

ARLINGTON COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD

SUBSTANCE ABUSE COMMITTEE MINUTES

February 27, 2012

Members Present: Jim Mack, Shaun Buckner, Keith Whyte, Bharati Patel, Jenette O'Keefe, Charlie Baughman, Craig Dabney

Members Absent: Chester Chandler, Wes Sanchez

BHD Staff: Joe Bullock

The SA Committee welcomed two new members: Mr. Charlie Baughman and Mr. Craig Dabney

I. DRUG COURT PLANNING INITIATIVE UPDATE: Mr. Jim Mack provided the committee with an update on the drug court planning process which began meeting in November 2011. Mr. Mack reported that there is a small planning group that includes leadership from the Public Defender's Office, Mr. Mack, and Joe Bullock. The planning group organized a trip to visit the Loudoun County Drug Court in December 2012 and invited key stakeholders to attend. The visit to Loudoun was very successful by all accounts in presenting a live drug court session to stakeholders. As a follow-up the momentum gained from the field trip, Mr. Mack announced that the planning team has organized a community stakeholder's meeting that will take place on February 28th and is designed to orient key stakeholders to the drug court application process. This will be the first opportunity to host all of the key members needed to begin the process of developing a drug court application for Arlington that will be submitted to Virginia Drug Treatment Court Office. Mr. Mack will provide the committee with further updates at the March committee meeting.

II. COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT:

- SA Committee Budget Priorities: Ms. Jenette O'Keefe provided the committee with an update on committee priorities included in this year's Community Services Board priorities that will go to the County Board. The key SA Committee priorities this year include: 1 full-time Peer Support Counselor; continued funding for the Employment Specialist project that received one-time funding last year; continued funding for the ANHSI Primary Healthcare project that received one-time funding last year.

Ms. O'Keefe stated that the Community Service Board organized the priorities into the following targeted areas: Children & Adolescents, Young Adults, Adults with serious mental illness, and Adults with substance abuse disorders.

- Arlington County Board Public Hearing Process: Mr. Mack provided the committee with an overview of the upcoming CSB advocacy plan along with general information on the established Arlington County Board public hearing process. Mr. Mack invited all committee members to participate in the public hearing which is scheduled for late March. All committee members interested will be contacted with further information regarding the meeting time as well as talking points if needed.
- Preliminary SA Recovery Month Topic Discussion: Ms. Jenette O'Keefe informed committee members that September is National Substance Abuse Recovery Month and

the committee recognizes this event by sponsoring a community outreach project each year. Ms. O'Keefe invited committee members to submit initial ideas that will begin the process of determining the final project the committee will sponsor this fall. The committee identified six potential topics for 2012:

- Adolescent Substance Abuse
- Outreach to the Inter-faith Community by sponsoring a symposium or presentation
- Domestic Violence and Substance Abuse
- Outreach to families of Veterans with Substance Abuse problems
- Gambling and Substance Abuse
- Prescription take back Program

The committee will continue discussion of these topics in the March meeting.

Dr. Bullock stated that he has a faith-based survey used in past years that he will send out to the committee for review and modification. Once he has the survey finalized, he will send it out to the community to begin gathering information on areas of interest expressed by the faith based community.

III. SA DIRECTOR REPORT: Dr. Bullock provided the committee with an update on regional peer recovery project. This regional project was the result of a targeted effort by all CSB SA directors in Northern Virginia to gain support and funding to establish peer recovery services. The regional CSB Executive Directors responded by allocating \$160,000 as seed money to start a regional peer support recovery project in Northern Virginia. SAARA responded to a request for proposal and was identified as the provider of this service in November 2011. The project is now in the process of interviewing candidates and will begin with 4 part-time peer counselors (one for each CSB). Dr. Bullock stated that he will keep the committee informed about this exciting project.

NOTE: The next SA Committee meeting will be held on **March 26, 2012 at 7:00 pm** in the George Mason Center Conference Room next to Drewry Building- room 232.