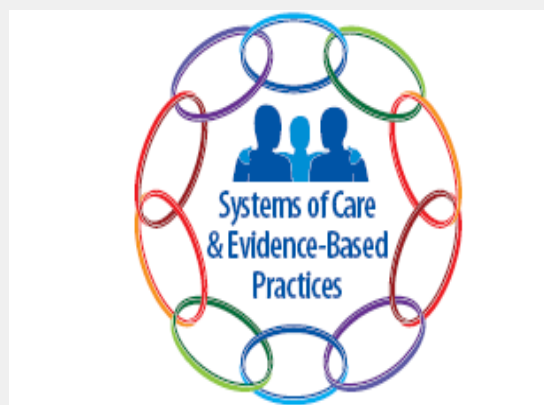




***Systems of Care & Evidence-based Practices
Conference:
Tools that
Work for Youth and Families***

***November 20, 2007
Leah Hamaker***



**Virginia Commission on
Youth**



Background on the Conference

- In November 2005, COY approved a recommendation to co-sponsor, with DMHMRSAS, a statewide conference to offer training on evidence-based practices for youth with mental health disorders.
- COY partnered with DMHMRSAS to combine efforts on their System of Care Training.
- CSA also partnered with DHMHRAS and COY to provide financial and staff assistance for the Conference.



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- ***Systems of Care & Evidence-based Practices Conference: Tools that Work for Youth and Families***
- **September 16-18, 2007**
 - Sunday through Tuesday to facilitate family involvement
 - Held at the Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center



Conference Themes

- Effective implementation of the System of Care philosophy
- Implementation of appropriate evidence-based practices within the community System of Care
- Strengthening the youth and family voice
- Maximizing resources to improve mental health outcomes for youth and families



Key Partnerships Established

- Interagency planning contributed strongly to the broad appeal of the conference and to the wide spectrum of participants.
- The Planning Committee of 30 members divided into four working committees:
 - Agenda and speakers
 - Target audience and marketing
 - Family involvement
 - Exhibitor and vendor participation



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

- Approximately 550 participants attended
- Virtually all sectors involved in the children's behavioral health service system, including:
 - ❖ *The First Lady of Virginia, Anne Holton*
 - ❖ *Legislators and members of the Virginia Commission on Youth*
 - ❖ *State agency heads and officials*
 - ❖ *Local government agency heads and officials*
 - ❖ *Family members and parents*
 - ❖ *Youth involved with the services system*
 - ❖ *Private agencies and service providers*
 - ❖ *Local agency service providers from all sectors*
 - Mental health/substance abuse
 - Social service/child welfare
 - Juvenile Justice
 - Education
 - Health



Accomplishments

- Obtaining nationally-recognized speakers
 - Experts in the field of children's mental health, evidence-based practices, family involvement, and utilization of community-based resources.
 - Virginia experts, including COY members.
- Support from Private Sponsors
 - Private exhibitor/sponsors contributed \$40,750.
 - Additional donations of give-aways for attendees.



Accomplishments *(cont.)*

■ First Lady's Family Scholarships

- The Honorable Anne Holton, Virginia's First Lady, funded by the Puckett Institute to provide a limited number of family scholarships to attend the Conference.
- 41 family members received scholarships so they could attend the Conference.

■ Local Government Official Workshop

- A special workshop enabled local government officials to come together to hear about the success in serving children in Hampton.
- The theme – ***How to Effectively Serve Youth with Mental Health Disorders in Your Home Community.***
- Representatives from 15 localities attended this session.



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Accomplishments (*cont.*)

■ Positive Evaluations

- Participants rated the Conference as extremely valuable and interesting.
- Attendees valued the participation of the legislative members and the First Lady.
- High ratings also for the participation of the youth and family members.
- Desire for even more information on “how to”, such as implementing evidence-based practices and systems of care.
- Desire to learn how more about: school services, permanency, transition services for 18-21 year olds, court services and the juvenile justice system, measuring outcomes, and creative funding and distinguishing types of funding.



Accomplishments *(cont.)*

- Key partnerships established
 - Legislative/executive branch
 - State/local
 - Public/private
- Optimism about future opportunities
 - Additional opportunities for new partnerships.
 - CSA to continue efforts with regional training focusing on specific needs of the regions.
 - Renewed focus on collaboration with all systems, including private partners.



Private Partners/Sponsors

- Family Systems, II
- Intercept Youth Services, Inc.
- Jackson-Feild Homes
- National Counseling Group, Inc.
- Community Solutions
- Camelot for Kids
- KidLink Referral Network
- Stepping Stone Family Services, Inc.
- Centra Health
- Dominion Youth Services
- First Home Care
- Institute for Family Centered Services
- The Pines Residential Treatment Center
- Graydon Manor
- The Barry Robinson Center
- Timber Ridge
- United Methodist Family Services
- Youth Villages
- Hillcrest Educational Center
- Project HOPE – Virginia
- Southwest Virginia Area Health Education Center



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