



The Arlington Community Services Board

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James Mack
ACCSB Chair

Cynthia Kemp
Executive Director

February 20, 2013
DHS Sequoia Building Auditorium
2100 N. Washington Blvd
Arlington, Virginia
7:00 pm – Full Board Meeting

Members Present: James Mack, Brian DeAtley, Barbara Jones, Anne Hermann, Judith Deane, Brian Berke, David Kidwell, Keith Whyte, Shauna Alonge

Members Excused: Linda Kelleher, Jenette O’Keefe, Cynthia Fagnoni, Naomi Verdugo, Scott Brannon, Moira Saucedo

Staff Present: Cynthia Kemp, Farah Shakour, Kelly Mauller, Thomas Wallace, Joe Bullock, Suzanne Lane

Public Comment(s)

A member of the community suggested that the Community Services Board (CSB) recruit more culturally diverse members. He reminded the members that the month of February is black history awareness month. He recommended that the members conduct more visits to the group homes and shelters in Arlington and thanked the board for the opportunity to speak.

Approval of the January 23, 2013 ACCSB Meeting Minutes:

ACCSB Chair Mack called for the review and approval of the minutes for the January 23, 2013 full board meeting. The Members reviewed the minutes. Chair Mack called for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Whyte motioned to approve the minutes, Ms. Deane seconded the motion and the minutes were approved with no corrections.

Staff Recognition:

The Arlington County Detention Facility Re-Entry Committee Team was nominated to receive the February staff recognition award. The Committee was nominated by Suzanne Somerville, Mental Health Program Manager, Arlington County Detention Facility. Members of the Committee include LaShawn Fisher, Sheriff’s Office; Stephanie Lewis, Sheriff’s Office; Dana Mertz, Public Defender’s Office; Suzanne Somerville, Jail Mental Health; Shariee Sims, ACT Unit; Evelyn Valentine, Forensic Team; Katy Steinbruck, OAR; Lorraine Nwaoko, Volunteers of America; Leslie Wertz, ASPAN; Henry Huot, Community Assistance Bureau; Keri Galloway, Friends of Guest House’ Viacheslav Lunkin, KI Services; Shanee Daley, Forensic Team; Jenny Wong, Sheriff’s Office and Corky Rorrer, Probation and Parole Officer.

Ms. Somerville commended the committee for their collaborative team work and dedication in going above and beyond what is expected of their roles. She stated that the committee has worked with 123 incarcerated persons, including Arlingtonians and homeless persons. The Committee addresses the needs of persons who have been incarcerated in an effort to reduce recidivism to the jails. She noted that this is a voluntary program and no outside funding is provided for the program. Ms. Deane asked if the committee can only provide assistance to people who are residents of Arlington County. Ms. Somerville responded that the

program is for Arlington residents and homeless persons but that they can assist persons who reside outside of Arlington County. She noted that persons who reside outside of the County are referred to services in their home jurisdictions or reunited with family members. Mr. Atkins asked how case management is provided. Ms. Somerville stated that a representative is brought in from the DHS Community Assistance Bureau when an individual needs short term case management services until they can be linked to ongoing case management. She further explained that a report is generated of persons who have a pending release date from the jail. A representative then meets with the person to identify their needs (housing, transportation, support systems, etc) and then a referral to the Re-Entry Committee is made. A shared communication system is in place to see who the client has been referred to and what follow up has been completed after the referral. Mr. Mack inquired about the follow up procedures. Ms. Somerville responded that the committee is working through procedural challenges for following up and tracking persons who are referred for services. Chair Mack thanked the Arlington County Detention Facility Re-Entry Committee Team and Ms. Somerville and conferred the award.

Presentation: Mental Health and Addiction Parity

Chair Mack introduced Carol McDaid, Co-Chair, Parity Implementation Coalition; Capital Decisions, Inc. Ms McDaid presented information on Mental Health and Addiction Parity (*Refer to Handout*).

Ms. McDaid stated she is the Co-Chair of the Parity Implementation Coalition and Co-Founder of Capitol Decisions, Inc. which is a government relations firm specializing in behavioral health parity. She stated she is a person in long term recovery from addiction and has been instrumental in working to pass the parity of health reform for individuals with mental health (MH) and substance use disorders (SUD).

Ms. McDaid stated that the definition of parity is the state of being equal. She noted that parity aims to equalize access between medical and behavioral healthcare benefits and that 49 states have passed their own version of parity laws. She stated that the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA) was signed into law on October 3, 2008 and went into effect as of January 1, 2011. She stated that the final plans to fully implement the law will be in place by the end of 2013. Ms. McDaid noted that parity is not being fully implemented in the state of Virginia. She reported that if the health reform law progresses as planned and parity is passed, it will be the largest expansion of addiction and mental health coverage in a generation. She reported that a mandate for addiction and mental health coverage in private insurance will not occur until 2014 when the Affordable Care Act is implemented.

Ms. McDaid stated that there are three key parity issues that must be resolved; (1) the disclosure of medical criteria used to make benefit determinations (without disclosure beneficiaries are unable to see if their plan complies with parity), (2) non-quantitative treatment limits (need quantitative floor [i.e. 50%] to operationalize parity in medical management and define safe harbor) and (3) the scope of service (plans are excluding essential levels of MH/SUD care).

Mr. DeAtley asked if addiction is recognized as a disability by the parity law and how the word addiction is defined. Ms. McDaid responded that addiction is not recognized as a disability by the parity law in Virginia and that the State defines addiction as it relates to alcohol and drugs.

Mr. Atkins asked that if the parity law is fully in effect as of January 1, 2014, will there be enough providers who will accept Medicaid. Ms. McDaid responded that she does not know if there will be enough providers who will accept Medicaid at today's rates but that peer supports may be increased if the law is not passed. Chair Mack thanked Ms. McDaid for her presentation about mental health and addiction parity.

Update: Local FY14 Proposed Budget and State Budget process

Local Budget Issues:

Ms. Kemp announced that the County Manager gave an overview of the local FY14 budget to the County Board today. She noted that the details of the County Manager's proposed budget will be released this Saturday, February 23, 2013. She reported that the County Manager spoke about the uncertainty of the economic future of Arlington County over the next couple of years. Ms. Kemp stated that the County Manager is proposing to close the \$25M gap by increasing taxes and reducing services. Ms. Kemp reported that the County Manager is proposing a 3.2 cent increase in the real estate tax rate; 1.6 cents to Arlington County schools and 1.6 cents to the County. Ms. Kemp stated that the tax rate number that is adopted at Saturday's County Board meeting will be the advertised rate and is the cap for the tax rate. Ms. Kemp noted that a 3.2 cent tax rate increase would impact Arlington County home owners by approximately \$262.00 per year. She stated that if the proposed tax rate increase is adopted there will still be a \$9.3M gap in the budget that the County Manager is intending to cover by reducing services.

Mr. Atkins stated that the \$262.00 per year tax increase is for the entire effect on the average home owner. He stated that the break-down of the entire increase is \$42.00 for property taxes and \$220.00 for real estate taxes.

Ms. Kemp reported that 46 positions are being eliminated county wide and that 20 of these positions are currently filled. She reported that the areas of service that will be affected in the Community Services Board programming will be in Supported Employment and Substance Abuse. Ms. Kemp stated that 16 staff members within DHS will be affected by the reductions and that she will speak to those that are Community Services Board staff members prior to the release of the County's proposed budget on Saturday February 23rd. Ms. Kemp stated that she will email a list of the County reductions and the impact of these reductions to the CSB members Saturday afternoon.

Ms. Kemp reminded the CSB about the special CSB Executive Committee meeting on the 28th of February at the George Mason Center at 6:00 to discuss the local budget reductions and plan for the CSBs priority requests. She announced that Susanne Eisner, Director of Human Services, will be presenting a review of the County Manager's FY14 local budget at the meeting. Ms. Kemp also announced that Suzanne Lane, Operations Support Team Manager, will give a presentation on the tax rate at the meeting. She distributed the February 28th special Executive Committee meeting agenda (*Refer to Handout*) to the members.

Chair Mack stated that all CSB members are welcome to attend the February 28th special Executive Committee meeting. He stated that the main focus of the members needs to be the prioritization of the CSB's budget requests. He stated that the CSB will need to decide who will speak at the March 26th Public Budget Hearing.

Ms. Kemp handed out the Work Session Schedule for the County Board's FY14 Local Budget (*Refer to Handout*) and explained that the main shift in the schedule is that the Department of Human Services presentation by Ms. Eisner to the County Manager and the County Board, originally scheduled for March, has been rescheduled for April 2nd 2013. She noted that the rescheduled work session is after the Public Budget Hearing on March 26th and the Public Tax Rate Hearing on March 28th 2013.

State Budget Issues:

Ms. Kemp directed the members to a crossover summary of House and Senate Amendments to the Governor's budget (*Included in Member Packets*). She noted that this is a statewide document of all of the CSB's services that were introduced to the House and Senate by the Governor for budget amendments. Ms. Kemp reviewed each line item of the summary with the members. She noted that the amounts under House and Senate represent the changes to the Governor's budget. She further explained that a "0" in a column means that the Governor's budget amendment was accepted. She stated that it is her understanding that the

Senate has recommended they move forward with Medicaid expansion with some caveats regarding reform of Medicaid. Ms. Kemp will provide an update to the members as new information becomes available.

ACCSB Executive Director's Report

Ms. Kemp reported on the group homes. She stated that there were two incidents of allegations by clients of inappropriate behavior by staff. She stated that an investigation was conducted into the allegations which resulted in one unfounded and one founded incident. She noted that the employee involved in the founded incident was terminated.

Ms. Kemp reported that, due to a system error, a financial report could not be generated. She reported that CSB programs should be at 50% and they are approximately 2% to 3% below that mark. She noted that the process for billing the doctor's time is being refined.

Ms. Kemp reported on the February 4th Behavioral Healthcare Division (BHD) Family and Support Network Orientation. She stated that the Family and Support Network Orientation was very successful. She stated that advocacy and support members, family members, Arlington County Public Schools representatives and employees working within the court's systems were in attendance. She stated that another orientation will be scheduled in early summer.

Ms. Kemp announced that Joanna Barnes, Bureau Chief of Intellectual Developmental Disabilities, will be retiring in April of this year. She noted, however, that Ms. Barnes will take a brief leave of absence and will be rehired into the same position as a contractor until the end of December 2013.

Ms. Kemp stated that a letter (*Included in Member Packet*) to Donald Fletcher, the Independent Reviewer for the Department of Justice (DOJ) on the Settlement Agreement for the transition of residents from Northern Virginia Training Center (NVTC) into the community, was requested by the ID Committee and signed by Chair Mack laying out the concerns of the Committee and attaching several key letters and documents.

Ms. Kemp directed the members to a letter from Mark Sites, Fairfax-Falls Church CSB Chair, to Governor McDonnell regarding the closing of Northern Virginia Training Center (NVTC) and the transitioning of residents into the community (*Included in Member Packet*). She stated that the message is very consistent with the Arlington CSB's message.

Ms. Kemp gave an update about the new consumer recovery center. Ms. Kemp reported that the lease for the new program has not been signed due to concerns of the current tenants about the usage of the space. She stated that the new vendor is researching alternative real estate space for the new facility although an agreement may still be reached with the tenants of the current proposed space.

Ms. Kemp reported about the people on the Extraordinary Boundaries List (EBL). She stated that currently there are six people on the EBL, down from fourteen this past fall. She stated that these funds come through the region and that some of the people were able to be placed in services and programs that meet their needs. She noted that some of the people on the EBL were not Arlington residents and were able to be reunited with family members in their own area of residence. A member asked what processes will be put in place to continue the lower number of people on the EBL. Ms. Kemp responded that all staff vacancies would need to remain filled and administrative support increased.

ACCSB Chair's Report

Chair Mack announced that Anita Friedman, Division Chief, Economic Independence Division, will be presenting on the 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness including the 100 Homes Project at the March 20, 2013 CSB full board meeting.

Chair Mack announced that In April, Rhonda Williams, Alexandria CSB, will be presenting on substance abuse among older adults.

- **Report Out on ACCSB Retreat Initiatives**

- Mr. Whyte reported out on the Employment Committee. He stated that the committee is slowly making progress. He noted that a greater presence for employment placement could assist with the program's success rate. He reported the committee will continue to move forward with its efforts. Ms. Jones recommended several suggestions to increase the committee's presence in the community.
- Ms. Deane reported out on the Young Adults Committee. Ms. Deane commended Robin Joseph, Mental Health Therapist, for her work in developing and implementing the Edge Program which is designed to assist young adult clients with mental health issues with independent living skills. She reported that the staff has developed a calendar of events and activities for clients. She stated that workshops are being provided and that the first work shop had 11 attendees. She reported that Job Avenue is currently working with young adults and that some of these young adults have gained employment while other young adults are focusing on educational goals.
- Ms. Hermann reported out on the Mary Marshall Assisted Living Residence (MMALR). She reported that Valerie Washington has been hired as the new Director of Nursing. Ms. Hermann stated that Ms. Washington brings a wealth of experience to the facility.

- **Adjournment**

The Arlington Community Services Board meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kelly Mauller.