

Intellectual Disabilities Committee of the Arlington Community Services Board

Minutes of February 1, 2012 Meeting

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Carol Skelly at 6:35 p.m.

Introductions: Co-Chairs Barbara Jones and Carol Skelly; CSB Member Dave O'Connor; Committee Members Peter Black, Ann Kelly, and Paul Nolan; The Arc of No VA staff members Rikki Epstein and Lucy Beadnell; Vendor Staff Kenan Aden of MVLE, and Anne Rule of Community Residences; IDDS Bureau Chief and ID Committee Staff Liaison Joanna Wise Barnes

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the committee's January 11, 2012 meeting were reviewed and approved as written.

Commonwealth of Virginia and U.S. Department of Justice Settlement Agreement

Joanna Wise Barnes reviewed the highlights of the recently published agreement which resulted from a Department of Justice (DOJ) investigation of Virginia's State Training Centers (institutions for adults with an intellectual disability). Of the five training centers, Arlington has 25 residents of Northern Virginia Training Center (NVTC) in Fairfax, and eight residents of Central Virginia Training Center (CVTC) in Lynchburg. Four of the five training centers will close.

- ID Waiver slots will be available to fund community services for persons leaving institutions
- ID Waiver slots will also be available for some children and adults currently living in communities
- State family support funds may be available for some families waiting for ID Waiver slots
- Crisis mobile teams and short-term crisis beds will be available in each region to prevent institutionalization
- A \$800,000 State fund will help some people who need housing assistance
- Support coordination (or case management) services will increase for those who have special medical needs and who live in homes with more than four residents
- Virginia will work to increase employment opportunities for persons with developmental disabilities
- New and increased quality assurance efforts and oversight for safety will be provided for those moving from institutions to communities
- Discharge planning efforts will increase for those in State institutions

In response to the above and to information added by Lucy Beadnell of The Arc of Northern Virginia, committee members generated the following questions and concerns. (Joanna will attempt to get more information.)

To the State:

1. Will ID Waiver rates be higher for those with complex needs who move from training centers to community services?
2. Will there be a budget proposal to the general assembly for implementation of the settlement?

3. Did the court approve the settlement? (The settlement says that if Virginia doesn't comply, it's court-enforceable.)
4. Will State capital funds for purchase and construction of homes in communities be made available for homes built for persons discharging from all training centers, not just CVTC?
5. When will an itemization be available about how the \$30 million trust fund will be used? How does the State plan to use the second \$30 million that has been requested?
6. When will the State tell us about funding that may be available in addition to funds attached to ID Waiver slots?
7. Would the State allow discharges to larger residential programs if Arlington decides to develop these?
8. When will the schedule of discharges be available? Must all training center residents discharge by the closure dates, or will some be required to discharge sooner?
9. What will become of training center residents who lack Medicaid? (Local governments have no funds to serve them.)

To Arlington County:

1. How many Northern Virginia Training Center (NVTC) residents need/want congregate residential services and how many need/want other residential arrangements?
2. How many NVTC families want the training center resident to move back to the family home?
3. What is the timeline and sequence of events for discharging the 25 Arlington people from NVTC?
4. How much would it cost to serve the 25 NVTC residents in Arlington, ID Waiver-funded expenses, and costs not covered by Waiver?
5. What would be the legal recourse if Arlington refuses to participate in discharges, based on inadequate funding available from the State?
6. Will the County assist with housing loans to develop residential programs for those discharging from training centers?

Rikki Epstein, Executive Director of The Arc of Northern Virginia, told committee members about an informational event The Arc has scheduled. The U.S. Department of Justice attorneys who participated in the investigation and in the settlement negotiations will come to Northern Virginia for a question and answer session with parents. It will be on Wednesday, February 8th at 7:00 p.m. in the Fairfax Government Center Board Auditorium.

Next Steps toward Micro-Boards in Arlington

Joanna distributed copies of a letter sent to parents who attended the December 3, 2011 Micro-Board Workshop, along with a release some may wish to sign allowing their contact information to be shared with other interested parents. (See attachments.) One parent has already signed and returned the release form. (Two others signed and returned the forms during the meeting.)

Carol Skelly asked whether this smaller group of parents might want another meeting with Bill Fuller of the Virginia Housing Development Authority. There seemed to be support for such a meeting which might walk parents through the specific steps of creating micro-boards.

Joanna reported that Bill Fuller's e-mail reply indicates that he is out of town, and that she has left a message for him about next steps.

ID Housing Update

Joanna reported that Jennifer McKinney Acheson, IDDS Residential Services Coordinator, had a meeting with a non-profit provider interested in developing intermediate care facility(ies) in Arlington. A second meeting is pending to include the provider, Jennifer, Joanna, and Glenda Blake, Aging and Disability Services Division Chief.

IDD Proclamation Ceremony Update

Co-Chair Barbara Jones reminded everyone that the proclamation will be Tuesday, March 6 at 8:30 a.m. in the National Science Foundation Atrium. (See flier, attached.) Barbara reported that the planning committee met once to review nominations for lifetime achievement and outstanding employer awards. Several nominations were received that did not fit into either category, so the committee will meet again to make final decisions about who will receive awards.

Staff Reports

Joanna reviewed IDDS call screening data for July through December 2011. This data will be reviewed for all disability areas by the full CSB at its next meeting. For IDDS, a total of 14 calls were received during the six months. Six callers were referred elsewhere. The primary reason that these were referred elsewhere was that they needed other County services. Other County agencies where they were referred included nursing case management, behavioral health, parent-infant education, crisis assistance, Medicaid eligibility, and parking permit office.

Joanna distributed a flier about the Mary Marshall Assisted Living Residence Open House on February 15, 2012.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Co-Chair Carol Skelly at 8:40 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

These minutes were reviewed and approved as read by committee members during their March 7, 2012 meeting.

INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES COMMITTEE OF THE ARLINGTON COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD

MINUTES OF JANUARY 11, 2012 MEETING

Call to Order – 6:30 p.m. by Carol Skelly, Co-Chair

Introductions – Carol Skelly and Barbara Jones, Co-Chairs; David O'Connor, CSB Member; Committee Members Donna Budway, Paul Nolan, and Casey Youman; Vendor Staff Marshall Henson and Amanda Chenkin of Linden Resources and Anne Rule of Community Residences, Inc.; The Arc of No VA Staff Rikki Epstein and Lucy Beadnell; Becky Suttell of Arlington's Therapeutic Recreation Office; Joanna Wise Barnes of Arlington's IDD Services

Approval of Minutes – Members reviewed and approved as written the draft minutes of their November 2, 2011 meeting and the December 3, 2011 workshop on micro-boards.

Follow-up to Micro-Boards Workshop

Committee members discussed the workshop, attended by 18 Arlington parents. Joanna shared information from the workshop's guest speaker Bill Fuller that some Arlington parents have been in contact with him since the workshop, requesting additional information. Committee members asked that Joanna contact Mr. Fuller to ask whether he could share those parents' names, or ask those parents to contact the committee. Committee members decided to contact parents who attended the December 3 workshop about micro-boards. Workshop participants will be asked by e-mail whether they want to schedule another meeting and also whether they want to provide contact information to share with other parents for networking purposes.

Committee members also requested that Joanna ask whether Bill Fuller would be available to meet with these parents to walk them through the process and the forms to set up a micro-board. And if Mr. Fuller can give us the names of ID Waiver providers who have experience in serving individuals whose housing is through a micro-board, the committee might like to invite those providers to speak to residential providers in Arlington.

ID Committee Housing Plan

Carol Skelly reviewed a meeting that she and co-chair Barbara Jones attended with DHS housing specialists, IDDS staff, and the County's Community Housing, Planning, and Development (CHPD) staff. Carol explained that loans to residential providers for expansion of new properties might be available. In addition to the funding that CHPD receives annually from the County Board, it receives loan repayments that might be made available for new projects. CHPD has a funding formula for its loans, which are paired with other funding sources to fully finance projects. Carol expressed a concern that an exception to the formula might need to be requested, since the per person costs are high in IDD residential services.

Committee members asked Joanna to order the floor plans developed in another part of the State for an Intermediate Care Facility. Residential provider Community Residences had reported earlier that they had ordered the plans for \$75. Members would like to see the design.

The Governor's Proposed Budget

There is a proposal to change Medicaid eligibility from 300% of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) to 250% of SSI. Joanna is working with the Medicaid Eligibility Unit Supervisor to determine if any individuals served by IDDS would lose Medicaid and/or Waiver funding for services. (Note: As of January 24, none reported would be impacted.)

Because the State budget includes a \$30 million trust fund for down-sizing Central Virginia Training Center and other state institutions, committee members asked Joanna to get information from other CSBs about the down-sizing of Southeastern Virginia Training Center. They wondered about problems that might have been encountered during that process.

IDD Proclamation Ceremony

Barbara Jones confirmed that the proclamation ceremony will be held on March 6 at 8:30 a.m. in the National Science Foundation Atrium. See attached flier. Joanna reported that non-profit partner Linden Resources printed the information about the proclamation, and that ServiceSource Community Integration Center participants stuffed the envelopes that were mailed to families. Fliers were also shared with Arlington Public Schools, IDDS contract agencies, Northern Virginia Training Center, and other partners. Nominations for Employer Awards and Lifetime Achievement Awards are due by January 20.

Barbara reviewed donations made to cover proclamation expenses to date. She wondered whether a solicitation for more donations could be written on CSB letterhead for her to distribute to area businesses. Joanna will inquire about this. Becky Suttell of the Therapeutic Recreation Office reported that they had done something similar and offered to share the letter they had used.

Staff Reports

Joanna Wise Barnes reported:

- Mary Marshall Assisted Living Residence – One individual with IDD moved in already, another will move in next week. One person toured on January 11 and two will tour January 13. Two others have paperwork in process.
- IDDS residential waiting lists – Ten are waiting for Intermediate Care Facility (ICF) placements and have been referred to Community Residences. They will soon be referred to two other providers that have expressed interests in developing ICFs. Eight are waiting for group home placements. One is in admission phase. Three are being assessed by group home operators. Three are exploring vacancies and waiting for a good match. One person is on the waiting list for a supervised apartment but will probably be removed for lack of interest.

- IDDS residential vacancies – There is a group home vacancy for a male but he must be able to climb stairs. There are two vacancies (male or female) at an accessible group home. (Three individuals are being accessed for these.) There is one female vacancy at a group home and two persons have been referred for it.
- Residential needs survey – Seventy-five have been sent, and 54 have been returned. We started by sending them to adults first and are now mailing them to teenagers.
- Staffing – A supervisor for support coordinators was hired in November and is doing well. There is only one vacancy in support coordination; interviews are scheduled for Friday.
- Deaths – Two individuals with IDD passed away recently, one in November and one in January. Both had health conditions which caused them to be medically fragile. Both had family members who were very involved. Internal protocols include a review of information by IDDS supervisors, then by a Health and Safety Committee comprised of CSB staff including the medical director. Externally, all deaths are reviewed by the State Office of Licensure. Licensure has completed its review of the November death. There were no citations to the group home.

New Business

The Arc of Northern Virginia distributed two hand-outs – *The Arc Virginia 2012 Budget Priorities* (attached) and *2012 Rally and Advocacy Day, Coalition for Virginians with Mental Disabilities*. Items of concern discussed included the cap on respite hours for recipients of the Elderly and Disabled Consumer-Directed Waiver, the potential change in the Medicaid eligibility criteria, and lack of information about the \$30 million trust fund for down-sizing institutions. A main advocacy focus of The Arc this year is pushing for funding for 1,500 ID waivers and 275 DD waivers in Virginia.

Becky Suttell of the PRCR Therapeutic Recreation Office (TRO) talked about some of their programs. She and Joanna also mentioned that TRO staff will attend an IDDS staff meeting soon to describe their programs to new IDDS staff members.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Carol Skelly at about 8:20 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

These minutes were approved as read by committee members during the February 1, 2012 meeting.