



Vision 21
Virginia

Linking Systems of Care
for Children and Youth

August 2016 Project Newsletter

Vision 21: LSC's National Steering Committee

As the training and technical assistance (TTA) provider for the Office of Victims for Crime (OVC's) Vision 21: Linking Systems of Care (LSC) for Children and Youth Demonstration Project, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) convened a National Steering Committee of experts on victimization, trauma, court services, child protection services, juvenile justice, family violence, education, public health, etc. When inviting individuals to be part of the National Steering Committee, NCJFCJ's staff assessed how their expertise and knowledge would benefit the demonstration sites and their stakeholders. National Steering Committee members can be viewed as a resource to the demonstration sites and provide tailored TTA when specific needs arise. The National Steering Committee members include representatives from the judiciary, Futures Without Violence, the National Association of State Boards of Education, the National Center for Child Traumatic Stress, the National Children's Advocacy Center, and the Quality Improvement Center for Research-Based Infant-Toddler Court Teams (ZERO TO THREE) to name a few.

To date, the National Steering Committee has assisted in developing the Vision 21: LSC Guiding Principles which stress the importance of (a) making informed decisions, (b) linking systems of care through effective communication, coordination and collaborative efforts, and (c) healing individuals, families and communities through trauma-informed, strength-based, individualized, and culturally responsive services. Because of their varied expertise, National Steering Committee members may play offer direct TTA to the demonstration sites, as well as assist in the development of materials for future replication efforts. Like the Partner Agency Team (PAT), NCJFCJ hopes that National Steering Committee members will serve as 'champions' for goals of the Vision 21: LSC project.

August 2016 Implementation Phase Achievements:

- Held the bi-monthly meeting of the Vision 21: LSC Partner Agency Team.
- Met with potential pilot partners from Washington County and Charlottesville/Albemarle to discuss the role, responsibilities and benefits of being a pilot site. These meetings will continue throughout the summer.
- Participated in six Technical Assistance calls with the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, the National Child Traumatic Stress Network, the Office for Victims of Crime, and ICF International.

The Vision 21: Linking Systems of Care for Children and Youth State Demonstration Project aims to bring together all of the relevant systems and professionals to provide early identification, intervention and treatment for child and youth victims of crime and their families.



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Policy Analysis

Project Staff: Laurie Crawford

The goal of the Policy Analysis Committee is to assess policies for screening, training and collaborative opportunities across systems that may support the goals of the project. Committee members with expertise in policy analysis and development have been recruited to participate. They represent the Departments of: Social Services, Criminal Justice Services, Health, Housing and Community Development, Medical Assistance Services, Juvenile Justice, the Office of the Office of Children's Services, the Office of the Attorney General and the U.S. Attorney's Office as well as a variety of stakeholder groups. These include the Richmond Trauma Informed Community Network, Greater Richmond SCAN, Child Advocacy Centers of Virginia, Virginia Poverty Law Center, Magellan Health, and the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance.

Training

Project Staff: Laurie Crawford/Jenna Foster

The Training Committee's primary focus is to review and analyze curricula and training methods for existing screening tools that include content on victimization. This month, the draft training manual that will guide the in-person training was finalized and submitted to committee members for review. Once committee members have provided input and it has been incorporated, the manual will be submitted to VCU along with the age-specific screening tools, consent and assent forms, and MOU's between VDSS and the screening and referral agencies at each pilot site for Institutional Review Board approval.

Screening Tools

Project Staff: Jenna Foster

The Screening Tools Committee is tasked with researching and reviewing current screening tools and response protocols to assess their relevancy in relation to the project. This month, Committee focus shifted from the screening tools to the agencies who will be conducting the screenings. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been developed for agencies who will administer the screening tools to their clients. Additionally, a separate MOU has been drafted for agencies who will receive additional referrals based on a positive score on a screening tool. These screening agencies will continue to be part of conversations and may participate in the in-person training in order to better understand the caliber of clients that will be referred from administering the Virginia Victimization Screen (VVS).

LSC Resource Mapping

Project Staff: Monique Williams

The Linking Systems of Care (LSC) Resource Mapping Committee's primary focus is to ensure that localities have access to national, statewide and local resources serving child/youth victims of crime. The committee kicked off its first meeting on August 22, 2016 by diving into its plans of supporting the local communities in resource mapping. A "guide" is being developed by the committee that centers on a multi-disciplinary and multi-tiered approach to address the potential needs of children and youth identified through the Virginia Victimization Screen. At the next meeting, the committee will continue to review this guidance and also gain more insight into Virginia's centralized information/referral systems, including DSS's 2-1-1 Virginia, the DCJS Info-Line for crime victims, the Family Violence and Sexual Assault Hotline, etc.