

**Arlington County Community Services Board**  
**Executive Committee Meeting**  
**July 7, 2014**  
**Drewry Building - Conference Room 107**  
**6:00 p.m.**

**Present:** James Mack, Anne Hermann, Judith Deane, Shauna Alonge, Carol Skelly

**Staff:** Anita Friedman, Farah Shakour, Kelly Mauller, Joanna Barnes, Alan Orenstein

The July 7, 2013 Arlington County Community Services Board (ACCSB) Executive Committee meeting was convened by the ACCSB Executive Committee Chair James Mack at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the Drewry Center, 1725 N. George Mason Drive, Arlington, Virginia.

**Update and Discussion: Mental Health Group Home Transition Plan**

Dr. Alan Orenstein, Mental Health Bureau Chief, presented an update on the transition plan for the Mental Health group homes. He stated that a concern was brought to his attention that individuals referred from the group homes may be inappropriately placed into their own apartment. He noted that Arlington County's vendor for the Mental Health group homes is Community Residences (CR). CR provides recovery-oriented support services to individuals with Serious Mental Illness (SMI). CR operates four Mental Health group homes in Arlington with a total of 29 beds.

Dr. Orenstein stated that two of the group homes are Assisted Living Facilities (ALF) with the same level of care as the Mary Marshall Assisted Living Residence (MMALR) but are smaller. The Roosevelt Group Home is a 24/7 hours of care, standard facility, with six beds, for individuals with Serious Mental Illness (SMI). The Vaughn Ball Group Home is a slighter smaller home with six beds and 16/7 hours of care. He stated that what prompted the current transition plan at this time was a change in Mental Health Support Services (MHSS) emergency regulations. Those Emergency Regulations prohibited CR from billing Medicaid for support services that CR provides to their own group home residences. He further stated that the change in regulations, therefore, raised a concern about a high revenue deficit in FY15. Since this revenue is used to enhance the group home services, there was concern about the affordability of the group homes and maintaining quality services.

Dr. Orenstein stated that the proposed plan for the six clients that reside in the Roosevelt Group Home, if it is clinically appropriate and the individuals are willing, is that the clients be relocated to the Kensington apartment house owned by CR located in the Westover area of Arlington. He noted that the Kensington is a three story building with one three-bedroom apartments and two one bedroom apartment on each floor. He stated that CR would utilize two of the three bedroom apartments to house the six individuals who are appropriately referred from the Roosevelt Group Home. In addition, two of the one-bedroom apartments would be made available at a later date. He noted that it would not be appropriate to relocate all of the individuals from the Roosevelt Group Home to their own apartments. He stated that if this type of housing is not appropriate for particular individuals, appropriate housing will be provided.

Dr. Orenstein stated that the Kensington would provide supports for individuals, similar to the supports at the Vaughn Ball Group Home, and would continue to be licensed as a group home. He noted that individuals will have their own, signed lease which will allow them to become eligible to apply for a housing grant, if necessary. He noted that staff will be present at the Kensington Group Home to provide 24-hour services over the weekend and flexible hours of service during the

weekdays while residents are present. He further noted that individuals that require 24/7 care will be relocated to a group home that provides 24/7 care.

Ms. Friedman stated that Requests for Proposal (RFPs) will be sent to vendors, including CR. She noted that all County contracts are bid out to various vendors. She noted that the RFP will contain two parts; one part for housing and one part for services. Ms. Friedman stated that the change in demand for residential services is due to the reduced number of referrals for Assisted Living Facility (ALF) level of care in mental health services. The committee discussed the transition plan.

Mr. Mack asked about the timeline for the proposed transition. Dr. Orenstein responded that the proposed transition is tentatively scheduled for October 2014.

Mr. Mack suggested that it would be beneficial going forward that the committee chairs are advised about impending changes in the group homes.

Ms. Deane suggested forming a Group Home Advisory Council, similar to the PACT Family Advisory Council, to include family members of individuals in the group homes.

Ms. Friedman asked if there is a procedure in place for establishing an advisory council and would the action require approval from the CSB full board. It was concluded that the Mental Health Committee would not be required to seek approval from the CSB full board to establish a Group Home Advisory Council. The committee agreed that staff should send a letter to the family members of the group home residents to determine the level of interest to be a part of the advisory council. It was noted that specific client information cannot be released without written consent.

Mr. Mack asked what the next step will be in transitioning individuals from the group homes into apartments. Dr. Orenstein responded that the Mental Health Committee will discuss the transition at their October 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

#### **Update: IDD State General Assembly Recommendation**

Joanna Barnes, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) Bureau Chief, presented an update on the Burns and Associates IDD Waiver Study and the possible outcomes from that study. Ms. Barnes reported that the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) contracted with Burns and Associates, a State Department contractor, to study the IDD Waiver structure and reimbursement rates. She noted that the recommendations from the study are anticipated to be completed in August 2014. Ms. Barnes stated that once the Burns and Associates results are published and their recommendation is submitted to the State then the CSB can determine which requests they would like to support and recommend to the General Assembly.

Ms. Barnes gave an overview of the recommendations that may come forward from the IDD Waiver Study:

- Day support and pre-vocational services are currently reimbursed at two rate levels; regular and high intensity. Recommend adding a rate for 1:1 assistance and supervision for individuals whose needs justify this level of service
- Recommend adding regular and high intensity rates to group supported employment services
- Recommend adding regular and high intensity, and 1:1 rates to residential services. Currently the only time 1:1 rates apply is when an individual is in crisis. Requests can be made for fifteen days of crisis services that can be renewed twice a year

- Recommend adding direct behavioral supports services in addition to consultation. The waiver only pays for a behaviorist to consult, not to work 1:1 with individuals
- Recommend adding reimbursement for periods of general supervision for health and safety purposes.
- Recommend changing the reimbursement for residential services from hourly to daily or monthly
- Recommend an automatic cost of living increase for all IDD Waiver reimbursement rates
- Recommend a cost of living differential for reimbursement rates in Health Planning Region (HPR) II that is consistent with documented differences between the costs of living in Northern Virginia and other regions in the State. Currently the differential between Northern Virginia and the remainder of the state is 15%
- Allocate general funds to reimburse HPR II providers for on-going costs that are not covered by ID Waiver as per Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) regulations, or by patient co-payments collected from individuals served.

Ms. Barnes announced that the State approved the postponement of the closure of the Northern Virginia Training Center (NVTC), originally scheduled for 2015, to March 2016. She stated that after the closure, NVTC and the land that the training center occupies will be made available for sale. She noted that the proceeds from the sale of the training center and the land will be dedicated for use in Northern Virginia. Ms. Barnes stated that after the closure of NVTC there will be a three month grace period, beginning March 31, 2016, in which to finalize the closure of the center, however residents must be moved out by March 31, 2016/.

Ms. Barnes stated that the State adopted the Department of Justice (DOJ) Settlement Agreement funding related to the Department of Behavioral Health and Development Services (DBHDS) (*Refer to Handout*).

Ms. Barnes stated that bridge funding is temporary until the waiver rates increase based on the recommendations from the Burns and Associates study results.

Ms. Barnes reported about evaluation services and Developmental Disabilities (DD) health support networks. She stated that all five of the Regional Community Support Centers have outpatient services. She reported that dental services are the most requested service in all five of the centers. She noted that, in Virginia, Medicaid does not cover dental services except in the case of children or people over 65.

Ms. Skelly asked how DBHDS will allocate the funds acquired from the sale of NVTC. Ms. Barnes responded that she does not know how the funds will be allocated.

#### **Approval of the June 9, 2014 Executive Committee Minutes**

Chair Mack called for a motion to approve the June 9, 2014 ACCSB Executive Committee meeting minutes. Ms. Jones motioned to approve the minutes, Ms. Hermann seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved with one correction.

#### **State General Assembly Legislative Issues**

Ms. Shakour presented an overview of the draft summary of the CSB FY15 General Assembly recommendations. She noted that the recommendations from the VACSB will not be finalized until mid-July. The recommendations will be brought before the CSB Full Board for final approval at the July 16<sup>th</sup> full board meeting. The recommendations are due to CSB Legislative Liaison, Patricia Carroll, on July 18<sup>th</sup>.

The recommendations are as follows:

- Community Placement for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) Housing Services and Supports
- Substance Abuse Peer Model
- Community-based Services for Older Adults
- Discharge Assistance Plan (DAP)/Extraordinary Barriers List (EBL)
- Services for Youth, Including Juvenile Offenders

The Children and Youth Policy Issues are as follows:

- Treatment for Children in Psychiatric and Detention Facilities
- Sealing/Expunging Juvenile Court Records

Ms. Shakour distributed the CSB Outline for Successful Advocacy document (*refer to handout*) and reviewed the items for July and August as follows

CSB State Budget Advocacy

Ms. Shakour stated that the outline indicates that the CSB will submit their recommendations to the County Board for the General Assembly in July. It was suggested that the CSB Executive Committee invite CSB Legislative Liaison, Patricia Carroll, to the August 11<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee meeting to discuss how the CSB's recommendations are incorporated into the County Board's General Assembly recommendations.

CSB Local Budget Advocacy

Ms. Shakour stated that the outline indicates that the CSB will review possible one-time funding requests in July. Mr. Mack suggested that based on feedback from the County Board last year, the CSB redirect their focus from one-time funding requests to developing strong sustainability plans for pilot programs and grant requests. The committee discussed the process of applying for grant funding.

**State Performance Contract**

Ms. Friedman, ACCSB Interim Executive Director, provided an update about the State Performance Contract. She reported that the Contract is in the process of being finalized by the Department of Human Services (DHS) Finance and Management Bureau (FMB). The Contract must be finalized and signed by the CSB Chair by September.

**Brief Updates/Information**

➤ FY14 CSB Annual Report

Ms. Shakour stated that she is in the process of collecting information from staff to include in the CSB FY14 Annual Report. She provided an overview of previous types of submissions. The committee discussed the annual report and suggested informational items to include. The deadline for submitting information to Ms. Shakour is July 18<sup>th</sup>.

➤ Committee Program Reviews will be in July packet

Ms. Shakour announced that the Program Reviews have been vetted through the standing committees and will be in the member packets for review. The Program Reviews provide descriptions of CSB programs, including purpose, staffing and budget.

- CSB Membership  
Chair Mack announced that Carol Skelly and Joanne Del Toro have been appointed by the County Board as CSB Full Board members with terms beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>. Ms. Skelly will also co-chair the Intellectual Disabilities (ID) Committee. He announced that Keith Whyte has been reappointed by the County Board for a second term to begin on July 1<sup>st</sup>. He stated that there is currently one vacancy on the full board as of July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Preliminary FY 16 Fee Schedule Recommendations for September meeting  
Mr. Mack recommended to the committee that the current fee schedule remain at \$5.00 in FY16.
- Child and Family Division Concerns  
Ms. Friedman informed the members that they are welcome to contact her outside of the meeting environment to discuss any staff and CSB program concerns. Ms. Friedman explained the process for the reallocation of staff positions.
- Legislative Delegation Forum in November  
Mr. Mack announced that the CSB's State Legislative Delegation Forum will occur on November 19, 2014 at 6:00 p.m., just prior to the full board meeting, in the Stambaugh (Sequoia) Building Auditorium.
- Letter to County Board  
Mr. Mack stated that a draft letter (*Refer to Handout*) to County Board CSB Liaison, Mary Hynes, will be brought before the CSB Full Board for approval at the July 16<sup>th</sup> full board meeting. The letter expresses the CSB's support of the consolidation of DHS programs at the Sequoia Plaza Complex.

#### **Upcoming Items for CSB Full Board Meeting on July 16, 2014**

- ✓ Patricia Durham, DHS Quality and Administration Division Chief, will present an overview and progress report about the DHS Consolidation Plan at the Sequoia Plaza Complex.
- ✓ Ms. Friedman will provide an update about the State Performance Contract.
- ✓ Chair Mack announced that Kevin Thorne, Aging and Disability Services Division, will receive the July 16, 2014 staff recognition award.
- ✓ There will be a Group Home Report presented if necessary.
- ✓ There will be a monthly Financial Report presented if necessary.
- ✓ Chair Mack will ask the members if they would like any updates from the CSB Ad Hoc Initiative Committees.
- ✓ Ms. Hermann will report out on the Mary Marshall Assisted Living Residence (MMALR).

The Arlington County Community Services Board Executive Committee meeting was adjourned by Chair Mack at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kelly Mauller.