

## **Section 2: What is a VACCRRRA Sponsored Service Group?**

A VACCRRRA sponsored service group is a peer led professional thought forum that encourages networking and best practice discussions among peers in a professional and supportive environment, drawing upon state guidance and outside resources.

### **Why does VACCRRRA support professional thought forums among Service Groups?**

Our goals are to:

- Increase staff knowledge of best practices in child care support services;
- Increase communication and collaboration among agencies and with partners;
- Share accurate information through the utilization of available resources, inclusive of CDD and invited guests of interest;
- Encourage the development of a cohesive, unified group of professionals;
- Create opportunities for networking and sharing best practices: i.e.: Review all agencies' orientation processes and develop recommendations to best orient new specialists to the field.
- Provide leadership opportunities. i.e.: Support liaison development, encourage staff to participate in educational opportunities.
- Support and provide group identified skills related trainings. i.e.: Review special requests for statewide trainings of interest.

### **How does a VACCRRRA Sponsored Service Group work?**

- Voluntary participation: Members participate because they value and benefit from these forums.
- Collaborative approach: Participate in shared agenda planning with peers, CDD, and the VACCRRRA Coordinator.
- Peer Leadership: Peer-designated liaison fulfills duties as detailed in "liaison job description," acting as the spokesperson for the group, primary contact for group members, meeting facilitator and point person / chief communicator with VACCRRRA Coordinator.
- VACCRRRA Guidelines: Group acceptance of the enclosed best practices principles, meeting guidelines, and email etiquette.