



Virginia
Commission on Youth

Systems of Care and Evidence-based Practices Conference: Tools that Work for Youth and Families

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Mandate

The Commission on Youth approved the following recommendation at its November 2005 meeting:

- The Commission on Youth, in conjunction with the Virginia Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and Substance Abuse Services, will convene a statewide conference with the express purpose of identifying and communicating to behavioral health care professionals evidence-based practices for children and adolescents with mental health disorders. To plan for this conference, the Commission shall organize a Conference Planning Committee comprised of representatives from all of the Commonwealth's child-serving agencies. An update on the progress of the conference plan shall be reported to the Commission on Youth prior to the 2007 General Assembly Session.



Conference Planning Committee

- DMHMRSAS
- DSS
- DMAS
- DJJ
- DOE
- VDH
- Office of Comprehensive Services
- CSBs
- Local CSA
- Private Providers
- State University Representatives
- Area Health Education Council (AHEC)
- Advocacy Group Representatives
- Commission on Youth Members

Conference Planning Committee met August 21, 2006 & February 27, 2007.



Role of Conference Planning Committee

- Coordinate with various agencies to ascertain specific tasks, roles & responsibilities, activities, potential partnerships, and utilization of resources.
- Investigate available grants, as well as private or public funds, for funding the conference.
- Develop proposed conference plan including the following:
 - Conference Target Audience
 - Budget/Funding Plan
 - Site/Date Selection
 - Conference Agenda/Program
 - Continuing Education Credits
 - Conference Promotion



Recommendations from Conference Planning Committee

- Partner with Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and Substance Abuse Services (DMHMRSAS) on Systems of Care Training.
- Investigate utilization of University Conference Planner.
- Establish core planning group.
- Establish relevant subcommittees.



Conference Planning Subcommittees

- Agenda/Speakers
- Marketing/Target Audience
- Sponsors/Exhibits
- Family Participation



Utilization of a Conference Planner

- A Conference Planner would oversee the intricate details of the Conference.
- The Conference Planning Committee would determine the content and agenda for the Conference.



Utilization of a Conference Planner

- Virginia Tech's Office of Outreach and International Affairs has agreed to partner with COY and DMHMRSAS in planning this Conference.
- Benefits of Conference Planner at Virginia Tech:
 - serve as a consultant for Conference planning activities;
 - coordinate Conference activities;
 - access to resources available to Virginia Tech;
 - provide on-site staff assistance during Conference;
 - design logo/website for Conference promotion;
 - promote Conference through mailings and web technologies;
 - ability to handle all anticipated needs such as registration, meals, accommodations, audio-visual; and
 - act as a liaison between agencies, speakers, and participants.



Recent Activities/Accomplishments

- Key Partnerships established:
 - DMHMRSAS
 - Virginia Tech
 - Other executive branch agencies
 - Local governments
 - Other institutions of higher education
 - Private providers
 - Family advocacy organizations



Recent Activities/Accomplishments

- Established Title for Conference
 - ***Systems of Care and Evidence-based Practices Conference: Tools that Work for Youth and Families***

- Set dates for Conference
 - **September 16-18, 2007**
 - Sunday through Tuesday to facilitate family involvement.



Recent Activities/Accomplishments

- Determined Conference themes
 - Systems of Care
 - Evidence-based practices
 - Family Involvement
- Defining the System of Care
 - *A comprehensive spectrum of mental health and other necessary services which are organized into a coordinated network to meet the multiple and changing needs of children and their families.**
- The core values of the system of care philosophy are:
 - services should be community based;
 - child centered and family focused; and
 - culturally competent.

*Stroul, B. (2002). *Issue Brief—System of care: A framework for system reform in children's mental health.*



Recent Activities/Accomplishments

- Obtaining nationally-recognized speakers
 - Experts in the field of children's mental health, evidence-based practices, importance of family involvement, utilization of community-based resources.
 - Virginia experts, including Commission on Youth members.
- Developing draft materials for Conference such as agenda, webpage, and print materials.



Upcoming Activities

- Agenda/Speakers Subcommittee compile Conference agenda and acquire appropriate speakers;
- Marketing/Target Audience Subcommittee compile mailing lists and promotional materials;
- Sponsors/Exhibits Subcommittee secure appropriate exhibitors/vendors, as well as available foundation funding;
- Family Participation Subcommittee ensure adequate family/youth involvement and appropriate Conference activities.

Virginia Commission on Youth Summary of Web Activity By Quarter

