Trauma Informed Care Working Group
Guiding Principles

Universal Access and Equity

Promote universal access and equitable services that meaningfully account for differences in race, ethnicity, language, sexual orientation, gender identity, and disability status.

- Implement routine agency assessments to better understand and address disparate outcomes such as the Trauma-Informed Agency Self-Assessment and the Racial Equity Impact Assessment.
- Promote community-based resources that are the least restrictive and least stigmatizing.

Cross-Systems Collaboration

Enhance and maintain effective cross-systems collaborative work.

- Expand current collaborative efforts to engage a broader range of providers, advocates, and family members.
- Create partnerships with community groups that provide accountability and sustainability of family engagement and equity with respect to race, ethnicity, language, sexual orientation, gender identity, and disability status.

Trauma-Informed Screening

Support a standard practice of trauma-informed screening for victimization and trauma.

- Promote the consistent use of screening tools and assessments that account for cultural and community differences (including language).
- Provide appropriate training on how to reduce implicit bias and administer screening tools in a trauma-informed and culturally responsive manner.

Coordinated Services

Support consistent, appropriate, and meaningful services with coordinated systems navigation and a shared understanding of information sharing parameters.

- Establish centralized community-based points of contact to engage with families and support them in accessing available resources.
- Endorse the use of the Virginia Department of Education Information Sharing Grid to promote a common understanding of confidentiality restrictions

Workforce Development

Support workforce development around trauma-informed practices by providing:

- Training for all staff on effective communication strategies to engage children, youth, and families and enable them to voice their needs.
- Professional development opportunities on special topics such as substance use, trauma, or vicarious trauma.