



## VIRGINIA COMMISSION ON YOUTH

### Meeting Minutes

#### Work Group: Crossover Youth Information-sharing

May 19, 2021, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
(virtual meeting)

#### Attending:

Senator George Barker, Tricia Bassing, Delegate Rob Bell, Gena Berger, Bob Birmingham, Valerie Boykin, Sonnja Brown, Gretchen Brown, Laurie Cooper, Rachael Deane, Barbara Kanninen, Valerie L'Herrou, Senator Dave Marsden, Mia McCoy, Olymphia Perkins, Alison Powers, Charles Quagliato, Chris Rehak, Eric Reynolds

#### Staff Attending:

Amy Atkinson, Will Egen

#### I. Welcome and Introductions

*The Honorable Dave W. Marsden, Senator, Senate of Virginia*

Senator Marsden welcomed the work group and the public to the meeting. Senator Marsden noted that due to the active state of emergency, this meeting is convening virtually, pursuant to Item 4-0.01 of the 2020 Appropriation Act. The Commission meeting is streaming for the public to view via the Virginia Senate streaming site. Senator Marsden also invited Senator Barker to say a few words since this work group was born out of his recent 2021 legislation, SB 1206. Finally, Senator Marsden had the members of the work group introduce themselves.

#### II. Crossover Youth Practice Model: Past, Present, & Future

*Shay Bilchik, J.D., Center for Juvenile Justice Reform (CJJR), Georgetown University*

*Alexandra Miller, Ph.D, CJJR*

*Macon Stewart, M.S.W., CJJR*

Senator Marsden introduced the speakers from the Center for Juvenile Justice Reform (CJJR) at Georgetown University. CJJR's team gave a presentation on the development of the crossover youth practice model, its implementation, the accomplishments and lessons learned, and steps on what they will be working on in the future. After the

presentation Mr. Bilchik noted that requests to expand the CJJR's work come from many different sources, including system leaders and foundations.

This presentation can be accessed on the Commission's webpage under the meetings tab.

### **III. City of Alexandria Crossover Youth Practice Model: Road to Legislation**

*Tricia Bassing, Chief, Child & Family Behavioral Health Services (CFBHS), Alexandria Department of Community & Human Services (DCHS)/Community Services Board (CSB)*

*Doug Brown, Child Protective Services Program Manager, Alexandria DCHS*

*Sonnja Brown, Family Support Partner, Alexandria CFBHS DCHS/CSB*

*Greta Rosenzweig, Chief, Child Welfare Services, Alexandria DCHS*

*Mike Mackey, Director, Alexandria Court Service Unit*

Senator Marsden then introduced the team from Alexandria for their presentation. He noted that today's speakers from Alexandria have worked with Senator Barker on improving information sharing regarding crossover youth.

The City of Alexandria's team gave their presentation which touched on their crossover youth practice model, as well as partners they work with, the beliefs, values, and commitments as part of their model, and the various work groups they formed after a gap analysis, including a work group on information-sharing. Their presentation also discussed the challenges for family and youth involved in both the child welfare and juvenile justice system and steps Alexandria is hoping to embark on in the future.

This presentation can be accessed on the Commission's webpage under the meetings tab.

### **IV. Maryland's Work on Crossover Youth Information Sharing**

*Betsy F. Tolentino, Assistant Secretary of Community Operations, Maryland Department of Juvenile Services*

Senator Marsden introduced Betsy Tolentino from the Maryland Department of Juvenile Services. Ms. Tolentino discussed the various types of information sharing to support crossover youth, the benefits and concerns on information sharing, and the way Maryland changed their law on information sharing.

This presentation can be accessed on the Commission's webpage under the meetings tab.

## **V. Work Group Round Table Discussion**

Senator Marsden started the round table discussion. Senator Barker explained his thoughts about how the work group was in a good position to discuss how to make sure SB 1206 is successful and ways to move forward in Virginia. Gena Berger gave the group information about Virginia Heals, a model that is focused on children who experience trauma and includes a screening tool for children and youth. Ms. Berger also added information about Virginia's recent work with the Unite US platform, purchased with the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) funding.

Valerie Boykin raised the importance of knowing if a youth is cross involved at an early stage in order to increase diversion. Ms. Boykin also said that Juvenile Justice's research division discussed a study through the Virginia Longitudinal Data System to look at the crossover youth population. Ms. Boykin also gave comments about using the Office of Children's Services to further the work on this issue, and she inquired about how the Family First Prevention Services Act can tie-in to the issue of crossover youth.

Delegate Bell discussed the role that schools play in delivering many services to young people. He also noted the complexities around getting services information about a student to the Community Services Board when a student turns 18.

Shay Bilchik commented that the current legislation, SB 1206, gives a roadmap for information-sharing between Court Service Units and Local Departments of Social Services, and he noted the work Alexandria is doing. Later, Senator Marsden reminded the group to scrutinize this recent legislation in case changes need to be made.

## **VI. Next Steps and Adjournment**

Will Egen stated that Commission on Youth staff would work on recommendations and discussion items based on today's conversation for purposes of a round table discussion at the next meeting. Mr. Egen also indicated that the next meeting date will be forthcoming. Senator Marsden stated that this work group is mandated to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the Chairmen of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary and the House Committee for Courts of Justice by November 1, 2021.

The meeting adjourned a few minutes after 12 p.m.

The video of this meeting can be found at the following link: [Meeting Video Archive](#).