



Commonwealth of Virginia
Office of the Governor

Executive Order

NUMBER TWENTY TWO (2014)

ESTABLISHING THE COMMONWEALTH COUNCIL ON CHILDHOOD SUCCESS

Initiative

The optimal development of Virginia's infants, toddlers, and young children is linked to our success as a Commonwealth. Children's earliest experiences have a significant impact on their health, growth, and readiness to succeed.

We must address the basic health, education, and child care needs of young children, including the early identification of intellectual and developmental delays, access to stable housing and nutritious foods, and high quality child care and early education programs. Public and other resources need to be used efficiently and effectively by local, state, and federal agencies, nonprofit organizations, and providers of health care, child care, and education through early intervention and case management.

Establishment of the Council

Accordingly, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor under Article V of the Constitution of Virginia and under the laws of the Commonwealth, including, but not limited to §§ 2.2-134 and 2.2-135 of the *Code of Virginia*, and subject to my continuing and ultimate authority and responsibility to act in such matters, I hereby establish the Commonwealth Council on Childhood Success.

Commonwealth Council on Childhood Success ("CCCS")

The Commonwealth Council on Childhood Success shall regularly report to the Governor and the Children's Cabinet. It will conduct a comprehensive, statewide assessment of current programs, services, and local, state, and federal public resources that serve Virginia's children ages 0-8. In coordination with the Children's Cabinet and relevant state agencies, it will serve as a central coordinating entity to identify opportunities and develop recommendations for improvement including, but not limited to: 1) funding for preschool, 2) kindergarten readiness, 3) strategies to

close the achievement gap in early elementary years, 4) the quality and accountability of child care programs and providers, and 5) coordination of services for at-risk families. The CCCS will also collaborate with other entities as appropriate. It will seek participation from relevant stakeholders, including the business community, private and nonprofit providers, and advocacy organizations.

Composition of the CCCS

The CCCS shall be chaired by the Lieutenant Governor and consist of representatives of the following: Department of Education; Department of Social Services; Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; Department of Health; programs under part B, Section 619, and part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; Child Care Development Fund; Virginia’s Head Start Collaboration; the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation; local educational agencies; institutions of higher education; local providers of education and child care; local Head Start programs; the business community; the legislature; and others with appropriate expertise, as appointed by the Governor.

Staffing

Staff support for the CCCS will be furnished by the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, and such other agencies and offices as designated by the Governor. The CCCS will serve in an advisory role to the Governor, in accordance with § 2.2-2100 of the *Code of Virginia*, and will meet upon the call of the Chair at least four times per year. The CCCS will issue an annual report by no later than June 1, and any additional reports as necessary.

Effective Date

This Executive Order shall be effective upon its signing and, pursuant to §§ 2.2-134 and 2.2-135 of the *Code of Virginia*, shall remain in full force and effect for a year from its signing or until superseded or rescinded.

Given under my hand and under the Seal of the Commonwealth of Virginia this 11th day of August, 2014.



Terence R. McAuliffe, Governor

Attest:

Levar M. Stoney, Secretary of the Commonwealth