

ARLINGTON COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD

SUBSTANCE ABUSE COMMITTEE MINUTES

November 23, 2015

Members Present: Jim Mack, Jenette O’Keefe, Shawn Buckner, Shauna Alonge, Lonnie Ford, Wes Sanchez

Members Absent: Patti Aaron, Keith Whyte, Charlie Baughman, Craig Dabney, Len Fischer,

BHD Staff: Joe Bullock, Bill Briggs

I. HIV, HEPATITIS PREVENTION PROGRAM OVERVIEW- Dr. Bullock introduced Mr. Bill Briggs, HIV Prevention Specialist, to the committee. Mr. Briggs provided a very detailed overview of the SAS HIV specialist position that is responsible for the provision of specialized services to substance abusers at high risk of acquiring HIV, HEP C, TB and other communicable diseases or having AIDS or HEP C, including the following services:

- Early intervention services for HIV, HEP C, TB and other communicable diseases through presentations and discussions in education classes or treatment groups; screening/testing and risk reduction counseling.
- Interim substance abuse services, to person who are a priority population (IDUs, HIV+ and Pregnant Women) within 48 hours of request for services.
- Substance abuse case management/care coordination for HIV+ substance abusers in treatment, including work regarding the stigma of substance abuse and HIV/STD/HEP C/AIDS; and support groups.
- Outreach activities in the community to increase awareness about drug abuse and communicable diseases as well as community resources for testing.
- Educational opportunities and consultation to BHD staff and community agencies to increase awareness of HIV, HEP C, TB and other communicable diseases and relationship with substance abuse.
- Establish a community resource network of related health and social service organizations to ensure knowledge of the availability of communicable diseases services as well as the continuum of substance abuse treatment services available from SAS. This work includes close collaboration, consultation and some outreach with Children and Youth, Senior Adult and Public Health sectors within the Department of Human Services

Mr. Briggs provided statistic showing that approximately 1,454 persons are living with HIV in Arlington with 86% of those being male. While the largest population falls within the 25-34 age group, Mr. Briggs reported that new cases among the 15-24 age group is trending upwards. Mr. Briggs responded to a variety of questions as well as provided some statistical data related to the prevalence of persons living with HIV in Arlington. .

II. SA COMMITTEE FY 16 WORKPLAN- Dr. Bullock led a discussion focused on finalizing the FY 2016 committee work plan. Dr. Bullock confirmed with the committee recommended options for site visits, possible topics for presentation to the committee that were proposed for the work plan at last month’s committee meeting. The committee decided to schedule site visits to see the SA/MH programs in the Arlington County Detention Facility, the new

Arlington Shelter and the RPC Social Detox/Early Recovery programs for FY 16. Dr. Bullock will add minor edits to the work plan as recommended by the committee.

III. SA COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT- Mr. Mack summarized with the committee the CSB Budget Priority process for FY 17. Mr. Mack as well as Ms. Shauna Alonge informed the committee of several highlights from the CSB Annual Retreat meeting held in October 2015. There was a presentation of service redesign by Beth Tschopp, CSB Executive Director, designed as a prelude to the board exploring/identifying CSB program budget priorities by the board for FY 17. There were several key projects already underway to include: the Zero Suicide initiative, Trauma Informed Care implementation and exploration of a same day access for consumers presenting for CSB services. Mr. Mack stated that the CSB will ideally be in a much better position to complete its work of identifying key priority strategic planning following the retreat. The CSB is also looking at the role, mission, gaps, efficiencies and succession planning that best serves the CSB organizationally. The CSB also completed a self-assessment survey and analysis of the outcome is currently underway. Mr. Mack reminded the committee that Citizen advocacy at the county public hearings takes place late March 2016 and the Arlington County manager typically submits a final FY 17 budget to the county board the third week in April 2016.

IV. DIRECTOR REPORT: Dr. Bullock informed the committee that the ACT Unit celebrated its 25th anniversary celebration earlier in November with the Honorable William Newman serving as the keynote speaker. The event was very festive and included consumers currently in the program providing entertainment through song, poems and brief skits. Dr. Bullock also announced that the Drug Court Program will be hosting a new graduation program for three consumers who will be completing the program. The graduation ceremony will take place on Thursday, December 10th in the Arlington Courthouse.

NOTE: The next SA Committee meeting will be held on **December 14, 2015 at 5:00 pm and will be the first site visit of the year to the Arlington County Detention facility** to get an overview of the ACT Unit and Mental Health Jail programs.