

Developmental Disability Committee of the Arlington County Community Services Board  
Wednesday, June 29, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.  
ArlingtonWeaves, Etc., 2110 Washington Blvd, Suite 302, Arlington VA 22204

*The meeting was preceded by a tour of the ArlingtonWeaves, Etc. (formerly Woodmont Weavers) site and a reception hosted by ServiceSource, Inc. as the current provider of the ArlingtonWeaves, Etc. weaving program. An overview of the program's transition was presented by Deb Bauer, Brenda Richardson, and Ken Crum of ServiceSource. The ServiceSource staff welcomed the DD Committee to the new site.*

*The reception also honored out-going DD Committee Co-chair, Barbara Jones, for nine years of dedicated service to the Arlington County Community Services Board. Carol Skelly highlighted Barbara's exceptional contributions to the planning of the annual Proclamation ceremonies for persons with developmental disabilities.*

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 DD Committee Co-chairs; committee members and attendees: Alex Soroko, Ann Kelly, Chuck Adkins-Blanch, Erik Hottenstein, Caroline Hottenstein, Casey Youman, Nancy Tishman, and Donna Budway; staff representatives of service providers: Sharon McDaniel (ServiceSource), Brenda Richardson (ServiceSource), Ken Crum (ServiceSource); Bethany Barr (Linden Resources), Anne Rule (Community Residences), Norman Hill (Community Residences), and Pat Vinson (JDI); and County staff members: April Rosenthal (Therapeutic Parks and Recreation), Jennifer Mc Kinney Acheson (DHS/DDS Bureau), and La Voyce Reid (DHS/DDS Bureau).

Approval of June 1, 2016 Minutes – The June 1, 2016 minutes were approved with the following edits:

- Page 2 – "Value of paid employment to the individual served" (Edit to read: "Value of paid employment to the individual's support needs")
- Page 2 – "Need to examine ways in which to measure persons with ID/DD and served by the CSB. . ." (Edit to read: Examine ways in which to measure persons with ID/DD that are served by the CSB")
- Page 3 – "At the September meeting La Voyce will present employment data specific to individuals with ID/DD" (Edit to read: "At the September meeting La Voyce will present data that is reported under Employment First and relevant to levels of independence and location")
- Page 3 – Correct the last name of Donna to read, "Goldbranson" from SPARC
- Page 3 – Woodmont Weavers successfully transitioned from the Ballston Mall to the new site at Sequoia II; *three* of ten participants transitioned to the new site. . ." (Edit to read: seven of the ten participants transitioned . . .)

The Arc of Northern Virginia – A representative from The Arc of NOVA was not in attendance and thus there updates were not provided.

DD Bureau Program Reviews (continued from June 1, 2016 DD Committee meeting):

La Voyce presented an overview of the Senior Adult Mental Health (SAMH) program. Highlights included:

- 49 individuals were served by the SAMH Psychiatrist during FY2016
- 42 individuals were served by the SAMH Psychologist during FY2016

Jennifer McKinney Acheson, DDS Bureau, Residential Services Contract Manager, presented the program review for residential services. Highlights for FY16 included:

- The Bureau received an additional \$500,000 from the state (DBHDS) to develop accessibility upgrades for the two new group homes;
- Developed two new group homes (one from the ground up) and welcomed nine individuals discharged from either the Northern Virginia Training Center (NVTC) or the Central Virginia Training Center (CVTC);
- Welcomed a new residential provider, Good Neighbor Homes; and
- Installed new flooring and new carpet at Arlington's Irving Street and Third Street group homes

Also discussed by Jennifer was

- The fact that while the Bureau does maintain a waitlist for residential services, it is not a "lengthy" list; and
- Waiver re-design incentives for lowering the residential capacity of group homes based on a newly designed system of tiers and levels.

Therapeutic Recreation Office – April Rosenthal of the Arlington Department of Parks and Recreation, Therapeutic Recreation program provided a report on summer programs and services as following:

- Registration is still open for iCan Bike, which serves children age eight years and older. The first week of iCan Bike begins in August.
- 200 Departmental (Camp Site) staff recently attended a training wherein the ServiceSource café (Bloom) catered.

Refer to the Therapeutic Recreation Office handout (attached) for additional updates.

Committee Membership

Carol Skelly, DD Committee Co-Chair, presented a handout entitled, "Membership on the CSB Standing Committee on Developmental Disabilities." C. Skelly reviewed the handout in detail. The following are highlights from her presentation:

- Approximately one year ago the decision was made to handle membership of the DD Committee "informally." Specifically, anyone attending DD Committee would be entitled to a vote. C. Skelly noted that there was a need for this informality because the Committee had less involvement from families than currently.

- The CSB bylaws call for more structure surrounding membership; a more formal DD Committee membership would be in alignment with other CSB Committees.

C. Skelly put forth a request or proposal asking people to “volunteer” to be members. She commented that citizens or family members could be members, but not providers or persons that have a conflict of interest.

The following comments or questions represent discussion from Committee members in attendance of the meeting:

- Members who are unable to attend meetings on a regular basis, but come, on occasion, and are not permitted to vote. It was noted that this could be stressful for someone who makes the effort to attend periodically, but would not be permitted to vote.
- Members that are “new” to attending – should they have a little more knowledge about what the Committee does before being allowed to vote;
- Some Committee members attend and bring people with them to bolster or represent their position;
- Could or should members sign an agreement
- A more structured DD Committee could garner more respect from the larger CSB Community and County Board
- The current informality of the DD Committee has not posed a serious issue just yet, but it is wise to be concerned about the importance of the matter

C. Skelly proposed sending out a notice to the current distribution list/roster advising that the Committee is seeking to formalize membership and that people will need to sign up to be appointed to the Committee. Further, in September, the Committee would begin to operate under this new procedure. The meetings would remain open to the public.

All in favor of the above proposal = 8

All opposed to the above proposal = 1

Abstained = 0

*Refer to the above handout (attached) for additional information.*

### Fall Agenda

There was continued discussion of employment resources and opportunities for persons with developmental disabilities with some emphasis on location (in and away from Arlington County).

Also discussed was SPARC (Specially Adapted Resource Club) operated out of Herndon, VA, but with discussion about expanding this program to Arlington. SPARC emphasizes job training and development, social skills, and cooking skills. A proposed program in Arlington would consist of three days. An information meeting about SPARC is scheduled for July 11<sup>th</sup>; thus far, 14 families have expressed interest in attending. The program’s director, Donna Goldbranson, would be willing to begin an operation in Arlington with as few as five individuals. At this time, the biggest issue or barrier to expanding in Arlington County is “space.”

Donna Budway communicated that members of the Autistic Self Advocacy Network (ASAN) recently met the Justice Department about a law suit over the use of "Spell to Communicate" (a letter board instrument used by persons on the Autism Spectrum). D. Budway reported that it looks as though the Justice Department will take on the case.

It was agreed that the fall agenda, namely the September and October meetings, would have focus on employment. It was further agreed that an invitation to SPARC would be extended to present its program.

#### Staff Updates:

L. Reid presented the following updates

- o The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) recently announced that the delay of "My Life My Community" (Waiver Redesign) to August 1, 2016, pending approval from CMS (Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services);
- o Staff vacancies include a second DDS II/Support Coordinator; Habilitation/Employment/Transportation Contract Manager, and DDS Program Manager. Offers of employment are pending for the Program Manager and Contract Manager positions.
- o Arlington CSB/DHS will contract with current DD case management providers and continues to work on a contract and scope of work for this purpose. At present, Arlington has 15 individuals with the DD Waiver; 24 people remain on the waitlist.

#### Vendor Reports

JDI– Pat Vinson shared that recently received a three year accreditation with CARF

Linden Resources –Linden Resources also received a three year CARF accreditation. Further, Linden Resources, at present, has 30 individuals participating in its 'Career Readiness' program and 21 individual participants in its "Integrated Day Support" program.

ServiceSource – reminded participants that the Bloom café has created (for sale) several products created by persons with developmental disabilities. The café is located at its Oakton site.

Deb Bauer also shared that this summer SPARC is using space at the Oakton site two days a week. ServiceSource will participate in a 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade in partnership with the Civitans in the City of Falls Church.

New Business – No new business reported

The next regular DD Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, September 7, 2016 at 6:30 pm and will be held at 2100 Washington Blvd., Conference Room B, Arlington, VA