

**Intellectual Disability Committee of the Arlington County Community Services Board**  
**Meeting on Wednesday, September 10, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.**  
Room B, DHS Building, 2100 Washington Boulevard, Arlington VA 22204

The meeting was called to order and facilitated by CSB members and committee co-chairs Barbara Jones and Carol Skelly.

**Introductions** – Barbara Jones and Carol Skelly, CSB members and ID committee co-chairs; committee members and guests Chuck Adkins-Blanch, Cherie Takemoto, David and Nancy Tishman, and Kevin Youman; staff representatives of service providers Kris Hollins of Community Residences, Luke Lemon and Heath Pond of Good Neighbor Homes, Pat Vinson of Job Discovery Inc., Bethany Barr of Linden Resources, and Deb Bauer and Brenda Richardson of ServiceSource; Rikki Epstein of The Arc of Northern Virginia; April Rosenthal of Arlington County’s Therapeutic Recreation Offices; Joanna Wise Barnes of Arlington County’s Developmental Disability Services.

**Approval of July Minutes** – Minutes of the July 8, 2015 committee meeting were reviewed by committee members and approved as drafted. They will be submitted to the full Community Services Board during its September 23 meeting.

**The Arc of Northern Virginia – Rikki Epstein** distributed three hand-outs: The Arc of Northern Virginia’s September 2015 Legislative Update, a flier about their September 29 Walk & Roll to end the wait for *A Life Like Yours*, and a flier about their October 24 *Arctoberfest Halloween Extravaganza*. (See attachments.) She stated that The Arc completed and published another transition guide – this one is on aging. And she reported that Lucy Beadnell of The Arc is seeking personal stories of people / families that have a loved one on the ID or DD waiver waiting list; the stories will be used during The Arc’s advocacy efforts.

**New Group Homes for Training Center Residents** – Joanna Wise Barnes announced that Virginia’s Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services has given Arlington an additional \$500,000 to fund development of two homes for persons returning to Arlington from training centers, bringing the total to \$1,589,500.

**Kris Hollins, Clinical Director, Community Residences, Inc.** distributed sketches showing three views of their new group home, attached. He indicated that the former home was demolished that day, and that construction of the new home is scheduled to begin on September 14. The five individuals from training centers have accepted CR’s offer of admission to the home. Their team meetings for discharge planning will begin soon. CR intend to submit their application for licensure of the new group home to the State in mid-October.

In response to questions from committee members, Kris and Joanna added the following information:

- Four residents will be discharged from NVTC and one will come from CVTC.
- Neighbors of the home have been supportive.
- There are two common areas, a patio, five bedrooms and three bathrooms.
- The basement is for storage only.

- There is parking for four vehicles.
- The staffing ratio is 2:5, plus a program manager. There will also be a nurse and a behavioralist.
- The home will have a generator.
- CR will offer day support activities under Waiver funding, but upgrades are being made by the County to the Community Integration Center at Woodmont to accommodate the needs of some residents.
- State bridge funding and exceptional Waiver rates are expected to enhance regular ID Waiver rates and funding for services.
- CR plans to admit two residents on November 23 and three on November 30.

**Heath Pond, Administrative Residential Director and Luke Lemon, Residential Development**

**Manager of Good Neighbor Homes, Inc.** distributed pictures of their new group home, attached. They shared the following information about their organization. Good Neighbor Homes operates 27 homes in ten counties in Virginia. These serve person with ID, some of whom have a dual diagnosis of mental illness. Separately, the agency has a behavioral health side which includes tele-psychiatry.

They closed on the home September 8 and construction will begin September 14. It will be Good Neighbor Homes' biggest renovation. Their Arlington group home will be 3,200 square feet. It will be accessible upstairs and downstairs, with two ramps, 36" doors, two ADA bathrooms, and a shower that can accommodate a shower trolley. It has a large yard which will be fully fenced. Construction is slated to be complete by October 8 or 9, followed by completing the licensure process, with move-in by mid-October. Four of the five prospective residents have accepted admission. One meeting at NVTC has been held, with the others pending. Most residents will have behavioral support needs; some will have medical needs too.

Good Neighbor Homes has transitioned 43 individuals to communities from training centers in two years. None have returned to training centers, none have been discharged by their organization, and none have needed REACH (crisis stabilization program). The agency prides itself on good transition plans and good communication. They have two medical directors, two nurse practitioners, two nurses, and an occupational therapist. The medical director can be on site as needed, and they plan to use a contract nurse in Arlington. They also will have a Positive Behavioral Supports specialist as a consultant to the team. Their staffing ratio will be 2:5. There will be a house supervisor, a team leader, and a regional manager involved. Staff turnover may be high in the beginning, until they get the right people on board, because the company has high expectations.

**ID Committee Membership and Procedures – Carol Skelly and Barbara Jones** distributed three hand-outs – Role of CSB Committee on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities dated 9-10-15, Policy Number 403 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS Adopted June 21, 2006 and Arlington County Community Services Board Charter dated April 7, 2014. All are attached. Carol and Barbara explained that this is a subcommittee of the full CSB, that there are CSBs all over Virginia. *The Arlington CSB has formal policies and procedures, which are available to anyone who is interested. The ID committee tends to operate more informally than the procedures suggest, mostly by discussing topics of interest and proceeding by*

*consensus. The contributions of service provider representatives are very important; however, if a vote is taken, they are not permitted to vote due to potential conflicts with their interests as county contractors. Carol also explained that consumer privacy has to be strictly observed due to HIPPA restrictions, and that county staff in particular are prohibited from discussing individual cases publicly. The ID committee has not appointed members formally, relying instead on a nucleus of citizens who attend regularly according to topics of interest. The group concurred that they wanted to continue to operate as described.*

**Planning 2016 DD Proclamation Ceremony – Barbara Jones** explained that the budget for the event is limited, the event planning uses considerable staff time, both DDS and TRO staff have historically been involved along with committee members, it's typically filmed by Arlington's Audio-Video Network for later airing, and has been held at multiple County and community locations throughout the years. There was discussion about the event's purpose, including outreach. And the committee did some brain-storming about a topic for the March 2016 event. Ideas included featuring the Community Integration Center and the two new group homes under development.

**Update on October 3 Housing Workshop – Carol Skelly** reminded the committee that the Saturday, October 3 housing workshop will substitute for the committee's regular October meeting, so the committee will not meet on October 7. The workshop is intended to be an outreach event in addition to educating families about housing resources.

**Vendor Updates - Deb Bauer of ServiceSource** described some of the upgrades that the County has made to the Woodmont Center, where ServiceSource operates the Community Integration Center. This includes a changing room that is two times larger than before. The census at the program is 49 now.

#### **Staff Updates:**

**April Rosenthal of the Therapeutic Recreation Office** distributed two fliers – one titled Therapeutic Recreation Office – Narrative for CSB – September 2015, the other about the monthly Family Fun Night at Langston Brown Community Center. See attachments. April asked whether there would be a desire or interest for a wheelchair sports camp ages three up to tween/teens. She also suggested that it would be helpful if group home staff could remain with program participants rather than dropping them off; Joanna will convey this to the residential services coordinator.

**Joanna Wise Barnes of Developmental Disability Services** reported on staff issues: DDS Bureau Chief La Voyce Reid will attend the October Housing Workshop and the ID committee's November meeting. Support coordination positions are filled. A new position for quality assurance in DD Services was filled. The Aging and Disability Services Division has a new administrative officer, whose job includes support of fiscal management within DDS. Joanna also handed out information about The Arc of Greater Prince William's annual Circle of Support conference; see attached.

The meeting ended at 8:30 p.m.

**Approval of September Minutes** – These minutes were reviewed by the ID committee during its November 4, 2015 meeting. They were approved as drafted and will be submitted to the Arlington County CSB at its full meeting on November 18, 2015.