



**Vision 21**  
Virginia  
Linking Systems of Care  
for Children and Youth

## May 2016 Project Newsletter

### ***Vision 21: LSC Project: From Planning to Implementation***

The Vision 21: Linking Systems of Care is currently in the first phase of implementation, and project staff is beginning to have discussions and conversations with service providers in local communities who would be interested in piloting the screening tool, training module and training manual developed during the planning phase. During the implementation phase, the goal of the pilot process is to explore the efficacy of the tool and training in two to four communities. Pilot communities will be geographically diverse and have pre-existing collaborative relationships between system stakeholders. Each pilot community will need to have a minimum of three systems (e.g. education, juvenile justice, advocacy) that agree to participate in piloting the screening tool, training module and training manual.

Several communities have been identified as potential pilot sites, and the Project Manager and Project Co-Convener have begun discussions with service providers in these communities to identify potential partners, review and discuss how to build upon existing policy and protocol for working with child and youth victims of crime and/or trauma, and have conversations as to how the screening and referral process would occur within and between identified partners.

It is projected that two of these communities will begin working with the project staff in the fall of 2016, followed by two additional sites in 2017. All pilot sites will (a) participate in on-going relationship building meetings with project staff and partners, (b) receive formal training on the screening tools, (c) receive continuous technical assistance from project staff, (d) receive information on national and state resources, and (e) receive information from project staff collected throughout the pilot process.. Once all partners at each site have been identified and Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) have been signed, a formal announcement of the pilot sites will be made.

#### ***May 2016 Implementation Phase Achievements:***

- Project Manager facilitated a workshop on Vision 21: LSC at the Crimes Against Children Conference sponsored by Child Advocacy Centers of Virginia in Hampton
- Project Manager facilitated a workshop on Vision 21: LSC Pilot Site work to the Charlottesville/Albemarle Child Abuse Multi-Disciplinary Team
- Participated in a grant and program planning site visit with the National Council on Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ).
- Submitted the grant application for the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of Implementation which begins July 1, 2017.
- 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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### ***Pilot Site Selection***

Project Staff: Laurie Crawford

The ad hoc Pilot Site Selection Committee's work is to analyze and recruit the four sites where the screening tool, training module and training manual will be piloted during the implementation phase. During the month of May, project staff, in collaboration with technical assistance providers at the NCJFCJ, made a decision to revise the timeline related to the pilot, opting to roll out the sites in phases, with the first two sites projected to begin in the Fall of 2016 and up to two additional sites projected to begin in the Spring of 2017. Modifications were made to allow for more time to complete the Institutional Review Board approval process, develop and finalize Memoranda of Understanding, and review and vet the training module and manual (to include providing a mock training for Vision 21: LSC PAT and Committee members to participate in and provide feedback).

### ***Training***

Project Staff: Calvin Nunnally, Sr.

The Training Committee's primary focus is to review and analyze curricula and training methods for existing screening tools that include content on victimization. The supplemental training content which includes basic suicide prevention, domestic violence, and human trafficking, has been submitted for review to the project TA provider. Once that review is completed and the screening tool is approved by the Partner Agency Team (PAT) the training subcommittee will do a final review and the training manual can be submitted to the PAT for approval hopefully at its August meeting.

### ***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. The Committee and Partner Agency Team were invited to attend a conference call to further discuss concerns that arose during the April PAT meeting. A presentation with clarifying information regarding sexual assault and suicide questions was provided to all participants. A plan to include a team of legal experts in the review process of the tools was also explained. The legal team began their review at the end of May. Since this informational meeting, project staff has had the opportunity to talk with PAT members and address any lingering concerns. All screening tools were approved by the PAT during the June meeting.

### ***Organization & Policy Analysis***

Project Staff: Monique Williams

The Organization and Policy Analysis Committee focuses on state-level understanding of practices and policies that influence the identification and treatment of child and youth victims. With the Organizational Assessment complete, the Organizational and Policy Analysis Committee will soon begin to explore specific policies that shape and guide practice in Virginia. Virginia is one of only thirteen states that is state-supervised and locally administered. Local human service agencies and public schools are charged with the responsibility for the determination of eligibility (in some cases) and delivery of benefits and services to individuals and families. Through policy analysis, the committee will begin to explore code, policies and guidance to identify needs (or barriers) as well as opportunities for linking systems of care for child and youth victims and their families.