

Intellectual Disability Committee of the Arlington County Community Services Board

Meeting on November 5, 2014

DHS Building, Sequoia Complex, 2100 Washington Blvd, Room A, Arlington VA 22204

6:30 to 8:45 p.m.

Minutes

The meeting began at 6:30 p.m.

Introductions – Barbara Jones and Carol Skelly, CSB members and committee co-chairs; members and guests Chuck Adkins-Blanch, Brian DeAtley, Ann Kelly, Moira Saucedo, Alex Soroko, Nancy Tishman, Alex Yellin, and Casey Youman; provider representatives Anne Rule of Community Residences, Michelle Lotrecchiano of MVLE, and Brenda Richardson of ServiceSource; Lucy Beadnell of The Arc of Northern Virginia; County staff members Becky Suttell of the Therapeutic Recreation Office and Joanna Wise Barnes of IDD Services; guest speakers Marshall Henson and Michelle Lange of Linden Resources, Ken Crum and Bruce Patterson of ServiceSource

Approval of October meeting minutes – Minutes of the October 1, 2014 were distributed and reviewed by committee members. The minutes were approved as read. They will be submitted to the full CSB at its November 19, 2014 meeting.

The Arc of Northern Virginia – Lucy Beadnell distributed a hand-out titled **The Arc of Northern Virginia's November 2014 Legislative Update.** See attached. There was a discussion about a State Request for Proposals. Some ID Waiver providers received it; others reportedly did not. The turnaround time for responses was short.

Senate Bill 627 Workgroup Report – Committee member Ann Kelly talked about her experiences participating in this state-wide workgroup, representing Northern Virginians waiting for ID Waiver slots. She explained to the committee the comments she submitted to the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services. This was in response to the six options developed by the workgroup to reduce or close state institutions, and to build community capacity to serve those discharged from facilities as well as those now in communities.

Employment Developments and Outcome Measures

IDD Services efforts and results – IDDS Bureau Chief Joanna Wise Barnes reviewed the County's decision to set aside \$25,000 in April, May and June of 2014 to increase job development, in an effort to find jobs for more individuals. On July 1, 2014 an additional \$25,000 was added to the fiscal year 2015 budget to continue job development which had already begun for some individuals, and to provide it to others as well. So far eleven persons have received job development support from private providers under contract to the County. One individual was placed in a job but subsequently lost it; two others are currently succeeding in new jobs. These efforts will continue through June 30, 2015. Barnes explained that the Virginia Division of Rehabilitative Services also provides job development services to persons with intellectual and developmental disability services.

ServiceSource – Bruce Patterson, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer
Kenneth Crum, Regional Executive Director

Mr. Patterson and Mr. Crum reviewed and discussed the content of their hand-out titled **Update on Redesign of Center Based Programs**. See attached. Additional information shared included:

- Sheltered employment ends December 31. Some now in sheltered employment will transition to individual or group supported employment; others will enter day support.
- ServiceSource is actively looking for group supported employment opportunities in Arlington.
- Those entering day support will stop receiving paychecks as of January 1.
- The President's executive order that all persons working on federal contracts receive at least \$10.10/hour regardless of productivity will impact persons working on them at the point the contract becomes effective (at renewal). Some Federal contracts in our sheltered program may not continue. Others will be operated off site within existing contract operations.
- Some non-federal contract work may continue.
- The new entrepreneurial model may result in increased income for some individuals.
- ServiceSource c omitted to tracking participants' wages and center-based hours worked versus hours spent in community activities.
- The GMU Life program will offer classes on-site at their new Oakton day support location.

Linden Resource – Marshall Henson, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer
Michelle Lange, Headquarters Program Director

Mr. Henson and Ms. Lange reviewed and discussed the content of their hand-out titled **Employment First Initiatives** in line with legislative and advocacy efforts around vocational and day support services. See attached. Additional information shared:

- Linden will phase out the use of commensurate wages over the next five years; ultimately all remaining employees will be paid at or above federal minimum wage.
- Linden is committed to providing employment to all who want employment.
- Linden's headquarters program will be the most significantly impacted program by the adopted change. Three program options will be phased in over the next five years: 1) operations support providing for actual labor needs required by the digital print operation; 2) time-limited transition services for those seeking competitive, integrated employment, and; 3) an integrated day support program for those that want to continue receiving services from Linden but are not oriented towards competitive, integrated employment. All will be driven by person-centered planning and individual choice.

The committee's discussion of these presentations included the following questions and comments:

- Can we measure the impact of wages lost when sheltered employment ends?
- Federal law prohibits individuals from volunteering to do what would otherwise be paid employment.
- Might the County earmark jobs for individuals with disabilities, and/or increase contract work with agencies that employ persons with disabilities?
- Virginia State Code allows the County to set aside contracts with sheltered workshops outside of the competitive bidding process.
- Changes to federal regulations (disallowing sub-minimum wages and center-based or congregate employment) may impact outsourcing to sheltered workshops.

- Everyone can work with adequate supports but will there be enough funding for higher levels of support?
- As congregate or center-based services ends, will individuals served lose their peer groups?

Staff Reports

Therapeutic Recreation Office - Becky Suttell from the Therapeutic Recreation Office reported on updates. Membership for the Young Adults Going Places is still low and they are trying to increase registrations for the 18-29 year olds. Please pass on the information, more about social clubs here: <http://parks.arlingtonva.us/therapeutic-recreation/therapeutic-recreation-social-clubs/>. More information will be presented next month since class registration for winter classes begins in December.

IDD Services – Joanna Wise Barnes thanked The Arc of Northern Virginia for permission to print its new residential services guide; the printing will be done by Linden Resources. IDDS Support Coordination (case management) will be fully staffed within a month. The one remaining vacancy is for the Supported Employment/Habilitation/Transportation Services Contract Manager; that position should be filled in December. The bureau chief's position has been advertised and will remain posted on a continual basis until filled; Joanna's retirement date is in May 2015.

Joanna Wise Barnes and Nancy Tishman reported on an October 9 meeting of the Northern Virginia Training Center families with Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services Commissioner Debra Ferguson. One outcome of that meeting is that ID committee member David Tishman will participate in a DOJ settlement agreement stakeholders' workgroup. Another good result was that Joanna facilitated networking between NVTC volunteers who may be interested in volunteering in community programs when NVTC closes.

Vendor Reports

Community Residences – Anne Rule reported that one ID group home will move on December 1, 2014. The advantage of the move is that the new home will be more accessible. An open house will be scheduled after the move and ID committee members will be invited.

The meeting ended at 8:45 p.m.

Approval of November meeting minutes – These minutes were reviewed by committee members at the December 3, 2014 meeting. The minutes were approved as drafted. The minutes will be submitted to the full CSB at its December 17, 2015 meeting.