

**2006**

**Report to the Joint Subcommittee  
Studying the Comprehensive Services  
Act for At-Risk Youth and Families**



CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE  
COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES



CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE  
COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

## Background

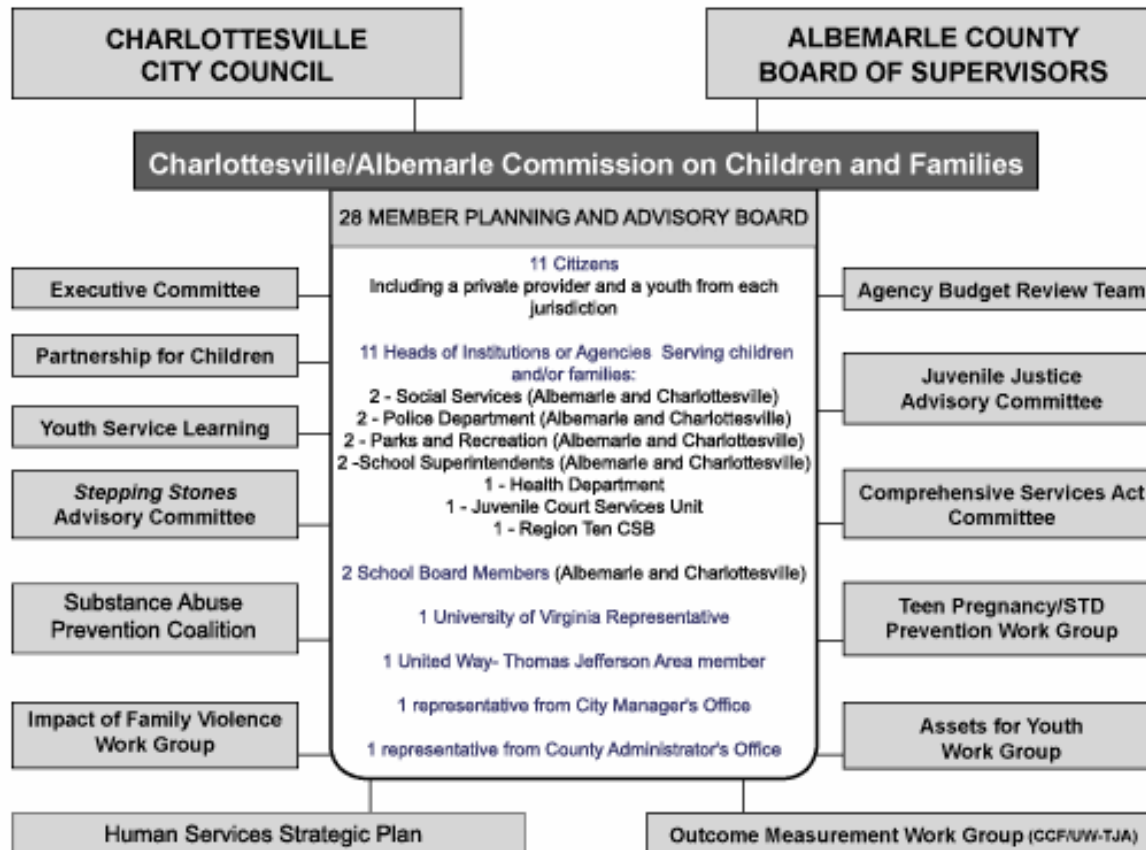
- The Albemarle County Board of Supervisors and Charlottesville City Council joined together in 1997 to form the Commission on Children and Families “whose sole responsibility shall be to plan, coordinate, monitor and evaluate a community wide system of children and family agencies.”
- The goal of the Commission is to improve services to children, youth and families, to be accountable for the efficient use of public/private resources and to be responsive to the changing needs of the community.
- CCF also fulfills State mandates by serving as the designated City-County entity to manage **Comprehensive Service Act (CSA)** and Virginia Juvenile Community Crime Control Act (VJCCCA) Funds.

2006



# CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

## Structure



Charlottesville City Hall, Rm. A340 / 805 East Main Street / PO Box 911 / Charlottesville, VA, 22902 / ph: 434-970-3550 / fax: 434-970-3853 / feedback/cc@charlottesville.org / www.ccfinfo.org

**2006**



CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE  
COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

## Commission Charges

- Provide comprehensive short and long range planning
- Evaluate current service delivery systems
- Identify and encourage new and innovative approaches
- Identify additional public and private funding sources
- Make program and funding recommendations to the City and County
- Adhere to the responsibilities of the Community Policy and Management Team under the **Comprehensive Services Act (CSA)** and Virginia Juvenile Crime Control Act (VJCCCA)

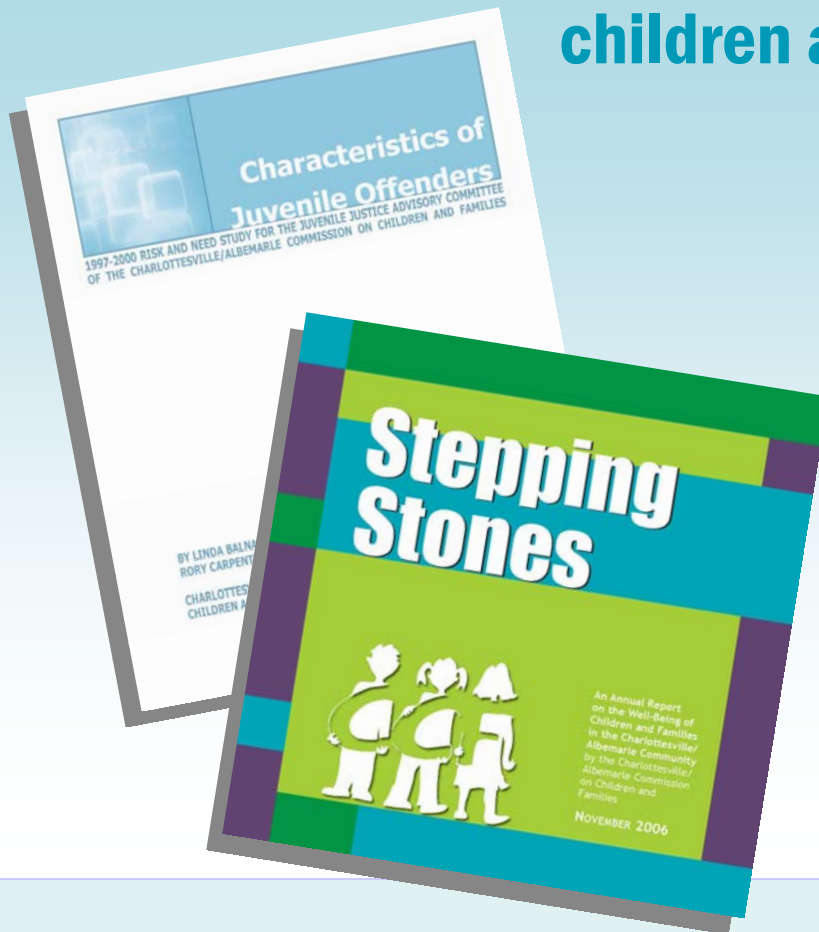
2006



## CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

### Charge:

**Provide comprehensive short and long range planning for children and family services**



CCF conducts ongoing research to identify community needs and best practices to address these needs.

A foundation of the planning process is Stepping Stones, the community's annual "report card" on the state of local children and families. CCF also conducts ongoing research about risk and need factors among children in the CSA and Juvenile Justice system.

**2006**



## CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

### Charge:

## Provide comprehensive short and long range planning for children and family services



CCF has conducted several research studies specifically related to CSA. The Children Needing Extensive Services (CNES) Study looked at characteristics and service needs of children receiving very high intensity and cost services.

A 2005 Cost Containment report examined the reasons for increased CSA costs locally and recommended specific strategies to reduce cost and improve results.

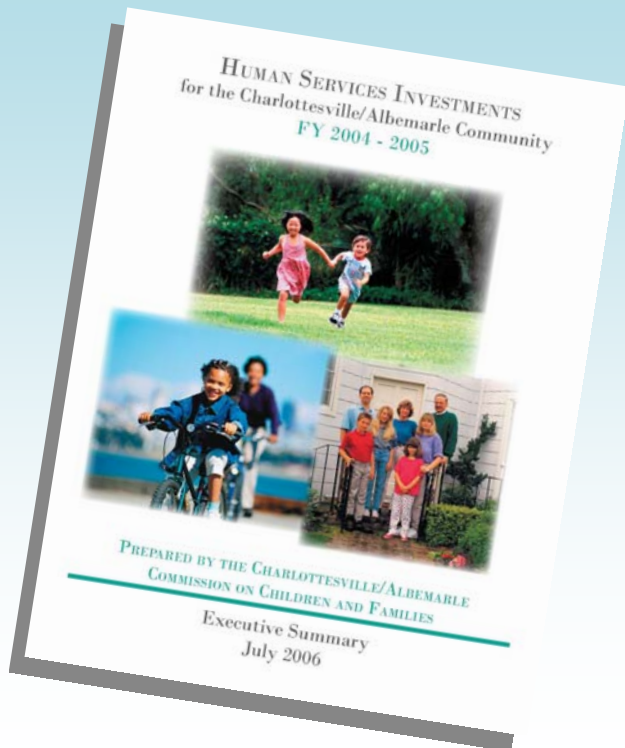
# 2006



CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE  
COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

## Charge:

### Provide comprehensive short and long range planning for children and family services



Through its work groups, CCF provides a one-stop forum for human service providers to leverage resources and insure their resources are used efficiently and enhance their impact.

CCF recently completed a Human Services Budget delineating all federal, state, local government and private funding for human service initiatives.

The next phase will be completion of a Human Service Strategic Plan in 2007.

**2006**



CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE  
COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

## Charge:

### Review and evaluate current service delivery systems



CCF engages in ongoing review of local service delivery systems, with the intention of continuous improvement of services.

Our Juvenile Court Guide helps children and families to navigate the justice system.

**2006**





CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE  
COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

## Charge:

### Review and evaluate current service delivery systems



CCF's Partnership for Children provides coordination and program evaluation of services for children ages 0-6, including primary prevention activities.

Currently, we are in the process of conducting a comprehensive study of our CSA System of Care. This evaluation will identify gaps in the local service delivery system and is intended to improve practices.

**2006**



## CHARLOTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

### Charge:

#### Identify and encourage new and innovative approaches



When CCF identifies needs or gaps in the local service system, we identify and implement effective approaches to address these needs.

In 2005, CCF piloted the Foothills Child Advocacy Center, which along with a Multi-disciplinary Team (MDT), provides interagency cooperation in child abuse/neglect and victimization cases.

**2006**



CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE  
COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

## Charge:

### Identify and encourage new and innovative approaches



CCF analysis of characteristics of Children Needing Extensive Services and those in the Juvenile Justice system, we learned that those children are less likely to be involved in productive out-of-school activities. Our Assets for Youth Work Group strives to identify and eliminate barriers and encourage youth participation.

CCF is in the process of establishing a Youth Development Network to coordinate services and assure that all children have access to quality activities.

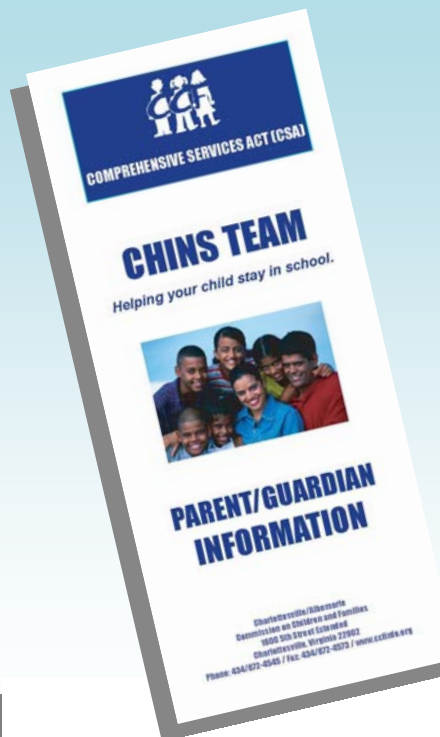
**2006**



## CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

### Charge:

#### Identify and encourage new and innovative approaches



Because truancy has been identified as a key predictor of CSA and Juvenile Justice involvement, we have instituted an interdisciplinary team to work directly with truant youth and their families.

With the intention of reducing foster care rates and supporting at risk children and families in their homes, we have established an evidence based intervention service, Functional Family Therapy, which has proven to be effective with high-risk children.

**FFT** Functional Family Therapy

*Provides positive family strengthening resources to youth at risk and in need.*

**2006**



CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE  
COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

## Charge:

### Identify additional public and private funding sources



CCF provides data and technical assistance to local agencies seeking to improve conditions for children and families.

This assistance helped to leverage an estimated **\$604,000** of new grant funds to local child and family serving agencies during FY06, including **\$245,000** directly raised by CCF staff to address identified risk and need factors.

**2006**

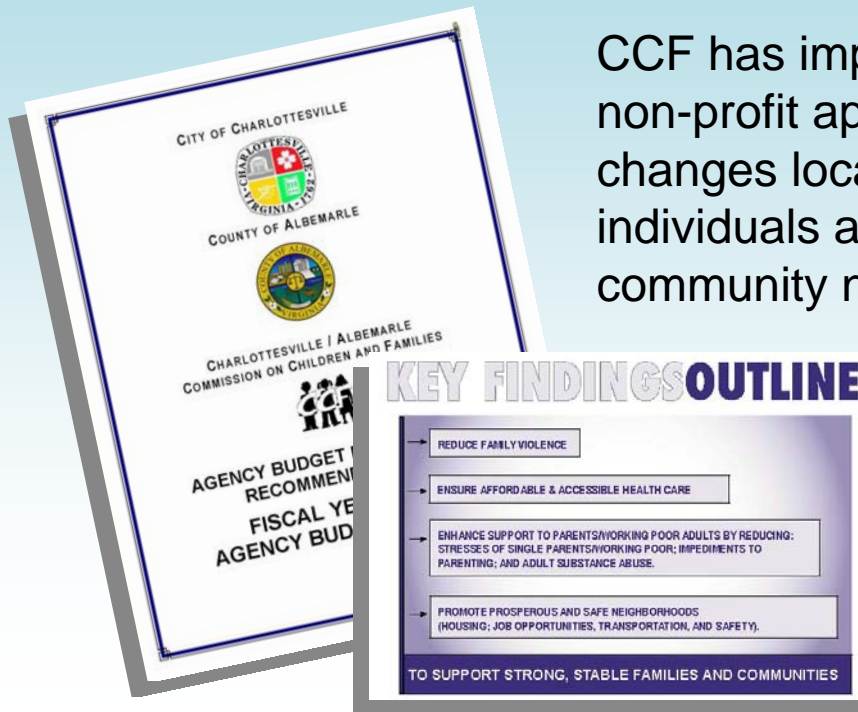


# CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

## Charge:

### Make program and funding recommendations to the City and County

CCF has implemented an outcome measurement system for non-profit applicants for City-County funding to measure the changes local investments are making in the lives of individuals and families. CCF is linking these outcomes with community needs.



CCF's *Key Findings on Child and Family Needs 2006*, the Human Services Budget, and the Human Services Strategic Plan will guide alignment of funding and human service needs.

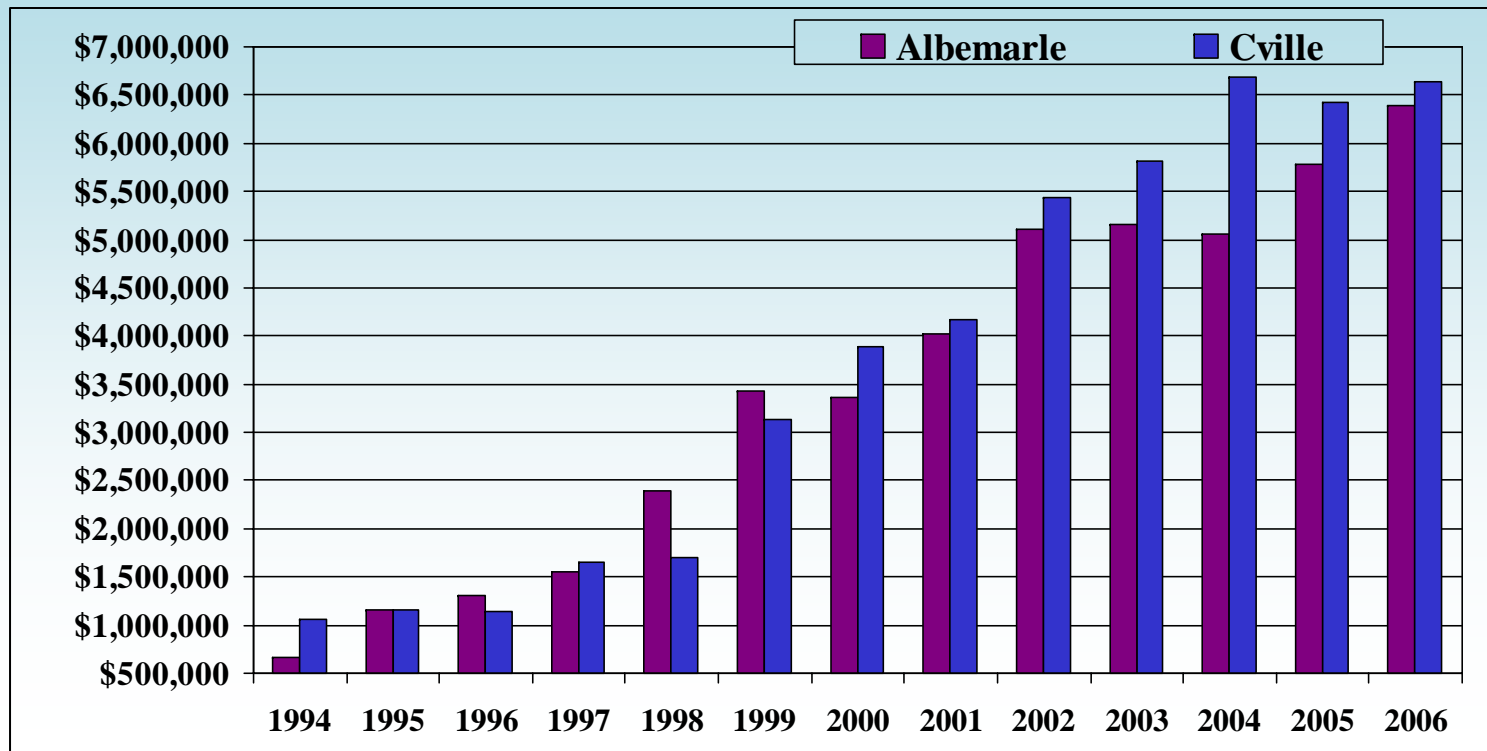
# 2006



CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE  
COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

## Charge:

**Adhere to the responsibilities of the Community Policy and Management Team under the Comprehensive Services Act**



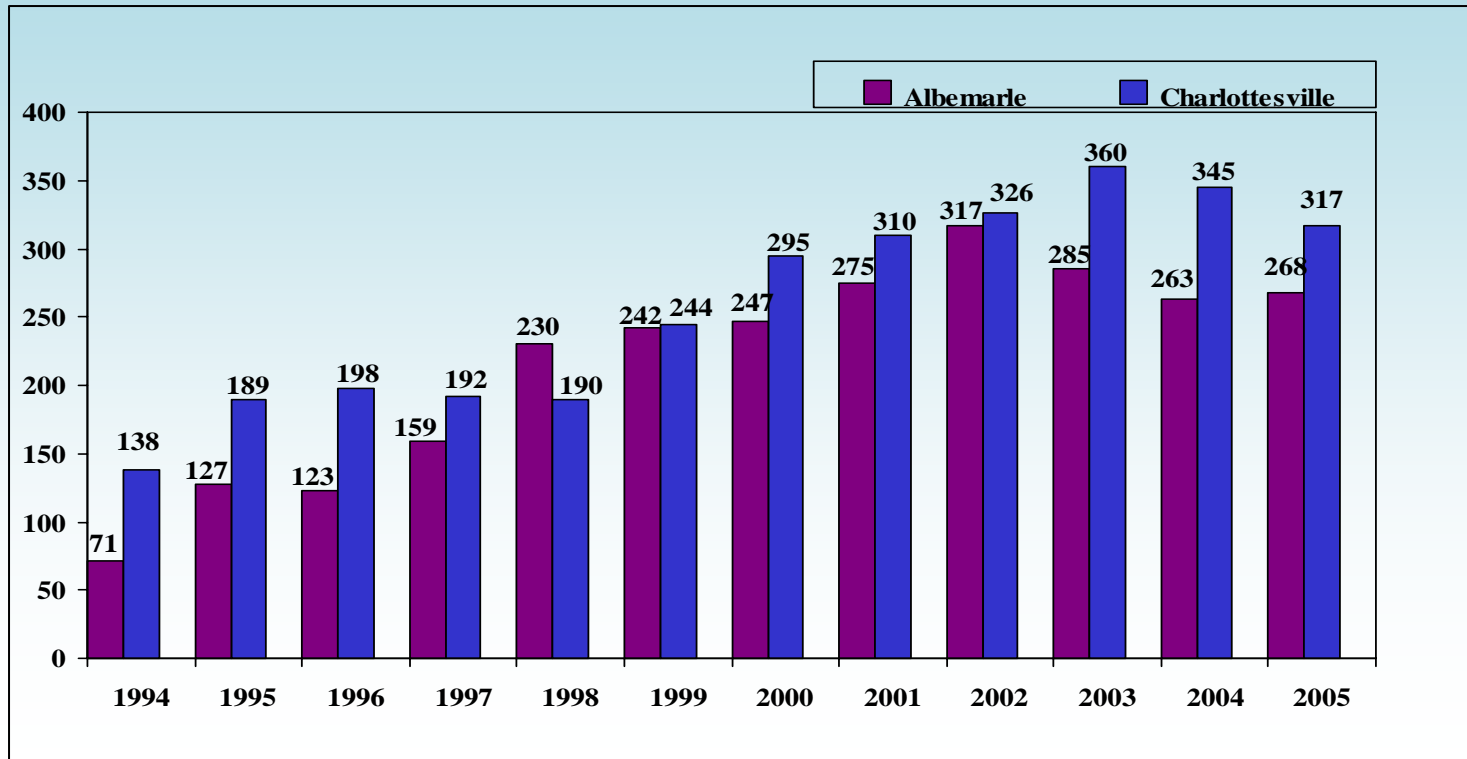
**2006**



CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE  
COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

## Charge:

**Adhere to the responsibilities of the Community Policy and Management Team under the Comprehensive Services Act**



**2006**





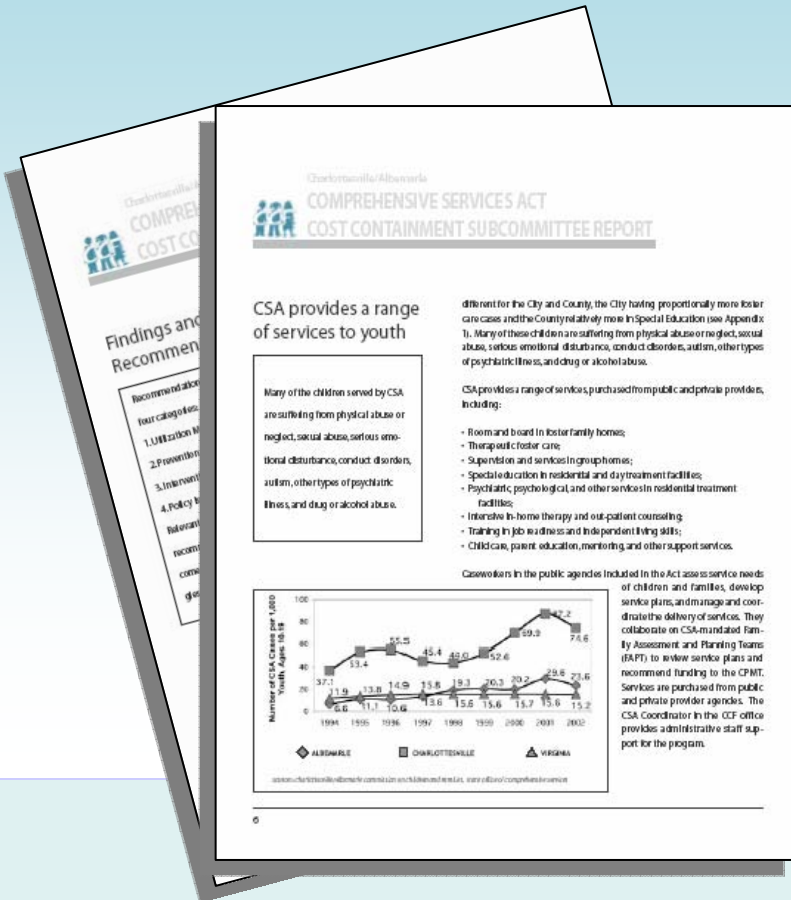
# CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

## Charge:

### Adhere to the responsibilities of the Community Policy and Management Team under the Comprehensive Services Act

CCF's Comprehensive Services Act (CSA) Committee established the Cost Containment Subcommittee to study the reasons for increasing caseloads and cost growth in the CSA program and to recommend ways to improve cost control.

CCF published the *CSA Cost Containment Report*, with recommendations on how to increase efficiency of services and contain costs. A number of reforms have been initiated.



2006



CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE  
COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

## Charge:

### **Adhere to the responsibilities of the Community Policy and Management Team under the Comprehensive Services Act**

#### **Cost Containment Recommendations**

- Establish a full-time Utilization Management (UM) Coordinator position to implement a comprehensive utilization management system.
- Establish a half-time FAPT Coordinator position to handle the administrative responsibilities of the FAPT process.
- Establish a single-FAPT model.
- Establish new Foster Care Prevention social worker positions.
- Ensure continued funding support for foster care prevention programs such as Bright Stars and the Family Support Program.

**2006**



CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE  
COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

## Charge:

### **Adhere to the responsibilities of the Community Policy and Management Team under the Comprehensive Services Act**

#### **Cost Containment Recommendations**

- Support prevention service programs using models with demonstrated success for children age 11 and older.
- Create sufficient social worker positions to ensure that foster care caseloads do not exceed the recognized maximums.
- Strengthen staff retention efforts.
- Develop a local program or system to provide CSA-purchased comprehensive multidisciplinary assessment of any child who requires it.
- Develop and implement local programs or facilities to accept and stabilize any child in a crisis situation who needs a CSA-funded emergency placement.

**2006**



CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE  
COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

## Charge:

### **Adhere to the responsibilities of the Community Policy and Management Team under the Comprehensive Services Act**

#### **Cost Containment Recommendations**

- Increase state funding for local CSA administrative costs.
- Examine whether delinquent children are being placed in foster care when less costly alternatives are available that are equally effective.
- The State Department of Juvenile Justice and the General Assembly should provide the necessary resources to add staff positions to reduce caseloads to recommended levels.
- Advocate for relief from state cost shifting.
- Bring the problem of Title IV-E funding eligibility guidelines to the attention of the Congressional delegation and urge them to update eligibility guidelines.

**2006**



CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE  
COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

## Comprehensive Services Act Reforms

### **Utilization Management and Review Initiative**

The Commission entered into a contractual agreement with the Community Services Board to develop and implement a system wide utilization management and review process to assess the efficacy and efficiency of service providers, which resulted in increased use of alternative funding and greater vendor accountability.

### **CHINS Team**

An Interdisciplinary Truancy Team to address the problem of truancy in the Charlottesville/Albemarle community more effectively using a grant from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services to develop and implement.

### **Single FAPT**

In July 2005 the local CSA program switched to a single FAPT from its previous four to provide for more consistent and in depth assessment and review of client service outcomes utilizing the expertise of the most knowledgeable agency workers to ensure quality services and oversee financial accountability.

**2006**



## Comprehensive Services Act Needs

- **Adequate funding for CSA administrative functions.** Current funding is \$30,456 and direct costs are approximately \$270,000 annually.
- **A local facility or system for comprehensive and secure multidisciplinary assessment** of any child who requires it.
- **Expanded Foster Care Prevention services,** including social worker positions.



## Comprehensive Services Act Needs

- **Funding support for the pre-school services and Family Support Programs** for high risk young children.
- **Additional funding support to other prevention service programs** that use models with demonstrated results.
- Provide for **state contracting and oversight of vendors** to regulate ever increasing vendor costs.



CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE  
COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

## Questions/Discussion



CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE  
COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

**2006**