

## **Virginia State Head Start Health Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Tuesday, September 20, 2011 (12-3)**

### **Ashland, Virginia**

- Welcome and Introductions by Jackie Wake. Welcomed everyone back from summer break.
- Approval of minutes from May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011 meeting. One correction to these minutes: one of the dental trainings was done in Saltville, Va. Not Saltsville, Va. as typed. Correction noted and minutes were approved by Katie and seconded by Lisa.
- Bonnie Grifa, Monitoring Consultant/Program Specialist, Dept of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services gave an update on the Infant & Child Mental Health Committee of Virginia Status Report. It will impact Head Start in a positive way. There were over 40 members at the last meeting made up of an interdisciplinary team of mental health professionals. Service is: Birth –age 5. There has been a consultant hired for state-to-state major product initiatives. It is part of “Smart Beginnings”—linked into this work. It is part of the CEFEL Pyramid model-as evidence-based curriculum. This model will have various: “Train the Trainer” sessions working to train at all levels. The goal is to have 100 Trainers in the State of Virginia by the end of October, 2011 with a list of qualified trainers in place. There will a State Level Coordinator position that will be advertised for by mid Oct, 2011. That person will be hired in November, 2011. That person must have Early Childhood, and Infant and Mental Health endorsements. Referenced a website for information on various aspects children’s health: [eipd.vcu.edu](http://eipd.vcu.edu). Further talk on the two models being developed to enhance the Pyramid Model that is being written by a master trainer that can be used by Head Start in our work with families. There will also be an Endorsement and competency system—seeds to promote as endorsement recruiters and also serve as trainers. Goal is to have quality coordinators for endorsement. Exams for higher levels are slated for 9/2012. Level 1 & 2 endorsements are appropriate for classroom staff and FSA’s. Another initiative for the future is an establishment of an Association of Infant Mental Health (World Association of Infant Mental Health) as a way of networking with this professional organization. The newly formed Virginia Association for Infant Mental Health has 50 members with its ultimate goal of establishing regional chapter throughout the state with local representation. There is a need for more Head Start participation on this committee. There is a quarterly meeting in Richmond with some funding from the HS Collaboration office. There was a question as to the differences in CEFEL from (0-3). She responded by saying there are commonalities for both groups (3-5) with the goal for both being positive social/emotional behaviors. It is a goal of this group to eventually have trainers from each Head Start across the state as Mental Health coordinators/trainers. It is obviously an individual decision for each HS grantee and its programs to decide. It should be part of a comprehensive reflective supervision to help teachers. She encouraged our group to become members of the new Association. A State wide provider survey was sent out to all community services boards. She will share the data with us when the results become available.

- Obesity prevention Coordinator, Hilda L. Hertz, RD could not be with us so we continued on the agenda.
- Bethany Geldmaker, PhD, PNP, from VDH gave a program update. WASH YOUR HANDS! It's that time of year! Allergy/Asthma season upon us. She gave us the usual start of the school year handout from VDH. She encouraged us to order multiples of posters/charts from VDH website than can be mailed in mass. There is the downloadable site as well. These of course will be not laminated. She showed and gave out for distribution the Changing a Diaper, poster 8 1/2 x 11 (that should be posted at our centers for any child who is not toilet trained). She went over Resource listings on Emergency Preparedness-Emergency plans in all program should be in place and posted. We should think about how we would get the children out. Fire drills are not enough. A good resource was given: the pamphlet, It pays to prepare! All this information is free and downloadable. It also gives locality, region and state specific protocols. She also gave out one bag per program, a pre-K, Choosy Kids CD, beach ball and a bag to promote physical activity in young children. A mention on the 1998 Communicable diseases large chart was asked about. It is not printable at this time. Needs to be updated. It has been 1/4 updated with new diseases. Bethany has copies of "Managing Chronic Diseases" in sub storage and can be brought the Health Institute in November for distribution to HAC on the first day. It is not tweaked for Pre-K but mandated in schools in Virginia. A discussion on the HEP-A vaccine (2 series) ensued. It is a vaccination that is required by Head Start but not by schools. The state regulations and HS regulations do not match-up. Doctors need to follow state and federal requirements. HS follows CDC recommendations. Question proposed to clear up this confusion when it comes to infant Flu, Rotavirus and HEP- A shots. The immunization page on the Virginia State physical form (version 6, 2010) must be signed by MD or staff designee (under his license).An electronic signature as part of an electronic medical record is a legal signature as well. HS staff cannot sign an immunization form. This form is downloadable and the Board of Health approved changes to this form on its last version last fall, 2010.
- Wenda Singer gave a brief report in place of Dorethea Butts from the Virginia Dental Health Coalition. H.A.C. and Head Start collaboration office all work together. There are 4 more training events planned. Based on feedback-revision of curriculum is needed. VDH and the Virginia Dental Hygienist group are working together to see if hygienists can be more involved in Head Start programs. They can be a great teaching resource in our programs. Lisa Crane at Germanna Community College. Her contact information is: phone number 540-423-9833 and email address [lcrane@germanna.edu](mailto:lcrane@germanna.edu). She is a direct link to H. A.C. There is an awareness that we need to further reach out to dentists who don't normally reach out to our pediatric population.
- Wenda Singer, Director, State Collaboration office gave a program update. Ann J. Shultz is being trained as a Train the Trainer in CEFEL in Early Head Start. Wenda's dream it to have a pre-model training for CEFEL in one year. Twelve people have applied for level (1 & 2) mental health endorsement. It is advancing the cause. On another topic, she discussed that VDH has a planning grant to investigate the possibility of co locating with clinics in office of Head Start (by next year). There would be a couple of HS programs that would be piloted-More eligible

children who participate and continue to participate in WIC will be impacted. There would also be increase EPSDT screenings with completed health forms for our programs at these sites.

- Kristen Gilliam, Denta Quest, Smiles for Children gave a brief program update. New contracts (4-8 more years) with dentist have increased the dental home initiative (Wellness programs). They are constantly recruiting new dentists for Medicaid reimbursement. In our state, over 50% of children on Medicaid are seeing the dentist. This is HUGE!
- Sherry Black, not in attendance.
- Jill Payne, Health Institute-gave an update on our upcoming Health Institute scheduled for November 2-3(Wednesday, Thursday in Lynchburg, Va. at the new Holiday Inn Express in downtown Lynchburg). She listed the speakers the main speakers: The Keynote address will be given by:
  - Eloise Haun, MD, Child Psychiatrist and past Head Start Director.

Other speakers include: Day 1

- Bethany Geldmaker on Protecting Young Brains-Effect of Stress on young children.
- Heather Board-VDH. Concussions in young Children-Everyday head Injury
- Angela Porter-Therapeutic Day Treatment—It's usefulness in preschoolers.
- Pam Blackburn-Child Health Outcomes and Readiness for School.
- Panel Discussion on Collaboration in our programs for Healthy outcomes.

Other Speakers include: Day 2

- David Stebbins RD- Fitness and Nutrition in Early Childhood
- Angela Early RD-Changes in The School Nutrition Program
- Pat Read- What's new in Immunizations.
- Dian Read and Carol Troxell –State Licensing Inspectors-requirements.
- Staff Panel- A day in the life of a Health Coordinator.

Registration is open now online. The fee before the 19<sup>th</sup> of October is \$225. After the 19<sup>th</sup> there is a \$50 late fee. Family Service Advocates should be encouraged to come and participate in this Institute as it is good for collaboration in our programs. The room rate is \$79 a night/room.

**Project Immunize Va-great publication on CDC website: great handout to help parents understand the repercussions of Not immunizing children with religious exemptions.**

Our next HAC meeting will be at the Health institute.

Round Table: Can a public school refuse to accept a physical that is not the MCH213-6 from? For example: a progress note from that visit? The answer is that is varies by practice-that is the bottom line. There was a discussion on increase in childhood cancers, seizures, diabetes (with insulin requirements q daily). Thorough documentation by physician practices is essential for the safe care of our little ones. IE: Health Dept, care plans. No exclusion policy was discussed. ECLICK- uses all our resources to ascertain correct data on our physicals. The 2007 Head Start Act and CDC (We must follow performance

standards). For immunizations gathered from The VIIS (Virginia Immunization system) - there needs to be signature from the licensed care provider after print out.

Respectfully submitted: H.A.C Secretary

*Laura M. McCall R.N., B.S.*