

Virginia Doula Task Force Meeting

September 14, 2026

12:00 PM – 02:00 PM

Meeting Location

4200 Innslake Blvd. Suite 203, Glen Allen, VA 23060

Meeting Minutes

Member Attendance	Voting Record Y=Yes N=No A=Abstain	Voting Record Y=Yes N=No A=Abstain	Voting Record Y=Yes N=No A=Abstain
Bold = Present, in person <i>Italicized</i> = Absent	Approval of the 06/01/2026- General meeting minutes	Approval of the 07/14, 7/21 and 7/31/2026 Subcommittee minutes	Accept recommendations with amendments
Voting Members			
Taja Iglesias	Y	Y	Y
Basmah Karriem	Y	Y	Y
Dr. Nichole Wardlaw	Y	Y	Y
Nataki Hill	Y	Y	Y
Adrianne Hill	Y	Y	Y
Shanteny Jackson	Y	Y	Y
Melonie Suber	Y	Y	Y
<i>Lashrecse Aird</i>			
<i>Dana Williams</i>			
Ex Officio Members			
Lauren Kozlowski/Jennifer MacDonald as VDH designee			
Sonya Kibler as DMAS designee			

Virginia Department of Health (VDH) Staff Attending: Artasia Thomas, Dr. Vanessa Walker-Harris, Jayla Dickens, Consuelo Staton, Emily Yeatts, Lauryn Walker

Task Force Business

- Consuelo Staton called the meeting to order at approximately 12:20 PM. Roll call was conducted by Staton. A vote to approve the 6/1/2026 minutes and the subcommittee minutes from 7/14, 7/21, and 7/31 was achieved.

Remarks – Dr. Vanessa Walker-Harris

- Dr. Vanessa Walker-Harris provided a brief refresher on the task force's processes, offering helpful level-setting to ensure all members were aligned. She also expressed appreciation for the doula workforce and acknowledged the value they bring to the program's continued development.

VDH Admin Update – Consuelo Staton

- Farnese Motto, a VCU doctoral candidate, presented her dissertation research which is an observational study investigating doula-client communication and its effects on patient satisfaction and empowerment. The initial formative phase and instrument pre-testing are complete, and active recruitment is open to enrolling 30 doula-client pairs for observations during prenatal visits.

DMAS Update – Sonya Kibler

- General Assembly Presentation: Sonya Kibler represented DMAS alongside colleagues from VDH and the State Executive Council (SEC) at the Women's Health Commission. They presented on state certification, Medicaid barriers, reimbursement rates, and insurance models. They shared data during Q&A sessions to help guide future legislative decision-making.

- Germanna Community College Training: DMAS plans to establish a regular virtual training schedule to expand community outreach and raise doula program awareness.
- Culpeper Conference (Oct 8–9): Kibler will present on behalf of DMAS alongside the Rural Health Transformation team at the upcoming CHW/Doula conference, "The Power of Lead Two," in Culpeper.

Discussion: Training Rubric review and recommendation – Committee Members

- The committee completed its review of the recertification instructions and finalized revisions to the subcommittee recommendations:
 - Recommendation 1: "Adapt criteria-based acceptance of CE sources" accepted without amendment
 - Recommendation 2: "Publish seat-time conversion rules" revised to eliminate provider-issued CEU (standard 10-hour CEU)
 - Recommendation 3: "Adopt a documentation hierarchy" revised to eliminate conference badge together with the published agenda, with sessions attended identified
 - Recommendation 4: "Establish a no-cost preapproval pathway" accepted without amendment
 - Recommendation 5: "Build the shared CE calendar and FAQ" accepted without amendment
 - Recommendation 6: "Publish the criteria and process for recognizing training entities" accepted without amendment
 - Recommendation 7: "Add cycle, domain, Medicaid, and timing instructions" accepted without amendment
 - Motion to move forward accepting recommendations with amendments discussed. (7-Y, 0-N)

Public Comment Period

- Lisa Brown offered encouraging remarks to the committee and recommended relaunching the certification program to highlight recent policy changes and rebuild public enthusiasm. Additionally, she suggested that the task force consistently post upcoming meeting details to increase public awareness and engagement.

Adjournment

- The committee meeting adjourned at 2:40 PM.