

# 2016 VIRGINIA FAMILY IMPACT SEMINAR

AGING OUT OF FOSTER CARE: FOSTERING FUTURES INTO ADULTHOOD

May 3, 2016

## Seminar Speakers

- Dr. Sunny Shin, Virginia Commonwealth University
  - Associate Professor, School of Social Work, Departments of Psychiatry, School Medicine
- Andrew Block, Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice
  - Executive Director
- Barbara Favola, Virginia State Senator
- Secretary Anne Holton (panel moderator), Virginia Secretary of Education
  - Panelists:
    - Megan Houle- J. Sargent Reynolds Community College
    - Shakeema Isaac Love- J. Sargent Reynolds Community College
    - Silvia Garcia- John Tyler Community College
    - Christine Malone- John Tyler Community College
    - Cassie Perry- John Tyler Community College
    - Cadisha Hurdle- John Tyler Community College

## Seminar Attendance

Legislators		12
State and Local Social Service Providers	18	
Healthcare Providers		10
Youth Service Providers and Staff	27	
Other Colleges and Universities	3	
Virginia Commonwealth University		6
Commission on Youth Staff		3
Other		16
<b>Total</b>		<b>96</b>

## Attendance Facts

- 12 legislators attended, 10 serve on the Commission on Youth
- 7 Republican and 5 Democratic Legislators attended the seminar and lunch discussion
- The seminar attracted many local and state social service providers.
- The Department of Medical Assistance, Juvenile Justice, and Behavioral Health and Developmental Services all had representatives in attendance.

## Thoughts from the outside looking in...

*"It was a great success. Commission members were very pleased"*-  
Commission Member

*"This peaked my interest in foster care policy, now I need to know more"* –  
Legislator

*"Very thought provoking and moving panel"*- Legislator

## Critiques

*"Could've used more time for question and answer"*- Legislator

*"The panel could've been longer"*- University Faculty

## Take Aways

- Legislators believe the family impact lens crucial to the foster care discussion.
- Our presenters are now connected with policymakers in a fundamental way that will paint the discussion with a focus on the family impact lens.
- The 2016 seminar had a great deal of community partners and interested agencies.