



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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OFFICE OF COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES
Administering the Comprehensive Services Act for At-Risk Youth and Families

TO: CPMT Chairs
FAPT Chairs
CANS Super Users
CANVaS Report Administrators
CSA Coordinators

FROM: Carol C. Wilson
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DATE: June 19, 2012

SUBJECT: New Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) Training and Certification Site-***Please Distribute to all CANS Users***

Effective July 1, 2012 a new training and certification site will be available for staff of local government agencies (Departments of Social Services, Community Services Boards, Court Services Units, schools) who administer the CANS for children and youth receiving services funded by the Comprehensive Services Act (CSA). The new training site is www.canstraining.com and is hosted by the Praed Foundation, the private, non-profit entity that holds the copyright for the CANS. The Office of Comprehensive Services (OCS) is very pleased and excited to offer this new and improved CANS training and certification process and we hope it will provide an enhanced learning experience for users of the CANS.

Beginning July 1, **Virginia's new CANS users or those who need to recertify** will access the new site for CANS training, certification and recertification. During the week of July 1-July 8, 2012, the existing training site, Communimetrics, will transfer the certification histories of all current users to www.canstraining.com so individuals who are currently certified on the CANS will maintain that certification until its expiration date. Only raters whose certifications are expiring and new staff will need to certify on the new site. Communimetrics has continued to notify those individuals whose certifications expire in July.

Everyone who accesses the new training site for the first time will need to create an account. The registration pages will ask the user to select a state (Virginia) and then type in the name of a locality. As with Communimetrics, certifications will be listed under locality names for organizational reasons, but CANS certification is valid throughout Virginia. After registering,

users will be directed to the Virginia portion of the site which offers training and certification on both the Virginia Comprehensive Birth to Four and the Virginia Comprehensive 5+.

Please share this information with your case managers who administer the CANS. New and existing users should continue to access the Communimetrics site for CANS training, certification and recertification through June 30, 2012. The new site (www.canstraining.com) will be available for use by Virginia staff as of July 1, 2012.

Your patience during this transition is appreciated. Fact and Tip sheets about use of the new site will be posted on the CSA website at www.csa.virginia.gov. If you have any questions, please contact me at carol.wilson@csa.virginia.gov or (804) 662-9817.