

INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY COMMITTEE OF THE ARLINGTON COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD

Minutes of September 11, 2013 Meeting

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by co-chair Barbara Jones.

Introductions – Committee co-chairs and CSB members Barbara Jones and Moira Saucedo; CSB member Brian DeAtley; committee members and parents Donna Budway, Rebecca Lake, Stephanie Sampson, Carol Skelly, Alex Soroko, Nancy Tishman, Alex Yellin, and Casey Youman; provider representatives Kris Hollin of Community Residences, Lindsay Fenlon and Michelle Lange of Linden Resources, and Kaleigha Gray of ServiceSource; The Arc of No VA representative Lucy Beadnell; County employees Becky Suttell of the Therapeutic Recreation Office and Joanna Wise Barnes of IDD Services

Approval of July Minutes – The draft minutes of the July 10, 2013 committee meeting were approved as read, with the caveats that when distributed, hand-outs from the July meeting would be attached, and that the committee would follow-up on recommendations from Senator Barbara Favola contained in the minutes.

The Arc of Northern Virginia Updates – Lucy Beadnell

Beadnell distributed and referred to a hand-out titled “September 2013 Legislative Update.” See attached. She described The Arc of Virginia’s recent conference. State representatives’ overviews to participants included:

- Public forums connected with the study will be announced soon for stakeholders, and Beadnell encouraged participation in these.
- State family support funds for those waiting for ID and DD Waiver slots will probably be exhausted within 10 to 14 days after the fiscal year 2014 application and approval process begins.
- The Arc recently facilitated visits by State legislators to family homes.

CSB State Legislative Priorities Related to IDD Services – Barbara Jones and Carol Skelly

See two hand-outs titled “Arlington County Community Services Board General Assembly Recommendations” and “Virginia Network of Private Providers 2014 Legislative Action Proposals”, both attached. Jones and Skelly reviewed the Arlington CSB’s IDD-related general assembly recommendations, to be presented to State legislators at the November meeting of the full CSB in preparation for the January legislative session. Joanna Wise Barnes of IDDS added that the Virginia Association of CSBs’ public policy committee is considering supporting the legislative action plan of the Virginia Network of Private Providers, and it was distributed and reviewed. ID directors and CSB executive directors in Northern Virginia were recently asked to consider aligning this region’s legislative priorities with those of VNPP and VACSB. Committee members opined that it’s too soon to make that decision.

County Budget Priorities for Fiscal Year 2015 – Moira Saucedo

Saucedo suggested that the committee needs at least placeholder priorities for now, which can be revised in the months leading up to the spring 2014 budget request process. She suggested two:

1. Funding for the County Therapeutic Recreation Office (TRO) in the Department of Parks and Recreation, to help TRO serve individuals whose support needs are more significant than most of

- the children and adults they serve now. This would benefit individuals returning to Arlington from training centers.
2. Funding to hire a consultant and subject matter expert to increase employment opportunities in Arlington for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities

Brian DeAtley attended the County's Department of Human Services public budget hearing. He will review all comments submitted in writing and will give a report next month on all IDD-related comments. Lucy Beadnell reported that she submitted a letter for the hearing.

Carol Skelly indicated that the committee is assuming County Board support for June 2014 special education graduate's needs for day support and employment programs, including transportation to these as needed. She will review the County Manager's proposed budget in February to see if funds for these costs, if any, are included.

There was discussion about the transportation needs of individuals returning to Arlington from training centers. Some members suggested that it should be a priority for these individuals to get the same quality of transportation that community residents receive, and that they shouldn't have to rely on the Medicaid transportation broker LogistiCare. Another committee member mentioned that LogistiCare does not provide medication technicians to accompany riders who might need medication administration en route.

ID Committee Recommendations on Home Designs – Carol Skelly

See Skelly's hand-out titled "Draft Recommendations of ACSB ID/DD Committee, Desired Configuration and Features of New Group Homes/ICFs to be Built in Arlington." The committee discussed housing issues in Arlington such as older houses, small lots, little parking, lack of accessibility. It was assumed that there would be compromises and trade-offs in an effort to increase the number of group homes in the County. It was agreed that committee members would email suggested revisions to Skelly's document to Joanna Wise Barnes by September 18th, and then Barnes will add revisions and send the document to Arlington's current providers of residential services.

Therapeutic Recreation Office Updates – Becky Suttell

TRO recently completed an effort to obtain feedback about their services from adult participants, parent/guardians and group home staff, reaching about 50 through in-person/phone conversations, and survey results. The results will be shared at the end of September (this week). From the results and from data, TRO will develop a long-term plan. Immediately they are going to begin providing volunteer opportunities in their adult social clubs, and begin a monthly fitness program on the weekends. They have one vacancy now (just filled!!) and a second one will occur in December. TRO has been impacted by the County's hiring slow-down. Inclusion support services have increased by 60% for children accessing general recreation programs with support from TR. Last year there was a 40% increase as well. They have succeeded in putting reduced fees for trips in place which will likely help group home residents. TRO developed a memorandum of agreement with Special Olympics for several sports. They are distributing fliers for classes.

IDD Services Updates – Joanna Wise Barnes

Barnes explained the following items:

- The CSB will review all permanent supportive housing numbers from June 30th soon, so the ID numbers were distributed. See hand-out.
- The IDDS residential services spreadsheet was reviewed as it is quarterly. See hand-out.

- Two hand-outs were distributed about an upcoming annual Circle of Support event through The Arc of Prince William. See attached.
- A hand-out about a State budget surplus was shared. See attached.
- The State's August 13, 2013 response to a letter from training center parents was handed out. See attached.
- Barnes regrettably told the committee that two individuals passed away in August – a group home resident in early August and a supervised apartment resident in late August. There were medical explanations for both deaths. Family members were closely involved with both individuals.
- IDDS and behavioral health staff met with law enforcement staff here on July 31st. Information about the START program (therapeutic respite and mobile crisis intervention teams) will be included in law enforcement training beginning in December.
- In response to earlier questions from the committee, Barnes reported that group supported employment and individual supported employment opportunities have not increased over the past five years for Arlington individuals with IDD.
- IDDS support coordinators will attend back to school nights as part of our outreach efforts.
- The State Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services will conduct a full audit of Arlington CSB in October, but Arlington is required to send multiple documents to them in advance. This is time-consuming for CSB managers, who might not be able to respond to committee members' requests as quickly as usual until the audit ends.
- IDDS has three vacancies – one supervisor and two support coordinators. We just hired one support coordinator, and the supervisor position is under recruitment.

New Business

- Donna Budway reported that the Arlington Public Schools website will include contact information for six volunteer parents who can assist other parents in need. They will answer questions such as those about Waivers, transitions, and job training.
- Barbara Jones reported that the annual IDD proclamation will be on March 4, 2014 in the County Board Room. Joanna Wise Barnes will request the room reservation and invite County Board members. All IDDS private providers will be honored. Refreshments will be simple. Jones and Suttell are preparing a "how to" document to guide others in preparing for the annual proclamation event in the future.

Approval of Minutes

These minutes were reviewed and approved as written by the ID committee at its October 2, 2013 meeting. They will now be submitted to the full CSB at its next meeting.