

**MINUTES**  
**SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES COUNCIL**  
**MAY 11, 2016**  
VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARDS  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Stephanie Arnold, *Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS)*  
Kim Burt, *Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)*  
Anna Burton, *Department of Corrections (DOC)*  
Henry Harper, *Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth (VFHY)*  
The Honorable M. Keith Hodges, *Virginia House of Delegates*  
Parham Jaber, MD, *Department of Health (VDH)*  
Arthur Mayer, *Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ)*  
Charlene Motley, *Commission on the Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program (VASAP)*  
Sandra O'Dell, *Virginia Association of Community Services Boards (VACSB)*  
Ron Pritchard, *Virginia Association of Addiction Professionals (VAAP)*  
Mellie Randall, *Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS)*  
Patricia Shaw, *Virginia Drug Court Association (VDCA)*  
W. Eddie Wirt, *Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC)*  
Marjorie Yates, *Substance Abuse and Addiction Recovery Alliance of Virginia (SAARA)*

**GUESTS:**

Mark Blackwell, *Virginia Association of Drug and Alcohol Programs (VADAP)*  
Danielle Henderson, *Department of Health (VDH)*  
Kate Marshall, *Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS)*  
Carole Pratt, *Department of Health (VDH)*  
Tom Walker, *Virginia Association of Drug and Alcohol Programs (VADAP)*

**STAFF:**

Margaret Anne Lane, *Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS)*

**I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:**

The meeting was called to order by Sandra O'Dell, Council Chair. She welcomed members and guests and asked all attendees to introduce themselves.

**II. REVIEW & APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 6, 2016 MEETING:**

A motion was made by Delegate Hodges and seconded by Ms. Shaw to accept the minutes as presented. The motion carried.

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT:** There was no Public Comment.

**IV. OLD BUSINESS:** There was no Old Business.

## V. NEW BUSINESS:

### ➤ **PRESENTATION: “2016 VIRGINIA YOUTH SURVEY: RESULTS AND TRENDS”**

**Danielle Henderson**, Population Health Surveys Supervisor, Virginia Department of Health (VDH)

Ms. Henderson’s presentation will be posted to the DBHDS website. Her presentation included the following key points:

#### Methodology:

- Started in Virginia in 2009 with high school data collection.
- In 2013, partnered with Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth and Department of Education (DOE) to combine Virginia Youth Survey with the Virginia Youth Tobacco Survey and added middle school data collections.
- Survey administered every odd year so as not to conflict with SOL testing.
- All of the 128 schools who were asked to participate did so; this was the first time for 100% participation.
- Schools are selected through a company that contracts with CDC who works with DOE to produce a list of middle and high schools in Virginia. The list is reviewed for accuracy and then a random selection of schools based on size and location is selected to participate in the survey.
- The sampling does lean more towards urban schools because larger schools are preferred, which traditionally are often found in urban areas.
- Students are able to opt out of participating in the survey.
- Nationwide results of the survey won’t be published until June 2016.
- Virginia has the highest overall survey response rate.

#### Measures:

- There are two types of measures used for the survey: *Ever Use* is a lifetime measure meaning have you ever tried it; *Current Use* measures use in past 30 days.
- Survey targets the use of alcohol, marijuana, cigarettes, prescription drugs, cocaine and heroin. In addition, 2015 is the first year to collect data on electronic vapor products.
- Survey questions also compared academic achievement and substance use.

#### Discussion Comments:

- Marijuana is the number one choice over alcohol because it’s easier to get.
- Over the counter medications use by teens is a big problem.
- It was suggested to add a question regarding youth seatbelt use since there are questions about drinking and driving.
- It would be helpful to know the age group where we start seeing an increase in heroin use so that we know the age group to target in terms of prevention.
- The survey is sometimes read to students. It is worded on a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading level for middle school students and a 6<sup>th</sup> grade reading level for high school students.
- It would be great to move towards administering the surveys electronically, which could be more relevant to the youth.

### Takeaways:

- Substance use among Virginia high school students decreased for most substances between 2011 and 2015.
- From 2011 to 2015, there has been little change for prescription drug and marijuana use.
- Use of electronic vapor products is of concern and will continue to be monitored.
- First time academic achievement and substance use statewide were examined.
- Local level surveys are important.
- Middle school data are available on the VDHLiveWell webpage.

### ➤ **COUNCIL PLANNING DISCUSSION:**

- Council Chair O'Dell reviewed the Council's responsibilities as detailed in the *Code of Virginia*. She led a discussion exploring different issues in the *Code* pertaining to substance abuse and invited suggestions for any needed changes.
  - Ms. Randall suggested an action for upcoming General Assembly would be to add the Association of Chiefs of Police. Ms. Lane shared that DBHDS leadership is thinking about asking for the appointment of a representative from the Behavioral Health Advisory Council (BHAC) to be appointed to SASC. This would need to go through the General Assembly. Ms. O'Dell stated that since it's a public meeting, anyone can participate and make comments. Ms. Randall noted that many of the same State agencies are represented on both councils.
  - Mr. Pritchard noted that the Virginia Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors changed its name in 2014 to Virginia Association of Addiction Professionals and should be corrected in the *Code of Virginia*. A technical amendment can be made to correct it.
  - Dr. Jaber led the discussion to do *corrective language* to remove #3 of the *Code* which states, *review and comment on State annual budget requests*. Ms. Randall added that the budget is approved after the Council concludes its meetings for the year. Delegate Hodges suggested that SASC can go back in a non-budget year and make comments for budget amendments.
- Council members discussed an agenda for the next meeting:
  - At the previous meeting, Mr. Harper suggested looking into tobacco, vaping, and associated products. Mr. Harper was asked to prepare a report for the June meeting about the 2016 Reduce Tobacco Use Conference and to discuss current trends in tobacco, e-cigarettes and vaping.
  - Mr. Wirt was asked to prepare a report for the June meeting on alcohol use in Virginia and to discuss youth prevention efforts.
  - Ms. O'Dell suggested that she and Ms. Randall bring information about opioid prescription abuse and its effects across the State. Ms. Randall also suggested that Council review the 51 recommendations that were made by the Governor's Task Force. Ms. Randall suggested better use of data. The Governor's Task Force is launching a website through the Department of Health Professionals focusing on coordinating data, activities, and events information. It will be called Virginia Aware.

- Delegate Hodges suggested reviewing the over-the-counter drug problem. Mr. Pritchard believes that there is an inadvertent result of Narcan resulting in people feeling as if they call for help they can get into trouble because it was put in the hands of law enforcement. He thinks that an educational push about Narcan can help. Ms. Randall stated that Virginia's law provides for an affirmative defense in the case of calling 911 for an overdose. REVIVE! Training instructs lay people, friends and family members to call 911 because Naloxone will wear off and the person can lapse back into an overdose. Included in the REVIVE! training is a curriculum to train law enforcement. Delegate Hodges said that there is legislation for a pharmacist to be able to dispense to someone through a protocol with the physician if there is a possible overdose. CVS is one of the pharmacies currently doing this. Delegate Hodges will encourage the State Pharmacy Association to have pharmacists take part in that program.
- Dr. Jaberli shared that this will be his last SASC meeting since he is returning to Louisiana to accept a new job. Council members thanked him for his service and he expressed appreciation for their support.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT:**

There was no further business. A motion to adjourn was made by Delegate Hodges and seconded by Mr. Harper. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 14, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Street/Margaret Anne Lane