



Linking Systems of Care
for Children and Youth
Virginia

Linking Systems of Care (LSC) Project Newsletter Fall 2019

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Preparing for Statewide Rollout of the LSC Model

Throughout Virginia, many communities are coming together across disciplines around trauma-informed care. Most often in Virginia, these multi-disciplinary groups form as trauma-informed community networks (TICNs). Some of these groups are well established, with regular meetings and leadership structures, while others are just beginning the conversations. Each of these community networks, however, share some common characteristics: spreading awareness, conducting training, and supporting and implementing new practices in schools, courts, and community services. Through the fall of 2019 and early into 2020, the LSC Project Staff are attempting to personally visit with every TICN (both structured and those in the earlier stages of formation) in Virginia. LSC Project Staff have been working closely with statewide network of TICNs to build relationships and get the word out about the tools and resources (the [LSC toolkit](#)) that will soon be available to communities to better children, youth, and families that have been impacted by victimization and trauma.

Once the toolkit is complete in the spring of 2020 LSC Project Staff will be offering full-day training sessions to the TICNs on implementing the toolkit and also presenting workshops at statewide professional conferences around the Commonwealth to talk to system-specific groups about the LSC Model. The purpose of both the TICN and conference presentations is to support the roll out of the LSC model throughout the Commonwealth. If you have a multi-disciplinary group or know of a statewide conference that you think would benefit from hearing about the LSC Project, please email Stacie Vecchietti at stacie.vecchietti@dss.virginia.gov.

LSC Toolkit Resources Developed to Date:

- Trauma-Informed Agency Self-Assessment
- Resource Mapping Facilitation Guide
- Family Engagement Guide
- Referral and Response Protocol

Virginia's LSC Guiding Principles

Over the course of the first three years of the Linking Systems of Care Project, a number of activities (surveys, cross systems mapping events, listening sessions, etc.) were conducted to get input from service providers, youth, and families about their experiences with systems of care and identify themes, or “guiding principles,” to direct policy and practice moving forward. In the summer of 2019, the Linking Systems of Care (LSC) Partner Agency Team merged with Governor’s Trauma-Informed Leadership Team (TILT), and the membership of the LSC Stakeholder Advisory Council (LSC) merged with the Trauma-Informed Care Working Group of the Children’s Cabinet.

The teams and working groups of the Children’s Cabinet have been hard at work over the past few months preparing for the 2020 Virginia General Assembly Session, and part of that work included the adoption of the [Linking Systems of Care Guiding Principles](#) by the Trauma Informed Care Working Group. These Guiding Principles, presented officially to the Children’s Cabinet at their December meeting, include Universal Access and Equity, Cross-Systems Collaboration, Trauma-Informed Screening, Coordinated Services, and Workforce Development.

New National Technical Assistance (TA) Providers

During the 2019-2021 Phase of the Project the National Technical Assistance Provider, The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges has broadened the pool of expertise with three strategic National Partner organizations. [Futures Without Violence](#) (FUTURES) is a national health and social justice nonprofit that develops groundbreaking programs, policies, and campaigns to empower individuals and organizations working to end violence against women and children around the world. [The Center for the Study of Social Policy](#) (CSSP) is a national, non-profit policy organization that connects community action, public system reform, and policy change to create a racially, economically, and socially just society in which all children, youth, and families thrive. [The Center for Court Innovation's](#) (CCI's) Gender and Family Justice team works with communities interested in creating or expanding civil & criminal legal system responses to violence and victimization, including crimes against children, children’s exposure to domestic and community violence, teen dating violence, and commercial sexual exploitation, as well as trauma-informed responses to juvenile and adult defendants.

Promote universal access and equitable services that meaningfully account for differences in race, ethnicity, language, sexual orientation, gender identity, and disability status.

Enhance and maintain effective cross-systems collaborative work.

Support a standard practice of trauma-informed screening for victimization and trauma.

Support consistent, appropriate, and meaningful services with coordinated systems navigation and a shared understanding of information sharing parameters.

Support workforce development around trauma-informed practices.