

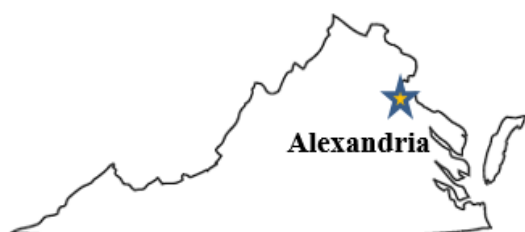


**Vision 21**  
Virginia  
Linking Systems of Care  
for Children and Youth

## Fall 2017 Project Newsletter

### ***Two New Vision 21: Linking Systems of Care Pilot Communities Selected***

While piloting continues in Charlottesville City/Albemarle County and Washington County, two new localities have been selected to participate in the next round of the pilot and research process. The Cities of Alexandria and Hampton/Newport News submitted competitive proposals and were ultimately selected due to their current collaborative efforts, level of adequate resources and services, and their geographic and demographic diversity. Project staff is excited by the inclusion of the education and public health systems in the next round of piloting. Introduction and partnership meetings with the new sites began at the end of October and will continue into early 2018. These meetings help to identify appropriate screening and referral agencies, identify staff to be trained, and promote the sharing of Virginia Victimization Screen (VVS)-specific information across systems. All pilot communities will support the national evaluation process conducted by ICF as well as work with the Virginia research team at VCU to provide quantitative and qualitative data. This data will be used to revise the VVS, training module and training manual, and help guide the statewide rollout of the VVS.



**18<sup>th</sup> District Court Services Unit**  
**Alexandria Health Department**  
**Center for Alexandria's Children**  
**DCHS, Center for Children & Families**  
**Child Welfare Services**

**Newport News Public Schools**  
**Newport News Dept. of Human Services**  
**The Center for Child & Families**  
**Hampton Healthy Families**

***The Vision 21: Linking Systems of Care for Children and Youth (LSC) State Demonstration Project aims to bring together all of the relevant systems and professionals to provide early identification, intervention and treatment for child and youth victims of crime and their families.***

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## ***Fall 2017 Implementation Phase Achievements:***

- Participated in nine Technical Assistance calls with the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, the National Institute of Justice, ICF, and the Office for Victims of Crime.
- Held the first three focus groups with current pilot site agencies in Charlottesville City/Albemarle County and Washington County.
- Participated in an All Sites Grantee meeting in Missoula, Montana.
- Held the first two site visits at each of the second round of pilot sites.
- Drafted the written Implementation Strategy for the project.
- Developed and conducted a Training Needs Assessment in Charlottesville City/Albemarle County and Washington County.

### ***Policy Analysis***

Project Staff: Anna Cody/Laurie Crawford

The goal of the Policy Analysis Committee is to assess policies for screening, training and collaborative opportunities across systems that may support the goals of the project. Committee members from both the public and nonprofit sectors with expertise in child and youth policy were recruited to participate.

Recently, the policy committee has been working with Vision 21: LSC staff on developing a collaborative policy review process and review tool designed to understand current state level, partner agency policies relevant to the Vision 21: LSC project. Specifically, the policy analysis tool focuses on identifying policies affecting screening procedures for children who are victims of crime, agency guidance on children, youth and family involvement in service planning and delivery, and referral procedures for linking children, youth and families with appropriate services. The policy tool will be used in a collaborative process with partner agencies where project staff and agency partners will work together to conduct policy reviews.

The first policy review, conducted by V21: LSC staff in partnership with VDSS, Child Protective Services, took place in September, and additional reviews are forthcoming.

### ***Training Committee***

Project Staff: Kim Barbarji/Jenna Foster

The renewed goal of the Training Committee is to identify and support training needs for pilot site staff in order for them to effectively serve children and youth identified as victims of crime based on the VVS. A training needs assessment was developed and disseminated to gauge pilot agency staff's current knowledge of topics related to their work around child and youth victimization and to identify areas of interest and need regarding further training and resources.

A total of twenty surveys were completed by individuals in the pilot site agencies, identifying Substance Abuse, Complex Trauma, Evidence-based Trauma-informed Services, and Strategies for Family Engagement as the most sought-after topics of training. Project staff is currently researching and providing initial online training and resources to those agencies and will also work with state and national experts to provide quality training in other formats. Although the Vision 21: LSC project cannot support all training needs identified, staff is working closely with state and national partners to provide training that is necessary to achieving the project's overall goals and meeting the needs of the identified target population.