

## Intellectual Disabilities Committee of the Arlington Community Services Board

### Minutes of Meeting on July 10, 2013

**Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Co-Chair Moira Saucedo.

**Approval of Minutes** – Draft minutes from the committee’s June 12, 2013 meeting were reviewed, approved as written, and will be submitted to the full CSB at its next meeting.

**Therapeutic Recreation Office** – Becky Suttell

In May the Arlington County Therapeutic Recreation Office held a parent feedback forum called “Keep it Moving.” The purpose of the event was to get feedback from parents about the future direction of programs offered through the Therapeutic Recreation Office. About 15 parents participated in the event. Staff member sent out a survey and received more information, and are now reaching out to parent/guardians individually over the phone. Please contact [bsuttell@arlingtonva.us](mailto:bsuttell@arlingtonva.us) if you wish to be a part of this strategic process.

### **Settlement Agreement between the Department of Justice and the Commonwealth of Virginia**

- **The role of the Virginia legislature in the agreement** – Lucy Beadnell, The Arc of Northern VA  
In the 2013 General Assembly, Item 314#4c passed. This bill requires VA Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) Commissioner James Stewart to provide quarterly reports to the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees on the progress of the training center closure plans. The report must identify supports/services needed by residents as well as barriers to discharge. The subcommittee overseeing this plan will meet on Thursday, July 18 at Southside Virginia Training Center in Petersburg at 10:00 a.m. See hand-out titled *July 2013 Legislative Update*.
- **The role of the court and the independent reviewer of the agreement** – Carol Skelly  
See hand-outs titled *Highlights of Role and Progress of the Independent Reviewer* and *Arlington CSB Committee on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Suggestions for Categories of Need/Services to Consider in Community Residential Placement*
- **Updates from the State on resources for the agreement** – Joanna Wise Barnes  
Information from the VA Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) appears to indicate that trust fund monies may not be adequate to cover start-up costs for new homes in the community for persons leaving training centers. Also, the 25% ID Waiver rate differential planned for residential providers serving persons with exceptional needs is expected to be implemented sometime between October 1, 2013 and January 1, 2014.

## Guest Speaker – Senator Barbara Favola, 31<sup>st</sup> District of Virginia

Senator Favola reviewed a PowerPoint presentation from the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS). See attachment beginning with *Planning for a successful transition*. Points made by Senator Favola included:

- A special joint sub-committee will review the implementation of the settlement agreement. It is comprised of representatives from the House and the Senate. The sub-committee's next meeting will be July 18<sup>th</sup>.
- The implementation plan for the settlement agreement is predicated on two principles:
  - Authorized representatives (and guardians) of training center residents retain the authority to make decisions about residential placements.
  - Services provided in the community for those leaving training centers will be the same level of care as services provided by training centers.
- Issues of concern expressed to DBHDS Commissioner James Stewart in a conference call in June:
  - Can equivalent care be provided in the community?
  - Are there enough community options for discharges?
  - Are discharge deadlines realistic?
  - What will happen if community placements fail?
  - Do training center parents receive copies of the post-discharge monitoring reports?
  - There has been no increase in capacity in Arlington.
  - The State should provide financial incentives/supports for the purchase and renovation of properties for new homes in the community.
  - Providers' operating costs should be reimbursed.
  - Funds from the sale of State properties should be used to build community capacity.
  - Case management caseloads should be small enough to allow for all the coordinating necessary for discharges and monitoring.
  - Community-based healthcare should be adequate to meet the needs of those leaving training centers.
  - Group homes of four persons in Arlington may cost more than training center expenses.
  - Local governments should not have to provide supplemental resources related to the implementation of the settlement agreement.
- Recommendations to ID committee members:
  - Work closely with the special joint sub-committee monitoring the settlement agreement. Northern Virginia representatives on it are Senator Janet Howell and Delegate Bob Brink. Write letters to them.
  - Tell the State we need more Waiver slots for those in the community, and more community-based services in place, before the training centers are closed.
  - Suggest how the Northern Virginia Training Center property could be used to build homes and for day program(s).
  - Tell the State how much money is needed to implement the settlement agreement.

- Encourage involvement of the Virginia Municipal League and the Virginia Association of Counties.
- Encourage increases in Waiver reimbursement rates and rate structures, so that localities will not need to cover providers' expenses that are not reimbursed by Medicaid.

**Introductions of Attendees** – ID committee co-chairs Barbara Jones and Moira Saucedo; Arlington CSB chair James Mack; former CSB chair Carol Skelly; CSB member Brian DeAtley; ID committee members and guests Donna McHugh, Maggie Fish, Stephanie Sampson, Mary and Peter Black, David and Nancy Tishman, Brian Kerrigan, and Ann Bolster; provider staff members Paul Wexler and Brenda Richardson of ServiceSource, Anne Rule of Community Residences, April Pinch Keeler of MVLE; Lucy Beadnell of The Arc of Northern Virginia; IDDS staff members Jennifer McKinney Acheson and Joanna Wise Barnes

**IDD Services Updates** – Joanna Wise Barnes

Joanna distributed hand-outs describing the 12-week discharge planning process for training center residents, and post-move monitoring of community placements. See three hand-outs titled *Resource List for Families and Guardians*, *Activities*, and *Strategic Planning for People Who May Want to Move Together*. All three were created by the VA DBHDS. Joanna also talked about the IDDS Support Coordinator's (case manager's) and IDDS managers' roles in the pre-discharge and post-discharges processes.

**New Business**

April Pinch Keeler of MVLE and Paul Wexler of ServiceSource discussed some settlement agreement concerns expressed by providers in Northern Virginia. These are detailed and summarized in two documents distributed by Mr. Wexler. See attachments titled *ServiceSource/Central Fairfax and the NVTC*, and *Virginia's Waiver Services Currently Provide Inadequate Funding to Implement the DOJ Agreement*.

It was announced that the ID committee will not meet in August.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes**

At its September 11, 2013 meeting the ID committee reviewed these minutes and approved them as written with two additions:

- Hand-outs referenced in the minutes should be attached when the final minutes are e-mailed to the ID committee distribution list.
- There will be follow-up discussion about Senator Favola's recommendations listed in these minutes.