

Virginia EHDI Program Advisory Committee

Friday September 22, 2017

Meeting Minutes

The following members and interested parties were in attendance: (Valerie Abbott, Judy Alonzi, Colin Benusa, Natalie Bickley, Nancy Bond, Wanda Council, Anne Dare, Cornelia Deagle, Julie Durando, Patricia Eitemiller, Christine Eubanks, Ashleigh Greenwood, Carla Hegwood, Ann Hughes, Anita Jeyakumar, Alison King, Valerie Luther, Jennifer Macdonald, Daphne Miller, Nadia Morgan, Susan Neighbors, Kara Norcross, Kim Pekin, Debbie Pfeiffer, Eric Raff, Rafael Randolph, Deepali Sanghani, Irene Schmalz, Teri Urban, Antoinette Vaughan, Kathleen Watts, Jill Young). The meeting was called to order by Dr. Ashleigh Greenwood. All members provided brief introductions and a review of the agenda was presented. All in attendance were reminded to submit their forms for travel reimbursement if applicable. The Advisory Committee accepted and approved, June 2, 2017 minutes from the meeting.

The VA Network of Consultants (VNOC):
Technical Assistance Center

For FY17 (May15-Sept 15): More than 40 calls/email requests for technical assistance were received and addressed/processed; 3 were directly from parents. Several requests become direct consultations through the Virginia Network of Consultants (VNOC) described under VNOC. In addition, 19 announcements were disseminated during this quarter; 14 of these announcements were sent to parents. (There are currently 197 parents on the TAC-DHH database.)

VA Network of Consultants for Professionals Who Work with Children Who are D/HH (VNOC):

VNOC service requests are reported following the school year calendar, August 1 to July 31. For the 2016-17 academic year, VNOC has processed 26 consultation requests all from school divisions across the Commonwealth. For the 2017-18 school year, there are 8 VNOC consultations to date.

Regional Trainings:

See-the-Sound Visual Phonics (Decoding strategy for early reading skill development)

For the 2017-18 school year to date 3 STS-VP trainings were completed. One was a two-day training which completed the training-mentor process for a trainer-in-training. Ann Hughes continues as mentor to 2 additional trainers-in-training (a third has moved out of state). During August 2017, a total of 63 people have been trained in STS-VP. From 2006-present, more than 1,588 people have received training in STS Visual Phonics through TAC-DHH/VNOC sponsored trainings. Two additional STS-VP trainings planned for Fall semester, 2017.

Statewide Professional Development:

Opening Doors to Life Beyond High School (June 28, 2017) was attended by 13 transition age students who are d/hh, 18 parents/family members and 35 teachers of the d/hh and DARS counselors.

Opening Doors-Unlocking Potential 2017 – Effectively Serving Students Who are D/HH PLUS (June 29-30, 2017) and was attended by 95 teachers and others who work with students who are d/hh. Both events were held at the DoubleTree by Hilton Richmond-Midlothian, VA.

Upcoming:

TODHH Community of Practice – Literacy ToolKit (Winter, 2017-18)

CASLLS Training in collaboration with Radford University (Spring, 2018).

ODUP2018 tentatively scheduled for June 18-19, 2018.

Additional Activity:

Engage for Change/State (June 5-6, 2017): Attended as one of three state team members to develop the ongoing work by the National Deaf Center on Postsecondary Outcomes (NDC) at the University of Texas, Austin. [The NDC will continue and expand on the work initiated by pn2.]

National Outreach Conference (September 12-13, 2017): Panelist for the Resources Session on the online NOC sponsored by the Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center, Gallaudet University.

Program Support:

Assistance to VA Hands & Voices, VA AG Bell, the Parent-Child-Advocate Program, Hearing Journey and VSDB Outreach Services to disseminate specific d/hh related announcements.

Update of Parent Resources for VDOE (Connect for Success Symposium – September)

Support for VA H&V chair to attend the 2017 H&V Leadership Conference (September).

Early Intervention:

No Update

Newborn screening:

The NBS Dried Blood Spot program recently traveled to New Orleans to the Newborn Screening and Genetic Testing Symposium where we showcased 8 posters and 1 oral presentation. We continue to work on HL-7 messaging to a pilot group of hospitals in order to receive orders and to send reports back to them. There is also a lot of work being done on timeliness- hospital report cards and education. The next Newborn Screening Advisory Committee will meet on Dec 7th. There will be a presentation from Newborn Screening on CMV at the December 1, 2017 AC meeting.

Virginia Hearing Aid Loan Bank:

As of May 30, 2017 1134 children have used the loan bank. Currently 3 soundfields are being used. The schools that are currently using the soundfields feel like all the children are benefiting from the system being used in the classroom.

Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs:

- The CYSHCN program continues to work on promoting medical home and transition for special needs children. We are close to reaching an agreement with a contractor to create two online training modules that will be provider and family friendly. Once the project is complete, we will share it widely with partners who serve special needs children and children without special needs.

- September is National Sickle Cell Awareness Month. It is important to know your trait status and that of your partner, especially if you are planning a family. The test is relatively inexpensive and is called a hemoglobin electrophoresis test. Please visit the VDH sickle cell website or the Centers for Disease Control website for more information about sickle cell trait and disease.

Family to Family/Partnership for People with Disabilities:

Dana Yarbrough and Irene Schmalz provided the update via email prior to the meeting. For the period June 3, 2017 through September 12, 2017:

- Six 1-3-6 Family Educators conducted 13 site visits to survey hospitals and audiologists to learn more about their communication with families whose infant needs to have hearing rescreened.
- A face to face training was held with five 1-3-6 Family Educators to revisit expectations and site visit and parent matching protocols.
- 24 families were referred to Irene Schmalz for parent to parent support.
- Dana co-presented on family engagement activities with VDH Title V staff on a National Center for Medical Home Implementation webinar.
- Dana accompanied VDH Title V staff to the federal MCHB Title V grant review to report on family activities.
- The 1-3-6 Family Educator initiative was accepted to present on the model at the Coalition for Global Hearing Health conference in Miami in October.
- Dana was the keynote speaker on the topic of cultivating a culture of family engagement for the Virginia Department of Education’s Every Student Succeeds Act academy in Roanoke in July.
- Irene presented to students taking the EDHS 7180 Habilitative Audiology 1 course at UVA.
- The Center for Family Involvement, home to the F2F, renegotiated a contract with the VA EHDIP to continue the 1-3-6 Family Educator program and to assist with development of EHDI learning communities. A F2F research specialist assisted the EHDIP with a learning community survey. Results will be shared at the first NOVA learning community meeting in late September. And, a part-time learning community coordinator will be hired this fall.

Irene Schmalz announced that they are currently looking for a 1-3-6 Family Educator for the Roanoke Area of the State.

VA School for the Deaf & Blind (VSDB):



Fall, 2017

Events Sponsored by Outreach Services, VSDB
(for educators and family members from across Virginia)

Wednesday Webinars

October 18, 2017 – Theory of Mind and Children Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, Part I,
Tiffany Hutchins

November 1, 2017 – Theory of Mind and Children Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, Part II, Tiffany Hutchins

November 15, 2017 - Transition and Students with Deaf-Blindness, in collaboration with the VA Project for Children and Young Adults with Deaf-Blindness. Cynthia Ingraham, Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults, Elizabeth Speirs, DBVI, and Caren Phipps, DBVI

Date TBA – **Unified English Braille and Technical Materials**, Follow-Up to live training July 14-15, 2017, Wendy Buckley, Kim Avila

Online Trainings

Outreach Services, VSDB has purchased short courses from Central Institute for the Deaf for state viewing as follows:

Name of Short Course:	Period for Registration:	Period for Completion:	(note about SPICE Curr)
Auditory Training Overview with Speech Detection Using SPICE Curriculum			ASHA and LSLS certification credits, as well as continuing ed units for licensure, are available for completion of these courses, paid for by Outreach Services. The SPICE Curriculum Kit will be placed in TTAC Lending Libraries for borrowing free of charge.
Auditory Training for Suprasegmental Perception Skills			
Auditory Training for Vowel and Consonant Perception Skills			
Auditory Training for Connected Speech Skills			

Outreach Services, VSDB has purchased short courses from the Perkins School for the Blind for state viewing as follows:

Name of Short Course:	Period for Registration:	Period for Completion:	
Appsolutely Engaging and Educational, Part I			These courses may be accessed free if credit is not needed; Those completing through this Outreach offer will be earning ACVREP, ASHA, or AOTA and CEUs for state licensure.
Assessment that Informs Instruction (Braille) F.M. Andrea, instructor			
45 Teaching Strategies in 60 minutes			

Regional Activities for Students in all Virginia Schools and their Families

October 14, 2017 – Virginia Air and Space Center, Matter Matters! Exploring Space and Matter; for students ages 8 through high school who are blind or visually impaired and their

families; in collaboration with the VA Dept. for the Blind and Vision Impaired and the Virginia Space Consortium. Hampton, VA

November 4, 2017 – Barter Theater, There are More Careers in Theater than Acting!; for students who are deaf/hard of hearing and/or blind/visually impaired; in collaboration with the VA Dept. for the Blind and Vision Impaired and VA Hands & Voices. Abingdon, VA

November _tbd_, 2016 - Science Day with Jefferson Lab, for students grades 4 – 8 who are deaf or hard of hearing using any communication method. In collaboration with Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility Education Services. Instructor: Brita Hampton. Location TBA

Live Trainings

July 19, 2017 – **Shining Stars State Conference** for early childhood special educators, early intervention educators, and related service providers working with children birth to 5.

Presenting, “Sensing the Needs of Infants and Toddlers with Vision &/or Hearing Loss” in collaboration with the Project for Children and Young Adults with Deaf-Blindness and the Virginia Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired. Roanoke, VA.

September 30, 2017 - **Strategies for Promoting Auditory-Verbal Communication Skills of Students Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, Preschool through High School**, in collaborations with Allied Instructional Services. Cheryl Sale, M.Ed., CCC/A, Teacher of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing & Audiologist and Michelle Gagnon, B.S., Teacher of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing. Staunton, VA

October _tbd_, 2017 – **Using Storybook Apps for Development of ASL Skills in Young Children**, Melissa Malzkuhn, M.A., and Melissa Herzig, Ph.D., Visual Language and Visual Learning of Gallaudet University. Staunton, VA

Online Training Series (to be archived)

Family American Sign Language (ASL) – short lessons on vocabulary and phrases, presented with ideas for use in normal daily routines of infants and toddlers, and associated cultural/language building lessons.

Interveners: Providing Access for Students with Deaf-Blindness – brief video showing how interveners and teachers work together to provide students with deaf-blindness access in the classroom. Produced in collaboration with the Virginia Project for Children and Young Adults with Deaf-Blindness.

Registration information will be posted at www.vfdb.k12.va.us and at www.ttaconline.org three to six weeks prior to each event.

Department of Education:

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) continues to support the following programs for children who are deaf/hard of hearing and professionals working in Virginia Public Schools through federal grant funding:

- The Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind
- Outreach Services at the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind
- The Virginia Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

- The Technical Assistance Center for Children Who Are Deaf and Hard of Hearing and VNOG
- The Virginia Project for Children and Young Adults with Deaf-Blindness
- The Virginia Hearing Aid Loan Bank Program
- Educational Interpreter Professional Development
- The Accessible Instructional Materials Center – VA

The VDOE is collaborating with early intervention agencies and stakeholders to provide information, resources and training for parents of young children who are deaf and hard of hearing. Information is also available at the VDOE website:

See http://www.doe.virginia.gov/special_ed/disabilities/sensory_disabilities/index.shtml

Deaf- Blind Project:

The Virginia Project for Children and Young Adults with Deaf-Blindness will be expanding the Professional Development and Training Program in Deaf-Blindness to provide more in-depth free training using on-line modules and coaching visits to classroom teachers and paraprofessional or teacher's aides working with children with deaf-blindness in educational settings, including preschool. For more information contact Ira Padhye iapadhye@vcu.edu or go to <http://www.partnership.vcu.edu/media/partner/documents/FLYER.pdf>

VA Dept. for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (VDDHH):

The VDDHH is celebrating their 45 year anniversary with an open house celebration on September 29, 2017 4:00p.m.-7:00p.m. and September 30, 2017 10:00a.m.-1:00p.m.

Virginia Hands & Voices:

Virginia Hands & Voices continues to grow and expand our reaches throughout the state. We spent time with our families over the summer and did not host events in July or August, however, still remained active over social media and very busy behind the scenes.

In June, we had the opportunity to present to parents at Camp Talk, which generated some interest and some new members. Opening Doors to Life Beyond High School was also great exposure for us and we obtained almost 50 email addresses of interested Teachers of the Deaf. We also attended Shining Stars in Roanoke and had our information on display at Camp Loud & Clear over the summer.

Our social events resumed over Labor Day weekend at the Children's Museum in Chesterfield. We were pleased to have about ten families come join us for the Special Night for Special Needs event over the holiday weekend. It was great to meet new members of VA Hands & Voices for the first time, but more importantly, to see the children interact and overhear the parents sharing their stories and triumphs of raising a d/hh child.

Teri Urban had the opportunity to attend the Hands & Voices Leadership Conference in Galena, IL, September 15-17. She gave a presentation regarding 'Picking up the Pieces: Rebuilding Chapters one brick at a time'. We are hoping to present again and send more members to this beneficial conference next year.

We continue the search for regional contacts so we can provide social opportunities for parents and professionals all over Virginia on a regular basis. We also continue to seek a Fundraising Chair and are eager to write a grant for the right project! During our last quarterly Board of

Directors call, revised by-laws were approved which has been an important task we've been working on since our reinstatement in January.

Behind the scenes, we are busy planning our events for the fall/winter. On October 21, we will host an event at Whitehall Farms in Clifton and are very excited to reach folks in Northern VA. On October 28, we will host an ice cream social in York County. This idea was prompted by a TOD wishing to connect her families across 13 schools together. On November 4, the VSDB has asked us to help promote a play at the Barter Theater in Abingdon. The project we have been working on with the National Fire Protection Agency is coming along very nicely and we will be hosting a webinar and a presentation November 8. A Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser is being talked about in Mechanicsville in December, complete with a Deaf Signing Santa and a Hard-of-Hearing Mrs. Claus. We can't stop there and are already thinking about starting January 2018 off with a Parents/Professionals Night out in Alexandria!

Our Board of Directors are integral to the success of our chapter and each member brings a different expertise and communication choice to the table. We thank everyone for their support and look forward to reaching more families across the state as we continue to grow our chapter.

Virginia Hands & Voices has announced that it is partnering with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and the Virginia Fire and Life Safety Coalition (VFLSC) to offer two free Webinars specifically designed for families with hearing loss, deaf and hard-of-hearing adults and families of children with hearing loss are encouraged to attend one of two sessions offered on Wednesday, November 8, 2017.

Virginia Neonatal Perinatal Collaborative (VNPC):

Cornelia Deagle announced a new collaborative formed to look at the discovery and establishment of new disorders. Currently the VNPC is looking at establishing Neonatal Absence Syndrome, 17p.

EHDI Updates:

Daphne Miller provided EHDI updates. The VEHDIP team new staff members: Nadia Morgan, Follow-up Specialist and Rafael Randolph, Data Entry Specialist were introduced. The EHDI Team has now received 100% of the funding from the HRSA grant. Daphne Miller discussed the current updates being made to the VISITS system including updates to the follow-up letters send to parents of children in need for follow up hearing testing and updates to the reports available to VISITS users. Daphne Miller and Kathleen Watts discussed the upcoming Learning Community meeting in Northern Virginia on September 27, 2017.

CDC Survey 2015:

Colin Benusa presented on the data on the 2015 hearing screening follow-up survey submitted to the Centers for Disease Control.

EHDI Family Stories:

Bridie Abbott presented on her experiences with Camp T.A.L.K (Talking And Listening Kids), a camp funded by MCVH Auxiliary and VCU Audiology. Bridie has been attending Camp T.A.L.K for 4 years and discussed the benefits and positive experiences she has gained through her time there.

Jacob Thornton discussed his family's experience with the detection and diagnosis of hearing loss in his daughter.

Workgroups:

The Parent workgroup and Learning Community workgroup met during lunch. The Parent workgroup discussed the incorporation of texting into the VEHDIP follow up process. The Learning Community workgroup reviewed the new Newborn Hearing Screening module for physicians' office personnel, home visitors and others needing general information about the EHDI process. They also discussed the upcoming meeting in Northern Virginia to establish the learning community in the area.

Public Comments:

No public comments

EHDI Intern Projects:

Jennie Dinh presented on the incorporation of texting into the VEHDIP follow-up process. Jennie Dinh discussed the possible messages and methods used to relay follow up needs to parents.

EHDI Protocols Review:

The Advisory Committee reviewed the updates made to the current VEHDIP Hospital Protocols. Due to time constraints two meetings were scheduled for October 13, 2017 and November 13, 2017 in order to review and update the VEHDIP Hospital, Audiology and PCP protocols. The updated protocols will be approved and accepted at the December 1, 2017 AC meeting.

EHDI Next Steps:

Topics for the next meeting were discussed. These included a CMV presentation by the Newborn Screening Nurse Manager. The next meeting will be held on December 1, 2017.

Dr. Ashleigh Greenwood adjourned the meeting at 2:00p.m.