

**Arlington Community Services Board (CSB) – Children and Youth Committee**  
**March 16, 2015**

**Committee Present:** Shauna Alonge (Chair), Joanne Del Toro, Asha Patton Smith (Incoming Co-chair), Linda Staheli, Marguerite Tomasek, Betsy Greer, Naomi Verdugo, Erica Jackson, Adult Committee members

**Staff:** Heather D. Stowe (Division Chief), Violetta Battle (Behavioral Health Supervisor), Bonita Parker (minutes), Adult Services Staff

- 1. Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.
- 2. Minutes:** The February minutes were sent to the CSB. The March will be finalized and sent to the CSB.
- 3. Monthly Statistics:** The Committees reviewed the monthly statistics from CFSD and BHC. There were questions regarding the increase in numbers of children and youth aged 6 – 11 and 16 - 18. Several potential explanations were discussed including referrals from schools. There was also a question regarding the meaning of VICAP, Virginia Individual Clinical Assessment Program. A description of VICAP and related statistics were included in the statistics shared as well.

Monthly statistics regarding young adults were shared as well (see handout). In addition, information regarding the percentage of young adults diagnosed with schizophrenia, affective disorders (e.g., bi-polar disorder), anxiety disorder and developmental disabilities were shared. There was some discussion about why some of these diagnoses are higher among young adults than youth and the seasonality of the data.

- 4. Children's Regional Crisis Response.** Children's Regional Crisis Response (CR<sup>2</sup>) data was presented separately. There were 62 CR<sup>2</sup> cases in February 2015, primarily from Loudoun County. Reasons and impact of this were discussed. It was noted that Arlington County's smaller demand for CR<sup>2</sup> services was known from the outset. CR<sup>2</sup> funding and evaluation/quarterly reporting were discussed as well.
- 5. Discussion:**  
**APS/DHS mental Health Task Force.** A meeting will take place on Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm. There is an agenda. Many of the suggestions made by Linda Staheli have been incorporated. There was further discussion of the agenda, making the task force stronger and encouraging APS programming (e.g., mental health stigma). Discussion of programming led to discussion of the Arlington partnership for Children, Youth and Families (the Partnership) priorities resulting from the recent Community Report Card. (The Partnership will have a

Community Forum on Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. The invitation will be forwarded to the group.) The Salon held in February was described for the group. In addition, the composition and focus of the task force were described. There was discussion of developing a working relationship that includes sharing information among DHS/CFSD, APS NAMI and others (e.g., Dominion Hospital). There should be an updated one-pager to describe services available to Arlington residents, as well.

**Georgetown University Juvenile Justice Technical Assistance Grant.** The application was submitted on the day of this meeting. The grant was explained by Dr. Heather Stowe. Those in support of the grant included APS, CFSD, Judge Wiggins and CSS. Notification regarding the grant should occur in a couple of weeks.

**Housing Options.** There was discussion of housing options for transitioning young adults (aged 18 to 29) in Arlington County (see handout). Those options include Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH), Carlin Springs, Group Homes, and Townhomes. There are currently waitlists. An increase in rigidity regarding admissions by landlords may have impacted availability. There is work being done to increase the number of beds in the County. However, Arlington is doing well in comparison to other neighboring jurisdictions. There was also discussion of a program in Baltimore that provides housing funding for young adults exiting foster care or with an SMMI diagnoses. There were 85 youth in foster care on the day of this meeting.

**Edge Program.** The EDGE program and Young Adult Transitional Services were discussed (see handouts). The EDGE Independent Living Skills Program begins with assessments of young adults with serious mental illnesses, and includes an action committee and various workshops, social activities and clubs (e.g., gamers club). Young Adult Transitional Services provides community mental health and support services for young people aged 18 to 24 in Arlington County.

**RA1SE.** Arlington County did not submit an application to have the RA1SE program here. It was noted that Arlington County has programs similar to RA1SE in place already and that those funds couldn't be used to enhance services already in place. Arlington's services are not limited to those diagnosed with Schizophrenia or those experiencing their first episode with schizophrenia. It was noted that Arlington needs a full blown team and a coordination. Dr. Lisa Dixon, who is one of the original researchers has a tentatively accepted an invitation to conduct a presentation in Arlington.

**Autism.** There was also some discussion regarding services for those with Autism. There are services for those with low IQ and those with mental health needs, but there is a gap in

services for those in the middle group. This is an issue to be tackled, CSB does not fund those services in any jurisdiction.

**Old Business:**

6. **Meeting Schedule:** In April there will be joint meeting with Substance Abuse Services. Starting in May, May 4<sup>th</sup>, meetings will be held on first Monday of the each month at 6:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

**Next meeting:** Monday, April 27th, 6:30 p.m., lower level room A at the DHS Stambaugh/Sequoia building.