

State VICC Meeting  
**Virginia Interagency Coordinating Council (VICC)**  
December 10, 2025

**Minutes – DRAFT**

**Call to Order and Attendance**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by VICC Chair, Tricia Peny. A list of attendees is included at the end of this document.

**New Member Announcements**

Two newly appointed members were recognized:

- Matthew Kreitz (Parent)
- Katheryn Frazier (Public Provider)

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

The minutes from the September 10, 2025, VICC meeting were motioned and approved without modifications.

**ITCVA Part C Update- Kyla Patterson**

Kyla Patterson, Early Intervention Program Manager, provided the following information and updates on behalf of the ITCVA Part C Office:

At the federal level, six programs were recently moved from the US Department of Education to other federal agencies by interagency agreements. At this time, IDEA programs remain at USDOE.

State Budget - The budget information recently released by the Department of Planning and Budget (DPB) shows no increase for Part C state funds next year. The Governor is expected to release his proposed budget soon.

Practice Manual - Proposed revisions to the early intervention Practice Manual were out for a 30-day public comment period that ended just before Thanksgiving. The state

office is reviewing the seven comments received to make any final edits before publishing the manual.

Child Count Trends - As indicated on the handout provided today, our birth to one child count continues to be up from last year. The birth to three count is fairly steady, slightly higher than last year and slightly lower than 2023.

#### **FFY 2024 SPP/APR Update-Richard Corbett Part One of Two**

Please see the attached FFY 2024 SPP/APR Update presented by Richard Corbett.

#### **FFY 2024 SPP/APR Update 2025-12-16-Kyla Patterson Part Two of Two**

Kyla Patterson presented an update on the attached FFY 2024 SPP/APR DRAFT 2025-12-16. The draft SPP/APR is posted on our website ([www.itcva.online](http://www.itcva.online)). To find on our website, go to the Supervision & Monitoring tab, click on Public Reporting, then click on For Public Comment.

#### **Public Comment**

No requests for public comment were received prior to or at the meeting.

#### **Integrated Training Collaborative (ITC)-Cori Hill**

Cori Hill, VEIPD Center Director, provided an overview of the ITC's work and accomplishments during the previous quarter. An ITC infographic is attached.

#### **New Path Update**

Robin Church, New Path Family Support Director, provided an overview of New Path's work and accomplishments during the previous quarter.

## Agency Reports

### Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Service (DBHDS) – Kari Savage

One of our current priorities that we are working on is behavioral health services to serve our Medicaid members. You might hear some new chatter in the community about things potentially coming up during the General Assembly session. We are continuing to push forward with the directive that we've been given from previous sessions. We are continuing to partner with DMAS on redesigning the legacy services for youth and adults in the state.

### Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired (DBVI) – Donna Cox

No Report

### Virginia Department for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing (VDDHH) – Eric Raff

Deaf Mentor Coordinator – The position has been vacant since summer 2024. Paul Stuessy, Community Services Manager, is the supervisor and oversees the program for the interim. After conducting interviews for the classified position, the finalist was offered the position but had not responded. VDDHH had to post a new job bulletin and conduct another recruitment campaign. *Current status – interviews were conducted, and the finalist was offered the position. Awaiting the finalist's response on whether the job offer will be accepted.*

Deaf Mentors - The 3<sup>rd</sup> cohort of 11 Deaf Mentors have executed contracts and are providing family services. Currently VDDHH has 15 active Deaf Mentors however more mentors are needed in the regions of Northern Virginia, Tidewater, and regions along the I-81 corridor. VDDHH has been recruiting deaf adults for the 4<sup>th</sup> cohort of Deaf Mentors. *Current status – 12 adults expressed interest, and the SKI-HI Deaf Mentor training will take place February 26 – March 1. Goal is to recruit 15 people.*

2026 National Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Conference – VDDHH staff are tentatively planning on attending the March 15-17 conference in Jacksonville, Florida.

### Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) – Dr. Dawn Henricks

Please see the attached agency report submitted by Dr. Dawn Henricks.

### Virginia Department of Education-Project HOPE– Dr. Patricia Popp

Please see the attached agency report submitted by Dr. Patricia Popp.

### Virginia Department of Health (VDH) – Toni Hayes

Toni Hayes has been focused on the Title Five Maternal and Child Health Block Grant State Action Plan.

Within the last year, we did assessments on needs, that included going to different localities to do focus groups to get feedback to determine areas we need to improve in maternal and child health in the state of Virginia.

We will include the needs assessment to the state action plan that will go into effect from fiscal year 2026 to fiscal year 2030. This action plan will include access, capacity, and impact with a focus on medical home for children and youth with special health care needs.

We recently had our first maternal child health summit last week where we presented an overview of the state action plan.

The 2025 fiscal year data for the Child Development Clinics will be available online by the end of January 2026.

### Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS)

Please see the attached agency report submitted by Karla Callahan.

### State Corporation Commission-Bureau of Insurance (SCC) – Marley Santoro

The Bureau of Insurance (BOI) handles compliance pursuant to § 38.2-3418.5 of the Code for coverage of early intervention service offered by insurance plans regulated by the BOI. There have been no current early intervention complaints or other issues reported regarding §38.2-3418 of the Code. The BOI continues to monitor health insurance activity such as claim denials and benefits of coverage offered for early interventions services. § 38.2-3418.5. Coverage for early intervention services.

A. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 38.2-3419, each insurer proposing to issue individual or group accident and sickness insurance policies providing hospital, medical and surgical, or major medical coverage on an expense-incurred basis; each corporation providing individual or group accident and

sickness subscription contracts; and each health maintenance organization providing a health care plan for health care services shall provide coverage for medically necessary early intervention services under such policy, contract or plan delivered, issued for delivery or renewed in this Commonwealth on and after July 1, 1998. Such coverage shall be limited to a benefit of \$5,000 per insured or member per policy or calendar year and, except as set forth in subsection C, shall be subject to such dollar limits, deductibles and coinsurance factors as are no less favorable than physical illness generally.

- B. For the purpose of this section, "early intervention services" means medically necessary speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy and assistive technology services and devices for dependents from birth to age three who are certified by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services as eligible for services under Part H of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. § 1471 et seq.). "Medically necessary early intervention services for the population certified by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services" shall mean those services designed to help an individual attain or retain the capability to function age-appropriately within his environment and shall include services that enhance functional ability without effecting a cure.
- C. The cost of early intervention services shall not be applied to any contractual provision limiting the total amount of coverage paid by the insurer, corporation or health maintenance organization to or on behalf of the insured or member during the insured's or member's lifetime.
- D. "Financial costs," as used in this section, shall mean any copayment, coinsurance, or deductible in the policy or plan. Financial costs may be paid through the use of federal Part H program funds, state general funds, or local government funds appropriated to implement Part H services for families who may refuse the use of their insurance to pay for early intervention services due to a financial cost.
- E. The provisions of this section shall not apply to short-term travel, accident only, limited or specified disease policies, policies or contracts designed for issuance to people eligible for coverage under Title XVIII of the Social Security Act, known as Medicare, or any other similar coverage under state or governmental plans or to short-term nonrenewable policies of not more than six months' duration.

- F. The provisions of this section shall not apply in any instance in which the provisions of this section are inconsistent or in conflict with a provision of Article 6 (§ 38.2-3438 et seq.) of Chapter 34. 1998, c. 625; 2009, cc. 813, 840; 2011, c. 882. The chapters of the acts of assembly referenced in the historical citation at the end of this section may not constitute a comprehensive list of such chapters and may exclude chapters whose provisions have expired.

### **Family Voices-Sarah Jeffries**

Sarah Jeffries, whose daughter has been diagnosed with Gould Syndrome, shared her experiences with the Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia. Sarah's presentation highlighted the need for access to the TRAC-IT Parent Portal and better explanations about parent rights. Members discussed ways the VICC could be involved in these efforts.

### **Open Forum**

Tricia Penny presented the opportunity to form a special fiscal committee. Approval of starting the committee was motioned and approved. Once the members are identified, the schedule for the first meeting will be determined.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned.

### **Attendance**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Seat/Role</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Dawn Ault	Head Start		X
Amanda Bishop	Parent	X	
Dana Childress	Personnel Preparation		
Tracey Deal	Provider		X
Christina Harrison	Early Intervention		X
Kristen Heinan	Provider		X
Kirsten Hodge	Parent		X
Sheila Holas	Private Provider	X	
Sarah Jeffries	Parent	X	
The Honorable Emily Jordan	Legislator		X
Teddi Kenyear	MH Provider	X	
Nyesha Nicholas	Parent		X
Tricia Penny	Early Intervention	X	

<b>Name</b>	<b>Seat/Role</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Will Ritter	Parent	X	
Florijs Shala	Parent	X	
Stephanie Tharp	Parent		X
Katie Vance	Parent		X
Leann White	Parent		X
Jill Yates	LSM	X	
Christine Minnick for Karla Callahan	DMAS	X	
Donna Cox	VDBVI		X
Toni Hayes	VDH	X	
Dawn Hendricks	VDOE	X	
Pat Popp	VDOE - Project HOPE		X
Eric Raff	VDDHH	X	
Marly Santoro / James Young	SCC Bureau of Insurance	X	
Kari Savage	DBHDS	X	
VACANT	DSS		X
Katheryn Frazier	Public Provider	X	
Matthew Kreitz	Parent	X	