



**Virginia State Head Start Health Advisory Committee Meeting**  
**April 8th, 2008**  
**Fredericksburg EXPO & Conference Center**  
**Fredericksburg, VA**  
**2:15 pm – 3:45 pm**



**Minutes**

**1. Welcome and Introductions:**

Dorothea Butts, Leslie Nussman, Health Advisory Co-Chairs called the meeting to order at 2:17 p.m.

**2. Approval of minutes from previous meeting:**

The minutes were approved as written.

**3. Dr. Guylaine Richard, Region 3 Health Specialist:**

Dr. Richard introduced herself to the group by bringing us “Greetings” from Amy Requa, who remains involved in the national roll-out of I Am Moving-I Am Learning.

Dr. Richard provided the group with information about her background. She was born in Haiti where she attended medical school. She came to the US 24 years ago with her husband who is in the USAF. She has been a Head Start director, Early Head Start director and a Head Start Fellow. She enjoys her role in T&TA, especially training and working with grantees.

For questions related to health and nutrition, Dr. Richard may be reached directly at 561-733-8839 or 561-542-4630. Or she can be reached by e-mail at: [guylaineLR@yahoo.com](mailto:guylaineLR@yahoo.com). The Disabilities and Mental Health Specialist is Kathleen Murphy.

A question was asked about programs addressing obesity when the child's physician reports the problem yet makes no recommendations for addressing the health issue or its consequences. Dr. Richard indicated that the HS program is responsible (in the absence of a plan from the physician) to develop a plan of action for the child. The development of the plan should include the program nutritionist, the parent, the teacher and others. The parent may need education on the risks of obesity in childhood. Other resources for programs and parents include information from Bright Futures and information from the MCOs that serve the children enrolled in FAMIS+ and FAMIS. This is a sensitive topic for parents and families and we cannot let that stop us! Dr. Richard has provided an Individualized Health Plan with strategies that is attached along with this document.

**4. Bright Smiles in the Early Head Start Programs,** Susan Pharr, MCH Oral Health Coordinator, Division of Dental Health, Virginia Dept. of Health  
"Tooth Brushing Protocol"

Susan provided attendees with a green folder including information on

-The Head Start Program Instruction on Oral Health.

-The use of fluoridated toothpaste for toddlers and preschoolers.

-Sample tooth brushing policies

-Recommendations for tooth brush storage and care from CDC and ADA

Susan emphasized the need for all children with teeth to brush or have their teeth brushed with an appropriate amount of fluoridated toothpaste. A pea-sized amount is appropriate for 3-5 year olds. A smear the size of a cooked grain of rice is appropriate for younger children with teeth. Children should spit only after brushing. They should not rinse their mouths with water!

**5. Tanisha Dorsey, Head Start Collaboration:** Collaboration Update

Tanisha reported on the updates as Denise Branscome was conducting a workshop.

The Governor has established the new Office of Early Childhood Development and Kathy Glazer has been named the Executive Director. Sessions will be held around the state on "Solving the Preschool Puzzle".

The Home Visit Consortium has established a training program through JMU.

The Mental Health Sub Committee Advisory Group now has approximately 30 members and working groups have been established. They have contracted for a side-by-side comparison of services with other states.

There will be a Smart Beginnings meeting in Richmond on May 13<sup>th</sup>. Invitations have been sent to specific individuals and all communities are encouraged to attend.

The Head Start Annual Report which is an initiative of the Collaboration Office has been provided to all attendees in your tote bags.

Virginia has been awarded a Special Quest grant to benefit leadership and professional development for inclusion services.

MPDCI grant application is due in next week. It will compliment the SQ grant.

Head Start reauthorization will require additional responsibilities of the Collaboration Office. They will be providing TA via onsite visits over the next 4 years.

Healthy Start Toolkit boxes are available through the Collaboration Office (contact Tanisha: [tanisha.dorsey@dss.virginia.gov](mailto:tanisha.dorsey@dss.virginia.gov)). Programs would have to provide their own materials to fill the boxes.

**6. Sherry Black, Children's Hospital Richmond, VA**

"State Resource Guide" for the Medical Community Children's Hospital Richmond, VA

Sherry reported on the current newsletter that Children's Hospital, Richmond has published regarding Autism Therapy Interventions. The next issue will include a

State Resource Guide that will include information on early intervention, DD waivers, FAMIS, etc. The newsletters are direct mailed to physicians and agencies. If interested contact Sherry at [sblack@chva.org](mailto:sblack@chva.org) for the electronic version.

**7. Kristin Fincher Gilliam, DORAL USA:** Smiles for Children Update  
Kristin stated that the Smiles for Children program is receiving nation-wide attention. They will celebrate 3 years on July first. They are approaching 48% useage of those eligible, with more than 1000 providers signed on to date. Kristin also reminded the group that oral health topic flyers are available and come double-sided in English/Spanish for families. She will e-mail them to interested committee members for printing ([kfgilliam@doralusa.com](mailto:kfgilliam@doralusa.com))

**8. Round Table, Questions & Answers, Ideas for next Health Advisory Committee Meeting.**

Tanisha Dorsey encouraged all committee members to visit and utilize the Virginia Head Start Association web site ([www.headstartva.org](http://www.headstartva.org)): The Health Advisory Committee has information posted and is updated regularly.

Dr. Richard encouraged the group members to sign up for JOSEY Alerts that provide clarification on some of the standards. In addition the Early Childhood Knowledge and Learning Center (ECLKC: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/hsb/eclkc/index.html> ) has a wide variety of resources and information.

The committee will finalize the revisions to the bylaws at our next meeting. A draft of the revisions is attached.

**Next Meeting** – September 16, 2008 at the Hanover County DSS Meeting Room in Ashland, Virginia; 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.