

HELPING EVERYONE ACCESS LINKED SYSTEMS IN VIRGINIA

Newsletter: Spring 2021 Edition

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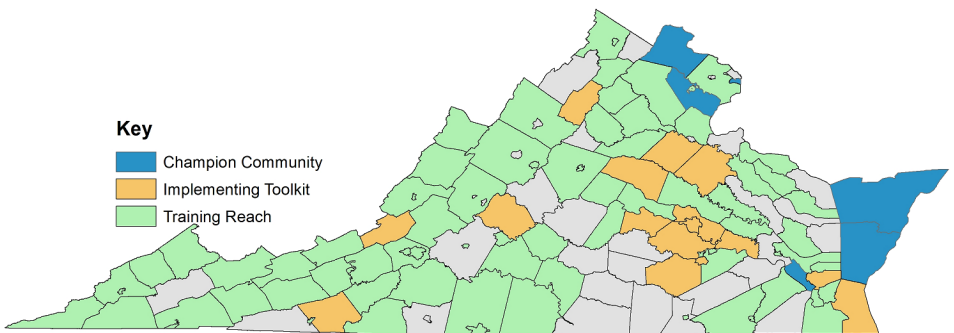
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The Future of Virginia HEALS

The exciting work that Virginia HEALS initiated under a Federal grant in 2015 will continue with state support. Sustainability affords the project the opportunity to expand agency and system-specific technical assistance around implementation of the Screening for Experiences and Strengths (SEAS), the Referral and Response Protocol and other toolkit resources that support the Virginia HEALS model of service delivery. Project goals and deliverables are being re-worked to build up and expand cross-systems collaboration activities around training and policy to best meet the needs of children, youth, and their families in the Commonwealth. Vital to the continued success of the project is the assurance that there is positive impact for both service providers and families.

State support will allow for the development and implementation of an evaluation plan in order to measure the outcomes of Virginia HEALS and to best ensure that future program planning and project efforts are data-driven. We are grateful for the support of the Governor, the state legislature, and leadership within the Department of Social Services for making it possible to continue this very important and timely work around trauma-informed services and referrals.

Training and Implementation Outreach



Champion Communities: Counties and cities where Virginia HEALS is partnering with Trauma Informed Community Networks and/or community agencies to conduct resource mapping events and to implement the Screening for Experiences and Strengths (SEAS) and Response and Referral Protocol.

Implementing Toolkit: Counties and cities where training has resulted in the adoption of an aspect of the Virginia HEALS toolkit, such as the Trauma-Informed Agency Self-Assessment or the SEAS.

Training Reach: Counties and cities where one or more service providers has participated in a Virginia HEALS 2 or 4-hour training event.

As of May 15, 2021, 2,379 service providers have received Virginia HEALS training.

Technical Assistance for Community Resource Mapping

Community Resource Mapping is a process that can be used within local communities to identify current resources, learn about gaps between current resources and community needs, and provide an opportunity to cultivate new partnerships and relationships across agencies that work with children and youth in the community. The end result of a mapping event is a list of resources to add/include in Unite Virginia, a new statewide platform for family-centered referral-making and tracking. To find out more about Unite Virginia or to add your agency/organization to the network, visit their website.

In response to current social distancing guidelines, Virginia HEALS staff has modified the community resource mapping process to add instructions on convening virtual events. The Facilitation Guide and related e-Learning course, available online, have been updated to reflect these changes and staff is available to offer technical assistance and support to Trauma-Informed Community Networks and other multi-disciplinary groups that want to plan a mapping event.

Find Updated e-Learning Courses at <http://virginiaheals.com/training!>

To request training and technical assistance, or to get more information, contact us!

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