 (2011)</i>, VECF's 2011 Annual Report, is posted on the General Assembly's Legislative Information System website, as well as on www.smartbeginnings.org.</p> <p>VECF has leveraged approximately \$20 million in support to coalitions over the past five years.</p> <p>In December 2011, VECF announced the selection of its new president, effective January 16, 2012.</p>

CHILD WELFARE (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Social Services	<p>The Alignment Project, started in February 2006 and spearheaded by the Department of Social Services (DSS), now involves a team of professionals from many agencies under four secretariats, other agencies, and organizations from throughout Virginia. It functions under the oversight of the Early Childhood Advisory Council, which is discussed in the preceding section.</p> <p>The Alignment Project documents reflect a set of guiding principles that have served as a valuable compass in developing these resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families are the first and most influential teachers of young children. • Every child develops at an individual rate, possesses unique characteristics, and exhibits an array of talents and interests regardless of family background, culture, special need, experience, or ability. • Optimal learning occurs when we recognize that all aspects of a child's development (i.e., social and emotional, approaches to learning, language and literacy, cognitive, and physical) are inextricably interrelated and nurtured through a combination of active exploration, play, social interaction, and thoughtfully planned activities that capitalize on children's natural tendency to seek ever higher levels of challenge to master. • Early learning experiences draw upon and enhance the connections between families, early childhood programs and services, schools, and the community. • Quality early learning experiences for children are guided by research-based knowledge and practice. • All children are capable and competent learners, and they learn best when they are included with their peers. <p>The Alignment Project is the umbrella for Virginia's early childhood initiatives: Smart Beginnings, Start Strong, and the Star Quality Initiative.</p> <p>An Advisory Team oversees the Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Pilot Demonstration and provides guidance and strategic recommendations for Virginia's Star Quality Initiative.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>Publications available through the Alignment Project are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Childhood and Child Care Professional Development Career Lattice, which details steps of career development based on training, education and experience in the field (June 2011) • Milestones of Childhood Development • Competencies of the Early Childhood Professional • Related to Virginia's Star Quality (Quality Rating and Improvement System) <p>With support from Capital One, Virginia's Star Quality Initiative provides quality standards for early learning programs on a five star scale. The Initiative offers a market-based solution to facilitate quality consistency among early childhood programs, support continuous quality improvement in partnership with public and private early education providers, and encourage a continuum of care and education throughout various provider settings, so that all children arrive in kindergarten ready to succeed.</p>
Virginia Early Childhood Foundation	<p>Smart Beginnings — a component of the Alignment Project — is a statewide collaboration with the broad goal of sharing information and efforts to direct new and improved resources to families with children from birth to age five.</p> <p>The initiative highlights the health, social and emotional and cognitive needs of very young children, and urges partners in every community to plan and partner strategically for a strong early childhood system to meet these needs. It focuses on parent/consumer education information regarding selecting and accessing quality child care and preschool programs. A key component of this initiative is public education messages about the correlation between high quality, early childhood education and a competitive workforce and vital economy.</p> <p>At the state level, leadership for Smart Beginnings is provided by the Governor's Working Group on Early Childhood Initiatives in the public sphere and the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation (VECF) in the private sphere. The planning process for Virginia's early childhood system of services involves approximately 50 partners statewide in both private and public sectors.</p> <p>There are currently about 30 Smart Beginnings coalitions serving almost 90 communities throughout Virginia.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The Smart Beginnings' plan is intended to provide practical guidelines, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prioritized goals, measurable objectives and strategies; • outcomes to measure progress; and • clear accountability and communication of results. <p>Details of the plan are available at www.smartbeginnings.org.</p> <p>In its September 21, 2011 document, <i>Report to VECF Board on ARRA-funded VSQI Development Project and Pilot of Family Child Care Standards</i>, Smart Beginnings reported the following 2010-11 results for the Virginia Star Quality Initiative (VSQI):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 8,600 Virginia children are enrolled in childcare and preschool settings that are actively working to improve their quality; • A total of 336 classroom-based programs have been rated, including 147 new programs rated in 2010-11— a 47% increase over 2009-10; • A pilot project to rate and improve the quality of family child care day homes has been completed, creating a promising new model. During the year, 74 homes in 6 localities were rated and received mentoring during the pilot; • Strategic evaluation plans have been developed to build the infrastructure for a fully implemented VSQI.

CHILD WELFARE (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Criminal Justice Services	<p>Virginia CARES is a non-profit statewide organization funded in part through Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), federal CSB block grants and other funds. CARES is one of nine providers eligible to receive grants from DCJS for pre- and post-release services to Virginia offenders and ex-offenders. CARES was an outgrowth of another Roanoke organization and continues to have its offices there.</p> <p>Other providers are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northwestern Regional Jail; • Colonial Community Corrections Transitional Services; • Northern Neck Regional Jail; • O.A.R. (Arlington, Fairfax, Jefferson Area, and Richmond offices); and • STEPUP, Inc. <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>Virginia CARES maintains statistics on, among other issues, participants who complete and implement life plans that change their futures and are establishing responsible relationships with their families and children.</p> <p>Due to funding cuts at the federal level, CARES received significantly less CSBG dollars for the 2011-2012 Fiscal Year. Budget cuts are resulting in an overall reduction of operational funding for CARES sites across the Commonwealth. Organizational updates are available at www.vacares.org/index.html.</p>
Social Services	<p>The Family & Children's Trust Fund of Virginia (FACT) was created in the Code of Virginia in 2002 with the mandate "to provide for the support and development of services for the prevention and treatment of violence within families" and to achieve that goal through public and private collaboration.</p> <p>FACT is administered by a Board of 15 members appointed by the Governor and subject to confirmation by the General Assembly. The Commissioner of Social Services serves as a permanent member of the Board. Partners include the Department of Social Services, Prevent Child Abuse Virginia, the Center for Injury and Violence Prevention, Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, Department of Corrections-Victim Services, Virginia Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), and other governmental entities, advocacy organizations.</p> <p>Funding comes from a variety of sources, including KIDS FIRST license plates and merchandise. Also, Virginia law allows taxpayers to donate all or part of their income tax refund to FACT via their state tax return or on-line designation. Funds received are subsequently re-distributed for local programs throughout Virginia.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>Additional information about the Trust Fund is available at www.vakidsfirst.org.</p>
Social Services	<p>Established in Code by the 2009 General Assembly, the Virginia Child Protection Accountability System (System) collects and makes available to the public information on Virginia's response to reported cases of child abuse. Code provisions, amended by the General Assembly as of July 1, 2010, add state police and circuit courts to the list of agencies required to report cases of child abuse and neglect into the System. The System is intended to increase communication and cooperation among law enforcement agencies and help officials see whether some localities fail to pursue people who prey on children.</p> <p>The Code requires the System to include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) the total number of complaints alleging child abuse, neglect, or a combination thereof received; b) the total number of complaints deemed valid pursuant to § 63.2-1508; c) the total number of complaints investigated by the Department pursuant to subsection 1 of § 63.2-1503 and § 63.2-1505; d) the total number of cases determined to be founded cases of abuse or neglect; and e) the total number of cases resulting in a finding that the complaint was founded resulting in administrative appeal. (Information reported shall be reported by total number of appeals to the local department, total number of appeals to the Department, and total number of appeals by outcome of the appeal.) <p>For each category of information required by this subdivision, DSS shall also report the total number of cases by type of abuse, by gender, age, and race of the alleged victim, and by the nature of the relationship between the alleged victim and alleged abuser.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>Quarterly reports are available on the DSS website at www.dss.virginia.gov.</p> <p>The System, as described by DSS:</p> <p><i>collects and makes available to the public information on the response to reported cases of child abuse and neglect in the Commonwealth. Quarterly reports provide information on the number of referrals received, accepted, investigated, founded and appealed by locality and for the State as a whole.</i></p>

CHILD WELFARE (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Social Services	<p>The Child Welfare Advisory Committee (CWAC) is the primary organization to advise the Department of Social Services (DSS) Director of the Division of Family Services on child welfare issues. It helps ensure that all child welfare activities are child-centered, family-focused and community-based.</p> <p>The CWAC was created in 2003 to assist in the Federal Child and Family Services Review conducted in July of that year. The Review subsequently indicated that Virginia needed to improve in several key areas, which led to expanded CWAC responsibilities for providing guidance and direction to the Program Improvement Plan (PIP).</p> <p>The PIP's corrective phase ended January 2007, but CWAC has continued its work. CWAC membership includes advocacy groups, private providers, local and state public agencies and foster/adoptive parents.</p> <p>Objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • advising on child welfare program, policy, training and practice issues; • advising on the development of the five-year Child and Family Services Plan and annual progress reports, as well as other state plans under the responsibility of Family Services; and • guiding development and implementation of Virginia's Program Improvement Plan (PIP) for any element that Virginia does not meet requirements of the Child and Family Services Review. <p>Commission's involvement: Committee Member</p>	<p>DSS child welfare programs addressed by CWAC include Adoption, Child Protective Services, Family Preservation, Foster Care, and Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC).</p> <p>CWAC currently meets on the third Friday of each month.</p> <p>On February 17, 2012, members received updates on the customer portal and on the PIP.</p> <p>At the April 20, 2012 meeting, the members received a legislative update from the Department of Social Services. Updates on the PIP, Outcome Based Reporting and Analysis, and Custody Assistance/Adoption Assistance were also provided.</p> <p>The next meeting is scheduled for May 18. Agendas and minutes are available at the DSS website www.dss.virginia.gov.</p>
Social Services	<p>The Child Support Guidelines Review Panel determines the adequacy of the guidelines for determining appropriate awards for the support of children by considering current research and data on the cost of and expenditures necessary for rearing children, and any other resources it deems relevant.</p> <p>States are required by federal regulation to review at least quadrennially their criteria for determining child support awards.</p> <p>The Panel consists of 15 members, including four legislative members and 11 non-legislative citizen members.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Panel Member</p>	<p>Pursuant to § 20-108.2 of the Code, the Panel is directed to review guidelines and report its findings to the General Assembly.</p> <p>The panel meets next on June 12, 2012.</p> <p>Meeting agendas and minutes are available at http://dls.state.va.us/childsupport.htm.</p>
Social Services	<p>Prevent Child Abuse Virginia (PCAV) is a statewide, private nonprofit organization leading a coalition of community partners across the Commonwealth. It coordinates Healthy Families Virginia (HFV), a statewide system of support and information for all new families about parenting and community resources. It makes home visiting services available to families needing personal guidance. Other direct service programs include Hugs and Kisses and Nurturing Programs. In addition, PCAV provides Awareness Activities, such as Child Abuse Prevention Month promotions and a "Together for Children" newsletter, as well as educational opportunities and advocacy. Print and electronic materials are provided at no cost to parents and educators.</p> <p>DSS administers both the Virginia Family Violence Prevention Program (VFVPP) and Community Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) program grants for child abuse and neglect prevention. The VFVPP Program was established in 1982 for purposes stated in § 63.2-1502.3 of the Code: "to assist in developing programs aimed at discovering and preventing the many factors causing child abuse and neglect."</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The PCAV 2012 prevention theme is "Every Child Counts: Know Them. Nurture Them. Protect Them." The 2012 Child Abuse Prevention Conference was held April 2 in Richmond, co-sponsored by DSS and PCAV, in conjunction with April's month of commemoration. The one-day conference featured skill-building sessions on a broad range of topics related to child safety. Keynote speaker was Sandra Alexander, M.Ed., consultant in Child Maltreatment in the Division of Violence Prevention at the CDC National Center for Injury Prevention and Control.</p> <p>The organization fundraises throughout the year. Its next event is June 16, 2012: the PCAV annual 100-mile ride for bikers from throughout the state. All funds are a direct contribution to the organization.</p>

CHILD WELFARE (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Social Services	<p>The scope of Virginia's programs is presented in DSS' quarterly Virginia Child Protection Newsletter (VCPN). The scholarly periodical, which provides service providers and educators with detailed descriptions of Virginia programs, current research, and national trends, is published by DSS Child Protective Services Unit and James Madison University's Department of Psychology.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The topic of the Winter 2011 issue is "Developing Resilience and Strengthening Families." The Spring 2012 issue is pending.</p> <p>Current and past issues are available at the James Madison website—http://www.psychweb.cisat.jmu.edu/graysojh.</p>
Social Services	<p>The Virginia Information and Referral (I&R) System has existed for almost a quarter of a century. Section 63.2-222 of the Code established a statewide I&R system, which is designed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Collect and maintain accurate and complete resource data on a statewide basis; ▪ Link citizens needing human services with appropriate community resources to satisfy those needs; ▪ Assist in planning for human services delivery at the local, regional and state levels; and ▪ Provide information to assist decision-makers in allocating financial and other resources to respond to State and local human service priorities. <p>Item 333-F-1-3 of the 2010-2012 Appropriation Act directs DSS to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Request that all state and local child-serving agencies be included in the Virginia Statewide I&R System, as well as any agency or entity that receives state general fund dollars and provides services to families and youth. The Secretaries of Health and Human Resources, Education, and Public Safety shall assist in this effort by requesting all affected agencies within their Secretariats to submit information to the statewide I&R System and ensure that such information is accurate and updated annually. Agencies shall also notify the Virginia I&R System of changes in services that occur throughout the year. ▪ Communicate with Virginia child-serving agencies about the availability of the statewide I&R System. This information shall also be communicated via the DSS' broadcast system on their agency-wide Intranet so that all local and regional offices can be better informed about the Statewide I&R System. Information on the Statewide I&R System shall also be included within the Department's electronic mailings to all local and regional offices at least biannually. <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>Regional Call Centers include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council of Community Services – Roanoke; • Family Resource & Referral – Staunton; • Crisis Link – Northern Virginia; • The Planning Council – Norfolk; • United Way of Central Virginia – Lynchburg; and • United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg. <p>Centers are certified through AIRS, the international Alliance of Information and Referral Systems, a statewide association working to ensure that all Virginians have access to quality health and human services information.</p> <p>2-1-1 offers callers a connection to a trained professional who provides referrals to health and human services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic human needs; • Work initiatives (including GED preparation and educational/vocational training programs); • Support to seniors and those with disabilities (including relative caregiver information); • Support for children, youth and families (including after-school programs, tutoring, mentorships, protective services, early childhood learning programs, child care referral centers); and • Volunteer service opportunities and donations, • Physical and mental health resources (pre-natal care, children's health insurance, support groups). <p>Its website, www.211virginia.org, is updated for on-line inquiries and now has Spanish as a second language option. It also offers assistance to users with vision or hearing impairments.</p>
Social Services	<p>Virginia Community Action Partnership (VACAP) is the statewide membership association for Virginia's thirty non-profit private and public community action agencies which work to fight poverty and build self-sufficiency for strong families and communities.</p> <p>Item 333-A-3 of the 2010-2012 Appropriation Act directs VACAP to support the Virginia Earned Income Tax Coalition and provide grants to local organizations offering outreach, education and tax preparation services to citizens eligible for the federal Earned Income Tax Credit.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>Budget language requires the Department of Social Services to report its findings no later than December 1 of each year to the Governor and the Chairmen of the Senate Finance and House Appropriations Committees and the Chairman of the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission. <i>Report Document 336</i> was published December 2011 and is available on the General Assembly's Legislative Information System website.</p> <p>Among recent news items for 2012:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People Incorporated of Virginia in Abingdon, named in 2011 as one of the Best NonProfit Organizations to Work for, announced in April 2012 that it has been awarded a \$10,000 grant from Wells Fargo to assist in the Bristol Downtown Revitalization Loan Fund. • The Cherrystone Missionary Baptist Association and Pittsylvania County Community Action are partnering on a project that will include construction of a half-mile walking trail with fitness/exercise stations and a playground at Ringgold. <p>Further information is available at http://www.vacap.org.</p>

CHILD WELFARE (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Social Services	<p>The Virginia Partnership for Out-of-School-Time (VPOST) is a statewide public-private partnership dedicated to developing and expanding academic, social, emotional, and physical supports and services to school-age children and youth across the Commonwealth of Virginia during the out-of-school time hours – before-school, after-school, vacations periods, and summer.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Leadership Council Member</p>	<p>A core group of key stakeholders in Virginia began meeting in April 2009 to begin the process of identifying individuals with expertise in the field Out-of-School Time (OST). The goal was to bring together representatives from the governor's office, state education agency, child care, health, labor, youth development, juvenile justice, statewide associations, and the private sector to promote quality OST programs throughout Virginia through collaboration. In January 2011, through a Mott Grant, VPOST was able to hire an executive director for the network.</p> <p>In February 2011, the Virginia Department of Education (DOE) announced the availability of 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) grant funds to be awarded to school divisions and eligible organizations. These funds, which support implementation of community learning centers that assist student learning and development, are provided under Title IV, Part B, of the <i>No Child Left Behind Act of 2001</i> (NCLB).</p> <p>Applications for 21st CCLC competitive grant are due April 27, 2012. DOE will fund projects that provide significantly expanded learning opportunities for children and youth, and that will assist students in meeting or exceeding state and local standards in core academic subjects. Applicants eligible to submit a proposal for this competition are school divisions, nonprofit agencies, city or county government agencies, faith-based organizations, institutions of higher education, and for-profit corporations.</p> <p>Virginia is one of nine statewide afterschool networks from across the country selected to host Mayoral Summits on expanding access to afterschool programs and building citywide OST systems. Virginia's 2012 Out-of-School Time Summit, <i>the Power of Out-of-School Time: Engaging Youth, Strengthening Families, and Transforming Communities</i>, is scheduled for June 6, 2012. The City of Richmond is hosting the event. The selection was made by the National League of Cities' (NLC) Institute for Youth, Education and Families. The project, which is intended to strengthen ways that city and state leaders collaborate to provide these opportunities for youth, is supported through a partnership between the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation and The Wallace Foundation.</p> <p>Further information on VPOST outreach is available at http://www.v-post.org/home.html.</p>
Housing and Community Development/ Social Services	<p>The Child Care for Homeless Children Program is provided through the federally funded Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG). The origination point of the block grant is the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families. The Virginia Department of Social Services (DSS) is the lead agency, as designated by the chief executive officer of the State of Virginia, which administers the CCDBG. DSS makes available a portion of the CCDBG funds for the Child Care for Homeless Children Program (CCHCP).</p> <p>The Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) administers the CCHCP through an interagency agreement with DSS. The goal of the Child Care for Homeless Children Program is to increase the availability and affordability of quality child care to homeless families residing in an emergency shelter or transitional housing.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The Child Care for Homeless Children Program objectives are to provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal funding to emergency shelters and transitional housing programs to afford homeless parents with a broader range of child care options for their children; and • Homeless families with financial resources to aid in the transition to self-sufficiency. <p>In FY12, the CCDGB grant provides \$350,000 to be reimbursed to service providers statewide.</p> <p>Further information is available at www.dhcd.virginia.gov.</p>

CHILD WELFARE (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Social Services	<p>The Virginia League of Social Services Executives (VLSSE) is a statewide organization whose goal is to foster collegial relationships among its members and collaboration among agencies and governments in the formulation, implementation, and advocacy of legislation and policies which promote the public welfare. It targets categories of social services through committees, including the Child Care Committee, the CSA Committee and the Child and Family Services Committee. The charges for the Child and Family Services Committee are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify child welfare workgroups and works with state partners to insure League representation on those workgroups in the development of the implementation plans for state initiatives related to child welfare. As a continuous quality improvement effort, work to develop an MOU with state partners to establish a more effective communication system regarding child welfare practice so that modifications to guidance is shared consistently statewide Develop a document identifying the current state of children in Virginia and what is needed by local agencies to improve the process of serving families. <p>Commission's involvement: VLSSE Child and Family Services Committee Member, Tracking the CSA Committee</p>	<p>The Child and Family Services Committee meets the first Friday of each month. At the March 2, 2012 meeting, the members received information on Adoption Subsidy and Custody Assistance, Medicaid Managed Care, Virginia Enhanced Maintenance Assistance Tool (VEMAT), and the Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children (ICPC). Commission staff also presented on child-welfare related legislation considered by the 2012 General Assembly.</p> <p>The CSA Committee met March 26, 2012 and again on April 6. Agenda items included a discussion of Medicaid Managed Care, a status report on Adoption Subsidy, Custody Assistance and CPS appeals, the Family Strengthening Initiative and ICPC legislation. The Committee also held a discussion on VEMAT and received information on the Adoption Subsidy.</p> <p>The Committee held its Spring Conference on May 2-4 in Williamsburg. The Child Welfare Subcommittee and others met in conjunction with this event.</p>
Social Services	<p>The Community Builders' Network of Virginia (CBN) is a non-profit organization which serves as a network of community-based coalitions.</p> <p>The coalitions which make up this organization collectively offer alternative activities to youth and adults that focus on eliminating alcohol and substance abuse, strengthening family structure and other positive activities.</p> <p>CBN offers financial and technical support, networking opportunities, and educational training and collaborates with all member coalitions to provide technical assistance, planning, education and training as a means for facilitating coalition based activities.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Organizational Partner and Participant</p>	<p>CBN holds an annual conference in late summer. Announcement of date and topic are pending.</p>
Criminal Justice Services	<p>Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) is offering Gang Resistance and Education Training Program (GREAT) from October 29, 2012 through November 7, 2012.</p> <p>This gang and violence prevention program is built around school-based, law enforcement officer-instructed classroom curricula. The program is intended as an immunization against delinquency, youth violence, and gang membership for children in the years immediately before the prime ages for introduction into gangs and delinquent behavior.</p> <p>GREAT partners with nationally recognized organizations, such as the Boys & Girls Clubs of America and the National Association of Police Athletic Leagues.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>A calendar of events and training opportunities offered by DCJS is on its website at dcjs.virginia.gov.</p>

CHILD WELFARE (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Voices for Virginia's Children	<p>The KIDS COUNT data system is an on-going nationwide effort to monitor key statistical indicators of the well-being of children. Supported by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, KIDS COUNT gives policy makers, researchers, government and elected officials, funders and others ready access to more than 100 up-to-date statistical indicators of health status, educational achievement, poverty and socio-economic status, family and community demographics reflecting overall child-being and risk factors that threaten well-being. The data is presented such that Virginia data can be compared to other states and national trends.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>Voices for Virginia's Children, a non-profit organization, is part of the KIDS COUNT national network. An Advisory Group of professionals has been convened to assess data needs in Virginia. Voices maintains a KIDS COUNT on-line data center to make accessing and portraying data easier for users. The data center can be accessed at http://vakids.org/work/kcdata.htm.</p> <p>Data is categorized by the following factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education • Economic Well-Being • Health • Safety and Risky Behaviors <p>New data recently released by the Census Bureau shows that the latest child poverty rate in Virginia is 14.2%, up from 13.9% in 2009, exceeding the overall Virginia poverty rate of 11.1%. Moreover, the data reveal that poverty rates vary across congressional districts from 6.4% to 29.5%.</p>

KINSHIP CARE, FOSTER CARE & ADOPTION

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Commission on Youth	<p>The Commission on Youth will convene an advisory group of representatives from impacted agencies and stakeholder organizations to clarify the Definition of Kinship Caregivers as one of its 2012 legislative initiatives.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Commission on Youth Study</p>	<p>The Commission on Youth takes action on the draft 2012 study plan at its May 14, 2012 meeting.</p> <p>During the 2012 study year, an advisory group of stakeholders will be convened and Commission staff will conduct research as indicated in the approved study plan.</p> <p>The Advisory Group will formulate recommendations to be presented with the Commission on Youth prior to the 2013 General Assembly Session.</p>
Commission on Youth	<p>The Commission on Youth will study the feasibility of creating a procedure for the restoration of parental rights for parents whose rights to their child/children were previously terminated. This study originated from legislation introduced during the 2012 General Assembly Session (HB 450, Toscano; SB 218, Barker; SB 555, Favola), which was referred to the Commission on Youth by the House and Senate Courts of Justice Committees. The bills were carried over to the 2013 General Assembly Session.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Commission on Youth Study</p>	<p>The Commission on Youth takes action on the draft 2012 study plan at its May 14, 2012 meeting.</p> <p>During the 2012 study year, an advisory group of stakeholders will be convened and Commission staff will conduct research as indicated in the approved study plan.</p> <p>The Advisory Group will formulate recommendations to be presented with the Commission on Youth prior to the 2013 General Assembly Session.</p>
Social Services	<p>On May 3, 2011, the Department of Social Services announced plans to move forward with the Custody Assistance Program (formerly known as Guardianship Assistance). The program supports permanency for children and youth in foster care, with the goal of placement with relatives.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking; Commission on Youth Recommendation from 2010 Study of Barriers to Kinship Care</p>	<p>In 2009, DSS convened a diverse workgroup responsible for assessing the feasibility of custody assistance in Virginia and also developed an implementation plan including draft policies and procedures, On-line Automated Services Information System (OASIS) changes, and information sharing strategies. The work of this group served as the basis for an updated implementation plan and moving the Custody Assistance Program forward during the next fiscal year.</p> <p>The Program is being implemented in Virginia in 2012. DSS leadership presented on program progress at the Commission on Youth meeting on May 14, 2012.</p>

KINSHIP CARE, FOSTER CARE & ADOPTION (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Aging	<p>The Department for the Aging's Kinship Care Task Force is a statewide Task Force and information network which focuses on inter-generational activities, as well as communication issues among the kinship care community.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Task Force Member</p>	<p>At the Task Force's meeting on March 8, 2012, Commission on Youth staff briefed the members on recommendations adopted by the Commission related to the 2010 Study of Barriers to Kinship Care in Virginia. Members also received an update on the Department's Plan for a kinship care navigator, which was submitted in the fall of 2011 to the Commission on Youth. The Task Force will meet in the spring and continue investigating potential funding sources for implementing a kinship navigator in Virginia.</p>
Medical Assistance Services	<p>Treatment Foster Care and Residential Psychiatric Services Training—Item 307-R of the 2012 Budget Bill requires the Department of Medical Assistance Services, in cooperation with the State Executive Council, to offer semi-annual training to local Comprehensive Services Act teams on procedures for using Medicaid for residential treatment and treatment foster care services.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>Further information on the 2011 calendar is available at www.dmas.virginia.gov/default.aspx.</p>
Social Services	<p>The Kinship Care Task Force addresses the needs of grand-parents and others caring for minor children in their families, as well as the needs of the those children. The Task Force, which meets quarterly, was created to examine the feasibility of establishing a Kinship Care program in Virginia.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Senator Yvonne Miller co-chairs the Task Force; Commission staff serves as a member.</p>	<p>Currently, this Task Force is inactive.</p>
Social Services	<p>Foster Care Training — Item 336-A of the 2012 Budget Bill directs the Department of Social Services, in collaboration with the Office of Comprehensive Services, to provide training to local staff serving on Family Assessment and Planning Teams and Community Policy and Management Teams. Training will address federal and state requirements related to foster care services funded under § 2.2-5211 of the Code, as well as written guidance on which services remain the financial responsibility of local departments.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>As mandated, training will be provided on a regional basis at least annually.</p> <p>A list of on-going training opportunities is available at the CSA website — www.csa.state.va.us/csacal/maincal.cfm.</p>
Social Services	<p>Legislation passed by the 2012 General Assembly (SB 299, Howell) provides that the Commissioner of Social Services may grant a variance from requirements governing approval of foster care placements and may approve an arrangement for kinship foster care/kinship foster care provider when he determines (i) the requirement would impose a hardship on the kinship foster care provider, and (ii) the variance will not adversely affect the safety and well-being of the child.</p> <p>The bill also provides that a local board of social services or child-placing agency may approve an application for approval as an arrangement for kinship care or a kinship foster care provider when the applicant has been convicted of a felony related to the possession of drugs other than felony offenses related to possession with the intent to distribute drugs, a misdemeanor conviction for arson, or an equivalent offense in another state, provided 10 years have elapsed since the date of the conviction and the local board or child-placing agency makes a specific finding that the placement would not endanger the safety or well-being of the child.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The Board of Social Services and affected agencies are being briefed on the legislation.</p>

KINSHIP CARE, FOSTER CARE & ADOPTION (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Social Services	<p>The Department of Social Services has formed IV-E Waiver Steering Committee. The Committee is responding to guidance to states issues by the federal government that allows for some flexibility in the use of IV-E funds to meet one of three goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase permanency by reducing time in foster placements and promoting successful transitions to adulthood. • Increase positive outcomes for children and families in their homes and communities to include improved safety and well-being. • Prevent child abuse and neglect and prevent re-entry into foster care. <p>The overall goal of the Waiver is to improve outcomes for children and families.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Steering Committee member</p>	<p>The Committee met first on May 7, 2012 to discuss the waiver process, "lessons learned" from other states, including Virginia's previous attempt to obtain a waiver, and identification of a focus area.</p>
Social Services	<p>The Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008 (H.R. 6893/P.L. 110-351) addresses the needs of youth in foster care by promoting permanent families for them through relative guardianship and adoption and improving education and health care. Additionally, it extends federal support for youth up to age 21. The Fostering Connections Act will, for the first time, offer many American Indian children federal protections and support, and provides for the following:</p> <p><u>Ensuring Permanent Placements with Relatives</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kinship guardianship assistance payments for children living in foster care with relatives • Licensing standards for relatives <p><u>Increasing Adoptive Families for Children</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal support for adoption assistance for more children with special needs • Expanding the Adoption Incentives Program • Making older children who exit foster care eligible for additional supports • Outreach about the adoption tax credit <p><u>Maintaining Sibling Ties and Other Family Connections</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Placing siblings together • Family Connection Grants <p><u>Improving Outcomes for Older Youth in Foster Care</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing federal support for children in foster care after age 18 • Helping older youth successfully transition from foster care to independence <p><u>Improving the Quality of Staff Working with Children in the Child Welfare System</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extending federal training to more staff <p><u>Increasing Access to Federal Funding to Promote Better Outcomes for Indian Children</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allowing Indian tribes direct access to federal foster care and adoption assistance funds <p><u>Addressing Children's Health and Education Needs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing health oversight and coordination plans • Promoting educational stability <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>Although this is a federal initiative, it is included because of its far-reaching impact on future state initiatives in the Commonwealth.</p> <p>Fostering Connections provides a website which contains technical resources and information for policymakers and others in Virginia who are working to implement the Act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quick facts about children in foster care in Virginia; • Current legislation proposed and enacted related to the law; • Existing state policies, tools, analyses and research relevant for the various components of the new law; • Examples of state and tribal approaches to implementation; • Information about upcoming events and news; and • A listing of Virginia contacts that may be helpful resources for Virginia's efforts in implementing the Act. <p>On August 31, 2011, the Department of Education, in partnership with the state Department of Social Services, conducted a training session for School Division Foster Care Liaisons, LDSS workers, CSA representatives, resource parents, guardians ad litem, and others. Training topics were promoting educational stability and improving educational outcomes for students in foster care. The Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-351) requires that child welfare agencies coordinate efforts with school divisions to keep children enrolled in their current school while in foster care.</p> <p>Additional information is available at www.fosteringconnections.org/resources/state?id=0046.</p>

KINSHIP CARE, FOSTER CARE & ADOPTION (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Social Services	<p>FACES (Family Advocacy, Collaboration, Empowerment, and Support) of Virginia Families, the organization seeks to establish a grassroots effort for kinship parents, foster and adoptive parents in Virginia.</p> <p>FACES, a not-for-profit association funded by the Virginia Department of Social Services (DSS), supports recruitment and retention of foster, kinship and adoptive parents, provides information to the State about what families need in terms of support and training, and advocates for the needs of youth and families.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>FACES' Family Academy 2012 is planned for June 6 in Richmond. An earlier event was held on April 28, 2012 in Lynchburg. A Special Membership Meeting was held on April 14 in Richmond.</p> <p>FACES has added a "Lean on Me" webpage for kinship caregivers as part of a mission to identify foster, adoptive, and kinship families in need of referrals and supports. Weblinks for Caregivers and for Youth are provided on the FACES website—www.facesofvirginia.org.</p> <p>FACES maintains a toll-free phone number for families through funding under a DSS family support contract.</p>
Department of Medical Assistance Services/Richmond Department of Social Services	<p>The Richmond Foster Care Pilot Program was developed in response to request from the City to provide more coordinated care for children in foster care. The Department of Medical Assistance services (DMAS) received permission from the Governor and the federal government to move foster care children in the City into managed care health plans. DMAS, Richmond City DSS and the four managed care organizations (MCOs) in Richmond have been working collaboratively to make the transition as smooth as possible.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The goal of this pilot is to provide access to preventive and coordinated care. MCOs cover the same services as fee-for-service Medicaid, however, the plans offer additional services such as no co-payments, 24 hour nurse advice line, disease management, case management, health education programs</p>

CHILD CARE

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Social Services	<p>Automation of Day Care Assistance Program—Item 327-L of the 2010-2012 Appropriation Act expresses the General Assembly's intent that the Department of Social Services (DSS) automated day care assistance programs.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>In January 2009, DSS issued a Request for Information (RFI) to determine whether baseline requirements developed for the automated child care system could be met with existing technology and to identify new functionalities to make program management more efficient. Award of the contract took place in November 2009.</p> <p>Budget language requires DSS to report on the adequacy of the system and needed action to the Governor and the General Assembly by October 15 of each year. <i>Report Document 221 (2010)</i> - is available on the General Assembly's Legislative Information System.</p>
Social Services	<p>The Child Day Care Council (CDCC) is authorized by the Code to adopt regulatory standards for licensure and operation of child day care centers in Virginia. Also, in collaboration with the Virginia Recreation and Park Society and the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, CDCC is charged with promulgating regulations for therapeutic recreation programs. The regulations are to be developed in consultation with representatives of the affected entities and are not to require the adoption of a specific teaching approach or doctrine.</p> <p>The CDCC, which operates under the supervision of the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, is comprised of a minimum of 28 members appointed by the Governor and representing a variety of interests from around the state. The Council is guided by its 2006-2011 Strategic Plan.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>CDCC generally meets six times per year on the 2nd Thursday of every other month, opposite meetings of the Board</p> <p>Meeting agendas and minutes are available at http://www.dss.state.va.us/geninfo/cdc_council.</p> <p>On November 29, Governor McDonnell announced that, among other 2012 Government Reform Initiatives, the CDCC was one of the boards and commissions recommended to be eliminated.</p>

PUBLIC SAFETY

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Social Services	<p>Legislation passed by the 2011 General Assembly requires the Department of Social Services, to develop a plan for provision of services to victims of human trafficking. The legislation went into effect on July 21, 2011.</p> <p>The Virginia Department of Social Services, Office of Newcomer Services has been charged with the responsibility of facilitating the work of a steering committee and three workgroups.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Workgroup member</p>	<p>The workgroup met on April 30, 2012, to explore the short (<i>emergency shelter</i>) and long-term housing issues for both juveniles and adults. The workgroup developed recommendations about short and long term housing that will be included in our report to the 2013 General Assembly. Also discussed was promoting Safe Haven laws for juvenile victims of domestic minor sex trafficking. Representatives from the VA Department of Housing and Community Development, the VA Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Action Alliance and the Virginia Coalition to End Homelessness were invited to the meeting.</p>
Criminal Justice Services	<p>Education and Training Services in Juvenile Detention Centers—Item 384 of the amended 2010-2012 Appropriation Act directed the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), in coordination with the Department of Correctional Education (DCE), shall conduct a study of the education and training services that are available in juvenile detention centers, as well as local jails.</p> <p>The study shall examine the level and types of services available, as well as the barriers to providing such services and the gaps in service provision. It shall also determine the amounts and types of funding provided for such services.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>DCJS shall report its findings to the Secretary of Public Safety by October 1, 2011.</p> <p><i>Report Document 254</i> was published in September 2011 and is available on the General Assembly's Legislative Information System.</p>
Behavioral Health and Developmental Services/ Social Services/ Education/Military Affairs	<p>Legislation passed by the 2012 General Assembly (HB 971, Bell, Robert B.) adds the following crimes to various barrier crimes statutes: abduction, extortion, and felony violations of protective orders.</p> <p>People convicted of or the subject of pending charges of one of those crimes will not be able to work, volunteer, or provide services on a regular basis at a children's residential facility that is regulated or operated by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS), certain structured residential programs for juveniles, or children's residential facilities regulated or operated by the Department of Social Services, Education, or Military Affairs. (Additional work restrictions apply for adult facilities.)</p> <p>Persons convicted of such crimes cannot be approved by a child-placing agency as adoptive or foster parents and cannot be adult foster care home providers or providers of home-based adult services. In addition, they cannot work at certain schools, assisted living facilities, adult day care centers, child welfare agencies, or family day homes.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>Affected agencies are being briefed on the legislation.</p>
Office of the Attorney General	<p>Virginia's Anti-Bullying Initiative is the vehicle through which the Attorney General's Office (OAG) provides public education on the topic of bullying and its ramifications, many of which have a basis in the Code of Virginia. Included in the categories which are addressed on the OAG website is Cyberbullying as a new phenomenon reflecting a proliferation of electronic devices for communication</p> <p>Also addressed is Virginia law which holds students to a model practice, and allows the local School Board to use disciplinary measures if a student violates the model practice. (§ 18.2-60)</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The website outlines behaviors associated with bullying which can result in punishment under Virginia law, including: Threat; Extortion, Assault or Assault and Battery, Hazing, Malicious Wounding and Harassment by Computer.</p> <p>The following information is available on the OAG website—http://www.oag.state.va.us.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bullying Facts • Is Bullying a Problem? • Tips and Resources for Parents • Anti-Bullying PSA filmed with Miss Virginia 2011

PUBLIC SAFETY (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Criminal Justice Services/Virginia State Police	<p>The Internet Crimes Against Children Fund (ICAC) seeks to enhance investigation and prosecution of internet crimes against children. The ICAC funds may be used to support the salary and benefits for an ICAC dedicated investigator to conduct investigations related to ICAC affiliated cases or to support the salary and benefits for an ICAC dedicated forensic examiner to conduct forensic exams exclusively on ICAC affiliated cases.</p> <p>The law, which went into effect July 1, 2010, will assess an additional \$10 fee on each felony and misdemeanor conviction. The money will go into Virginia's Internet Crimes Against Children Fund to support the work of investigators. The fee is expected to generate at least \$1.5 million a year for the fund, which will be administered by the Virginia State Police. All fees are deposited into the state treasury and credited to the Internet Crimes Against Children Fund.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>In 2010, the Virginia General Assembly passed legislation creating the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Fund. The Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) is the administering agency for this fund. A \$10 fee is assessed as court costs on each felony or misdemeanor conviction. All fees collected are credited to the ICAC Fund. DCJS projects that approximately \$500,000.00 will be deposited into the fund each year.</p> <p>On October 21, 2010, DCJS announced the availability of grant funds to support local law enforcement agencies to enhance investigation and prosecution of internet crimes against children. The grant period is for 18 months beginning January 1, 2011.</p> <p>Operation Blue Ridge Thunder was established in 1998, through the Bedford County Virginia Sheriff's Office, to serve as a cooperative group of law enforcement agencies at all levels of government. Its mission is to safeguard children from Internet crime by weaving a seamless web of protection around them. On October 13, 2011, Bedford County Sheriff Mike Brown was named Outstanding Law Enforcement Executive by the Federal Law Enforcement Officers' Association (FLEOA). FLEOA said in its announcement that, while the organization seldom presents the award to anyone outside active federal agency service, Sheriff Brown was being recognized for his 44 years of law enforcement service and "tireless efforts to direct and support the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force." Operation Blue Ridge Thunder has grown into the Southern Virginia Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, which includes investigators from 77 law enforcement agencies. The Safe Surfin' Foundation, which Sheriff Brown founded in 2000, educates the public about the dangers of online predators.</p>
Criminal Justice Services	<p>In 2005, the General Assembly transferred the authority to collect school safety audit information from the Department of Education to the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS). The DCJS Virginia Center for School Safety (VCSS) is a resource and training center for information and research about national and statewide school safety efforts and reflects Virginia's commitment to providing safe and productive learning environments.</p> <p>The Code of Virginia §22.1-279.8 (School safety audits and school crisis and emergency management plans required) and §9.1-184 (Virginia Center for School Safety created; duties) mandates that the Center develop "a list of items to be included in the school safety audits and shall prescribe a standardized report format for school safety audits." Also, that "each local school board shall require all schools under its control to annually conduct school safety audits."</p> <p>Through the VCSS, schools and communities have access to proactive trainings, topical resources, public-private partnerships, data collection and evaluation, and a safety audit program outline.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>To date, the VCSS has developed three components for the school safety audit program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virginia School Safety Survey • Virginia School Crisis Management Plan Review and Certification • Virginia High School Safety Study <p>The Department of Criminal Justice Services uses the Center's webpage — www.dcjs.virginia.gov/vcss — to publicize training events and certification opportunities. There is also an extensive resource list for personnel involved in school safety efforts.</p> <p>VCSS' 2012 training calendar is published online at www.dcjs.virginia.gov.</p>

PUBLIC SAFETY (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Education	<p>Local School Divisions' Antibullying Policies Legislation adopted by the 2011 General Assembly required the Department of Education (DOE) to study existing student codes and make recommendations to the Board of Education, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) review and compare antibullying measures in the student codes of conduct from each school division; (ii) compare existing policies with the Department's model policy for codes of student conduct, and (iii) determine if improvements to existing policies are warranted, in order to more effectively combat bullying in Virginia's public schools. <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>DOE made two recommendations which were approved by the Board. These will be undertaken by the Department:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a model comprehensive antibullying policy, using the ten best practice components identified in this study; and. • Provide technical assistance and training for school divisions and schools in best policies, practices and procedures for implementing evidence-based bullying prevention and responding to bullying incidents. <p>Study findings and recommendations are published as <i>House Document 7 (2012), Study of the Nature and Effectiveness of Local School Divisions' Antibullying Policies</i>. The report is available on the General Assembly's Legislative Information System website.</p>
University of Virginia	<p>The University of Virginia's Curry School of Education's Virginia Youth Violence Project addresses the range of youth violence prevention and school safety issues and provides training and support to schools educators through the Commonwealth. Bullying is included in the project's scope, as are more traditional public safety issues: Violence in the Schools, Threat Assessment, Prevention and Juvenile Violence.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>A synopsis of the study findings, as well as state and national legislative initiatives, is available at www.youthviolence.edschool.virginia.edu.</p>
University of Virginia	<p>The University of Virginia's Curry School of Education's Youth-Nex project promotes healthy youth development, educational attainment and learning through research, training and service. Established as UVA's Center to Promote Effective Youth Development, the Center is a cross-University, transdisciplinary catalyst for research, training and service, administered by Curry School of Education.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>In seeing to use science to enhance the strengths of youth and prevent developmental risk, Youth-Nex has named a project director who is both a professor of education and a professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Neurobehavioral Sciences. It focuses research on healthy lifestyles and decisions, engaged citizens, risk avoidance, and supportive relationships.</p> <p>Youth-Nex is supported by a grant from Philip Morris USA, an Altria Company.</p> <p>Further information on the project is available at curry.virginia.edu/youth-nex.</p>

RE-ENTRY

Lead Agency	Description	Status
	<p>Governor McDonnell has renamed the Virginia Prisoner Re-entry Policy Academy, established pursuant to Executive Order 97 (2009), as the Virginia Prisoner and Juvenile Offender Re-Entry Council to strengthen its mission of promoting re-entry strategies for adult and juvenile offenders.</p> <p>The Secretary of Public Safety chairs the Council. As defined by Executive Order 11 (2010), the Council has the following functions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify barriers that exist in each member's department or agency that may impede successful transition of offenders returning to their communities; and develop and implement procedures to overcome such barriers, to include job training, education, housing, and substance abuse treatment. • Improve collaboration and coordination of transitional services, including providing cross-training; sharing information among state agencies; and developing policies, procedures, and programs with well-defined, performance-based outcomes that enhance re-entry management. • Establish partnerships between community colleges and the business sector to promote employment and transitional jobs for released offenders. • Engage local agencies, community-based social service providers, community organizations, faith-based organizations, as well as other stakeholders, in promoting successful re-entry policies and programs. • Submit a status report of actions taken to improve offender transitional and re-entry services to the Governor and the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees no later than December 15 of each year. <p>The Prisoner Re-entry Coordinator works with the Council to develop a long-term strategic plan for achieving the goal of reducing offender recidivism for those released from incarceration. The plan, which is required to have measurable goals and specific outcome performance measures, will set out comprehensive strategies to be employed while offenders are incarcerated and to continue following their release. Also, the plan will identify methods of improving communication, sharing of information, and collaborating between state and local agencies.</p> <p>Executive Order 11 required the Council and the appropriate workgroups to work collaboratively with the Juvenile Re-entry Advisory Group established by the Virginia Commission on Youth on improving the success and safety of juveniles returning to their community. This Advisory Group completed its work in November 2010.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Delegate Sherwood and Delegate Peace serve as a Council Member; Commission staff serves as a Juvenile Committee Member.</p>	<p>The Governor created the position of Statewide Prisoner Re-entry Coordinator for Virginia. The appointee, announced March 19, 2010, works across secretariats, with state agencies, local and federal partners, as well as faith-based and non-profit organizations, to develop and implement a comprehensive plan for prisoner re-entry in Virginia. The goals encompass youth, as well as adult, offenders.</p> <p>Among the 38 states that report felon recidivism as re-imprisonment within three years of release, Virginia ties for the sixth lowest recidivism, with a rate of 28.3 percent. Although the rate represents an accomplishment, it also indicates that - over a three year period - more than 10,000 offender's recidivate, either because they have committed new crimes or have failed to comply with the conditions of probation or parole supervision. This number represents new victims, higher taxpayer costs associated with police and court processes and re-incarceration, unsupported families on public assistance, and other negative social implications.</p> <p>The Council's 2011 meetings focused on reviewing and refining the recommendations offered in 2010. In addition, the Council studied implementation of the four-year strategic plans developed by the Department of Corrections (DOC), Virginia Adult Re-entry Initiative, and Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). The Council's three committees and its workgroups submitted new recommendations and revisions to previous recommendations.</p> <p>The Year 2 <i>Status Report on Offender Transitional and Re-entry Services</i> to the Virginia General Assembly was published by the Secretary's Office on November 15, 2011.</p> <p>Information on the Re-entry Council is available at www.publicsafety.virginia.gov/Initiatives/Re-Entry.</p>

RE-ENTRY (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Secretary of Public Safety	<p>Signed into law on April 9, 2008, the Second Chance Act (P.L. 110-199) aims to improve outcomes for people returning to communities from prisons and jails. This first-of-its-kind legislation authorizes federal grants to government agencies and nonprofit organizations to provide employment assistance, substance abuse treatment, housing, family programming, mentoring, victims support, and other services to help reduce recidivism.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>On September 15, 2010, Governor McDonnell announced \$1.5 million in new funding for Virginia's Comprehensive Prisoner Re-Entry Program. This amount includes \$750,000 in Second Chance funds to support high-risk offenders re-entering their communities. Funds are distributed to six re-entry councils established in Charlottesville, Culpeper, King George, Norfolk, Richmond City and 14 localities in Southwest Virginia. Second Chance funds also supported the creation of the Norfolk Circuit Re-entry Docket, a new re-entry court pilot program.</p> <p>The Verizon Foundation has also supplemented a federal grant which serves female offenders in drug treatment programs from Tazewell, Russell and Buchanan counties. Programs began in October 2010.</p> <p>Also, the Department of Juvenile Justice is partnering with Tidewater Youth Services Commission (TYSC), who will provide services to juvenile offenders. TYSC will provide case management services, intensive supervision and the youth assessment and services instrument. Final approval of the grant was received in January. Services started April 1, 2011; staff have been hired and services will be provided in Virginia Beach and Chesapeake. The OJJDP grant is slated for three years.</p>
Social Services/ Correctional Education	<p>Prisoner Re-entry Programs Item 327-H of the 2010-2012 Appropriation Act directs the Department of Social Services (DSS), in conjunction with the Department of Correctional Education (DCE), to identify and apply for federal, private and faith-based grants for pre-release parenting programs for non-custodial incarcerated parent offenders committed to the Department of Corrections.</p> <p>Budget language requires DSS to identify certain grant programs including, but not limited to the following: Promoting Responsible Fatherhood and Healthy Marriages, State Child Access and Visitation Block Grant, Serious and Violent Offender Re-entry Initiative Collaboration, Special Improvement Projects, Social Security Demonstration Grants, and new grant programs authorized under the federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant program.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>Section 2.2-213.2 of the Code stipulates that the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, with the Secretary of Public Safety, establish an integrated system for coordinating planning and provision of services for children of incarcerated parents among state, local, nonprofit agencies, and faith-based organizations to provide children with services needed to continue relationships with the incarcerated parents, where appropriate, and to encourage healthy relationships in the family and community.</p> <p>The Virginia Re-entry Policy Academy was established to help integrate and plan re-entry services provided by Virginia's state, local and community based agencies. The Academy also recommends re-entry policy and program improvements.</p> <p>Through the Academy's work, the Virginia Community Re-entry Program (VCRP) was created. This community-based re-entry approach coordinates the efforts of local law enforcement, community service providers, the judicial system, the faith community, ex-offenders and ex-offenders' families to identify and minimize re-entry barriers. Local re-entry councils, which are composed of representatives from public agencies, businesses, non-profits and faith-based organizations, develop community re-entry plans. Council representatives then coordinate with jails, correctional centers and persons incarcerated to assist those leaving prison/jail in developing and carrying out re-entry plans. Voluntary to participants, these and other existing re-entry programs are designed to help strengthen families and improve public safety.</p> <p>Local Re-entry Council meetings for 2012 are scheduled for March 2, June 1, September 7, and December 14.</p> <p>Further information on DSS efforts to strengthen re-entry efforts is available at http://www.dss.virginia.gov/community/prisoner_re-entry/index.cgi.</p>
Juvenile Justice	<p>On September 5, 2010 the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) began a pilot Video Visitation Program, Family Link, to enable residents and their families to visit via video in sites operated by DJJ and non-profit agencies. This contact will augment and support the DJJ visitation program, to enhance re-entry initiatives while fostering a stronger family connection.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>Currently Family Link is offered at Culpeper Juvenile Correctional Center, with additional DJJ facilities added as the program expands.</p> <p>At present, video visitation is available on Sundays at Saint James United Methodist Church in Hampton and is spearheaded by New Jubilee, Inc.</p>

RE-ENTRY (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Juvenile Justice	<p>In line with Governor McDonnell's priority of supporting successful re-entry, the Department of Juvenile Justice developed a Four-Year Strategic Plan for Juvenile Justice Re-entry.</p> <p>DJJ identifies the importance of improving outcomes for juvenile offenders released from commitment. In Virginia, approximately one-half of those released from a juvenile correctional center (JCC) in fiscal years 2004-2008 were re-arrested for a new crime within 12 months following release. Approximately 40 percent of those released were convicted of that new offense. At 36 months post-release, reconviction rates exceed 70 percent (for juveniles released in 2005).</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The Four-Year Strategic Plan was adopted in October 2010. The Department adopted the following goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote public safety and juvenile offender accountability; • Ensure juvenile offenders have an individualized plan for re-entry from commitment through release from supervision; • Improve re-entry outcomes by enhancing the service delivery system to become more comprehensive, continuous, and evidence-based; • Improve re-entry outcomes by providing opportunities for progressively increased responsibility and freedom; • Develop and nurture existing partnerships and collaborations to support successful re-entry in the community; • Create an organizational culture that supports risk reduction and re-entry work with juvenile offenders; • Conduct ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the re-entry strategic plan; and • Engage juvenile offenders and families in successful re-entry. <p>Further information on the Strategic Plan is available at www.djj.virginia.gov.</p>
Juvenile Justice	<p>Transitional Planning, which is intended to assist with re-entry and protect the public by providing parolees a combination of community supervision, accountability and treatment: addresses the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets factors predictive of reoffending behavior (family/living arrangement, substance abuse, education, mental health, vocational training, employability, peer groups, recreational interests, and leisure time); • Addresses criminogenic factors associated with recidivism; • Identifies appropriate treatment services and supervision needs; and • Addresses transitioning of school, housing, treatment, and employment. <p>The plan is an integral part of a juvenile's success and is implemented only through collaboration with Department of Correctional Education personnel, Juvenile Correctional Centers counselors, referring Parole Officers, re-enrollment coordinators, service providers, parents/family members, Department of Social Services, and community resources.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>Further information is available at www.djj.virginia.gov/Initiatives/TPO.aspx.</p>
Juvenile Justice	<p>Transitional Programs and Reentry Services Related to the Future of Virginia Juvenile Correctional Centers—As directed by Item 400 #1C of the amended 2010-2012 Appropriation Act, the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) shall prepare a report on the future of juvenile correctional centers (JCCs) in the Commonwealth. The intended result is a plan for closing a JCC and reallocating the cost savings to transitional programs and reentry services in selected juvenile secure detention facilities in the 2012-14 biennium. DJJ is directed to consult with impacted agencies and representatives. The report shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an analysis of JCC utilization rates; • an analysis of local and regional secure juvenile detention center utilization rates; • a determination of the appropriate number and types of beds, including security levels, necessary to manage the projected state-responsible and local-responsible juvenile population; and • an analysis of options for providing regional transitional programs and re-entry services at selected local and regional juvenile secure detention facilities. <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The report is to be submitted to the Governor, the Secretary of Public Safety, and the Chairmen of the Senate Finance and House Appropriations Committees by October 1, 2011. The <i>Status Report on Offender Transitional and Re-entry Services</i> to the Virginia General Assembly was published by the Secretary's Office on November 15, 2011.</p>

JUVENILE JUSTICE

Lead Agency	Description	Status
State Crime Commission	<p>The Virginia State Crime Commission is a criminal justice agency established in the legislative branch of government in the Code of Virginia.</p> <p>The purpose of the Commission is to study, report and make recommendations on all areas of public safety and protections.</p> <p>The Commission makes recommendations as it deems appropriate with respect to the foregoing matters, and coordinates the proposals and recommendations of all commissions and agencies as to legislation affecting crimes, crime control and criminal procedure.</p> <p>The Commission cooperates with the executive branch of state government, the Attorney General's Office and the judiciary who are, in turn, encouraged to cooperate with the Commission. The Commission also cooperates with governments and governmental agencies of other states and the United States.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking; Delegate Beverly Sherwood serves on the Commission.</p>	<p>The 2012 State Crime Commission meeting calendar has not been announced.</p> <p>Further information is available at http://vscc.virginia.gov/index.asp.</p>
Juvenile Justice	<p>In 1995, the Virginia General Assembly passed the Virginia Juvenile Community Crime Control Act (VJCCCA) "to establish a community-based system of progressive intensive sanctions and services that correspond to the severity of offense and treatment needs."</p> <p>The purpose of VJCCCA is "to deter crime by providing immediate, effective punishment that emphasizes accountability of the juvenile offender for his actions as well as reduces the pattern of repeat offending" and is meant to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be a community-based system; • Be made up of progressive intensive sanctions and services; • Correspond with the severity of the offense and treatment needs; encourage communities to develop, implement, operate and evaluate programs and services responsive to juvenile offender needs and crime trends in their community; • Provide an adequate level of services available to every Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court; • Allow local autonomy and flexibility in addressing juvenile crime; • Encourage public and private partnership in the design and delivery of services; • Emphasize parental responsibility, through services that hold juveniles and families accountable for their behavior; • Facilitate a locally driven statewide planning process for allocating state resources; and • Provide adequate service capacity <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>Item 399-F-3.d of the amended 2010-2012 Appropriation Act directs the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), with the assistance of the Departments of Correctional Education and Corrections, the Virginia Council on Juvenile Detention, juvenile court service unit directors, juvenile and domestic relations district court judges, and advocacy groups, to provide a report on the types of programs supported by the VJCCCA and whether youth participating in such programs are statistically less likely to be arrested, adjudicated or convicted, or incarcerated for either misdemeanors or crimes that would be considered felonies if committed by an adult.</p> <p>Item 399-G further direct DJJ to consolidate the annual reporting requirements in §§ 2.2-222 and 66-13 and in Chapters 755 and 914, 1996 Acts of the General Assembly, concerning juvenile offender demographics. The consolidated report is to address the progress of VJCCCA programs, including the requirements in Article 12.1 of Chapter 11 of Title 16.1 (§16.1-309.2 et seq.) related to the number of juveniles served, average cost for residential and nonresidential services, the number of employees, and descriptions of the contracts entered into by localities.</p> <p>The report shall be submitted to the Governor, the General Assembly, the Chairmen of the money committees, the Secretary of Public Safety, and the Department of Planning and Budget by the first day of the regular General Assembly session. <i>Report Document 178</i> was published October 1, 2011 and is available on the General Assembly's Legislative Information System's website. The document provides data to support its outcome measures: successful completion and recidivism.</p>

JUVENILE JUSTICE (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Juvenile Justice	<p>Item 400-D1-3 of the amended 2010-2012 Appropriation Act directs DJJ to prepare a Report on the Future of Juvenile Correctional Centers (JCCs) in the Commonwealth. The report shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an analysis of JCC utilization rates; • an analysis of local and regional secure juvenile detention center utilization rates; • a determination of the appropriate number and types of beds, including security levels, necessary to manage the projected state-responsible and local-responsible juvenile population; and • an analysis of options for providing regional transitional programs and re-entry services at selected local and regional juvenile secure detention facilities. <p>In preparing the budget language directs DJJ to consult with representatives of the Departments of Correctional Education and Education, the Virginia Council on Juvenile Detention, juvenile court service unit directors, juvenile and domestic relations district court judges, juvenile advocacy groups, the Virginia Prisoner and Juvenile Offender Re-entry Council, the Virginia Municipal League, and the Virginia Association of Counties. This consultation shall address the prospect of implementing a plan for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) the closing of one state juvenile correctional center and reallocating the cost savings to regional transitional programs and re-entry services at selected local and regional juvenile secure detention facilities; and 2) identifying funding to be transferred for the purpose of reinvesting in such programs and services. The report shall detail the feasibility and core components of such a plan and shall include a fiscal analysis of the impact on localities and on the department of the plan. <p>The fiscal analysis shall address state responsibilities related to transportation, education, medication, assistance to support security services provided directly by the juvenile detention facility, and comprehensive programming provided on a contractual basis by private, for-profit and non-profit providers, based on evidenced-based practices.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The mandated report shall be provided to the Governor, the Secretary of Public Safety, and the Chairmen of the Senate Finance and House Appropriations Committees on or before October 1, 2011. This report has been published as <i>Report Document 199</i> (2011) and is available on the General Assembly's Legislative Information System website.</p>
Board of Juvenile Justice	<p>The Board of Juvenile Justice, as specified in the Code, consists of seven members appointed by the Governor. The Board governs the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). Appointments are subject to confirmation by the General Assembly.</p> <p>As set forth by §66-10 of the Code, Board responsibilities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop and establish programmatic and fiscal policies governing the operation of programs and facilities for which the Department is responsible under this law; • ensure the development and implementation of a long-range youth services policy; • review and comment on all budgets and requests for appropriations for the Department prior to their submission to the Governor and on all applications for federal funds; • monitor the activities of the Department and its effectiveness in implementing the policies of the Board; • advise the Governor, Director and the General Assembly on matters relating to youth services; • promulgate such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this title and other laws of the Commonwealth administered by the Director or the Department; • ensure the development of programs to educate citizens and elicit public support for the activities of the Department; and • establish length-of-stay guidelines for juveniles indeterminately committed to the Department and to make such guidelines available for public comment. <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The Board typically meets five times each year. Agendas and meeting minutes are posted at http://www.djj.virginia.gov.</p> <p>During its April 13 meeting, staff provided an update on two studies: The Future of Juvenile Correctional Centers, pursuant to Item 400 D 1, and the Virginia Juvenile Community Crime Control Act (VJCCCA), pursuant to Item 399 D. DJJ is working on two initiatives: re-entry and gang.</p> <p>The Board is scheduled to meet on June 13, September 12 and November 14. Meeting agendas and minutes are available at www.djj.virginia.gov.</p>

JUVENILE JUSTICE (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Criminal Justice Services	<p>In 1998 an Executive Order created the New Partnership Commission for Community Safety, charged with the responsibility of advising the Governor on new initiatives to “promote community safety, particularly youth and family safety.” The Commission assessed the needs of localities across the Commonwealth and assisted them in addressing their individual community safety issues.</p> <p>The Commission asked the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) to recommend programs that foster the development of community safety initiatives at the local level. DCJS proposed, and the Commission approved, the Certified Crime Prevention Community Program. Based on a study conducted by the Virginia State Crime Commission in 1993, the goal of the program is to publicly recognize and certify localities that have implemented a defined set of community safety strategies as part of a comprehensive community safety/crime prevention effort.</p> <p>One of the first of its kind in the nation, the program is directed by DCJS’ Juvenile Services Division. The program encourages localities to develop and implement collaborative community safety plans within a flexible framework designed by the Commission. Furthermore, it provides an ongoing process by which communities can reassess and update their plans to address emerging community safety issues. To obtain certification, a locality must meet 12 core community safety elements/strategies augmented by a minimum of seven approved optional elements.</p> <p>Commission’s involvement: Tracking</p>	A calendar of training events and further information about the planning process is available at www.dcjs.virginia.gov .
Criminal Justice Services	<p>Virginia Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice is a 27-member group comprised of representatives of partner agencies and organizations from the juvenile justice, court services, criminal justice, law enforcement, social services, and behavioral health professions. The Committee includes one House of Delegates and one Senate of Virginia member.</p> <p>Commission’s involvement: Tracking</p>	Committee meetings are scheduled by the Department of Criminal Justice Services.
State and Local Juvenile Justice Agencies	<p>Virginia Council on Juvenile Detention (VCJD) assists the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) in developing standards, certification and evaluation related to detention programs and facilities. VCJD provides information and input to DJJ to aid in the formulation of detention policies and suggests improvements and/or modifications. VCJD also facilitates the collection and dissemination of information related to juvenile detention.</p> <p>Commission’s involvement: Tracking</p>	The Council meets quarterly.
Juvenile Justice	<p>Founded in 1966, the Virginia Juvenile Justice Association is administered by an elected board of directors comprised of professionals from court services, Department of Juvenile Justice Administration, indigent defense, the judiciary, secure detention, juvenile correctional facilities, halfway houses, group homes, private providers and others with an interest in youth and family services. The Association, which participates as a member of the Virginia Juvenile Justice Coalition, is committed to child advocacy and advancing the professional interests and competencies of its members.</p> <p>Commission’s involvement: Tracking</p>	The Association now has a Facebook group to provide an online forum for juvenile justice professionals to share information about recent articles and upcoming events. Information is available at www.thevjja.org .

JUVENILE JUSTICE (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Juvenile Justice	<p>The Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument (YASI) assesses risk, needs and protective factors and helps develop case plans for youth. The YASI includes a brief "pre-screening" version that arrives at an overall risk level as well as separate risk scores for legal history and social history (e.g., family, school and other adjustment domains). Much of the information for the YASI pre-screen is available from the JTS system and the remainder from a brief interview with the youth and/or family. The pre-screen generates a risk score on a four-point scale from No Risk through High Risk.</p> <p>The full YASI instrument examines and generates risk and protective scores for each of 10 domains, as well as overall risk classifications. These domains are legal history, family, school, community and peers, alcohol and drugs, mental health, aggression, (pro- and anti-social) attitudes, (social and cognitive) skills, and employment and free time. The full YASI will be employed for pre- and post-dispositional reports and case planning activities.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>On July 1, 2010, the YASI became the required risk assessment tool for all court service units (CSUs). All have completed the first phase of training; several have completed both phases. Additional implementation of the YASI (e.g., case planning) is planned for the near future.</p> <p>Further information is available at http://www.djj.virginia.gov/Initiatives/YASI.aspx.</p>
Criminal Justice Services	<p>The Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) sponsored its 2012 Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Conference, with the theme "Making a Difference in Juvenile Justice."</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Conference Attendee</p>	<p>The June 25-27, 2012 is being held in Newport News.</p> <p>Additional topics are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Behavioral issues in youth/strength based approaches • Behavioral health: trauma • Diversion options for truancy and reduced court involvement • Classroom vs. criminal behavior • Juvenile reentry to the community from correctional centers • Funding and sustainability (this will feature some creative ways folks have funded programs absent state and federal funding) • The disproportionate minority contact assessment process
Criminal Justice Services	<p>The Virginia Spirit of Youth Award is sponsored by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) and the Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice (ACJJ). Its purpose is to recognize and celebrate a young adult who has made great strides following involvement with the juvenile justice system; has overcome personal obstacles; and is today making significant contributions to society.</p> <p>The award also provides DCJS, the ACJJ, and the public with an important opportunity to learn from a young person's direct experience about the hard work and dedication it takes to build a better life, and how juvenile justice professionals and systems can most effectively be of help.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>Nominations for the award are received from a statewide constituency.</p>

MENTAL HEALTH/DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Commission on Youth	<p>SJR 358 (2003) directed the Commission on Youth to update biennially its publication, the <i>Collection of Evidence-based Practices for Children and Adolescents with Mental Health Treatment Needs</i> (House Document 9, 2003). The purpose of the <i>Collection</i> is to identify effective treatment modalities and practices for children, including juvenile offenders, with mental health treatment needs. Moreover, utilization of evidence-based practices in the field of children's mental health may offer the Commonwealth cost savings.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Commission on Youth Study</p>	<p>In 2010, the Commission completed the most recent update of the <i>Collection 4th Edition</i>. The publication, which provides an updated listing of evidence-based practices for youth with mental health disorders, is tailored for parents, caregivers, educators, service providers and others seeking current research on evidence-based practices. Additions to the <i>4th Edition</i> include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • screening and assessment instruments; • juvenile offenders; • antidepressants and the risk of suicide; and • commonly-used acronyms. <p>Commission staff has sent letters to all affected agencies and providers requesting that they provide a link to the <i>Collection</i> on their websites.</p> <p>Staff has also met with representatives from the State Council of Higher Education (SCHEV) to discuss the inclusion of evidence-based practices for child mental health in all appropriate post-graduate programs.</p> <p>The Commission is in the process of updating the <i>Collection's</i> section on Intellectual Disabilities and other sections as needed.</p> <p>The Commission on Youth is acting on the 2012 study plan at its May 14 meeting.</p>
Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and all entities in the Executive, Legislative and Judicial Branches	<p>Legislation passed by the 2012 General Assembly (HB 552, Garrett/SB 387, Martin) updates terminology related to intellectual disability. Changes include replacing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "mental retardation" and "mental deficiency" with the term "intellectual disability" when referring to the diagnosis of, and with the term "developmental" when referring to services for, individuals with intellectual disabilities; • "mentally retarded," "mentally deficient," and "mentally defective" with the term "individual with intellectual disability"; and • "consumer," "patient," and "resident" with the term "individual receiving services" when used in connection with mental health or developmental services. <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The legislation also updated to the Code to reflect proper terminology for state hospitals for individuals with mental illness and state training centers for individuals with intellectual disabilities, to define the terms "behavioral health services," "developmental services," "individual receiving services," "intellectual disability," and "mental health services," and to revise the definition of "training center."</p> <p>The legislation takes effect on July 1, 2012.</p>
Behavioral Health and Developmental Services	<p>The federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has awarded funding to the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) for a one-year System of Care Expansion Planning Grant in the amount of \$586,718.</p> <p>This grant project focuses on the establishment of a comprehensive strategic plan that builds on the system of care work already in place in Virginia to implement systems of care.</p> <p>Oversight for the work will be accomplished through a multidisciplinary System of Care Expansion Team and will be guided by the plan developed under Appropriation Items 304.M. and Q. of the 2011 Appropriation Act: <i>A Plan for Community-Based Children's Behavioral Health Services in Virginia</i>.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The grant award period is October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2012.</p> <p>The plan includes workforce development and quality assurance activities to support community services boards and community policy and management teams (CPMTs) in developing plans to expand services and supports through system of care values and principles.</p> <p>The November 1, 2011 report can be accessed online at http://www.dbhds.virginia.gov/documents/CFS/cfs-Community-Based-BH-Plan.pdf.</p>

MENTAL HEALTH/DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Behavioral Health and Developmental Services	<p>The Mental Health Planning Council annually reviews the Federal Block Grant Application, which includes the Mental Health Plan of Virginia, and based on an assessment of its strengths and weaknesses, makes recommendations to the Director of Mental Health, the Commissioner and State Board of the Department, and the Governor of Commonwealth of Virginia.</p> <p>The Council continuously monitors and evaluates the implementation of the state's Mental Health Plan including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> the allocation, adequacy and quality of services to children with serious emotional and mental disorders and adults with serious mental illness, the congruence between existing services and the Commonwealth's stated values, priorities and goals, and the plan's impact on improving the quality of life for Virginia's mental health consumers and their families. <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The Council utilizes standing committees to monitor the development and implementation of the Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluation; Monitoring and Oversight; The Evaluation, Monitoring and Oversight; Advocacy; Adult Services; and Child and Family Services. <p>The Council met most recently on February 15, 2012.</p>
Medical Assistance Services/ Community Services Boards	<p>Virginia Independent Clinical Assessment Program (VICAP)—Item 297 YY of the 2011 Appropriation Act mandated children under the age of 21 years to be evaluated (a comprehensive independent assessment) by a licensed or licensed-eligible mental health professional of the Community Services Boards or Behavioral Health Authorities (CSB or BHA) in order to access certain community mental health rehabilitative services from any provider effective July 18, 2011. These services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intensive In-Home Services (IIH) Therapeutic Day Treatment (TDT) Mental Health Support Services Residential Treatment (Date TBA) <p>The objective of implementing standardized clinical assessments is to improve the care of children who are accessing these services, measure outcomes, and ensure appropriate utilization.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>Prior to implementation, the CSB Steering Committee, DMAS, and the prior authorization (PA) contractor planned for anticipated 35,000 needed assessments throughout the year. The PA contractor and CSBs set up new data systems and strategies for entry and data collection. They also conducted intensive/standardized training of VICAP assessors, both CSB employees/contracted assessors. A CSB Capacity Workgroup was formed. Finally, a dedicated phone line was established for families to call to schedule appointments-numbers listed on DMAS website.</p> <p>As of February 2012, over 20,000 independent assessments had been completed. The services that were recommended most frequently were TDT, Outpatient Psychiatry/Medical Evaluation, and non-physician Outpatient Counseling.</p> <p>Utilization of higher intensive services such as IIH and TDT has been trending downward since July 2011.</p>
Health Professions	<p>Licensing Behavior Analysts</p> <p>The 2012 General Assembly passed legislation (HB 1106, Greason) to require the Board of Medicine to license behavior and assistant behavior analysts (ABAs).</p> <p>This legislation also requires the Board to convene a workgroup relating to the licensure and practice of applied behavior analysis and contains an emergency clause which requires the board to promulgate emergency regulations within 280 days of enactment.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>In 2011, legislation was passed requiring health insurance plans in businesses that employ at least 50 people to offer coverage for autism spectrum disorders (ASD) for 2 to 6 year-olds (House Bill 2467/Senate Bill 1062). The Governor amended this legislation to license board-certified behavior analysts (BCBAs). The legislation did not take effect, however, because it did not authorize the Board of Medicine to promulgate regulations to govern the licensure.</p> <p>The Board of Medicine's ABA Workgroup was briefed at its March 12, 2012 meeting. Members reviewed the legislation, which clarifies the role of the Work Group for the promulgation of regulations.</p> <p>The Work Group meets in late April to complete the development of the regulations, and the draft proposed regulations will be presented to the full Board on June 21, 2012.</p>

MENTAL HEALTH/DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES *(continued)*

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Medical Assistance Services	<p>Item 297 MMMM of the 2011 Appropriation Act directed the Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) to implement a coordinated care model for behavioral health services. The overall goal of the project is to improve the value of behavioral health services purchased by the Commonwealth of Virginia without compromising access to behavioral health services for vulnerable populations.</p> <p>These care coordination initiatives were recommended by the Virginia Health Reform Initiative Advisory Council. The language stipulated that the expansion should involve shared financial risk, performance benchmarks, and improving the value of care delivered by measuring outcomes, enhancing quality, and monitoring expenditures.</p> <p>DMAS is charged with engaging stakeholders in the development and implementation of the care coordination activities.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>A statewide contract was awarded in January 2012 with an implementation date of July 1, 2012. The contract is for four years; as an Administrative Services Only (ASO) contract for the first two years, then moving to a full-risk Behavioral Health Organization (BHO) contract no earlier than the third year. Responsibilities, which are more fully described in the RFP, will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maintaining the Department's behavioral health provider network; • monitoring member utilization of behavioral health services; • handling service authorization requests; • processing claims and submitting encounter data; • conducting provider and member outreach activities; • handling member and provider services issues; • quality outcomes and reporting; and • interfacing with the Virginia Medicaid Management Information System (VaMMIS). <p>DMAS is to report on the progress of implementing care coordination, including the number of individuals enrolled in care coordination, the geographic areas, populations and services affected and cost savings achieved by November 1 of each year.</p>
Legislative Services	<p>The Autism Advisory Council is established in the legislative branch to promote coordination of services and resources among agencies involved in the delivery of services to Virginians with autism spectrum disorders and to increase public awareness of such services and resources. The Council was created by the 2011 General Assembly.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>Funds were included in the 2011 Enrolled Budget Bill. The Council will expire on July 1, 2014.</p> <p>The Council is to submit an annual report by December 1 containing progress updates and recommended next steps to be taken by agencies in the following year to the Governor, the General Assembly. As of this date, no report has been submitted.</p> <p>A Council member is being invited by the Commission on Youth to serve on its Advisory Group for the <i>Collection of Evidence-based Practices for Children and Adolescents with Mental Health Treatment Needs</i>.</p>
Behavioral Health and Developmental Services	<p>Operation of Virginia's Publicly-funded Behavioral Health and Developmental Services System</p> <p>Item 304-N of the 2011-2012 Appropriation Act directed the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (BHDS) to submit an annual report on the operation of Virginia's publicly-funded behavioral health and developmental services system. Legislation required the report to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a brief narrative and data on the numbers of individuals receiving state facility services of CSB services, including purchased inpatient psychiatric services; • the types and amounts of services received by these individuals, • CSA and state facility service capacities, staffing, revenues, and expenditures; and • major new initiatives implemented during the past year and information on the accomplishment of systemic outcome and performance measures during the year. <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The BHDS is to submit its report to the Governor and the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees no later than December 1 of each year for the preceding fiscal year.</p> <p>The BHDS' first report was published as <i>Report Document 62</i> (2012) and is available on the General Assembly's Legislative Information System.</p>

MENTAL HEALTH/DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Behavioral Health and Developmental Services	<p>Development of a Formulary for the Dispensing of Medications</p> <p>Item 304-O of the 2010-2012 Amended Appropriation Act directed the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) to coordinate with the Departments of Corrections and Juvenile Justice, Virginia Sheriffs' Association, and Virginia Regional Jail Association, regulations for offenders who have been released from prisons, juvenile correctional centers, and jails that will provide consistency as those offenders move from incarceration in the criminal justice system to being served by community behavioral health programs.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>This legislation was a recommendation of the Governor's Prisoner and Juvenile Offender Re-entry Council.</p> <p>The Commissioner of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services submitted the required <i>Report Document 354</i> (2011) to the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees on December 1, 2011. This is available on the General Assembly's Legislative Information System website.</p> <p>The Commissioner reported that "within the current structure described above, a single formulary - is not feasible, and cannot be developed unless a comprehensive system of medication access intentionally designed around a single formulary is created and funded...The workgroup concluded that such an analysis might best be conducted by a legislative research body..."</p> <p>The workgroup has been focusing on related options to improve consistency across the system by enhancing medication access best practices, and strengthening jail and prison communication and collaboration with community services boards (CSBs).</p>
Behavioral Health and Developmental Services	<p>Planning Process to Identify Steps For Providing Child Mental Health Services Close to the Children's Homes</p> <p>Item 304-M of the 2010-2012 Appropriation Act directed the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (BHDS) to implement a comprehensive planning process to identify concrete steps to provide children's mental health services as close to the children's homes as possible. The target population is children through age 17 who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have a mental health problems; • may have co-occurring mental health and substance abuse problems; • may be in contact with the juvenile court system; • may require emergency services; or • may require long term community mental health and other supports. <p>The process is intended to identify the mental health and substance abuse services needed to help families keep their children at home and functioning in the community and should define the role that the Commonwealth Center for Children and Adolescents will play in this effort. The plan should establish and rank recommendations based on greatest priority and identify future funding associated with each recommendation.</p> <p>Participants should include input from community services boards, state and private and in-patient facilities, the Department of Social Services, Juvenile Justice, Education, and Medical Assistance Services, and other stakeholders.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The Commissioner was to report findings to the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees by October 1, 2011.</p> <p><i>Report Document 267</i>, published in November 2011, is available on the General Assembly's Legislative Information System. In it, the BHDS offered the following recommendations from its panels of stakeholders, with the note that they could be implemented in a phased manner as the budget scenario improves:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define and promote through DBHDS the full comprehensive service array as the goal and standard for children's behavioral health services in every community. 2. Expand the array and capacity of services to assure a consistent base level of services for children and families statewide. 3. Establish a children's behavioral health workforce development initiative to be organized by DBHDS. 4. Continue the current role of the Commonwealth Center for Children and Adolescents (CCCA) for the foreseeable future, and until more adequate community-based services are in place. 5. Establish quality management mechanisms to improve access and quality in behavioral health services for children and families. <p>The panel designated Recommendation #2 as its priority recommendation, indicating that "the consistent availability of the base services would have the greatest potential to reduce unnecessary reliance on inpatient and residential care."</p>

MENTAL HEALTH/DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES *(continued)*

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Behavioral Health and Developmental Services	<p>The Advisory Consortium on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (TACIDD) serves in an advisory capacity on issues regarding policy, services, and supports for persons with developmental disabilities (DD) in Virginia. TACIDD is comprised of interested parties who wish to participate in advising DBHDS in the development of policy and services with regard to persons with DD. TACIDD produces written "Advisories" to the Department and utilizes work groups to research and develop the Advisories on specific issues. TACIDD tracks items pertaining to DD which are being developed by other agencies and organizations.</p> <p>Commission involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>TACIDD meets four times a year. Meetings are held on the third Friday of the months of April, June, September, and November at the Henrico County Community Services Board. The TACIDD met last on April 20, 2012.</p> <p>Additional information is available at http://www.dbhds.virginia.gov/ODS-TACIDD.htm</p>
Office for Protection and Advocacy	<p>The Virginia Office for Protection and Advocacy has an Advisory Council for the Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness Program (PAIMI). This Council, which is federally-funded, promotes the provision of legal and advocacy services for adults and children with mental illness who live in a hospital or other facility providing care and treatment for their illness.</p> <p>The Advisory Council is comprised of 15-20 members representative of Virginia's diverse culture and geography. Membership includes individuals who have received or are receiving mental health services and family members (at least 60 percent), attorneys, mental health professionals, individuals knowledgeable about mental illness, service providers, and at least one parent of a minor child with mental illness.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>PAIMI met most recently in December 2011. Its next meeting is July 21, 2012.</p>
Association of Community Services Boards	<p>Virginia Child and Family Services Council, which is one of six councils of the Virginia Association of Community Services Boards, addresses issues pertaining to service delivery to children and their families. It also provides a forum for information sharing and networking among the respective Task Force members. The Council collaborates with the Department of Behavioral Health and Development Services (DBHDS) and other related state agencies to assure consistent policies, protocols, procedures and data collection methods in service delivery and reporting.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The Council meets quarterly on the first Friday of the month. At its March 2, 2012 meeting, the Council received updates on Children's Mental Health Waiver Services, Commonwealth Center for Children and Adolescents and Virginia's Independent Clinical Assessment Program (VICAP). The Plan for Children's Behavioral Services through Systems of Care was also discussed.</p> <p>The Council met last on May 3, 2012 at the VACSB Development and Training Conference, Ft. Magruder, Williamsburg. Agenda items include an update from DBDHS, a legislative update from Voices for Virginia's Children, the status of the Medicaid RFP, and an update on VICAP.</p> <p>The Council will also meet on June 1 at the Henrico Community Services Board (CSB).</p>
Education/Virginia Commonwealth University	<p>Establishment of a new Center of Excellence for Autism Spectrum Disorders has been announced by the Department of Education (DOE) and Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU). The collaboration between DOE and VCU's Schools of Education and Medicine will serve as a focal point for research, professional development and technical assistance in implementing research-based effective practices and comprehensive services for students having autism. The center is funded through a DOE start-up grant.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The consortium of institutes of higher education will provide coursework leading to board certification in behavioral analysis and opportunities to prepare teachers, administrators, service providers, and paraprofessionals to more effectively serve students.</p>

MENTAL HEALTH/DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES *(continued)*

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Voices for Virginia's Children	<p>Voices for Virginia's Children is a statewide, privately funded, non-partisan awareness and advocacy organization that builds support for practical public policies to improve the lives of children. A recognized leader in child advocacy, Voices mobilizes support for initiatives by conducting research, developing policies, building coalitions, and helping people articulate their support for children.</p> <p>Voices' Campaign for Children's Mental Health is a coordinated effort to improve Virginia's child mental health system. The campaign brings together advocates, parents, treatment professionals, organizations and others whose goal is to make mental health services more available and accessible to children in need. Their "1 in 5 kids" campaign highlights the number of children in the U.S. not receiving the mental health treatment they need.</p> <p>The Campaign is led by a steering committee including National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Virginia, Mental Health America-Virginia, and the Virginia Association of Community Services Boards.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The Campaign released its Action Agenda for 2011-2012 on June 14, 2011. The agenda outlines three policies intended to improve Virginia's mental health system for children.</p> <p>The Campaign worked with partners during the 2012 General Assembly to include \$3.3 million in new funding for children's mental health services, specifically, \$1.5 million allocated for FY13 and \$1.75 million for FY14 for child psychiatry and children's crisis response services.</p> <p>Voices' partners include the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Virginia, the Virginia Association of Community Services Boards, the Psychiatric Society of Virginia, the Virginia chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Virginia Poverty Law Center, JustChildren, and FACES of Virginia Families.</p> <p>Voices is currently working with its partners on a variety of events spotlighting Children's Mental Health Awareness Week the week of May 6-12, 2012. An awareness day event with Secretary of Health and Human Resources Dr. William Hazel was held on May 9.</p> <p>Detailed information on the policies and corresponding objectives is available at http://vakids.org. Specific information about the Campaign is available at www.1in5kids.org.</p>

HEALTH

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Joint Commission on Health Care	<p>The Joint Commission on Health Care (JCHC) was established as a standing commission of the Virginia General Assembly in 1992. JCHC seeks through its research, recommendations, and legislative actions to "ensure that the Commonwealth as provider, financier, and regulator adopts the most cost-effective and efficacious means of delivery of health care services so that the greatest number of Virginians receive quality health care." (Code of Virginia §§ 30-168 through 170).</p> <p>The Joint Commission is comprised of 18 legislative members. Eight members of the Senate are appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules and 10 members from the House of Delegates are appointed by the Speaker of the House. In addition, the Secretary of Health and Human Resources serves as a non-voting, ex officio member of the Commission. Delegate Benjamin L. Cline chairs the Commission.</p> <p>JCHC has two standing subcommittees focusing on issues involving 1) Behavioral Health Care and 2) Healthy Living/Health Services.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking; Senators Harry Blevins and Delegates Robert Brink and Christopher Peace serve on the Commission.</p>	<p>The first meeting of 2012 has been scheduled for June 6. A subcommittee meeting is expected to be held on that date also, beginning at 1:00 p.m. The JCHC will take action on 2012 study plans at this meeting.</p>
Social Services	<p>Section 63.2-214.2 of the Code directs the Department of Social Services (DSS) to make information available about Shaken Baby Syndrome and resources for help and support for caretakers in a printable format, as well as in an audiovisual format, available to the public on its website. Further, DSS is directed to provide the information to every child welfare program required to be licensed at the time of initial licensure and to foster and adoptive parents and other persons, upon request.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>More information about shaken baby syndrome may be found at www.dss.virginia.gov/family/cps/shaken_baby.cgi.</p>
Health	<p>Virginia Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (VECCS) functions as a statewide strategic planning Work Group with the purpose of supporting state maternal and child health agencies and their partner organizations in collaborative efforts to strengthen early childhood system of services for young children and their families.</p> <p>This public/private partnership is part of a five year initiative launched by the federal Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) to support states' efforts to build comprehensive early childhood systems.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>Information on Early Childhood Health is available at www.vahealth.org/childadolescenthealth/EarlyChildhoodHealth.</p>
Health	<p>The Interagency Suicide Prevention Coordinating Committee is comprised of representatives from the Departments of Health, Education, Mental Health, Aging, Corrections Education, Office of Chief Medical Examiner, CSBs, private and public agencies with an interest in suicide prevention, as well as the Commission on Youth. Its purpose is to advise the Department of Health (VDH) on its suicide prevention activities.</p> <p>The VDH Division of Injury and Violence Prevention's Suicide Prevention Program coordinates statewide training for school personnel, human service providers, faith communities and others on suicide prevention and intervention, including identification of persons at-risk of suicide, screening, counseling and referral.</p> <p>The Code contains policy addressing suicidal students in K-12 educational settings and institutions of higher learning.</p> <p>Suicide prevention programs are currently funded through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, pursuant to the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act, and the Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Committee Member</p>	<p>Suicide prevention efforts in Virginia are a collaborative effort headed by VDH, which involves participants from many disciplines. The program was a recommendation of the Commission on Youth's Suicide Prevention Plan, <i>House Document 29</i> (2001).</p> <p>In addition to the committee's quarterly meetings, VDH has established a Work Group of local service providers: the Virginia Network for Suicide Prevention Coalitions. This group supports both new and existing suicide prevention efforts at the community level.</p> <p>An overview of VDH programs and resources is available at www.vahealth.org.</p>

HEALTH (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Medical Assistance Services	<p>The Child Health Insurance Program (CHIP-PAC) Advisory Committee, established by the 2005 General Assembly, works to improve outreach and enrollment of FAMIS and to provide input on policies, operations, utilization of services and the health outcomes of children in FAMIS and FAMIS Plus.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The Advisory Committee meets quarterly.</p> <p>In addition, subcommittees for Retention, Access, and Utilization meet periodically as needed.</p>
Health	<p>Bright Futures Virginia was developed in 2000 as a broad Department of Health initiative to address child and adolescent health. Convened as a public-private Advisory Board, Bright Futures was implemented as the state standard for child and adolescent comprehensive health care in 2001.</p> <p>Bright Futures' goals are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster partnerships between families, health professionals, and communities; • Promote desired social, developmental, and health outcomes of infants, children, and adolescents; • Increase family knowledge, skills, and participation in health-promoting and prevention activities; and • Enhance health professionals' knowledge, skills, and practice of developmentally appropriate health care in the context of family and community. <p>Since its inception, Bright Futures has been funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under the direction of the Maternal and Child Health Bureau.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>Healthy Virginians 2010 identified Bright Futures implementation as a strategy for achieving 18 of its 54 stated objectives.</p> <p>Bright Futures' guidelines for child health in Virginia support the national Healthy People promotion and disease prevention objectives for mothers, infants, children and adolescents. These guidelines were developed as a resource for child health professionals and ancillary staff, public and private insurers, health departments, community health centers, schools, child development programs, parents, educators, leaders of managed care organizations, and others.</p> <p>Bright Futures has launched a website - www.healthyfuturesva.com - in cooperation with James Madison University and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), as well as a six-module web course "Promoting Child and Adolescent Health: Bright Futures and EPSDT."</p>
Health	<p>Healthy Child Care Virginia (HCCV) focuses on initiatives related to healthy behaviors in childcare. Its goal is to promote the healthy development of all children in child care, including those with special health needs, to increase access to preventive health services, and to create safe physical environments for children.</p> <p>Objectives of the program include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting a safe and healthy child care environment for all children, including those with special health needs • Reducing the spread of communicable diseases • Reducing medically attended injuries • Increasing up-to-date immunizations • Increasing nutritional status • Improving knowledge among families and providers about the inclusion of special health needs children in child day care. This includes children with asthma, speech and other developmental disabilities, neurobehavioral needs (ADHD, ADD, etc.), nutrition and physical activity and other diagnosed conditions (i.e., diabetes) • Optimizing mental health for children • Increasing oral hygiene practices • Increasing the number of children with health insurance coverage <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>On its website, HCCV promotes a range of resources for child care.</p> <p>Further information is available at www.vahealth.org/childadolescenthealth.</p>

HEALTH (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth	<p>The Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth (VFHY) (formerly the Virginia Tobacco Settlement Foundation), has established Regional Advisory Boards to provide a local connection between VFHY and communities throughout the state. VFHY is funded through Virginia's share of the 1998 Master Settlement Agreement.</p> <p>Established by the Virginia General Assembly in 1999, the Foundation has historically led a statewide effort to reduce and prevent youth tobacco use. The 2009 General Assembly changed both the Foundation's name and expanded its mission to include reducing childhood obesity in the Commonwealth (HB 2456, O'Bannon/SB 1112, Northam).</p> <p>The Foundation promotes healthy living habits to Virginia's children and adolescents through a variety of efforts, including: statewide educational prevention programs in schools, community centers and afterschool programs; youth-targeted marketing and advertising; funding research and enforcement of Virginia's tobacco access-laws.</p> <p>A Healthy Youth Day commemoration was established by the Virginia General Assembly and is sponsored each January 20 by the Foundation.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Regional Advisory Board Member</p>	<p>On December 7, the VFHY announced 54 grant recipients for its 3-year program grants for tobacco-use prevention.</p> <p>Further information is available at www.healthyyouthva.org/index.asp.</p>
Health	<p>All state-funded early childhood home visiting programs have come together at the state level through the Home Visiting Consortium, which has as its goals to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examine the role of home visiting in improving the health and well-being of young children; • Review the current publicly funded Virginia home visiting services for pregnant women and families with children ages 0-5 years; • Increase local and state collaborative efforts in order to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of Virginia's home visiting services; and • Recommend changes in home visiting system which will improve birth outcomes and enhance early childhood development. <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>Information about the Home Visiting Consortium is available on the Department of Health website www.vahealth.org.</p>
Prevention Connections	<p>Prevention Connections, a Virginia-based 501(c)(3) organization since 2004, was established to work with individuals and communities to achieve optimal health through tobacco-use and childhood-obesity prevention initiatives.</p> <p>Its Board of Directors consists of nine volunteer members, including three interlocking directors from the Board of Trustees of the Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth (VFHY).</p> <p>Working in collaboration with the Virginia Department of Health, the CDC and the VFHY, Prevention Connections is working on large-scale initiatives such as reducing smoking on college campuses and providing cessation services to parents of young children.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>On October 4-5, 2011, Prevention Connections hosted its statewide Weight of the State conference. Chaired by First Lady of Virginia Maureen McDonnell, the conference drew more than 350 physicians, public health professionals and educators. Speakers included the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, the Director of Nutrition Policy for the Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI) and the Senior Advisor for Communities Putting Prevention to Work, disease control and prevention in school, community, and health care initiatives.</p>
Health	<p>The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) Commonwealth's Healthy Approach and Mobilization Plan for Inactivity, Obesity and Nutrition (CHAMPION) has completed work towards a comprehensive statewide plan to reduce obesity in Virginia through nutrition and exercise.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>Following VDH Family Health Services Review, the working document has been presented to the State Committee appointed by the Governor. The Obesity Reduction Plan is available in both summary and as a full report at www.vahealth.org.</p>

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services	<p>The 2012 General Assembly passed legislation (HB 271, Peace) establishes the Substance Abuse Recovery Support Services Grant Program to provide grants to recovery support services providers in the Commonwealth.</p> <p>The Governor amended this legislation, stating that the first and second enactments of this act will not become effective unless reenacted by the 2013 General Assembly.</p> <p>The legislation requires the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) to convene a work group of stakeholders to develop criteria for awarding grants.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	The DBHDS is to submit a report to the Governor by December 1, 2012 that identifies all public or private organizations that may raise and disburse funds for substance abuse recovery support services in the Commonwealth.
Secretary of Public Safety	<p>The Governor's Office for Substance Abuse Prevention (GOSAP) is authorized under Section 2.2-118 of the Code, enacted by the 2000 Virginia General Assembly, in order to assist in the coordination of the substance abuse prevention activities of the Commonwealth, review substance abuse prevention program expenditures by agencies of the Commonwealth, and determine the direction and appropriateness of such expenditures.</p> <p>GOSAP has as a stated goal becoming a "a nationally-recognized leader in evidence-based prevention practice" because it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotes collaboration among state and local agencies, organizations, coalitions, and faith communities that address prevention; • Prioritizes, coordinates, and leverages Virginia's prevention resources to improve efficiency; • Strengthens local and state-level capacity through development of sustainable programs and prevention professionals; and • Enhances evidence-based prevention practices in Virginia through data-driven needs assessments, measureable goals and objectives, and evaluation for accountability and improvement. <p>It still says this on website but nothing current to indicate still active. GOSAP awards and administers federal grant funds apportioned to Virginia under the Governor's discretionary portion of Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act (SDFSCA) funds allocated to Virginia by the U.S. Department of Education, under the <i>No Child Left Behind Act of 2001</i>.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>With an emphasis on prevention and early intervention, GOSAP acts as a clearinghouse for the prevention-related training series communicated by sponsors to their office. GOSAP also offers conferences and single events on its "Calendar" page.</p> <p>Prevention training topics include child abuse and neglect, bullying, and suicide prevention, and violence prevention. Resources related to Substance Abuse are provided for parents, professionals and educators.</p>
Secretary of Public Safety	<p>Under the purview of the Secretary's Office, the GOSAP Collaborative, is comprised of 12 state agencies and the Governor's Office. The Collaborative, formally established under Executive Directive 4 in November 2006, serves as the principal representative body within the Virginia prevention system for state-level prevention specialists, leaders and program-fund administrators.</p> <p>State agencies participating in the GOSAP Collaborative are the Departments of Alcohol and Beverage Control, Criminal Justice Services, Education, Fire Programs, Health, Juvenile Justice, Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, Motor Vehicles, and Social Services, as well as the Virginia National Guard, State Police and Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth.</p> <p>Each participating agency has some significant degree of involvement in the Commonwealth's alcohol, tobacco and other drugs prevention efforts, either through funding provided to local- and community-level organizations, direct service provision to youth and families, or direct policy development at the state and/or federal levels to guide Virginia's overall prevention community.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>Executive Directive 4 has been in effect until June 30, 2010, but is still shown as active on the Secretary's website.</p> <p>The date and topic for the 2012 Conference has not been announced.</p>

SUBSTANCE ABUSE (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Behavioral Health and Developmental Services	<p>The Substance Abuse Services Council is an advisory council in the executive branch created by Code. Its purpose is to advise and make recommendations to the Governor, the General Assembly, and the State Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (BHDS) on broad policies and goals and on the coordination of the Commonwealth's public and private efforts to control substance abuse, as defined in § 37.2-100.</p> <p>The Council consists of 30 members, including the affected agency Commissioners, four members of the House of Delegates, and two members of the Senate.</p> <p>The 2004 General Assembly amended the Code (§ 2.2-2697) to direct the Council to collect information about the impact and cost of substance abuse treatment provided by public agencies in the Commonwealth and to include the following analysis for each agency-administered substance abuse treatment program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the amount of funding expended under the program for the prior fiscal year; • the number of individuals served by the program using that funding; • the extent to which program objectives have been accomplished as reflected by an evaluation of outcome measures; • identifying the most effective substance abuse treatment, based on a combination of per person costs and success in meeting program objectives; • how effectiveness could be improved; • an estimate of the cost effectiveness of these programs; and • recommendations on the funding of programs based on these analyses. <p>The Council examines Virginia's publicly-funded substance abuse treatment services provided by the Departments of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS), Juvenile Justice (DJJ), and Corrections (DOC). These programs share the goals of abstinence or reduction in substance use in criminal behavior.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Delegate Crockett-Stark serves on the Council.</p>	<p>The Council meets at least four times each year. It is scheduled to meet on May 10, 2012. Council membership roster was published in February 2012 and is available on the DBHDS website.</p> <p>The Council's current annual report—<i>2011 Substance Abuse Services Council Response to Code of Virginia §2.2-2697.B</i>—was published December 2011 and is available on the General Assembly's Legislative Information System website. The report addresses progress made since, in 2008, the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) published <i>Mitigating the Cost of Substance Abuse in Virginia</i>, making recommendations for the Council's role in establishing common outcome measures and designing a process that would utilize shared information across agencies.</p> <p>To address this recommendation, the Council established a workgroup which published its findings, including recommendations, in the Council's 2009 annual report. The Council's report included input from six member agencies that were all involved to some degree in the funding or provision of treatment or prevention services and identified barriers to utilizing a common set of outcome measures, as well as gaps in data collection. The report also made recommendations to the then active Senate Joint Resolution 318 (2009) (<i>The Study of Models and Strategies for the Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse in the Commonwealth</i>) concerning support for member agencies to pursue integrated data among agencies. The initiative has, however, not been funded.</p>
Behavioral Health and Developmental Services	<p>The Interagency Adolescent Substance Abuse Workgroup, formerly Project TREAT, is managed through the Office of Child and Family Services of the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services.</p> <p>The workgroup's goal is to develop and improve coordination of substance abuse and/or co-occurring treatment services for adolescents across Virginia.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Workgroup Member</p>	<p>In April 2010, a questionnaire was administered to members to help the Advisory Group prioritize the identified goals and update the existing workplan to reflect changes related to focus, membership, meeting venue, and frequency of meetings.</p>

SUBSTANCE ABUSE (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Alcohol Beverage Control/Health/Behavioral Health and Developmental Services	<p>On the state level, Community Coalitions of Virginia (CCOVA), which receives Safe and Drug-Free Schools funding, reflects partnerships on the state and local level to prevent substance abuse.</p> <p>On the national level, the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) for Building Effective Coalitions was created by the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to assist coalitions in developing the infrastructure for community-based, public health approaches to effective and sustainable reductions in alcohol, tobacco and other drug use and abuse.</p> <p>Coalition initiatives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create activities free from substance abuse and violence; • Prevent alcohol, drug, and tobacco use by youth; • Teach our children how to be safe and resist peer pressure; • Enhance our sense of family and community; and • Promote positive character development. <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>On March 23-25, 2011, CCOVA offered community training related to "Evaluation for Community-based Substance Abuse Prevention." The Richmond event was funded in part through a federal OJJDP grant through the Virginia Department of Alcohol Beverage Control.</p> <p>In addition to SAMHSA and the Virginia Alcohol Beverage Control, current national and state partners in 2011 CCOVA planning include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governor's Office on Substance Abuse Prevention (GOSAP) • Virginia Department of Education (DOE) • Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (BHDS) • Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) • Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) • White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) • SAARA of Virginia • Virginia Association of Drug Courts (VADC) • James Madison University • Virginians for a Healthy Future <p>Further information on CCOVA initiatives is available at www.ccova.org.</p>
Alcohol Beverage Control	<p>Youth Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Project (YADAPP) is a youth leadership program empowering teens to become involved in keeping their schools and communities alcohol and drug free. Each year YADAPP holds its Summer Leadership Conference for approximately 600 Virginia high school students and adults. Since 1984, YADAPP seeks to help teens change their lives through leadership opportunities.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>YADAPP's 2011 Summer Leadership Conference is expanded to five days. The event, which draws students and adults from throughout Virginia will be held at Longwood University July 16-20. The program is taking applications for Youth Leaders or Junior Staff for the 2013 conference.</p> <p>More information on YADAPP is provided at www.yadapp.com. Youth can also become a "friends" of YADAPP Guy on the official YADAPP Facebook page.</p> <p>ABC credits its "Do Not Sell" stickers with preventing underage sales. Last year, the compliance rate went up four percentage points to 90 percent compliance. The updated stickers, which are easy-to-read tools that help sellers check IDs, were created using two different colors, one for alcohol, one for tobacco. Bold colors make the dates clearly visible to consumers and sellers.</p> <p>Another compliance tool is the "Ask 4 ID" training video, a four-minute film to help sellers and servers prevent underage alcohol and tobacco sales ID. This is available for preview at http://www.youtube.com/vaabc.</p>

EDUCATION

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Commission on Youth	<p>Comparison of Academic Achievement in Virginia and in Leading Industrialized Countries—During the 2011 General Assembly Session, Senator Yvonne B. Miller introduced Senate Joint Resolution 320, which directed the Commission on Youth to study how Virginia school children compare academically to students in other countries. The resolution directed the Commission to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • compare the academic achievement of Virginia's students with that of students internationally for the past five years, especially in reading, mathematics, and science; • identify features in the education systems of other countries that rank higher than the United States that may contribute to the academic success of their students; • determine whether any of these features may be adapted for use in Virginia and the cost of implementation; • determine whether and what changes in Virginia's public education system are warranted; and • consider other matters related to the objectives of this resolution and recommend feasible and appropriate options and alternatives. <p>The Senate reported the resolution; however, members of the House Committee on Rules did not. Subsequently, the Commission on Youth adopted a two-year workplan for the study.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Commission on Youth Study</p>	<p>During Year 1, Commission on Youth staff compiled a country-by-country "snapshot" of other educational systems' attributes and best-practices. On December 19, 2011, the Commission heard a presentation "Comparison of Academic Achievement in Virginia and Leading Industrialized Nations" by Patricia A. Popp, Ph.D., State Coordinator, Project HOPE-VA, and Clinical Associate Professor, School of Education, College of William & Mary.</p> <p>Year 2 study activities include review of data gathered during the first year, convening an Advisory Group of stakeholders to assist in process, and identifying international/national best practices which can be adopted in Virginia. The draft study plan for the second year of the study is being acted on by the Commission on Youth on May 14, 2012.</p> <p>An Advisory Group of education leadership and stakeholders, led by the Commission's Chair Delegate Chris Peace, held its first meeting on May 9, 2012. Patricia A. Popp, Ph.D., Professor, School of Education, College of William & Mary, presented and participated as Advisory Group member. Members reviewed the four proposed Subcommittees and ranked their top interests in anticipation of breakout sessions at the upcoming June 26 meeting.</p> <p>The Advisory Group's final meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 2012.</p>
Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission	<p>House Joint Resolution 646 (2011) directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) to study the efficacy of year-round school. The study mandate notes that numerous benefits as well as concerns have been cited regarding this approach. The review is to identify schools or divisions in Virginia, other states, and countries that have experience with year-round schooling and consider the advantages and disadvantages that have been found. JLARC will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • review actual year-round school experiences; and • assess factors impacting desirability. <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>JLARC initiated the review in fall 2011.</p> <p>The JLARC website indicates that, as of May 9, 2012, the study is in the research phase. JLARC will review 2012 work plans at its May 14 meeting.</p> <p>HJR 646 requires completion of the review by November 30, 2012. Staff will brief its members in the fall of 2012.</p> <p>Further information is available at http://jlarc.virginia.gov.</p>
Education	<p>Legislation passed by the 2012 General Assembly (HB 250, Cline) requires that the Board of Education report annually to the House Committees on Appropriations and Education and the Senate Committees on Finance and Education and Health the percentage of each division's annual operating budget allocated to instructional costs for each fiscal year, as reported by each local school board.</p> <p>The Board of Education would include in the annual School Performance Report Card for school divisions the percentage of each division's annual operating budget allocated to instructional costs.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The Board of Education was briefed on the impact of this legislation and other 2012 General Assembly actions at its March 22, 2012 meeting.</p>

EDUCATION *(continued)*

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Education	<p>The Virginia Board of Education is the nine-member governing and policy-making body for the Virginia system of public elementary and secondary education. Its work touches all facets of education from accountability and evaluation to curriculum and teacher education.</p> <p>The Board's members are appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the General Assembly. Members are appointed to serve a term of four years, with no member appointed to more than two consecutive four-year terms.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The Board of Education meets monthly. The Board posts an on-site video of highlights of each meeting, along with agendas and background materials. These are available at www.doe.virginia.gov.</p> <p>On January 2012, the Board reviewed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> recommended cut scores for Standards of Learning (SOL) tests in Algebra I and II; revised Guidelines for Uniform Performance Standards and Evaluation Criteria for principals; an addition to approved courses to satisfy graduation requirements; and Virginia's application for flexibility from certain requirements of the <i>Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965</i> (to be approved at February meeting). <p>At its February 23 meeting, the Board approved the flexibility application and authorized the Superintendent, in consultation with the board president, to make technical amendments, submit the application to U.S. Education Department by the Feb. 28, 2012 deadline and negotiate application revisions</p> <p>At the March 22 meeting, the Board was briefed on legislation passed by the 2012 General Assembly. The Board also received the proposal to establish a Governor's STEM Academy for Engineering, Marketing & Information Technology Studies in Virginia Beach, as well as the report <i>Longitudinal Data - Increasing Virginia's Capacity to Understand Students' Pathways to Success in College and the Work Force</i>.</p> <p>Its April 25-26 Planning Meeting included staff reports on the progress of designated key goals and objectives.</p> <p>Other meetings on the 2012 calendar are May 24, June 28, July 26, September 27, October 25, and November 29.</p>
Education	<p>Established by the 2010 General Assembly as a policy board, the function of the Open Education Curriculum Board was changed to an advisory board by the 2012 General Assembly Session.</p> <p>In its expanded role, the Board will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> develop guidelines for the creation, collection, categorization, distribution and licensing of open educational resources and to recommend policies to the Board of Education which encourage creators and publishers of open education resources to collaborate on collecting, standardizing, and aligning such resources to the state's Standards of Learning; Advise the Governor and General Assembly on open education policies having the potential to reduce the cost of textbooks and educational materials in the Commonwealth, while adding or maintaining value of the learning experience. <p>The 10-member Board is comprised of one member of the Senate, three members of the House of Delegates, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Secretaries of Education and of Technology, and three gubernatorial appointees.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Delegate Peace serves on the Board.</p>	<p>The Board is required to report annually to the General Assembly and the Governor on activities of the Board. Its first-year report was published as <i>Report Document 388</i> in November 2011. This report is available on the General Assembly's Legislative Information System website.</p> <p>Senator John Watkins and Joanie Pond have been re-elected to serve as Chair and Vice Chair, respectively, in 2012.</p> <p>2012 meetings are scheduled are May 17, July 17, August 14, and October 16.</p>

EDUCATION (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Education	<p>The Board of Education's Charter School Committee is a standing committee which reviews any proposed public charter school application that has been submitted by the applicant to the Board of Education and comments on the application's feasibility, curriculum, and financial soundness.</p> <p>In accordance with the 2012 legislation, the Board will revise its charter school application and the criteria for charter schools.</p> <p>The 2012 General Assembly passed legislation (HB 1173, Lingamfelter/SB 440, Obenshain) that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specify that the per pupil funding provided to the charter school will be negotiated in the charter agreement and must be commensurate with the average school-based costs of educating students in the existing schools in the division unless the cost of operating the charter school is less than that average school-based cost; • Require local school boards to allow public charter schools to use vacant or unused property or real estate; • Permit all purchases made by the public charter school to be exempt from the Va. Public Procurement Act unless otherwise negotiated by contract; • Allow the local school board or permit charter school staff to be employees of the charter school; • If a local school board makes the decision to deny a public charter school application or to revoke or fail to renew a charter agreement, the local school board must submit documentation to the Board of Education as to the rationale for the local school board's denial or revocation of the charter school application. However, the Board shall have no authority to grant or deny a public charter school application or to revoke or fail to renew a charter agreement. <p>This legislation would require revisions to the Board of Education's charter school application and the criteria for charter schools.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>2012 meetings have been held January 11 and February 22. It meets next on May 23. The public may access meeting proceedings through a telephone conference call or, most recently, through streaming video.</p> <p>Further information about Virginia's provisions for charter schools is available at http://www.doe.virginia.gov.</p>
Education	<p>The 2012 General Assembly (HB 756, Dance) authorized the Department of Education to establish an Innovation Technical Advisory Group to advise the Board of Education on matters related to charter schools, college partnership laboratory schools, and virtual school programs.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The Board of Education was briefed on the impact of this legislation and other 2012 General Assembly actions at its March 22, 2012 meeting.</p> <p>In accordance with legislation, the Department will convene an advisory group comprised of individuals with experience in the establishment and operation of charter schools, college partnership laboratory schools, and virtual school programs, or to retain the services of individuals with such experience to provide technical assistance and advice to the Board in carrying out its duties relating to charter schools, college partnership laboratory schools, and virtual school programs.</p>

EDUCATION (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Education	<p>College Partnership Laboratory Schools are designed to encourage cooperation and coordination between institutions of higher education and K-12 education. Established in Code by the 2010 General Assembly, the initiative is a component of Governor McDonnell's "Opportunity to Learn" education reform agenda.</p> <p>Legislation approved by the 2012 General Assembly (HB 765, Peace/SB 475, Locke) directs the Board to revise its criteria and application to make private institutions, as well as public, eligible to participate. Legislation also permits there to be a collaborative partnership between the institution of higher education with a College Partnership Laboratory School and the public school division, which would be considered an educational program of the division for purposes of the Standards of Accreditation.</p> <p>As currently defined in the Code, a College Partnership Laboratory School is "a public, nonsectarian, nonreligious school established by a public institution of higher education that operates a teacher education program approved by the Virginia Board of Education (Board)." Members of the governing board are selected by the institution of higher education establishing the College Partnership Laboratory School.</p> <p>Enrollment at a College Partnership Laboratory School is open to any school-age student who is a Virginia resident on a lottery, space-available basis. No tuition is charged.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>College Partnership Laboratory School are being developed to foster flexibility, innovation, and autonomy outside of the traditional public school system, thus giving students K-12 an opportunity to attend a school that best fits their individual learning style, be there a need for remedial help or advanced specialized study. Students attending lab schools can benefit from resources available to higher education institutions without the limitations or administrative constraints of more traditional schools.</p> <p>The Board of Education has a College Partnership Laboratory Schools Committee to develop procedures for receiving, reviewing and ruling on applications from Virginia public colleges and universities to establish laboratory schools. The Committee has not announced a 2012 meeting schedule.</p> <p>The application submission deadline for a 2011-2012 Planning Grant was April 9, 2012. All public institutions of higher education operating a teacher education program approved by the Board of Education were eligible to apply. The Winners of the Planning Grants were announced on April 30, 2012 by the Governor's Office. The following universities were awarded grants: George Mason (\$145,500); James Madison (\$228,000); Longwood (\$86,000) and Virginia State (\$140,000). The grant period is April 15-September 15, 2012.</p>
Education	<p>State support for Virtual School Programs was promulgated by legislation passed by the 2010 General Assembly as a component of Governor McDonnell's "Opportunity to Learn" education reform agenda.</p> <p>The legislation expands the reach of virtual school programs such that students anywhere in Virginia can receive the services of highly qualified, Virginia-certified teachers without being limited by classroom walls. At-risk or disadvantaged students are afforded increased access to innovation and opportunities and this program also provides an alternative to students who might struggle in traditional classroom environments.</p> <p>Any Virginia college or university which operates an approved teacher education program can establish virtual school program partnerships with eligible public schools. Teachers working in these colleges/ universities must be employees of those institutions and be licensed by the Board or eligible for such license.</p> <p>Legislation passed by the 2012 General Assembly (HB 1215, Bell, Richard P.) requires the Board of Education to promulgate regulations establishing standards of accreditation of public schools that enroll students full-time.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>Criteria for approving and monitoring multidivision online providers were approved by the Board of Education on November 18, 2010. These ensure that Virginia students receive high quality educational services and that instruction and courses offered by multidivision online providers are aligned with the Standards of Learning (SOLs) and delivered by teachers fully licensed by the Virginia Board of Education.</p> <p>In the summer of 2011, DOE approved 13 Virtual-School Programs for use in divisions throughout Virginia. The approved "multidivision online providers" include full-time virtual schools, programs offering supplemental instruction, and blended-instruction programs in which students have a trained, on-site mentor in addition to an online teacher.</p>

EDUCATION (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Education	<p>Online Learning Opportunities Item 139 #14c of the 2012 Budget Conference Report directs that school superintendents are to submit to the Department of Education by August 15, 2012, "a brief description of the range of online learning opportunities currently underway in the school division and any being planned or under consideration in the future, if applicable."</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The Commission is monitoring this initiative in conjunction with its two-year study, <i>Comparison of Academic Achievement in Virginia and in Leading Industrialized Nations</i>.</p>
Education	<p>Licensure Requirement for Teaching Online Courses Legislation passed by the 2012 General Assembly (HB 578, Bell, Richard P.) requires the Board of Education to prescribe by regulation the licensure requirements for teachers who teach only online courses. This license would be valid only for teaching online courses. Teachers who hold a 5-year renewable license issued by the Board may teach online courses for which they are properly endorsed.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The Board of Education was briefed on the impact of this legislation at its March 22, 2012 meeting.</p> <p>Amendments to the <i>Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia</i> will be required.</p>
Education	<p>Accreditation of Public Virtual Schools Legislation passed by the 2012 General Assembly (HB 1215, Bell, Richard P.) requires the Board of Education to promulgate regulations establishing standards for public virtual schools which enroll students full time and are under the authority of the local school board.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The Board of Education was briefed on the impact of this and other actions of the 2012 General Assembly at its March 22, 2012 meeting.</p> <p>The Draft Notice of Intended Regulatory Action was shared with the Board of Education at its April 26, 2012 meeting.</p>
Education	<p>The Department of Education (DOE) administers the 21st Century Community Learning Centers (Title IV, Part B) program funded through grants authorized under Title IV. The 21st Century Community Learning Centers (Title IV, Part B) program supports the creation of opportunities for academic enrichment during non-school hours for children, particularly students who attend high-poverty and low-performing schools. The program helps students meet state and local standards in core academic subjects, such as reading and mathematics; offers students enrichment activities that complement regular academic programs; and offers literacy and other educational services to the families of participating children.</p> <p>Through a competitive process, DOE funds projects that provide significant expanded learning opportunities for children and youth, and that will assist students to meet or exceed state and local standards in core academic subjects.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>Professional development opportunities for 21st CCLC grantees are offered by DOE throughout the year. All 21st CCLC grants are awarded on a competitive basis. Applications were due to DOE by April 27, 2012.</p> <p>DOE gives priority to applications that meet any or all of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint applications between at least one school division and at least one public or private community organization; • Proposals to serve students in schools that failed to meet state and or federal accountability standards during the 2010-2011 school year; • Proposals to serve students in middle or high schools; or • Proposals to serve students who attend schools with free and reduced-price lunch eligibility of 75 percent or greater.
Education	<p>High Schools That Work (HSTW) was originally created in 1987 by the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) in partnership with an 11-state consortium, including Virginia. HSTW is the nation's first large-scale initiative to emphasize a program of study that includes both academic courses and modern career and technical studies to prepare students for a broad career field and further education.</p> <p>HSTW is a comprehensive approach to school improvement that complements the state's educational goals. As a research and assessment-based reform initiative, HSTW is guided by a framework of goals, key practices, and key conditions to improve school practices, instruction, and student achievement. Its vision requires its stakeholders (administrators, faculty and staff, parents, leaders of community/civic organizations, representatives of business/ industry, and postsecondary education) to rethink school routines.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>Of the 1,200 HSTW sites nationally, Virginia has 28. Virginia is also one of 32 states participating in the Southern Regional Education Board's National HSTW Network.</p> <p>Information about HCTW, along with Network information & Forms, publications and other resources, is available at www.doe.virginia.gov.</p>

EDUCATION *(continued)*

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Legislative Services	<p>The Advisory Council on Career and Technical Education is mandated by Code Section 30-198 to recommend an integrated and coordinated multi-agency approach for delivery of quality career and technical education (CTE) programs and services in public schools.</p> <p>The legislative Council has as its powers and duties to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate the coordination of public school career and technical services, workforce training programs, and efforts among Commonwealth agencies and institutions; • Receive information and advice from state agencies, authorities and other organizations addressing CTE and workforce development as necessary; • Recommend policies, legislation, and funding that are needed to support CTE in the Commonwealth; and • Promote public-private partnerships and collaboration for CTE programs throughout the Commonwealth. <p>The Council is an 18-member body of three Senate and five House of Delegates members, four gubernatorial appointees and ex-officio members from the Secretariats.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Delegate Peace serves on the Council.</p>	<p>The Council is directed by Code to submit its recommendations annually to the Governor and the General Assembly. There are no reports posted on the General Assembly's Legislative Information System website.</p> <p>No meetings have been announced for 2012. The Council has a sunset date of July 1, 2012.</p>
Education	<p>The Virginia Advisory Committee for Career and Technical Education (CTE) is a standing committee of the Board of Education and is comprised of educators and representatives from the private sector.</p> <p>In partnership with the Virginia Department of Education Office of Career and Technical Education Services, the 14-member Committee each year recognizes the outstanding work of one business/industry partnership and one advisory council/committee for each of the eight Superintendent's Regions.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The CTE Leadership Seminar was held January 19-20, 2012 in Richmond. There is a new logo for <i>CTE: Learning that Works for Virginia</i> that will be used statewide.</p> <p>On January 18, members were updated on Virginia's nationally-recognized Career Clusters and Pathways. The Virginia Career Education Foundation speaker reported that industry certifications earned by Virginia CTE students has increased by 56% since 2008.</p> <p>The April 12 meeting featured a presentation on Future Medical/Hospital Personnel Needs by Riverside Tappahannock Hospital and Health System Recruitment Center.</p> <p>The next meeting will be held on June 14.</p>
Education	<p>Know How Virginia is an initiative of the Virginia Career Education Foundation (VCEF), in partnership with the Virginia Department of Education, Virginia Community College System, State Council of Higher Education, and the Virginia Employment Commission. Its public awareness campaign is designed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inform students and their parents, teachers, and counselors of rewarding career opportunities, particularly in high-demand and emerging fields; ▪ Promote quality Career and Technical Education (CTE) in middle and high schools to support career exploration and preparation; and ▪ Ensure a larger pool of qualified, motivated applicants for Virginia businesses and industries. <p>The campaign has two components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An Umbrella Campaign that provides basic information on careers, career exploration, and the benefits of CTE; ▪ Career-specific campaigns underwritten by private-sector partners seeking to cultivate greater pools of qualified candidates for specific types of jobs. <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>This public-private partnership is funded in part through contributions from Virginia businesses.</p> <p>The Governor's CTE Exemplary Standards Award recipients, who are selected with assistance from the VCEF, are acknowledged on the partnership's website. Also on the website are an overview of the program's activities and information about one-time events and ongoing programs available in each region or throughout the state.</p> <p>2012 scholarship winners are announced at state leadership meetings through June.</p> <p>Additional information on the initiative and on careers most in demand is available at http://www.knowhowvirginia.org.</p>

EDUCATION (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Education	<p>Governor's STEM Academies are designed to expand options for the general student population to acquire STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) literacy and other critical skills, knowledge and credentials that will prepare them for high-demand, high-wage, and high-skill careers in Virginia. STEM literacy is an interdisciplinary area of study bridging science, technology, engineering and mathematics.</p> <p>Governor's STEM Academies are intended to be a practical complement to academic year Governor's Schools. They may be new centers or existing ones where the standards are raised and efforts are refocused to align with Virginia's STEM goals. Courses may be held at a high school, technical center or community college campus or may be delivered online, or through other innovative methods. However, all programs must include opportunities for internships, job shadowing, mentorships, projects, service learning or a combination.</p> <p>Funding to support the initial planning and implementation of Governor's STEM Academies in Virginia was provided through a STEM grant from the National Governors Association.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>There are currently 10 academies in Virginia, each of which represents a partnership among school divisions, postsecondary institutions and business and industry.</p> <p>The Department of Education Office of Career and Technical Education Services publishes a monthly "Governor's STEM Academy Brief" which of this monthly brief is to provide information, resources, and a networking vehicle to support Virginia's STEM Academies. This is available on the Department's website at www.doe.virginia.gov.</p> <p>Included in the March 2012 brief was an announcement that Virginia Tech's School of Education at Virginia Tech and the College of Education at University of Kentucky were awarded \$1.3 million from the National Science Foundation to implement and evaluate an inquiry-based after-school program for middle school students in Appalachia. The three-year project entitled "Studio STEM: Engaging Middle School Students in Networked Science and Engineering Projects," uses engineering design activities that integrate digital modeling, social media, and game development tools to engage youth in investigating concepts and skills to integrate science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).</p> <p>At its April 26, 2012 meeting, the Board of Education approved the proposal from Virginia Beach to establish an academy for engineering, marketing, and information technology studies. The Board will consider other applications at its May 24 meeting.</p>
Education	<p>Department of Education's Mathematics and Science Partnership grant competition, announced September 2011, invited school divisions and institutions of higher education to submit proposals to create partnerships that would provide professional development to teachers.</p> <p>The proposals are intended to support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • implementation of the 2009 Mathematics Standards of Learning and the Mathematics Performance Expectations, developed as part of Virginia's College-and-Career-Readiness Initiative; • implementation of 2010 Science Standards of Learning; and • integrated STEM related to the engineering design process, scientific methodology, mathematical problem solving and engineering applications. <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>On April 27, 2102, DOE announced that it is awarding grants totaling more than \$2.5 million to 11 partnerships between school divisions, colleges and universities to increase content knowledge and sharpen classroom skills of teachers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).</p> <p>More than \$1 million was awarded to fund five mathematics projects.</p>
Education	<p>Provisions for calculating high school accreditation status were amended by the 2012 General Assembly Session (HB 642, Stolle/SB 51, Wagner) to require the Board of Education to adopt regulations adjusting the formula for calculating the final high school accreditation status to add points for each student obtaining a diploma and certain industry certifications, state licensure, or occupational credential. The additional points shall only improve the accreditation status of a school and cannot be used to obtain or deny accreditation.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The Board of Education was briefed on the impact of this legislation and other 2012 General Assembly actions at its March 22, 2012 meeting.</p>

EDUCATION (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Education	<p>Standard or Advanced Studies Diplomas Legislation passed by the 2012 General Assembly (HB 1061, Byron/SB 489, Ruff) directs the Board of Education to modify the credits necessary for a student to earn a standard or an advanced studies diploma.</p> <p>The advanced studies diploma shall be the recommended diploma for students pursuing baccalaureate study, whereas the standard diploma shall include a concentration in career and technical education and a requirement to earn a career and technical education credential.</p> <p>Both diplomas will require the successful completion of one virtual course.</p> <p>The modified standard diploma is eliminated, but the Board shall make provisions in regulation for students with disabilities to earn a standard diploma.</p> <p>The Board shall promulgate regulations to implement the provisions of this act to be effective within 280 days of its enactment.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The Board of Education was briefed on the impact of this legislation and other 2012 General Assembly actions at its March 22, 2012 meeting.</p>
Education	<p>Critical Teacher Shortage Through the Virginia Teaching Scholarship Loan Program, undergraduate students who are Scholarship recipients and who meet eligibility criteria may fulfill their teaching obligation by accepting a teaching position in a school defined by the Board of Education (BOE) as having a critical teacher shortage.</p> <p>As stipulated in Item 138-G.1 of the enrolled 2012-2014 Budget Bill, scholarship amounts are based on \$3,720 per year for full-time students (prorated for part-time students).</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The Department of Education is required to report annually on the critical shortage teaching areas in Virginia. Its 2011-2012 annual report — <i>Report Document 272</i> (2010) — is available on the General Assembly's Legislative Information System website.</p> <p>The top ten critical shortage endorsements for 2011-2012 are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Special Education 2. Elementary Education preK-6 3. Middle Education Grades 6-8 4. Career and Technical Education 5. Mathematics Grades 6-12 (including Algebra I) 6. Science Grades 6-12 7. Foreign Languages preK-12 8. School Counselor preK-12 9. Health and Physical Education preK-12 10. English Grades 6-12
Education	<p>Student Behavioral Management Competency The 2012 General Assembly passed legislation (HB 325, Massie) to require each school board to ensure that aides assigned to work with a teacher who has primary oversight of students with autism spectrum disorder demonstrate competency in student behavioral management within 60 days of assignment to such responsibility.</p> <p>Bill also requires the Board of Education to provide standards that school divisions may use to establish a measure for the demonstration of competency in student behavioral management.</p> <p>An enactment clause was added requiring the Virginia Board of Education, in consultation with Virginia Commonwealth University, to develop online training that school divisions may use to fulfill the requirements of this legislation. Such training must be made available to local school divisions free of charge.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The Board of Education was briefed on this issue at its March 22, 2012 meeting.</p> <p>This requirement takes effect as of September 1, 2014.</p>

EDUCATION (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Education	<p>Board of Education Regulations Governing Truancy Legislation passed by the 2012 General Assembly (HB 886, Alexander) requires that the Board's proposed regulations address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provisions for early intervention at the school level for repeated unexcused absences; • Identification of and a plan to address a student's academic, social, familiar, and other barriers that impede attendance in school; and • Arrangement of conferences that may be necessary between school personnel, students, parents, and community services providers, as appropriate, to address plans and strategies to improve student attendance including, but not limited to, referrals to family assessment and planning teams (FAPTs). <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	The Board of Education was briefed on the impact of this legislation and other 2012 General Assembly actions at its March 22, 2012 meeting.
Education	<p>Legislation passed by the 2012 General Assembly (HB 1179, Yost) allows a school board to provide its character education program during the summer in a youth development academy offered by the school division. The Department of Education would develop curricular guidelines for school divisions to use.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	The Board of Education was briefed on the impact of this legislation and other 2012 General Assembly actions at its March 22, 2012 meeting.
Education	<p>Physical Education Requirements in Public Schools The 2012 General Assembly passed legislation requiring the Board of Education to promulgate regulations governing (HB 1092, O'Bannon).</p> <p>Regulations will be effective beginning with the 2015-16 school year.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The Board of Education was briefed on this and other General Assembly actions at its March 22, 2012 meeting.</p> <p>The Board will work with the American Heart Association, the American Cancer Society, the American Academy of Pediatrics, VA Chapter, the Virginia Association of School Superintendents, the Virginia School Boards Association and other interested stakeholders in developing regulations.</p>
Education	<p>Policies for the Possession and Administration of Epinephrine The 2012 General Assembly enacted legislation requiring local school boards to adopt and implement these policies in Virginia's public.</p> <p>The biennial budget allocates \$200,000 to support the purchase of epinephrine injectors for public schools in Virginia during the 2012-2013 school year.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>State-level policies for the recognition and treatment of anaphylaxis in the school setting will be developed by the Department of Health, in conjunction with the Department of Education and the Department of Health Professionals.</p> <p>Local school boards are required to adopt and implement policies for the possession and administration of epinephrine in every school. These will take effect at the start of the 2012-2013 school year.</p>
Virginia Commonwealth University	<p>Virginia, through Virginia Commonwealth University, has joined 24 states and the District of Columbia to conduct Family Impact Seminars. These are a non-partisan, research-based seminar series designed to highlight the implications that public issues, policies or programs have for families. Introduced in Wisconsin in 1993, state-level seminars have proven to be an effective venue to make academically generated research findings more accessible to and more meaningful for legislators, legislative staff, Governor's office staff, and agency representatives.</p> <p>Using the national model, VCU faculty, community leaders, and a bi-partisan team of legislative members have partnered to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ identify the most compelling and timely family related state-level problems; and ▪ sponsor topic-specific annual seminars that address these problems with solution-oriented research. <p>Commission's involvement: Event Co-sponsor</p>	Topics and date for the 2012 Family Impact Seminar are currently being considered.

EDUCATION (continued)

Lead Agency	Description	Status
Education	<p>Project HOPE is Virginia's program for the education of Homeless Children and Youth. The College of William and Mary administers the program for the Department of Education. Funding is authorized under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act, Title X, Part C of the <i>No Child Left Behind Act</i> (P.O. 107-110).</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	<p>The program is monitoring the impact of mortgage foreclosure, increases in food prices and other economic issues on homeless children and youth.</p> <p>On March 8, the 2012 Regional Conference on Ending Homelessness, sponsored by the National Association of Planning Councils (NAPC) was held at Webb Center, Old Dominion University.</p> <p>In the fall, Project HOPE offers an annual seminar sponsored by the Department of Education Office of Student Services. Typically the theme addresses a process such as <i>Strengthening Connections: Student Services, School Climate and Positive Academic Outcomes</i>. The seminar is offered to School Administrators, Student Services Support Professionals, Family Life educators, homeless liaisons, re-enrollment coordinators, school nurses, school psychologists, school counselors, school social workers, as well as family and student support staff in the community.</p>

HUMAN SERVICES

Lead Agency	Description	Status
State and Local Agencies Representatives	<p>Virginia Association for Local Human Services Officials (VALHSO) is comprised of State and local government officials. Full membership is limited to the single most senior official in a locality who has broad responsibilities for multiple agencies delivering human services. Most members have direct oversight or liaison responsibilities for health, mental health and social services. VALHSO advises state agency heads or members of the General Assembly members on these topics.</p> <p>Commission's involvement: Tracking</p>	VALHSO generally meets quarterly; additional meetings are added as needed for specific areas of interest.

**VIRGINIA COMMISSION ON YOUTH**

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