

ARLINGTON COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD

**SUBSTANCE ABUSE COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

December 12, 2011

Members Present: Jim Mack, Shaun Buckner, Keith Whyte

Members Absent: Jenette O'Keefe, Chester Chandler, Wes Sanchez, Bharati Patel

BHD Staff: Joe Bullock

- I. SITE VISIT TO THE INDEPENDENCE HOUSE PROGRAM:** Mr. Henry Jefferson, program director for the Independence House greeted committee members and provided an overview of the program. The Independence House is a four to six month transition program for men and women who are recovering from substance abuse disorders. The purpose of this program is to act as a bridge between a highly structured in patient substance abuse treatment environment and independent living. Clients are encouraged to spend as much time as possible in the community developing a network and reestablishing ties with their families. All clients must be employed or obtaining training and maintain a budget. They are required to attend at least five 12-step oriented meetings per week and carry out an array of in-house activities. Each client works toward developing and implementing a recovery plan in concert with their enrollment in BHD outpatient treatment services. Independence House is staffed 24-hours a day, seven days a week by a professional staff knowledgeable about substance abuse treatment and recovery.

NOTE: The next SA Committee meeting will be held on **January 23, 2012 at 7:00 pm** in the George Mason Center Conference Room next to Drewry Building- room 232.