

VA Child Day Care Council

**VA Dept. of Social Services
7 N. 8th Street
Richmond, VA 23219**

JANUARY 11, 2007

Members Present

Gail Johnson, Chair; Kristi Snyder, Vice Chair; Novella Ruffin, Secretary; Rosemary Burton; Letitia Clark; Mary Cole; Charles Finley; Terry Hill; Dona Huang; Jack Knapp; Ellen Nau; Emory Rodgers; Nancy Smith; Carol Logue; and Kimberly Hulcher

Absent

Irene Carney; Susan Hackney; Keith Hare; William Harvey; Linda Janulis; Denise Pearsall; Donna Peters; Margaret Collins; Bethany Geldmaker; Rose Ann Sharp; Lisa Shelburne; William Tobin; and Anita Simpkins

Call to Order

The Council meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m., by Chair Gail Johnson

Welcome & Introductions

Members and presenters were thanked for attending. Due to parking issues and lack of a quorum, the Chair asked Council for and received their indulgence in changing the agenda to accommodate schedules of presenters already on-hand.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Conyers sent regrets that he was unable to attend today's meeting due to his attendance at the General Assembly.

Information Presentations

Update on Early Childhood Summit

Mary Jo Thomas, Director of Child Care and Development and Kathy Gillikin, Quality Child Care Program Manager updated the Council on the Early Childhood Summit. This Summit will be held on Friday and Saturday May 11 and 12 in Charlottesville at the Albemarle County Government Building.

The purpose of the Summit is to launch the milestones of child development and core competencies for child care providers; provide an opportunity for participants to learn about these new statewide documents, to understand their implementation, build enthusiasm for the use of these documents and discuss future professional development plans.

Additional information will be circulated at a later date and posted on the DSS website.

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A pre-proposal conference will be held at Lewis Ginter Gardens on January 30 from 10-3 p.m. Partnership grants will be awarded; a cash match is required by the grantees. For more information, please visit the Smart Beginning website.

The newest Training Catalog will be mailed the first week of February featuring two new classes: Family Day Home and Medication Administration Training.

Early Childhood Education

Thomas Chewning, Chief Financial Officer with Dominion Power and Chair of the Richmond Regional Leadership Council provided a very informative presentation to the Council, discussing the business/economic case for early care and education and why business is interested.

Status of Regulations

Richard Martin, Manager of the Office of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs provided members a copy of the Report on Regulation Status. He further advised that an updated copy of this report will be provided to Council throughout General Assembly.

Mr. Martin reviewed a list of 2007 Bills of Interest to the Child Day Care Council. A copy of this list is attached to the original minutes housed in the home office.

Executive Order Review

Mr. Martin reviewed the Governor's Executive Order 36 with members. A copy was provided and is housed with the official minutes in the home office.

Mr. Martin advised that timeframe changes will take place in the regulatory flow chart but will not affect the work flow. Chairman Johnson asked that members be provided a copy of the new regulatory chart.

Mr. Martin advised that the next Periodic Review on Council regulation will take place on May 31, 2009. If changes are anticipated, the Council should begin working on the Notice of Intended Regulatory Action by March 2009 or earlier if they desire.

Ms. Burton inquired as to where this leaves a petition to reopen the licensing standards for review of SAC program director requirements now. Mr. Martin advised that Mr. Wilson from the Office of the Attorney General will speak with her on this issue today.

Approval of Agenda

ON MOTION DULY MADE (Ms. Snyder) and seconded (Mr. Finley) moved to approve the agenda as amended allowing Council to hear the information items first until a quorum was present. Motion carried with all in favor.

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Update on Implementation of Regulations

Jeff Williams, Program Consultant for the Department of Licensing provided an update on the implementation of Council regulations. A copy of this report is attached to the Minutes following meeting adjournment.

Several members spoke of their concern on figures presented by Mr. Williams today. Ms. Snyder suggested the need to find compromising grounds to prevent a further reduction of programs.

Ms. Snyder indicated it may be beneficial to have additional Council representation on the VSACA (VA School Age Care Association). Ms. Ruffin advised she serves on this Board; however she was unaware of the previous meeting. Licensing will be asked to provide an update in March on the outcome of the SAC meeting held in January.

Chairman Johnson asked that the Council continue to be updated often as to any problems that may surround implementation of regulations. At the March meeting, Mr. Williams will provide a listing of AV grants; copy of the Technical Assistance Document; and an update of the numbers presented today.

Goal #5 CDCC Perception Presentation

Improve awareness and perceptions of the Child Day Care Council's contribution to the welfare of children.

The objective is to develop creative approaches to communicate the Council's mission and work. The strategies are to develop proactive media relationship; to enhance the Council's website and to create a Child Day Care webpage within; question and answers section and a complaint link.

This would include developing a flyer for licensed child care providers advising them on who the Council is and their function. It was mentioned this information could be delivered in a department mailing and/or put on the Council website.

Developing an OP Ed piece for the Council website and local newspapers was also suggested.

It was suggested to increase representation on the Smart Start Task Force. Currently several Council members serve on this Task Force.

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Another idea to be considered was to approach legislators by offering a lesson on how to be an effective child advocate, understanding what Council member parameters are perhaps having a senator or legislative aid speak to Council on how to approach their legislators on related issues.

It was recommended to have a legislative day where Council would confer with other organizations that are sponsoring legislation of interest.

Draft copies of the OP Ed and informational flyer were distributed to members for review and input. To ensure suggestions can be incorporated into these documents, members were asked to submit their comments to Ms. Snyder or Ms. Rengnerth by January 31.

ON MOTION DULY MADE (Ms. Smith) and seconded (Ms. Clark) moved to allow suggestions to be received on line and function as a clearinghouse. Motion carried with all in favor.

Dona Huang advised that she has begun dialogue with Public Affairs on changes to the Council website.

Mr. Finley questioned whether the Strategic Plan had been approved by Council. A quorum was not present at this time so Council will vote on final approval at the March meeting.

Goal #3 will be presented at the March 8 meeting.

Public Comment

Elizabeth Clark, Rappahannock Area YMCA discussed some of the concerns that she has with the new regulations. Concerns were originally addressed in a letter read into public comment at the Council's previous meeting. Ms. Clark mentioned there was a SAC meeting at DSS on Wednesday to discuss these issues.

Council members reconfirmed were not aware of this scheduled meeting. Mr. Williams advised he will speak to Debbie Beirne about better ways to communicate future meeting information to interested parties and report on the meeting outcome at the March meeting.

Minutes

ON MOTION DULY MADE (Ms. Snyder) and seconded (Ms. Ruffin) moved to approve the minutes as emailed to members. Due to an addition to the Minutes, motion was withdrawn.

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ON MOTION DULY MADE (Ms. Burton) and seconded (Mr. Finley) moved to approve the minutes as edited with the inclusion that Mr. Martin was to get back to Council on where this leaves a petition to reopen the licensing standards for review of SAC program director requirements now. Motion carried with all in favor.

Chair's Report

Gail Johnson advised she had attended a Start Strong Governance Task Force meeting. They are looking at grants being given to six localities as the nexus for making this voluntary program work. She emphasized that voluntary is the word, incorporated with a parent/pay portion. A Quality Rating System will be developed and used by the pilot projects. This will be an important issue as the Council opens the door for their regulations.

Council Check In

Ellen Nau, representing the VA Department of Aging, provided members with a Resource Guide for Grandparents and advised this document is also on their website.

Other Business

Chairman Johnson circulated documentation forwarded from Voices for Virginia's Children asking for Council support in developing coalition of people that would be supportive of the work of the Start Strong Council in providing a voluntary Pre K Program.

As Council representation from the Office of the Attorney General, Mr. Wilson advised the Council could sign on in support of a particular policy since they are a Policy-making Board.

There was concern from several members over funding issues and involvement.

ON MOTION DULY MADE (Ms. Snyder) and seconded (Ms. Smith) moved to list the Child Day Care Council as supporter of the coalition with concerns over financial involvement. Due to several members having to leave early and a quorum not established, this motion could not be voted on.

Future Meeting

March 8, 2007 – Full Council 11-3 p.m.

Work session 9-11 a.m.

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Conflict of Interest Training

Al Wilson was on-hand to provide Conflict of Interest Training. Since many of the members were not present or had to leave early, this training will be repeated at the March meeting. Ms. Rengnerth will provide Mr. Wilson with a listing of members who require the DVD training and those that require Refresher training.

Adjournment

Meeting concluded at 1:45 p.m. without motion due to lack of quorum.

Report made by Jeff Williams, Program Consultant for Licensing Programs

Caseload Growth – Spr 04 to Dec 06				
	CDC	CCS	Total	Difference
Spring 04			2587	
Dec 1, 05	2615	133	2748	+161
Mar 13, 06	2672	141	2813	+65
Jun 1, 06	2658	133	2791	-12
Dec 1, 06	2578	104	2682	-109

At least 56 CDCs and 20 CCS chose Gov Exemption between Dec 1, 2005 and Dec 1, 2006;
 4 CDC and 1 CCS were closed by negative action between Dec 1, 2005 and Dec 1, 2006;
 9 CDC and 1 CCS closed to avoid negative action between Dec 1, 2005 and Dec 1, 2006;
 For a total of at least 90 facilities.

There were 100 new CDC licenses and 2 CCS licenses issued from July 1, 2006 to Jan 1, 2007.

Virginia Population Projections				
	1990 to 2000	2000 to 2010	2010 to 2020	2020 to 2030
Age Band	% Change	% Change	% Change	% Change
< 5	4.27%	10.22%	9.93%	7.64%
5 to 9	16.70 %	-0.16%	9.48%	8.05%
10-14	24.49 %	-2.51%	9.81%	9.36%

Source: Virginia Employment Commission 05/03

NOTE: The following data does NOT include CCS (short term CDC programs)

In the six months prior the new regulations being effective (Dec 04-May 05) the average compliance for inspections was 99.42%. In the six months following the one year anniversary of the effective date of the current regulations, the average compliance for inspections was down, .01 of a percent to 99.41%.

During the 6633 inspections conducted from Dec 05 to Dec 06 there were 63 violations of standard 230-A (including all its subsections). This is the Program Director qualification standard. And during the same time period standard 250-A was only violated 14 times. This is the standard requiring a qualified Program Director to be on site at least 50% of the time.

TOP 10 MOST VIOLATED STANDARDS DURING THE 6 MONTHS (DEC 04-MAY 05) PRIOR TO THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE NEW CDC REGULATIONS

1	(4)-340-A	589	Areas/Equipment maintained in a clean, safe and operable condition
2	(4)-350-B	557	Hazardous substances kept in a locked place
3	(4)-410-B	424	Resilient surfacing shall comply with minimum safety standards
4	(2)-80-5	352	Children's Records – emergency contact information
5	(2)-180-A	283	Staff TB test
6	(2)-90-2	268	Staff reference check
7	(7)-610-C	267	Monthly evacuation drill (fire drill)
8	(2)-180-C	245	Staff TB test
9	(7)-600-D-1	241	First aid kit shall contain activated charcoal
10	(G3)-120-E-2	235	Violation must be posted

TOP 10 MOST VIOLATED STANDARDS DURING THE 6 MONTHS (JUN 05-NOV 05) AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE NEW CDC REGULATIONS

1	(7)-610-C (new facet) (old B)	670	Evacuation and shelter-in-place procedures posted
2	(7)-600-D-1	483	First aid kit shall contain activated charcoal
3	(4)-340-A	457	Areas/Equipment maintained in a clean, safe and operable condition
4	(4)-410-B	432	Resilient surfacing shall comply with minimum safety standards
5	(4)-350-B	421	Hazardous substances kept in a locked place
6	(7)-610-A (new)	379	Shall have an emergency preparedness plan (dev. w/ consultation)
7	(2)-110-A-3 (new)	372	Parent will inform the center within 24 hours of illness
8	(3)-310-D-3 (new)	341	Med training by a R.N., L.P.N., physician, or pharmacist
9	(2)-80-A-5	302	Children's Records – emergency contact information
10	(7)-610-I (new)	277	Parents shall be informed of the center's emergency preparedness plan

TOP 10 MOST VIOLATED STANDARDS DURING THE 6 MONTHS (JUN 06-NOV 06) ONE YEAR AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE NEW CDC REGULATIONS

1	(4)-340-A	605	Areas/Equipment maintained in a clean, safe and operable condition
2	(4)-350-B	545	Hazardous substances kept in a locked place
3	(4)-410-B	430	Resilient surfacing shall comply with minimum safety standards

4	(7)-610-D (old C)	359	Monthly evacuation shelter-in-place drill (fire drill)
5	(2)-80-A-5	356	Children's Records – emergency contact information
6	(7)-610-C (new facet) (old B)	301	Evacuation and shelter-in-place procedures posted
7	(2)-110-A-3 (new)	238	Parent will inform the center within 24 hours of illness
8	(2)-180-A	225	Staff TB test
9	(4)-360-3	217	Electrical outlets shall have protective covers
10	(2)-180-C	210	Staff TB test

Staff to Child Ratios Violations

Number	Dec 04-May 05	Jun 05-Nov 05	Jun 06-Nov 06
Inspections	3387	2730	3066
(5)-440-E	NA	5	9
(5)-440-E-1	30	34	48
(5)-440-E-2	32	32	38
(5)-440-E-3	55	56	50
(5)-440-E-4	19	18	61
(5)-440-E-5	22	20	30
(5)-440-E-6	2	NA	5
(5)-440-F	NA	6	12
(5)-440-F-1	NA	1	1
(5)-440-F-2	NA	8	5