Comprehensive Services Act for At-Risk Youth & Families

A Systems Approach for "Our" Children

City of Danville Office of Comprehensive Services
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Comprehensive Services Act for At-Risk Youth & Families

Statutory Mission

The mission of the Comprehensive Services Act for At-Risk Youth and Families *(CSA)* is to create a collaborative system of services and funding that is child-centered, family-focused, community-based and cost-effective when addressing the strengths and needs of troubled and at-risk youths and their families in the Commonwealth.

OCS Vision for CSA

The mission of the Office of Comprehensive Services *(OCS)* is to facilitate a collaborative system of care that improves outcomes for troubled and at-risk youth and their families that is child centered, family focused, community based and cost effective.

OCS envisions CSA as a national model in providing effective and innovative systems of care statewide for children with emotional and behavioral problems and their families.

We strive for CSA to be highly regarded as a leader in:

- Improving outcomes for children and their families;
- Partnering with families and all CSA stakeholders to implement best practices and technology to continually improve the performance of CSA;
- Facilitating the highest quality technical assistance and training to strengthen the capacity of communities to implement CSA; and
- Maintaining high standards for sound fiscal accountability and responsible use of taxpayer funds.

OCS strives to maintain an enthusiastic, creative and knowledgeable staff empowered to work with CSA stakeholders to sustain the highest quality system of care for Virginia's children and their families.

CSA Values

Family focused: Ensure families and caretakers are partners in decision-making on the assessment, design, delivery and management of services.

Strength based: Ensure that the design and provision of services respond to the unique and diverse strengths, needs and potential of children and their families, and build upon natural family and community supports.

Continuum of care: Provide access to a continuum of assessment, early intervention, treatment, and transition services and supports in communities.

Community based: Provide appropriate services in the least restrictive environment, striving to preserve and strengthen families, and enabling children to remain in their homes and communities, balanced with the need to protect the welfare of children and maintain public safety.

Integrated care: Provide integrated services and funding for children and their families with designated care management to ensure multiple services are coordinated across agencies and evolve over time to meet the changing strengths and needs of children and their families.

Culturally & linguistically responsive: Provide services and supports that are responsive to the culture and language of the child and family.

Collaborative: Support open communication, active participation, and collaboration among CSA stakeholders across all sectors and at all levels on program and fiscal policy development, service delivery and management. Encourage public-private partnerships in service delivery.

Strong state leadership: Ensure policies, uniform guidelines, services, funding and practices support systems of care in communities that can be tailored to meet the unique strengths, resources, and needs of children, families and communities.

Flexible funds: Provide communities flexible funds, authorize them to make decisions and to be accountable for providing services in concert with the CSA.

Fiscally accountable: Ensure funds are spent effectively, efficiently and equitably, maximizing the use of all federal, state, local & private funding streams.

Outcome & quality improvement: Improve program quality using customer feedback, child and family outcomes, and program and fiscal data.

State Executive Council Strategic Directions

Develop policies that ***improve access*** to care for all at-risk and troubled youth and their families.

Promote open communication, ownership, and active participation among all CSA participants: parents and their children, local and state decision makers and governments, and private agencies.

Maximize and efficiently utilize all available funding streams - local, state, federal and private - that are aligned with and complementary to Comprehensive Services Act principles.

Develop and ***implement a quality improvement program*** that uses customer feedback, client outcomes, and program and fiscal data to improve the operation and management of CSA, OCS, and SEC.

Develop program efficiencies and support ***that minimize CSA administrative processing*** and expenses at all levels: state, local, and private agencies.

State and Local CSA Structure

The CSA System is comprised of several entities at the state and community levels that work collaboratively to implement CSA.

State CSA Structure

The **State Executive Council** *(SEC)* is the statutorily based supervisory council that provides leadership and oversees the development and implementation of state interagency program and fiscal policies. It is chaired by the Governor's Cabinet Secretary of Health and Human Resources. It is comprised of two General Assembly members, seven state government agency heads *(from the five child serving agencies, the Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services, and the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court),* two local government officials, the chair of the State and Local Advisory Team, and representatives from parents and private provider association. *(§2.2-2648)*

The **Office of Comprehensive Services** for At Risk Youth & Families *(OCS)* serves as the administrative entity of the SEC and ensures that its decisions are implemented. It works collaboratively with all CSA stakeholders to increase the capacity of communities across the Commonwealth to successfully implement CSA. *(§2.2-2649)*

The **State and Local Advisory Team** *(SLAT)* is statutorily required to advise the SEC by managing cooperative efforts at the state level and to provide support to community efforts. It works collaboratively with OCS to recommend interagency program and fiscal policies, assess the impact of proposed policies, regulations and guidelines; and provide best practices, training and technical assistance. It operationalizes SEC decisions in the respective agencies and associations. *(§2.2-5202 - §2.2-5203)*

Community CSA Structure

In each community, teams of professionals and family members collaboratively decide how to provide services and funding for children and their families.

The **Community Policy and Management Teams** *(CPMTs)* have the statutory authority and accountability for managing the cooperative effort and developing interagency policies that govern CSA in the community. They coordinate the locality's long-range, community-wide planning that ensures the development of needed resources and services. CPMTs are comprised of a parent, local government official, agency heads from local child serving agencies *(community services boards, courts service units, health, social services, and public schools)* and a private provider. Community agency representatives are authorized to make policy and funding decisions for their agencies. *(§2.2-5204 - §2.2-5206)*

The **Family Assessment and Planning Teams** *(FAPTs)* are established by CPMTs to provide for family participation, assess the strengths and needs of children and their families, develop individual family services plans, and make recommendations to the CPMTs. It is comprised of a parent and representatives from local child serving agencies *(community services boards, courts service units, social services, and public schools).* It may include a local health department and private provider representatives. *(§2.2-5207 - §2.2-5210)*

CSA Coordinators are hired by many, but not all, communities to manage local CSA implementation, including program, fiscal, and administrative responsibilities. *(Appropriations Act, Item 200.C.3)*

Actions at the Community Policy & Management Team (CPMT) Level For Improving Outcomes for Children & Their Families

Strategies

- Strengthen the voices of youth and families and involve them in decision making.
- Strengthen the community system of care in implementing the mission and statutory principles of CSA.
- Build community capacity and transform system to serve children in family, school and community settings whenever appropriate.
- Enhance shared ownership and accountability on achieving desired outcomes for children and families across all sectors and partners *(eg, families, state and local governments, all child serving agencies, public/private/non-profit sectors)*
- Control the rate of overall growth in local and state expenditures, through redirecting and investing in quality community services and a community system of care.

Community Policy & Management Teams (CPMTs) Actions

- Provide vision, leadership, and action to improve outcomes for youth and families and to control costs.
- Create culture of "our" children in community.
- Identify child and family outcomes to be achieved.
- Involve community leaders, movers and shakers.
- Engage youth and families in making decisions at all levels in planning, designing, managing and evaluating the system.
- Review CPMT Management Reports on children, services and expenditures served through CSA funds.
- Lead community-wide planning to assess needs, services and strategies.
- Maximize public and private partnerships, including non-profits, faith organizations, foundations, businesses, and investors.
- Pool resources to maximize the use of all funds across agencies and sectors
- Manage and/or coordinate funds for children and families *(eg, CSA, Virginia Community Crime Control Act, Safe and Stable Families, Adoption/Special Needs Adoption, Independent Living, Mental Health Initiative funds, Title IV-E, Medicaid)*
- Develop an array of high quality community services
- Work collaboratively across communities to pool resources and develop services
- Submit grant proposals and enter into contracts for providing or operating services
- Establish program and fiscal policies for working collaboratively across systems
- Analyze and improve the quality and effectiveness of the system.

Create Family Assessment & Planning Team(s) (FAPTs)

- Involve most seasoned, creative staff.
- Authorize staff to commit agency services, resources & funds.
- Charge FAPT to:
    - Implement culture of "our" children in community.
    - Engage the child & family as partners in decision-making.
    - Include all key players involved with each child and family.

Actions at the Family Assessment & Planning Team (FAPT) Level For Improving Outcomes for Children & Their Families

Comprehensively assess the strengths and needs of child and family.

- Identify and build upon family strengths and community supports
  - Explore all opportunities through the "family," extended family, and caring adults.
  - Explore neighborhood and community supports.
  - Engage the culture and language of the child/family.
- Identify the needs of child and family before exploring service options. Examples:
  - Safety from abuse & neglect
  - Stable & permanent homes
  - Safely residing in community
  - Effective parenting skills
  - School attendance
  - Educational achievement
  - Social & peer supports
  - Impulsive & aggressive behavior reduced
  - Depression & anxiety managed
  - Substance abuse eliminated
  - Independent living skills
  - Vocational/job retention skills

Design a mosaic of services and supports for the child and family in their home, school and community

- Be creative in building upon the child and family strengths to wrap services around the child and family to meet their unique needs. Examples:
  - Natural family/community supports
  - Short-term emergency necessities
  - Crisis intervention/stabilization
  - Family support/education
  - Respite care
  - Specialized treatment services
  - Intensive in-home services
  - Behavioral aides
  - School-based services
  - After school services
  - Supervised social/recreational services
  - Mentoring
  - Individual, group, family therapy
  - Substance abuse services
  - Therapeutic day treatment
  - Vocational services
  - Independent living services
  - Medical management
- Brainstorm and problem-solve creatively on challenging situations.
- Tailor an individualized family service plan that meets the needs of child and family.
- Designate one person to ensure multiple services are coordinated across agencies/sectors and evolve over time to meet the changing strengths and needs of child and family.
- Plan for permanency, long lasting family connections, discharge and/or crisis stabilization

Develop creative funding plan, maximizing and pooling resources across agencies & sectors.

- Connect child and family with community agencies, resources and supports

- Provide ongoing utilization management to assess the effectiveness and appropriateness of the service mosaic, with frequency based on the needs of the individual child and restrictiveness of the placement.