

INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES COMMITTEE OF THE ARLINGTON CSB

Minutes for May 1, 2013 Meeting

Call to order – The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by Co-Chair Barbara Jones.

Attendees – Barbara Jones and Moira Saucedo, CSB members and ID Committee Co-Chairs; committee members and guests Chuck Adkins-Blanch, Ann Kelly, Carol Skelly, Gay Harrington, Dave and Nancy Tishman; provider staff members Kris Hollins and Anne Rule of Community Residences, and Lindsay Fenlon of Linden Resources; Lucy Beadnell of The Arc of No VA; County staff members Pam Gannon of the DHS Housing Bureau and Don Conley of IDDS

Approval of minutes – The minutes of the April 3, 2013 meeting were reviewed and approved as read. These will be submitted to the full CSB at its next meeting.

Agenda Items:

County Budget Update – Moira Saucedo

Ms. Saucedo announced that the committee's hard work paid off in the approved County budget. The funding was approved for a new support coordinator, so an additional position will be added to IDDS.

A second support coordination supervisor will also be added.

First Responders Receive Developmental Disability Training - Moira Saucedo

Ms. Saucedo provided a link to an internet article titled *First Responders Receive Developmental Disability Training*. The article is about Scott Campbell. He is the father of a son with autism and president of the Autism Society of Northern Virginia. For eight years Mr. Campbell has provided first responders training on recognition and best practices in working with individuals with autism. The committee would be interested in inviting Mr. Campbell to speak at a future meeting.

VACSB 2013 Budget Plan

Ms. Saucedo provided an attachment titled *Response to VACSB Request for Budget Priorities*. Will Frank, Public Policy Director for the VACSB, indicated that CSB advocacy to the State needed refinement. He suggested CSBs begin the budget request process earlier. The requests should be highly focused with clear definitions on the population served, the size of the need, and should tie the solution to an initiative that is already in progress, when possible.

The committee proposed a focus on housing for the ID population as the State budget priority. Difficulty exists in defining the need because we are awaiting guidance from the State in three areas:

- Type of community housing they will support
- Amount of money available from the trust fund/sale of State property

- Whether funding will be available to individuals in the community, or just those leaving the training centers

Ms. Tishman reported that the DOJ settlement agreement independent reviewer Donald Fletcher had suggested that the money should be available to both those in the training centers and on the waiting list for Waiver slots.

Indications are that the State will be supporting apartments and homes with four or fewer beds. The *Office of Developmental Services Quarterly Report of Office Activities* sent with the agenda mentioned a model project to provide rental assistance to 20 individuals in Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads over three years. The committee expressed interest in asking to be considered as part of the pilot.

At the end of the discussion about *Response to VACSB Request for Budget Priorities*, Ms. Saucedo and Ms. Beadnell of The Arc of Northern Virginia posed seven suggestions to address housing. It was requested that the committee review the suggestions and pick the ones believed to have the most impact for further action.

Ms. Skelly handed out *Draft Recommendations to VACSB regarding implementation of DOJ settlement agreement*. The draft states the Arlington CSB's opposition to the closing of NVTC on 7/1/15 if there are individuals whose request for placement in their local community cannot be granted due to lack of appropriate housing. Ms. Tishman pointed out that it is expected that all individuals will vacate NVTC 90 days prior to the actual closing date.

Most important prerequisites for successful implementation of DOJ agreement in Arlington:

- Funding to add capacity
- Changes in ID waiver rates to fully fund appropriate supports in the community

The draft provides details about the funding needed and the means of measuring to ensure the funding is adequate to meet the need. It also provides the most significant changes needed in the current Waiver rate structure. It calls for vetting of proposed changes in the Waiver funding structure by Northern Virginia CSBs and service providers to determine that the changes will be adequate to implement the provisions of the settlement.

Ms. Skelly stated that the changes in the Waiver funding structure should include adequate funding for those using consumer-directed services. The current rate falls significantly short of what is needed to secure providers. There is no Waiver rate enhancement for consumer-directed service in Northern Virginia.

Ms. Skelly will add language to the draft so that it includes a full spectrum of services instead of just the current State model.

Next steps will be to revise the document and then take it to the CSB's Executive Committee.

A question was posed about where outpatient services currently delivered at the Regional Community Support Center at NVTC will be received when NVTC is closed. It was stated that when the training center closes services must be moved off the grounds. There have been talks about moving services into the community.

Ms. Gannon reported that Arlington Housing Assistance Bureau has good data on the cost of developing group homes for up to six persons based on the past years of actual projects and calculations for future estimates. The estimates include acquisition, renovation and new construction. The number of individuals served and degree of accessibility and land use requirements impact costs. It generally takes two to three years to develop a fully accessible home, and costs range from \$1.3 to \$2.0 million for ICF-type homes, depending on numerous factors. Providers Community Residences and Resources for Independence of Virginia have expressed interest in developing additional homes in Arlington.

There was a question about the availability of any Arlington County property that could be used for ID housing purposes. Ms. Kelly suggested the possibility of an Arlington County building on Highland Street. Ms. Gannon will investigate.

A bond initiative was discussed as a possible means of adding to residential capacity. Although there may be many bond proposals in the queue and it can be a lengthy process, it was suggested that this option be considered as a part of the long-range planning process. There was some discussion of microboards as another option. These have been more effective in other parts of the State where housing is not as expensive. Options for microboards that might work in Northern Virginia continue to be explored. Ms. Gannon reported that a regional workgroup has been working with The Arc and others to summarize available microboard information, in addition to encouraging interested families in joining the newly created Virginia Association of Microboards.

IDD Proclamation – Barbara Jones

There was a lively discussion about whether or not to skip the event next year and pick it up again in 2015. The difficulty for 2014 is the retirement of Joanna Wise Barnes. Ms. Barnes, Ms. Jones, and Becky Suttell have been central to the event planning in recent years. Among many other functions, Ms. Barnes acted as the point of contact within IDDS with the County Board for this event. Many on the committee feel this is a significant event that could be simplified to allow continuation in 2014. Ms. Jones offered that she and Ms. Suttell will lay out the tasks that need to be accomplished and present it to Ms. Barnes to see if it can be done.

Updates:

The Arc of Northern Virginia – Lucy Beadnell

Ms. Beadnell distributed a hand-out titled *May 2013 Legislative Update*.

Approval of Minutes – These minutes were read and approved by the ID committee during its June 12, 2013 meeting and will now be submitted to the full CSB.