

**Virginia State Head Start Health Advisory Committee Meeting**  
**September 18, 2007**  
**Hanover Department of Social Services**  
**Richmond, VA**  
**11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

**Minutes**

**1. Welcome and Introductions**, Helena Fedak, Health Advisory Chair

The meeting was called to order by Helena Fedak at 11:07 a.m.

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

A motion was made by Katie Humphrey to approve the minutes as written. Lula Clarke seconded. The minutes were approved with no changes.

**3. Maxine McKinney, Executive Director, Virginia Head Start Association**

Maxine spoke about the ECHO (Early Childhood Hearing Outreach) Project from Utah University. The project has been expanded to fourteen states. In VA the following programs are involved, CDR, Fairfax HS, Northern VA Family Services, Orange and Kids Central. In the state of Virginia the training team is composed of Maxine McKinney, Marna Zok, Bethany Geldmaker and five audiologists. The cost of the equipment is \$4,000 per unit. Maxine's is looking into buying the equipment. She recommended that if a program is considering buying the equipment confer with the ECHO team first.

The association web site is [www.headstartva.org](http://www.headstartva.org) It is expected that by next week there will be a link to the State Health Advisory. The ECHO power point presentation will be available there.

The Virginia Head Start Association will have its conference during April 8-10 at the Fredericksburg Center. The theme is *Leadership Development and Reauthorization*. Maxine encouraged the group to submit proposals and to invite other professionals to submit proposals too. The primary hotel for the conference will be the Hilton Garden Inn. There will be other hotels around the area.

**4. Tanisha Dorsey & Denise Branscome, Head Start Collaboration**

Written report submitted. See attached information.

Tanisha mentioned that the Mental Health Subcommittee is looking for parent participation. The subcommittee meets on the first Thursday of the month in Richmond. She encouraged the members to recruit a parent to attend these meetings. She can be reached at 804-726-7653.

**5. Kristin Gilliam, Update in Dental Services**

She is looking at how the mobile dental unit is working. This project is in its preliminary stages. Nothing is being written about follow-ups. The contract does not specify if they can see other children besides Medicare. It is going through the credentialing process.

#### **6. William Week, Disability, Mental Health Manager**

Written report submitted. See attached information.

Mr. Week would like to provide trainings as in-kind for the programs. He is from the Eastern Shore and can be reached at 757-787-8774 or 757-350-1280. His address is PO Box 51, Painter, VA 23420 and his email address is [wlweeks@juno.com](mailto:wlweeks@juno.com)

#### **7. Bethany Geldmaker, PhD., Program Director, Early Childhood Health**

The new physical form can be downloaded from the State Health Department web site. Bethany brought copies of the following resources for the members; *Germ's Make Me Sick* (new book), *Hand Washing Poster*, *Glow Germ Worksheets and Lesson Plans* and *First Aid Flip Charts* (needed to be updated with new CPR Guidelines). She mentioned that the *Start Value Campaign* has free materials to download from the website.

She mentioned that we are due for a pandemic flu and shared hand washing materials put together by the State Health Department. For more information regarding the flu campaign visit [www.vdh.virginia.gov/flu/](http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/flu/)

Members raised questions regarding which immunizations are required for childcare providers. It was recommended to follow CDC recommendations. The state of VA does not require Tdap and Flu vaccination for childcare providers. It was recommended to invite Jim Farrell to attend the next meeting and clarify to the group the Flu vaccination requirements. Bethany stated that there are different levels of requirements. Programs need to have clear policies and procedures explaining the requirements (EPSDT, County, State, Federal, etc.) To check when children need to have different immunizations go to [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) and click in immunizations go to vaccination schedule, interactive child scheduler and plug in child's birthday. The program will tell you the requirements.

Bethany clarified to the group that if families refused immunizations because of religious reasons the state of VA has a law that says "if the public is at risk the state vaccinate".

#### **8. Sherry Black, Business Development Manager, Children's Hospital Richmond**

Sherry brought resources from Children's Hospital to share with the group. To make a dental appointment for a child that lives in Richmond call the *Children's Dental Program* at 804-228-5818. She also mentioned that the newsletter *Tid-Bits* is available online at [www.chtidbits.com](http://www.chtidbits.com)

#### **9. Susan Pharr, Bright Smiles in the EHS Programs**

*Give Kids a Smile 2008*- Is a National Children's Dental Access Day designed as an awareness and education day, with free oral health care to as many children possible. It provides free dental services, screenings, cleaning and fluoride treatments. When is *Give Kids a Smile*? It will be on February 1, 2008. Contact Leslie Pinkston at 804-261-1610 or email [pinkston@vadental.org](mailto:pinkston@vadental.org) to find out who is the local contact for your area.

Susan has being busy conducting EHS Oral Health Trainings. She is trying to get dental hygienists to volunteer services for Head Start.

Susan shared with the group, *what should Head Start staff do if a child experiences an oral injury?* and *what should be included in an oral health first aid kit?*

Have the following items in a Dental Emergency Kit (for trauma type of emergency); Non-latex gloves, 2x2 gauze, cotton swabs (Q-Tips), hydrogen peroxide, tea bags (to help reduce bleeding), floss, ADA Handling Dental Emergency Guide, plastic bag to dispose soil material and dental wax. Keep items in a size gallon plastic zip lock bag and write contact information on front of bag (dentist to call in case of an emergency). Susan also suggested preparing a dental emergency kit for field trips. Email Susan if need “*Pickle Poster*” at [susan.pharr@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:susan.pharr@vdh.virginia.gov)

#### **10. Call for Nominations, Helena Fedak**

The election of officers for a new term will be in November. Helena provided information on the committee structure for review and revision for next meeting.

Helena opened the floor for nominations. Dorothea Butts got nominated for chair and Leslie Nussman for co-chair. Both accepted the nomination.

No nominations for secretary.

Helena will send a message to the whole membership requesting nominations for chairs and secretary.

#### **11. Round Table, Q & A**

a. A member requested information on resources to transport children to their appointments. It was recommended to check with universities and state level officials to research for funding for transportation. Another recommendation was to check local bus companies and United Way.

b. Katie Humphrey’s requested from the group a tooth brushing policy. Leslie Nussman will email Helena her program’s policy to share with the members.

c. Helena commented on the latest EPSDT Memo dated on 8/23/07. All in attendance received a copy.

The meeting was adjourned at 2 P.M.

#### **Next Meeting:**

Wednesday, November 14, 2007 - 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Hanover DSS, Ashland

Tuesday, January 15, 2008 - 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Hanover Department DSS, Ashland

April 8-10, 2008, - Virginia Head Start Association Conference, Fredericksburg Expo Center

Respectfully submitted by Everludis López