



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL SERVICES

Quarterly Roundtable with Virginia's Tribes

December 14, 2022



Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- November's Activities
- Native Land Acknowledgement
- Foster Parent Recruitment Video Update
- Evidence-Based Programs Update
- CWSE5020 Intro to ICWA Training Update
- Next Training Module Input

Introductions



Attendance: Reggie Tupponce-UMIT, Lori Battin-CIP, Nadine Dalley-Smith-CB, Dwanda young- CB, Chief Kenneth Branham-Monacan, Adrian Compton-Monacan, Kimberly Huhn- CB, Jane Lissenden- Children's Ombudsman, Olga Symeonoglou- Cultural Heritage, Lindsey Johnson- Chickahominy, Jennifer Newman- CIP, Chief Keith Anderson- Nansemond, Wilma Hicks- UMIT, Doris Austin- Chickahominy Eastern, Susann Brown- Chickahominy, Yvonne Epps- Giddings- Nottoway, Chief Lynette Alston- Nottoway, Aaron Kelly- DFS, Ivey Tupponce- DFS, Brenda Sampe- DFS

November's Activities



Brenda Sampe went over the activities that DSS did for November- Native American Heritage Month. Explained the Division's STEP meeting, Eblasts, and Knowledge Breaks where information was shared. Advised the info was well received by our staff and received positive feedback. Next September 2023 we will be reaching out the Tribes to gather information on activities and events for November 2023- Native American Heritage Month.

Native Land Acknowledgement



Brenda Sampe engaged attendees in group discussion about the practice of land acknowledgment at the beginning of stakeholder and other related meetings. Discussed whether DSS should be doing this and if so, what should that look like? Ideas from Tribal partners included not making this a “checking the box” activity. It should include history and a connection and is more than just a statement. Could be an opportunity to continue to share about information about explain the history of our VA Tribes. Brenda asked where the state would get accurate information about land use. Several website and organizations were shared regarding accurate land information including, Dept of Education (shows current Tribes only), Dept of Historic Preservation, and VA Humanities.

Foster Parent Recruitment Video Update



Brenda Sampe provided an update on the Division's foster care recruitment video and advised we will be seeking input from Tribal leaders.

Evidence-Based Programs (EBPs) Update



Aaron Kelly provided an overview of the Family First Program and shared public website and updates. Website: <https://familyfirstvirginia.com/>. This is a shift in how we do our work. Focus is on being proactive with prevention and not reactive. Has an impact on funding. Instead of spending more money after a child entered foster care, spend money on the front end preventing them from entering foster care. There was no additional money allotted. Title IV-E funds were shifted. Acknowledge that Division has more children in congregate care than in family placements. But also recognize that that some children have needs that warrant this level of care. The feds recognized that congregate care was being overused, so QRTP was created. The placements that are being used by the state need to provide a higher quality of care. If a congregate care placement is not a QRTP then title IV-E funds cannot be used to fund the placement, The funds that are being saved here are the funds that have been shifted to the prevention work. Prevention services funded by title IV-E must be evidence-based services. Virginia had to identify which services we are using as a state. We have started with 3, MST, FFT, and PCIT. We are now in the process of adding 5 additional services to our prevention plan. 3 are similar to other services but they serve different populations where we found gaps in services. These are BSFT, HB, and FCU. We have partnered with the Center for Evidence based Partnerships at VCU to manage the fidelity of the programs. We are looking at adding HFWA and ICC

services. These are unique in that there has not been enough research to make them well supported. Right now, they are promising. But we hope with their use and our data they will rise to the higher rated category. The feds asked that if we are using services that don't have as much evidence that we evaluate them as we deliver the services which is where the VCU partnership comes in. The last EBS we are implementing will be MI. This is very different in that its really a tool that clinicians and caseworkers can use as a way of engaging families, which helps motivate people for change. We want to work with families to identify what needs to change and not tell them what they need to change. To state we will be training all In Home FSS service workers and supervisors to shift the way we do work with them. Ideally, we will expand to all other child welfare programs such as foster care, child protective services, and the last phase would be to train other programs such as benefit staff. 15 local departments, covering all regions and geographical areas will pilot MI first.

CWSW5020 Intro to ICWA Training Update



Brenda Sampe provided an update on the intro to ICWA training. We have had a positive response from staff regarding feedback and views. We plan to begin work on another tragi that goes deeper into the ICWA training around the local staff engagement.

Training Module Ideas



Attendees provided ideas around content for engagement. Everyone feels engagement is a good place to start. Ideas included posting to social media requests for ideas, education on the stereotype of “looking native”, a questions and answer session/section.

Other Updates?



The Division has switched to Microsoft Teams for meetings. Brenda Sampe hopes to get us another Zoom account for roundtable meetings. CIP provided an update that judges were given an ICWA training in September. New court order forms will be effective February 2023. The Division is sending Ivey Tupponce to the annual NICWA conference in April (Reno). We can send up to 3 more Tribal leaders. The state will pay for registration, travel and per diem food. We will need to register by January 1 to get the early bird special Please let Brenda or Ivey know if you are interested in attending.

Next Meeting

March 2023: Date TBD



All agreed to continue meeting on same schedule for the upcoming year. Brenda Sampe will send out calendar invites.