

Trauma Informed Community Network (TICN) Annual Report

July 2013 – June 2014 (FY 13-14)

TICN Membership:

- ♦ **Total members** = 53
- ♦ **Founding member agencies:** Children's Mental Health Resource Center, ChildSavers, Coordinators2inc, Family Preservation Services, Inc., Family and Children's Trust Fund of Virginia, Greater Richmond SCAN (Stop Child Abuse Now), VCU School of Education, VCU School of Social Work and Virginia Department of Social Services. **Additional agencies represented:** Attachment and Trauma Institute, Chesterfield County Community Services Board, Chesterfield/Colonial Heights Department of Social Services, Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, Department of Medical Assistance Services, Family Insight, P.C., Henrico County Department of Social Services, First Home Care, Henrico Mental Health, JustChildren Program of the Legal Aid Justice Center, Lutheran Family Services of Virginia, Oxbridge Counseling, Services, Richmond City Department of Social Services, Richmond City Public Schools, Richmond Commonwealth Attorney's Office, Safe Harbor, United Methodist Family Services, University of Richmond (School of Law-Education Rights Clinic, School of Arts and Sciences), VCU Partnership for People with Disabilities, Virginia Commission on Youth, Virginia Home for Boys and Girls, Virginia League for Planned Parenthood, Virginia Treatment Center for Children and YWCA of Richmond.

Accomplishments:

- ♦ **TSRT** - The TICN received permission from the Chadwick Center staff who developed a Trauma System Readiness Tool through their Chadwick Trauma Informed Systems Project (CTISP) that was sponsored by the National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN). TICN members formatted this survey to Survey Monkey. TSRT Surveys were completed for Chesterfield/Colonial Heights Department of Social Services and Henrico County Department of Social Services. Results of these surveys were analyzed, summarized then shared with leaders from both Departments of Social Services. Lutheran Family Services of VA also implemented the TSRT.
- ♦ **Focus Groups** - TICN members facilitated Focus Groups for CW Supervisors and Mental Health Professionals for both Chesterfield/Colonial Heights DSS and Henrico County DSS. Focus Group questions were based on CTISP/NCTSN format. Feedback from focus groups was shared with DSS leaders.
- ♦ **Yammer site** - TICN members developed a site on Yammer where they shared a variety of information pertaining to Trauma Informed Care. Members are able to post research, articles, training information and can communicate with each other on this site.
- ♦ **DBHDS/Duke Training** – DBHDS provided Systems of Care funding for Duke faculty to facilitate the National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSC) Child Welfare Trauma Toolkit (CWTT) Training for Chesterfield/Colonial Heights and Henrico County Child Welfare workers. The training modules were: Module 1 Intro to Trauma-Informed Child Welfare Practice & Essential Elements, Module 2 Child Trauma and Child Traumatic Stress, Module 3 How Does Trauma Affect Children?, Module 4 Impact of Trauma on the Brain and body, Module 5 Influence of Developmental Stage, Module 7 Maximize Physical and Psychological Safety for Children and Families, Module 8 Identify Trauma-Related Needs for Children and Families and Module 11 Enhancing the well-being of those working in the system. Duke faculty facilitated a retreat for senior leadership from Chesterfield and Henrico DSS in March 2014. Representatives from the agencies also participated in consultation calls with training faculty.

- ♦ **Georgetown University Video Project** – TICN members participated in the Georgetown University Video Project for a second round of interviews. Georgetown plans to complete the video project in August 2014 and have over 200 interviews from across the US. TICN members watched their 5 minute promotional video which can be found at <http://gucchdtacenter.georgetown.edu/TraumaInformedCare.html> There is additional information on their website entitled "**Trauma-Informed Care: Perspectives and Resources.**"
- ♦ **Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) Questionnaire** – TICN members were given the opportunity by VDSS CANS Workgroup to review the Trauma Module for the CANS and provide feedback and recommendations.
- ♦ TICN formed the following committees:
 1. **Trauma Informed Practice Training - committee members to organize all training efforts offered to DSS agencies as outlined on our initial proposal and as deemed necessary from TSRT, Focus Groups and DSS leaders.** Committee members facilitated two trainings on the NCTSN Child CWTT Vicarious Trauma training module for approximately 140 Child Welfare workers from Chesterfield/Colonial Heights and Henrico County DSS agencies. The information was very well received and workers reported that they wanted to continue the conversation about vicarious trauma. Training committee members attended the CWTT Training provided by Duke University faculty and will provide ongoing training to Chesterfield/Colonial Heights and Henrico County DSS workers. The Training Committee also developed a survey that was sent to TICN members which gathered information about trainings that members were able to provide to DSS agencies.
 2. **Trauma Informed Brief Screening Tool - committee members to review current screening measures that are appropriate for Child Welfare workers to implement when assessing the children and families they are working with and oversee meetings related to these tools with DSS.** BST Committee members initially consulted with Oklahoma DSS about their use of the CTISP/NCTSN CWTT Referral Tool and reviewed a variety of other screening measures (e.g., SDM, SCARED, CPSS, ACES, CANS). The BST committee received permission for Chesterfield/Colonial Heights and Henrico County DSS agencies to use the Project Broadcast Trauma Screening Tool which was distributed by Duke faculty during the CWTT Training. There is a specific training for the Screening Tool and committee members are working on organizing this initial training then providing ongoing consultation and training on the tool. The Project Broadcast Trauma Screening Tool seems to be the most appropriate tool for CW workers to use when screening for trauma.
 3. **Trauma Certification for Providers - committee members will research existing certifications related to trauma treatment for providers and develop a plan to bring comprehensive training to the Greater Richmond area for providers to attend at an affordable rate (Trauma Informed Care Referral Directory - committee members to work on referral directory for Trauma Informed Treatment Providers in the Greater Richmond area ***combined with Trauma Certification for Providers Committee).** Committee members informally reviewed nationwide trauma certifications and plan to make recommendations about which certification trainings to bring locally. The committee worked on a survey for outpatient providers regarding evidence informed trauma treatment. They plan to develop a directory for trauma informed treatment providers that will be distributed in the next fiscal year. Once this information is gathered they will share with local DSS agencies and TICN members.

4. **Trauma Informed Outcome Tracking - committee members to assist with the development of an outcome tracking system for Child Welfare workers to implement which will allow them to track Trauma Informed efforts in their case work.** Committee members developed a survey for TICN members re: trauma focused assessments and found that there were varied responses given that members are from several different agencies and disciplines. The committee is looking at a comprehensive list of assessment measures and plan to make recommendations for measures that are cost effective. Committee members also plan to create a common language for treatment providers and CW workers from which to discuss the data gathered.
5. **Trauma Informed Workforce Development (TIWD) Committee – committee members to work on improving the education and training about trauma informed practice for the upcoming workforce who are currently enrolled in local colleges and universities.** Committee members informally surveyed what other states are doing in terms of creating a more trauma informed workforce and informally surveyed other schools of social work and education throughout the country to see what they are teaching regarding trauma. The committee is focusing on development of recommendations for VCU School of Social Work as they embark on a transformation of their curriculum. VCU School of Social Work has offered Trauma Informed Child Welfare course for several semesters and have efforts underway to expand coursework through the National Center for Social Work Trauma Education and Workforce Development Model <http://www.ncswtraumaed.org/>.

TIWD for Educators Subcommittee – committee members will focus on developing trauma informed courses/training for educators. The subcommittee clarified their mission which will be to inform current educators about trauma informed practice with the second goal to transform statewide policies for new teacher and annual (prior to school year) trainings to include trauma informed information. They are working on surveying current practices and learn about what is currently provided. Subcommittee co-chairs met with Anne Holton, Virginia Secretary of Education, and shared a briefing book they developed that included educational responses and found Sec Holton to be very receptive to their ideas.

- ♦ **Ongoing work of the TICN:** Members continue to bring Trauma Informed Practice into their work, agencies and disciplines. Recruitment for TICN expansion and committee work. Information sharing about upcoming trainings, conferences, and RFPs.

Goals for FY 14-15:

- ♦ Provide ongoing training and support to Chesterfield/Colonial Heights DSS and Henrico DSS (Training Committee)
- ♦ Assist with Brief Screening Tool training and implementation (BST Committee)
- ♦ Provide recommendations to VCU School of Social Work regarding trauma informed coursework as they embark on curriculum re-design (TIWD Committee)
- ♦ Create referral directory of Trauma Informed Mental Health Practitioners in the Greater Richmond area (MH Certification Committee)
- ♦ Create list of Trauma Certifications for Mental Health Providers and assist with developing training opportunities in the Greater Richmond area (MH Certification Committee)
- ♦ Determine best instruments for outcome tracking related to Trauma Focused treatment and CW case outcome tracking (Outcomes Committee)
- ♦ Implement TSRT and facilitate Focus Groups for City of Richmond Department of Social Services.