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Children's Services Act Office

Question, concerns or compliments ... Please don't hesitate to let us know!

DFSCSA@fairfaxcounty.gov
703.324.7938

CSA STATE AUDIT

The Office of Children's Services (OCS) periodically performs CSA program audits to "evaluate the effectiveness of internal controls and organizational practices applicable to financial and operational activities."¹

The Fairfax-Falls Church CSA program was last audited in the Spring of 2018. With the help of our system partners, the audit results clearly showed that children, youth and families are being served appropriately and effectively. With the next OCS audit scheduled to happen in the Spring of 2021, we are hoping to have another positive audit experience!



To ensure that we continue to be "audit ready", the Community Policy and Management Team (CPMT) has created an Audit Steering committee that will be coordinating our efforts to prepare for the audit—we will be reviewing the program's policies and procedures, conducting file reviews, and completing the 74-page self-assessment to ensure that we are ready.

We're confident that the review of our policies and processes will document that CSA continues to do a great job of complying with the State's requirements. And we have each of you to thank for that! As you prepare packets, make referrals, interact with providers, and serve children, youth, and families you contribute to the success of the CSA program, ensuring that it meets and exceeds expectations.

As part of the self-assessment process, we will be asking staff who are part of the CSA System of Care across various roles to complete the Fraud Risk Ques-

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tionnaire designed by the state auditors. We strongly encourage honest responses and full participation by everyone involved in CSA from case managers and financial staff all the way to managers and leadership. The Fraud Risk Questionnaire should take approximately 5 mins to complete. ***Be on the lookout for the Fraud Risk Questionnaire in early January!***

As a reminder, if you ever have concerns about service delivery, the Service Summaries distributed by CSA are a good mechanism for reporting those concerns. CSA program staff are also always available to discuss any questions or concerns you may have.

Additionally, a more formal process can be followed by contacting the Fairfax County Fraud Hotline at 703.787.3243 to report an allegation. The calls are reviewed and followed up on by the Internal Audit Office.

¹ Program Audit Overview, <http://www.csa.virginia.gov/LocalGovernment>

EVIDENCE-BASED TREATMENTS AND INTERVENTIONS

Make sure to visit the Evidence-Based Treatments (EBTs) pages on the [CSA county website](#) for updated information and presentations.

Recently added:

- Advances in Behavioral Health Assessment and Clinical Treatment: Updates for the Case Manager's Toolkit enhances knowledge about Evidence-Based Treatments and helps to facilitate referral processes at the CSA.
- A presentation on Parent Child Interaction Therapy.

Resources will be added as they are developed or acquired. If you have suggestions for content, please let us know by emailing us at DFSCSA@fairfaxcounty.gov.

ENTERING CANS RATINGS IN CANVAS

Case managers are expected to enter CANS (Child and Adolescents Needs and Strengths) ratings into the state information system—CANVaS. Visit the Office for Children's Services website for CANVaS training videos and user manual — <https://www.csa.virginia.gov/Cans/Index>.

Creating a CANVaS account is easy ... just complete the [CANVaS New Case Manager Account form](#) and return it to CSA along with your CANS Training Certificate.

YOUTH SURVEY RESULTS RELEASED

The [Fairfax County Youth Survey](#) is a comprehensive, anonymous and voluntary survey given each year to students in grades 6, 8, 10 and 12 that examines behaviors, experiences and other factors that influence the health and well-being of Fairfax County's youth. Results from the 2019-2020 school year are now available; [read 5 things you need to know about the results](#), or check out the [full report](#).



VIRTUAL CSA

In Phase 3, all CSA staff continue to telework until further notice.

Please submit all documents by central email or fax.

dfsCSA@fairfaxcounty.gov

703-653-1369



NEW VDSS MANDATED REPORTER PORTAL AVAILABLE

The Fairfax County Department of Family Services, and other local departments of social services (LDSS), are responsible for processing and investigating reports of child abuse and neglect. To support this work, the Virginia Department of Social Services' (VDSS) Division of Family Services has announced the release of a new [Mandated Reporter Portal](#), which provides a secure, fast, and convenient way for Mandated Reporters in Virginia to submit reports of suspected child abuse and neglect. Watch a brief [YouTube video](#) overview of the new portal.

Are you wondering if this applies to you? Simply put, a [mandated reporter](#) is an **individual who in their professional or official capacity** (such as social worker, physician, teacher, counselor, athletic coach or religious practitioner) is legally required to report to Child Protective Services (CPS) any cases of child abuse or neglect that he or she has reasonable cause to suspect.

The general public and mandated reporters can still report child abuse and neglect through the Fairfax County DFS 24/7 CPS Hotline at 703-324-7400; or if you live outside of Fairfax, contact the VDSS statewide 24/7 CPS hotline at 800-552-7096.

Benefits of using the Mandated Reporter Portal include:

- Reduced wait time for Mandated Reporters making a report; online offers a quicker, user-friendly option to file a report.
- Mandated Reporters create a secure account, which will minimize the amount of time needed in making subsequent reports.
- Information entered directly by the Mandated Reporter may be more accurate.
- Data from the mandated reporter portal "transmits" the information to VDSS Hotline staff.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or feedback via virginiaonlinereporting@dss.virginia.gov.

UPDATED CSA FORMS

Case Managers are encouraged to download CSA forms from the Forms page on the CSA Sharepoint or County website. This ensures that the most up to date forms are always being used.

Case Manager Community-Based Services and FAPT Request Forms

Due to technical issues with the pdf format, the Case Manager Community-Based Services and FAPT Request pdf forms have been pulled from the CSA forms page. Please use the MS Word version of these forms when making a request to CSA. If a pdf version of the form is used, your request may be returned.

Leland House Crisis Stabilization

Youth needing crisis stabilization can now be placed in Leland House for up to 60 days. This is a change from the previous 45 day limit. The IFSP-EZ form has been updated to reflect the change.

Intensive Care Coordination/High Fidelity Wraparound Referral Form

The ICC Referral form has been updated to reflect a need for additional data requirements that are needed by the CSB. Additionally, ICC referrals also need to include the most recent CANS assessment. To make a referral, please email Wraparound Fairfax or UMFS (emails can be found on the ICC referral form) after you've received the authorization for ICC services from UR.

LOCAL CSA MONITORING EFFORTS

The CSA Management Team, which is comprised of staff from the county's child serving agencies, has developed a proactive approach for the monitoring and oversight of CSA-contracted providers. This includes tracking of SIRS, parent satisfaction surveys and doing



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spot checks on the provider monthly and quarterly progress reports that case managers receive. CSA staff will be reaching out to case managers requesting the progress reports—in this way we will be checking that providers are complying with the monthly report submission requirement as well as monitoring for quality of the reports. We hope to be able to use the data gathered in the future to develop provider profiles that will help case managers make more informed decisions in provider selection.

CANS CERTIFICATION

The Child Adolescent Needs and Strengths Assessment (CANS) is a mandatory uniform assessment required for children and youth served through the Children’s Services Act. Users must pass the CANS exam with a score of .70 or more.

New CANS users and those who need to recertify can do so at

<https://www.Schoox.com/login.php>.

Please send a copy of your certificate to CSA via fax at 703.653.1369.

For info on how to create an account on the CANS training website, please download the “How To” Guide at

<https://praedfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Schoox-How-To-08072018.pdf>.

TRAINING INSTITUTES LIVE!

BOLDER SYSTEMS & BRIGHTER FUTURES FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, YOUNG ADULTS & THEIR FAMILIES

Due to COVID, the 2019 Training Institutes were canceled. They are back this year with a reimagined format that everyone can take advantage of — a FREE monthly Training Institutes LIVE! virtual series. Each month, choose two from four virtual 90-minute workshops focused on integrating services and improving outcomes for children, youth, young adults, and their families.

These Training Institutes LIVE! workshops emphasize practical strategies that you can apply in your states and communities. Participants will have the ability to discuss and share the latest policies, practices, resources, and research. As well as connect with experts and leaders from youth-serving systems across the nation.

For the January kick-off, participants will have the opportunity to choose from one of two workshop sessions:

- Rethinking Implicit Bias: Implications for Promoting Equity in Our Communities
- Strengthening Services by Using Evidence & Partnership

Register for the kick-off on January 14 by clicking the link below and look for a full schedule of 2021 sessions soon!

<https://theinstitute.umaryland.edu/2021traininginstitutes/>

The workshop sessions will be held on the first Thursday of the month, January through August.

Questions/Concerns About Possible Fraud?

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