



**Greater Richmond Trauma-Informed Community Network (GRTICN)
Annual Report
Fiscal Year 20-21**

GRTICN MEMBERSHIP:

Total members = 532 and 173 agencies represented (37 new members & 3 new agencies joined this fiscal year)

Member agencies: See [THIS LIST](#).

GRTICN HIGHLIGHTS:

Resilience Week VA 2021:

[Read a full report on Resilience Week VA 2021.](#)

VA TICNs Update:

GRTICN Co-Coordinator Melissa McGinn currently serves as the State Coordinator for the 26 VA TICNs. This includes providing consultation, technical assistance and support (to include trainings, meetings, calls, and creating and sharing resources) to help sustain current TICNs and help communities develop new TICNs. She has provided consultation to individuals from 14 community networks, including: Arlington; Greater Williamsburg; Roanoke; Southwest VA; Hampton Roads; Charlottesville; Eastern Shore; Winchester; Southside; New River Valley; Rappahannock; Fairfax; Blue Ridge; and Northern Neck. Consultation on developing a new TICN was provided to 3 community leaders in Rocky Mount; Essex/King William; and Nelson County. The State Coordinator convened 7 general meetings of the VA TICNs this fiscal year, which are attended by network leaders and state partners. 1 [strategic planning meeting](#) was held in June and attended by 17 representatives from the VA TICNs. Community Programs staff put together a document with [resources for strategic planning](#) that was shared after the meeting. Virtual general meetings continue to be convened bi-monthly. GRTICN members presented during RAISE's Trauma and Resiliency Summit (Alexandria TICNs); delivered a three-part presentation series on trauma-informed organizations and communities for Eastern Shore Healthy Families TICN; provided consultation and gave a presentation for the Thriving Families Coalition; provided consultation to Southside TICN on their Community Toolkit; gave an interview for a podcast from the New River Valley TICN; and gave interviews with North Carolina, the Health Federation of Philadelphia, and ACEs Connection about the VA TICNs. GRTICN members developed a survey that was distributed to the VA TICNs in June, assessing the structure and development of the networks, their mission and vision, goals, accomplishments, challenges, and work toward incorporating diversity, equity, and inclusion. SCAN staff created a [presentation](#) based on the results of that survey to be presented in the July 2021 meeting.

The [VA TICNs eNote](#) is distributed on a bi-weekly basis and includes information and resources related to building and sustaining coalitions and trauma-informed communities; diversity,

equity, inclusion and justice; policy advocacy; funding; trainings and events; network news; and more. Subscribers to the eNote grew to 203.

SCAN staff and GRTICN members planned and coordinated the [second annual Resilience Week VA](#), including updating and building out the [Resilience Week VA website](#), drafting a [proclamation](#) signed by the Governor, creating a [Virtual Library of resources](#) shared widely amongst the VA TICNs and throughout Virginia, hosting [events](#), and more. Special edition VA TICNs eNotes were sent throughout the week to share events and news from the different networks across the state. Community Programs staff created a [video recap](#) showcasing the many initiatives and celebrations of resilience across the state and wrote an in-depth [Resilience Week VA 2021 report](#). The video and a brief report were also shared by request during a national call for the Campaign for Trauma-Informed Policy and Practice.

PACES Connection Cooperative:

During the first quarter of the year, the GRTICN officially joined the initial PACEs Connection Cooperative of Communities “Affiliate” cohort along with [Fresno \(CA\) Trauma & Resilience Network](#), [Resilient Santa Barbara County](#), and [San Diego County \(CA\) ACEs Connection](#). GRTICN Coordinators, Melissa McGinn and Lisa Wright, presented in September on PACEs Connection’s “A Better Normal” virtual meeting series about the history and work of the GRTICN. GRTICN Outcomes Committee Co-Chairs met with PACEs Connection staff to discuss the PACEs Connection [Community Milestones Tracker](#) and measuring the work of the GRTICN. GRTICN Coordinators created the [GRTICN MOU](#) for members to sign and included an option to join the PACEs Connection Cooperative. The PACEs Coop is an opportunity to join with developed networks across the U.S.; gain access to trainings and a job bank; participate in the Milestones Tracker, a virtual think tank and additional committees; and more. Coop members also have access to a 4-part series training titled "Diversity, Equity & Inclusion in the PACEs Movement" Training Course 2021 that began with the first module in March. (Module 1: Institutional Racism & Historical Trauma; Module 2: Critical Race Theory; Module 3: DEI within PACEs Movements & Initiatives; Module 4: Equitable Practices). GRTICN Coordinator, Lisa Wright, attended the PACEs Connection Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Training Module 1 in March, along with a few additional GRTICN members, and Module 2 in May. GRTICN Coordinators participated in monthly Coop meetings with leaders from networks across the country. Initial meetings focused on introductions, discussion about needs among Coop members and the development of the DEI training series. In the March meeting, PACEs staff shared additional questions that will be included within the Community Milestone Tracker Survey that focus on diversity, equity and inclusion. During the April meeting, the Coop welcomed the Orange County network and used the meeting time for all members on the call to share about themselves, their work and details about their networks. The June meeting for Coop leaders welcomed a new Mendocino network and members discuss strategies and goals for the year within their respective networks. The July meeting welcomed new cooperative affiliates in North Carolina and Yolo County in California. Members shared updates, and PACEs Connection staff shared information on data tracking. In June, GRTICN Coordinators received the finalized Community Milestones Survey data tracking tool from PACEs Connection staff. GRTICN Coordinators then sent the survey to the 19 GRTICN members who opted to join the Coop as representatives of their respective agencies. Each representative was asked to complete the survey, and those responses will be collected by PACEs Connection and given back as a report to the network coordinators. The

survey will track the network's efforts toward a more trauma-informed and equitable Greater Richmond region and will provide insight into strengths and areas for growth.

GRTICN Coordinators, Melissa McGinn and Lisa Wright presented at the 36th Annual San Diego International (virtual) Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment in January 2021 about 8 Key Elements for Building a Trauma-Informed Community Network. The key elements are: Backbone organization/Strong leadership, Multi-sector/multi-system collaboration, Inclusive & equitable membership, Identification of community strengths & needs, Common agenda & vision statement, Structure for reaching objectives & goals, Ongoing communication & engagement and System for measuring outcomes. This was a great opportunity to highlight the work of the GRTICN. Please find the document [HERE](#) which provides details on each key element and offers tips and resources.

Legal and Courts Committee members developed a handout for trauma-informed practice during the COVID-19 pandemic titled [Legal and Courts Trauma-Informed Recommendations for Juvenile & Domestic Relations Courts during COVID document](#). This document was distributed to local Juvenile & Domestic Relations Court professionals, to contacts of Legal and Courts Committee members and to all GRTICN members. This document was well received by court professionals and shared within agency meetings and discussions.

Training Committee Introduction to Trauma & Resilience Trainings - Greater Richmond SCAN continues to coordinate bi-monthly Introduction to Trauma and Resilience trainings free for the community. These were all held virtually via Zoom. The training was initially offered in two 90-minute sessions over two days and then pivoted to one two-hour training in one day. 67 individuals attended the two-part training on October 6 and October 7, and 41 individuals attended the two-part training on December 2 and 3. 31 individuals attended the training on January 20; 113 individuals attended the training on March 25; and 14 individuals attended the training on May 19.

SCAN also coordinated the first virtual screening of *Resilience*, which took place on May 7 as part of Resilience Week Virginia and was attended by 28 community members. A post-screening discussion was held afterward, facilitated by Community Resilience Co-Chair Olivya Wilson. To date, we have screened the film for over 6,100 people.

eNotes - Monthly eNotes were sent to 547 people throughout the year. The eNotes contained updates about the GRTICN and included resources and research.

GRTICN COMMITTEE PROGRESS:

Brief Screening Tool (BST) Committee – BST Committee members continued to work on a regional DSS collaboration to pilot the Brief Trauma Screening Tool. The pilot includes implementation of the BST at four DSS localities (Chesterfield, Henrico, Hopewell and Richmond), consultation with the VCU School of Social Work (SSW) and assisting with ongoing training. All participating DSS agency representatives shared about implementation of the BST and provided updates on new state mandated initiatives that were launched in July 2021. Committee members Lisa Tully and Lisa Wright along with HDSS SW, Elizabeth Scholla, presented information about the tool at a recent VDSS Supervisor meeting about the BST Committee and

the connection with VDSS. There was interest expressed from additional localities about possibly piloting the BST and joining the committee. Committee members also discussed the newly developed UCLA PTSD COVID screener to determine if modifications to the initial BST screening tool need to be added. Committee members completed a resource binder with a collection of trauma-informed resources for Child Welfare Workers to utilize with families. These binders were distributed to all participating localities and committee members. Committee members worked on finalizing the trauma-informed resource guide and corresponded with leadership in North Carolina to further efforts of utilizing their online training for the Brief Trauma Screening Tool. Members discussed the delay in response by NC Project Broadcast staff about access to their online training and decided to develop a similar training for use in Virginia. Members discussed the possibility of including contacts from NC in video clips within the training. Members all agreed to review notes from the NC Project Broadcast training and began to create an outline for the BST training. In addition, committee co-chairs led check ins about how participants were doing as ongoing stressors continued due to the pandemic, and provided updates about services that are being offered through Anthem for crisis stabilization to assist youth with transitioning out of inpatient hospital stays, as well as updated information about the RISE Above substance abuse intervention program.

Community Resilience Committee – Community Resilience Committee members strategized around 20-21 goals which include further exploring the intersection of trauma-informed work and equity, increasing engagement of community members in the committee and the GRTICN as a whole, and supporting the implementation of the Trauma and Resilience Basics training that committee member Tamika Daniel, GRSCAN Behavioral Health Community Organizer created to bring the work of the TICN to the community level. Committee members also supported the implementation of Racial Truth and Reconciliation Week in partnership with Voices for Virginia's Children in August 2020. Committee members participated in panels during the week, created portions of the Elder Chats series, and helped facilitate virtual readings of books around diversity and race. Additionally, committee members reviewed the results of the annual GRTICN member survey and discussed how the committee can support requests expressed by members. SCAN's BHCO began leading a virtual bi-weekly group for parents and caregivers to join and express needs around advocating for their children and themselves. This provided a safe space for caregivers to talk openly and share helpful tips and strategies to strengthen advocacy skills in areas such as education, mental health, and other topic areas. Partners in the TICN were utilized to promote this event to caregivers. Tamika Daniel launched the [‘I Have A Voice’: Caregiver Advocacy Series](#) on Facebook Live in November 2020. Tamika and special guests sat down to discuss advocacy through topics such as education, mental health, and more. Community Resilience Committee members hosted a [Virtual Winter Family Festival](#) in December. Committee members invited Leanne Lytle from the United Way and Southside TICN to their meeting in January to share about the Resilience Training Series that she created. Tamika Daniel facilitated an Intro to Trauma and Resilience Training to the public in February 2021. In addition, committee members participated in [Black HIS-Story Week](#) February 22-28 and invited Black Male Elders to participate in a video tribute recognizing and honoring the legacy of resilience among Black men titled [“Elder Chats.”](#) Tamika Daniel began the second season of the ‘I Have a Voice’: Caregiver Advocacy Series in March 2021 on Facebook Live. Video recordings remain available to view on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#). Members brainstormed ideas for the involvement of their organizations and communities in Resilience Week VA 2021. Committee members also continued to share events, updates, and opportunities for collaboration from across

the community. The Committee met in May, June, and August. They welcomed new committee member, Hallie Hartman, a peer support specialist at Aetna who works with those struggling with substance abuse, trauma and mental health challenges. Committee members revisited their goals and focused the discussion around the goal of increasing community voice within the TICN. In recognizing that many members are from organizations, businesses, systems level entities, and professional settings, the committee discussed how to further open this space up to all voices and re-envision and restructure to better welcome community members. They discussed that community members could include neighbors, church members, residents, students, seniors, etc. and those voices not always included at professional tables. The committee explored the idea of shifting how regular meetings are held and/or hosting additional activities that are more inviting and community-centered to help enhance community engagement. Tamika Daniel began developing a workshop on “Cultivating Authentic Community Engagement” that would provide a supportive environment for organizations to discuss how to engage community voice with authenticity and intentionality.

Healthcare Committee – The Healthcare Committee functions as a learning collaborative and includes individuals representing hospital systems, private pediatric practices, community health clinics, public health organizations, managed care, behavioral health hospitals and clinics. Many of these organizations are at various stages of implementing trauma informed and trauma responsive practices into their settings. Members share experiences, resources, and discuss challenges/barriers and successes. Committee members were only able to meet twice this fiscal year scheduled due to the overwhelmed schedules of so many working in the healthcare field throughout the pandemic. During the November meeting, members shared efforts and initiatives in their settings, including peer support models, addressing grief amongst staff, and building Trauma-Informed Leadership Teams (TILTs) in their organizations. During the March meeting, members shared about efforts to address vicarious trauma in their settings; staff wellness initiatives led by the TILTs in their agencies; and attention to diversity, equity and inclusion to create safer, more trauma-informed environments and policies. Committee chair Melissa McGinn discussed Resilience Week Virginia and shared examples of how healthcare agencies participated during the previous year. Committee chair Melissa McGinn is also serving on a state work group organized by the Virginia Hospital Association and tasked with developing a guidance / best practice document on trauma-informed hospitals. Melissa also continues to provide consultation to the VCU Trauma-Informed Leadership Team on becoming a trauma-informed health system and met with the COO of Bon Secours St. Francis to provide consultation on creating trauma-informed health systems. The Healthcare Committee eNote continues to be distributed on a bi-monthly basis.

Legal and Courts Committee – Legal and Courts Committee members met via Zoom in September, October, February and April 2020. During the September meeting, the committee announced new LC Committee Co-Chair, Lieutenant Anthony Jackson. Khilia Giacobone, LC Committee member who works for the City of Richmond Department of Justice Services, shared a draft for implementation of LC Committee focus group recommendations. Committee members agreed to adjust goals for the committee to include discussion about the disproportionate minority representation in the juvenile justice system and determine how our committee can explore and work toward change. Members also agreed to continue focusing on a diversity, equity and inclusion lens for all LC Committee work. Committee members also shared concerns regarding practices within different court buildings regarding inconsistent

safety precaution practices. LC Committee member, John Weaver, suggested creating a document for courts to provide trauma-informed recommendations to address psychological and physical safety within the court buildings. A small workgroup was formed and created the [Legal and Courts Trauma-Informed Recommendations for Juvenile & Domestic Relations Courts during COVID document](#). LC Committee members reviewed and discussed the draft document during the October committee meeting and all agreed to consult with local judges prior to sending out. The document was sent to several local judges who reviewed and provided suggestions for minor changes. The document was updated and has been distributed to local J&DR court professionals. The initial feedback about this document was very positive as professionals found it to be timely, succinct reminders for trauma-informed practice. Committee members devoted time during the October meeting for members to share how things have been going within the last few months. Many expressed feeling fatigued, overwhelmed and stressed. Committee members provided support to one another and many commented on how much they appreciated having a safe space to talk and how helpful it was to have support from committee colleagues. In the December meeting, the committee hosted guest speaker Valerie Slater, Executive Director for RISE (Reinvest in Supportive Environments) for Youth. Ms. Slater co-authored the issue brief, "Ending the Cycle of Incarceration for Black Youth." She provided an overview about programs provided by RISE for Youth and shared details about legislative advocacy. Additional updates shared during this meeting included: RPD R2R participants completed yoga teacher training in power yoga; RPD is working on having Gina White from Mindful Junkie facilitate the Tactical Brain Training for RPD; feedback about the document that Legal and Courts Committee members created for courts related to trauma-informed practice during the pandemic; and an opportunity was extended from the Hampton Roads TICN for committee members to join a virtual juvenile justice "Think Trauma" training with Dr. Monique Khumalo. All committee members provided agency updates and discussed needs among professionals and community members given the many challenges that have arisen in the past year. Committee Co-Chairs Lisa Wright and Lt Anthony Jackson, shared about recent efforts with the RPD R2R project. They showed one of the Wellness Wednesday videos that Marisa Atula, Wellness Educator and Yoga Instructor, provided for RPD. Marisa has developed videos for distribution on a bi-weekly basis for all RPD staff. In addition, R2R members provided monthly information for RPD roll call trainings to increase access for officers to receive and practice wellness/resilience-building prior to their work shifts. VA TICNs partners from the Williamsburg CSU requested assistance from LC Committee members to facilitate focus groups to aid in assessment of trauma-informed practice. Committee members volunteered to assist with facilitation and plan to lead focus group discussion during the summer of 2021. Committee members also spoke about the need for mental health experts (especially regarding trauma) to testify in courts and the lack of people available for this. In addition, members talked about the upcoming challenges for kids starting back at school and readjusting to structure and working through the community violence, grief and loss that they have experienced. In the June meeting, committee member John Weaver created an interactive virtual training, shared statistics from Kaiser Permanente, and spoke about the increase in substance use, domestic violence, anxiety and depression. Jenn Newman provided the document, "[Seeing What's Underneath – A Resource for Understanding Behavior and Using Language in Juvenile Court](#)," and has shared the document with Chesterfield Court staff. All agreed that it would be helpful to distribute the document to other professionals within the court and those who encounter courts. Committee members developed and distributed a brief survey to gather information from agency leaders in the committee about trauma-informed practice following assessment/focus group

recommendations and to ask about any current needs. Past focus groups and recommendations have been provided to: Chesterfield CSU, Richmond CSU, Oliver Hill Court Building Staff (Judges, Sheriffs, Commonwealth Attorneys, Victim Witness Advocates, CASA, Public Defender's Office, Clerks), Richmond Police Department (Homicide and Youth & Family Crimes Units), Chesterfield Detention Home, Richmond Detention Center, Chesterfield J & DR Court staff (Commonwealth Attorneys, Victim Witness Advocates, Clerks), Department of Justice Services – City of Richmond and Bon Air Juvenile Correctional Center.

Outcomes Committee – The Outcomes Committee led efforts to implement the PACES Connection Community Resilience Tracker as part of the GRTICN's participation in PACES Connection Cooperative of Communities. The Outcomes Committee continues to monitor implementation of the ACES Milestone tracker and how the data can be utilized.

Policy Committee – The Policy Committee continues to work closely with Voices for Virginia's Children and Racial Truth and Reconciliation Virginia. The Committee supported and collaborated on Racial Truth and Reconciliation Week, an initiative led by GRTICN member and Voices staff member Chloe Edwards, and members participated in the [Racial Truth and Reconciliation Virginia Coalition](#). Voices staff members Emily Griffey and Chloe Edwards provided policy updates during the large GRTICN meetings on the General Assembly and provided ways for members and organizations to advocate for various bills. VA TICNs/GRTICN Coordinator, Melissa McGinn, assisted with the Campaign for Trauma Informed Advocacy Day in January and led a small group of GRTICN members in virtual meetings with three legislators. Melissa also spoke at a press conference in January for Delegate Aird in support of the resolution declaring racism as a public health crisis. Committee members provided updates to the GRTICN during the March meeting on the [final results of the 2021 General Assembly](#). Committee members also provided policy overviews and General Assembly updates and results at the VA TICNs meetings in March, May, and July. Members also shared updates about Racial Truth and Reconciliation Week and information regarding the American Rescue Plan Act. Committee members are also working locally with the YWCA, Voices, and other partners on the resolution to declare racism a public health crisis.

Schools Committee – The Trauma-Informed Schools Committee (TISC) continued to grow with committee membership at 106 by the end of the fiscal year. Luis Luna joined as co-chair. Committee members met virtually each month during the summer of 2020, during which the committee does not typically meet, so that members could connect and collaborate. The TISC Chair also facilitated four state-wide School Forums during the summer of 2020 in order to increase collaboration and support between school divisions across the state as transition plans were created. The last forum was held in August right at the start of the 20-21 school year. During these meetings, 14 school divisions shared their latest updates and resources. Committee members resumed meeting every other month starting in September to discuss how local school districts are managing during the pandemic and future plans, with a focus on positive relationships and social-emotional well-being. Committee meetings beginning in September continued to follow a structure of having the first 45 minutes dedicated to a presentation based on the interest of members. During the September TISC meeting, Ashley Williams, Founder of BareSOUL yoga and member of the committee, presented to the committee on how to use mindful-based strategies for self-care. Representatives from divisions in the Greater Richmond area (Richmond Public Schools, Henrico County Public Schools,

Chesterfield Public Schools, Petersburg City Schools and Circle Preschool Program) shared about updates and needs. Based on conversations regarding Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), which continue to emerge during meeting discussions, a subgroup was formed and met to discuss overlaps and gaps between PBIS and trauma-informed practices. During the November TISC meeting, Angel Reynolds, RPS Student Services, presented on virtual mindfulness rooms and how she is utilizing these with her students. Based on the groups interest in this topic, a subcommittee was formed, comprised of 9 members from the TISC with the goal of increasing the creation and facilitation of virtual mindfulness rooms across Greater Richmond school divisions by providing templates and resources so that others could create mindfulness rooms of their own. These resources were disseminated through the TISC enote and at the March TISC meeting. During the January Committee meeting, Amy Johnson, representing Henrico County Public Schools, presented on School Health Assessment and Performance Evaluation (SHAPE). During the March TISC meeting, Beth Roper, Trauma-Informed Child and Family Therapist with the Richmond Child Advocacy Center, presented an introduction of gender identity and how sensitivity to this can look in the school setting. During the May meeting, Surprize Parker, Trauma Informed Education Specialist with SCAN, presented on Community Conversations in RPS and facilitated a Community Conversation with the committee on transitioning from virtual school to in-person instruction. In response to continuous COVID-related changes in the schools, the committee opted to meet once during summer 2021.

Training Committee – The Training Committee no longer meets on a regular basis. Greater Richmond SCAN continues to coordinate bi-monthly Introduction to Trauma and Resilience trainings free for the community. These were all held virtually via Zoom. The training was initially offered in two 90-minute sessions over two days and then pivoted to one two-hour training in one day. 67 individuals attended the two-part training on October 6 and October 7, and 41 individuals attended the two-part training on December 2 and 3. 31 individuals attended the training on January 20; 113 individuals attended the training on March 25; and 14 individuals attended the training on May 19. SCAN also coordinated the first virtual screening of *Resilience*, which took place on May 7 as part of Resilience Week Virginia and was attended by 28 community members. A post-screening discussion was held afterward, facilitated by Community Resilience Co-Chair Olivya Wilson.

Trauma-Informed Workforce Development Committee – The Workforce Development Committee finalized content for a Child Welfare Resource Guide, with each resource connected to the corresponding principle of trauma-informed care (SAMHSA). Committee members decided to combine this document to create a comprehensive onboarding guide. The goal is to create a two-page onboarding guide for local child welfare organizations. The resource guide created for child welfare workers by this committee, and in final draft, will be combined with the trauma-informed onboarding guide to create one comprehensive document. Gwen Castillo, an intern with VDSS, is completing an annotated bibliography on peer-to-peer support networks. That document will be shared with committee members to complete after Gwen's term with the agency. Based on the annotated bibliography, the committee discussed creating a peer-to-peer support workbook. The workbook will inform agencies regarding implementation of peer-to-peer support groups and processes to address secondary trauma. It could be segmented for corporations/business leaders, child welfare supervisors/workers, etc. The committee planned to establish common language for the document. The committee also discussed creating a one-pager of best practice for new employee orientation to include readily available TICN items

(trainings, documentaries, etc). The document will use live links for specific items and then additional links related to key resources for specific professions. The committee also discussed work around equity and diversity in the social work workforce, and the importance of being more representative of the populations being served in the region. The committee wants to continue to be mindful of the importance of recruitment and retention of a diverse workforce.

GUEST SPEAKERS AT GRTICN MEETINGS:

The GRTICN held one large virtual meeting in September, with 64 members in attendance. The meeting opened with an announcement about the upcoming free public Introduction to Trauma and Resilience training that would be held virtually in October. Lisa Wright then shared an update on the ACEs Connection Cooperative of Communities and previewed a draft of the GRTICN MOU that would be shared with members for feedback and would include options to join the Cooperative. Chloe Edwards from Voices from Virginia’s Children shared a recap of Racial Truth and Reconciliation Week, which was celebrated across the state August 2-8, as well as next steps, including the opportunity for network members to participate in the Racial Truth and Reconciliation Virginia Coalition. Committee updates followed, and the meeting ended with a presentation on grief and loss from Allyson Drake, founder and executive director of [Full Circle Grief Center](#). Please find meeting minutes at [THIS LINK](#).

The GRTICN held one large virtual meeting in December with 77 members and two presentations. The first presentation was about the [Comfort Zone Camp](#) Program and led by Sarah-Keel Crews and Anthony Jackson. Comfort Zone Camp provides free camps and services for children and young adults ages 7-25 who have experienced the death of a parent, guardian or sibling. Comfort Zone staff pivoted to Virtual Comfort Zone Camps at the start of the pandemic and have offered a COVID Loss Camp, Family Camps, a Life Grief Camp (grieving what life once was, loss during the pandemic) and piloted some in-person camps this fall while adhering to COVID guidelines. GRTICN member, Anthony Jackson, shared about his experience serving as a big buddy in the camp and spoke about the resiliency of the children as well as how inspiring it has been to volunteer at the camp. The second presentation was on First Responder Mindfulness: Tactical Brain Training facilitated by Gina Rollo White, Founder of [Mindful Junkie](#) and member of the Alexandria TICN. Gina provided an overview of her day-long training and spoke about the window of tolerance related and how this has shifted for most people due to the stressors of the pandemic. She provided a mindfulness exercise “Find Your Breath” for meeting participants. A recording of this practice is linked in the meeting minutes which can be found [HERE](#).

There were 48 members in attendance at the GRTICN’s January meeting. The meeting opened with an announcement about the upcoming [Black His-Story Week](#) that was developed and sponsored by the Boys and Girls Club of Metro Richmond and Greater Richmond SCAN. Chloe Edwards from Voices from Virginia’s Children shared updates on the General Assembly and provided ways for members/organizations to advocate for various bills. These announcements were followed by a presentation by Carolina Lugo with [Sacred Heart Center](#). Carolina spoke about the Impact of Trauma and the Pandemic on Latinx Children and Youth. Lisa Wright closed the meeting with a reminder for members to review and sign the GRTICN MOU and provided information on upcoming opportunities through the ACEs Cooperative. Please find meeting minutes at [THIS LINK](#).

The Greater Richmond TICN held one large virtual meeting in March. With 42 members in attendance and two presentations. The first presentation was led by Jackie Lawrence, Director of [Health Equity for the Virginia Department of Health](#) (VDH). Jackie shared about the recent VDH work that is focusing on equitable access to the COVID-19 vaccine, through empowering community members by sharing information about vaccines. The VDH convened a team of Outreach Champions that consist of community partners, community health workers, canvassers, rollout phase leads (can directly answer questions about the group/phase) and operate a call center equipped with a navigation team that can pair folks with resources needed. There are multiple, unique pathways to get vaccine information disseminated – that include conversations with stakeholders to find out about nuanced needs (eg, immigrant, refugee community). Community health workers have been a bridge between VDH and community members. They have advocated for communities and assist with providing access to vaccine in ways that honor community needs. The main goal of VDH regarding the vaccine is to be as intentional and responsible as possible to reach more residents. In addition, VDH worked to respond to the recent declaration of racism as a public health crisis in Virginia and focusing on addressing dual viruses of racism and COVID-19. The second presentation during the GRTICN meeting was facilitated by Melissa Rice and Callee Boulware from [Reach Out and Read Virginia](#). Melissa and Callee provided an overview of the Reach Out and Read Program and explained that the program is evidence-based and partners with medical homes. Reach out and Read promotes healthy relationships by providing books during visits that enhance conversations around reading, routine and relationships.

The Greater Richmond TICN held one large meeting May 21 with 36 members in attendance and two presentations. The first presentation was led by Laurie Crawford from [Virginia HEALS](#). Laurie shared the background of Virginia HEALS and discussed its model of service delivery and toolkit, as well as upcoming staffing needs as they expand into resource mapping throughout the state. The second presentation was led by Mitchell Kuhlman and Susan Kennedy from the [National Center for Missing & Exploited Children](#). Mitchell and Susan discussed their online safety education for kids, including shows for children, on-demand trainings, resources, and best practices. View the minutes from the May meeting [here](#).

There were 45 members in attendance and three presentations during the July meeting. Melissa McGinn first gave a brief presentation on the [VA TICNs](#). The second presentation was led by Lauren Snellings and Kelsey McMahon from [Voices for Virginia's Children](#). They reviewed community data from the Greater Richmond region, such as life expectancy rates, graduation rates, population data by race and ethnicity, juvenile arrest data, food insecurity, and more. Information shared in this presentation was intended to help guide committees as they begin planning and setting goals for the new fiscal year. The third presentation was led by Frank Cardella and Leanne Lytle from [United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg](#). Frank and Leanne discussed the Youth Program Quality Intervention model they developed to assess youth programs. They linked this model to the six principles of a trauma-informed approach developed by SAMHSA and invited network members to connect with them to discuss more in depth how to assess and intervene in youth programming. View minutes from the July meeting [here](#).

GRTICN GOALS FOR FY 21-22:

1. Ongoing involvement in the PACEs Connection Collaborative and continue to invite all GRTICN agencies to join. Send requests to agencies to add data to the PACEs Community Milestone Tracker. Agencies will be given guidance documents for completion of the agency survey and given the link to document all GRTICN related trainings. The GRTICN Outcomes Committee will have access to all data on the PACEs Connection site to track agency membership progress.
2. Continue to provide support and technical assistance for VA TICNs.
3. Explore options to restructure GRTICN Committees to increase engagement and impact.

4. COMMITTEE GOALS:

Brief Screening Tool Committee –

- ♦ Develop and implement training package on the Brief Screening Tool for onboarding new staff.
- ♦ Discuss strategies for sustainability of trauma-informed practice within agencies based on past involvement.
- ♦ Expand trauma-informed efforts of the GRTICN and BST Committee to include additional collaboration with VDSS to enhance statewide implementation

Community Resilience Committee –

- ♦ Continue to explore the intersection of trauma-informed work and equity to help build and strengthen community resilience.
- ♦ Continue to increase knowledge of trauma and resilience at the community level via the implementation of the community-centered training that was developed by Tamika Daniel. Implementation can be supported by spreading awareness about the training
- ♦ Increase engagement of groups underrepresented in the TICN, including faith communities, youth, and community members. We want to be intentional about how to help build community resilience through awareness, connection, and education.

Healthcare Committee –

- ♦ Serve as a learning collaborative for sharing resources and best practices on creating trauma-informed environments, improved practices, and addressing professional wellness

Legal and Courts Committee –

- ♦ Send survey to agencies who have participated in trauma-informed agency assessments to gather data regarding ongoing trauma-informed practice efforts, implementation of focus group assessments and determine next steps for agency support based on feedback.
- ♦ Discuss strategies for sustainability of trauma-informed practice within agencies based on past involvement.

- ♦ Assist VA TICNs in their efforts of trauma-informed assessment of legal and courts affiliated agencies within their networks.

Outcomes Committee -

- ♦ Continue to measure internal effectiveness of the TICN through yearly member surveys, meeting surveys, and member highlights. Share information as a means to demonstrate how members can increase application of their knowledge into practice.
- ♦ Explore additional ways to measure the impact of the TICN and committee work on the broader community
- ♦ Share stories and data with potential funders, TICN members, policy makers, and community members in order to highlight the impact of the TICN

Policy Committee -

- ♦ Partner with Voices for Virginia's Children on the unified trauma-informed policy agenda
- ♦ Restructure committee to lift up barriers identified within the GRTICN to the local and state policy level.
- ♦ Collaborate with the Community Resilience Committee.

Schools Committee -

- ♦ Continue to work towards encouraging and supporting greater trauma-informed practices in Pre-K-12 classrooms
- ♦ Continue to use meetings to collaborate across school divisions in the Greater Richmond community on ways to increase trauma informed practices in schools.
- ♦ Develop a workgroup focused on designing a blueprint for implementation of trauma-informed school division to use as a guide, based on the tools from the SHAPE system.

Training Committee -

- ♦ Continue facilitation of Introduction to Trauma and Resilience Training on a bi-monthly basis
- ♦ Continue to facilitate virtual screenings of Resilience documentary; host screenings in person if/when safety guidelines allow
- ♦ Revisit mission and goals of the committee to determine future direction

Workforce Development Committee -

- ♦ Complete an onboarding guide for trauma-informed practice for local child welfare organizations.
- ♦ Research committee idea to create a peer to peer support workbook and possibly create for the Greater Richmond region.