



Virginia Doula Task Force Meeting Minutes

January 6, 2025
12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Meeting Location:
VIRTUAL

Meeting Minutes

Council 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	Voting Record Y=Yes, N=No, A=Abstain
Bold = Present <i>Italicized</i> = Absent	12/9/2024 Meeting Minutes	Chair election of Breonna Riddick	Co-Chair election of Maria Hayden	Statements to share with public about recertification process
Voting Members				
Kenda Sutton El-(Chair)	Y	Y	Y	Y
Stephanie Spencer (Vice Chair)	Y	Y	Y	Y
Maria Hayden	Y	Y	Y	Y
Adrienne Hill	Y	Y	Y	Y
Breonna Riddick	Y	Y	Y	Y
Nichole Wardlaw	Y	Y	Y	Y
Lydia English	Y	Y	Y	Y
Lisa Brown	Y	Y	Y	Y
Lashrecse Aird (Did not vote)				
Ex Officio Members				
Jennifer Macdonald, MPH, BSN, RN				
Natasha Turner as Cheryl Robert's DMAS designee				
Vacant Seats				
Clinician x1				
Doula x2				
Consumer x3				

Virginia Department of Health Staff Support: Consuelo Staton, Emily Yeatts, Art Thomas

Other Attendees: Adrienne Fegans DMAS, Allie Atkeson DMAS

Task Force Business

- The meeting was called to order at 12:05PM
- Roll call by Consuelo Staton. A quorum was achieved.
- Meeting minutes from December 2024 were adopted by task force members. (8-Y, 0-N)

Discussion: Nominations for Chair, Co-Chair, and prospective members -January 6, 2025, meeting– Consuelo Staton

- Breonna Riddick was nominated and accepted the chair position
 - Motion passed with 8 yes votes, 0 no votes
- Maria Hayden was nominated and accepted the co-chair position
 - Motion passed with 8 yes votes, 0 no votes
- Shanteny Jackson was nominated for the Doula Task Force, with Consuelo Staton detailing her qualifications and advocacy work in maternal health. Kenda Sutton El expressed her frustration over bylaws regarding the eligibility of doulas trained by their organizations to join the task force, emphasizing the need for clear guidelines. The group agreed to put nominations on hold until clarification was received to ensure fairness.

Discussion: Recertification- Updates on Training organizations to consider and determining a plan to announce the process—Kenda Sutton-EL

- Kenda Sutton El proposed that the recertification application mirror the existing application for training entities, with an appendix for recertification courses.
 - Concerns were raised about potential barriers, such as application fees, which could affect doulas and training organizations.
- The group agreed on the importance of crafting clear statements to expedite the recertification process and ensure all doulas seeking training are informed of their responsibilities and potential costs. Task Force voted the following clarifying statements to share with the public about this process:

State-certified doulas are required to recertify every two years to maintain the state-certified doula credential. The Virginia Certification Board (VCB) oversees this process in partnership with the Virginia State Doula Taskforce and the Virginia Department of Health (VDH).

Doulas are required to complete 15 hours of continuing education (CE) from approved training entities. CEs must cover at least two education topics listed in 12VAC5-403-50

(<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title12/agency5/chapter403/section50/>). Doulas seeking recertification are responsible for obtaining trainings from certified training entities, which are listed on the VCB website. Doulas must submit the training certificates with their recertification application. The certificate must include the date of the training, number of CE hours, training title, and training entity. The recertification fee is \$75. For more details about this process, visit <https://www.vacertboard.org/recertification-information>

Doulas whose certifications are expiring in April, May, and June 2025 also have the option of completing CEs about at least two education topics listed in the regulations from ANY training entity. In these cases, applicants must still submit the training certificates with their recertification application and the \$75 recertification fee.

Doulas who are Medicaid providers are responsible for submitting their recertification certificate to DMAS to renew their Medicaid provider status. Failure to do this in a timely manner could result in a lapse in Medicaid provider status.

- Motion passed with 8 yes votes, 0 no votes

Public Comment Period:

1. Nataki Hill, a state certified doula from Hampton Roads, introduced the Doula Association of Virginia, a new platform supporting all doulas through advocacy and resources. The association plans to collaborate with statewide organizations like the Virginia Department of Health and the Virginia Doula Task Force and hosts its first online interest meeting January 13 at 7PM. More in information is available on the association's website or via email.

New Business: Consuelo Staton

- Next meeting on February 18, 2025 – In Person – 12PM to 2PM

Adjournment- Kenda Sutton-El

- Meeting adjourned at 2:00pm by Kenda Sutton-EL