



The Arlington Community Services Board

2100 Washington Boulevard
Arlington, VA 22204
(703) 228-5150 FAX: (703) 228-4853



Anne Marie C. Hermann
ACCSB Chair

December 19, 2018
2100 Washington Blvd.
Lower Level Auditorium
Arlington, Virginia
7:00 pm – Full Board Meeting

Deborah Warren
DHS Deputy Director/
CSB Executive Director

Present: Anne Hermann, Dori Mitchell, Joanne Del Toro, Steve Taphorn, Gretchen Foster, David FitzGerald, Frank Haltiwanger, Steve Gallagher, Jim Mack, Wendy Carria, Lynne Kozma, Judy Deane, Carol Skelly, Jenette O'Keefe

Excused: Linda Kelleher, Asha Patton-Smith, Sherry Coles, Cherie Takemoto

Staff: Kelly Mauller, Deborah Warren, Ollie Russell

Public Comment(s)

Public comment is limited to 5 minutes. At the discretion of the CSB Chair, additional time may be given. There will be a brief opportunity for the board members to ask questions but no discussion of the matter will be held at the time.

There was no public comment.

Presentation: Housing Assistance Programs

Ms. Warren introduced Sara Thompson, Program Manager, Economic Independence Division (EID) Housing Bureau and Nicole Harmon, EID Housing Bureau Chief. Ms. Thompson and Ms. Harmon presented about Arlington County's Housing Assistance Programs. They are as follows:

- Housing Grant Program
- Housing Choice Voucher Program
- Housing Choice Voucher: Mainstream Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)
- Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Program

Housing Grants

Ms. Harmon stated that Housing Grants provide County funded rental assistance. She provided the eligibility criteria for obtaining a housing grant.

- A working family with minor children
- Age 65 or older
- Totally and permanently disabled or County supported mental health client
- Must be able to contribute 40% of income

- Maximum income and asset levels apply
- Applicant must already have a lease in their name

Ms. Harmon provided statistics for FY18. They are as follows:

- The total number of households served per month was 1,234
- The total number of new applications processed was 1,227
- 399, or 32%, of housing voucher recipients age 65 and older received a housing grant
- 531, or 43%, of housing voucher recipients with a disability received a housing grant
- 304, or 24%, of working families received a housing grant
- Individuals age 65 and older received an average annual income of \$14,926
- Individuals with a disability received an average annual income of \$14,766
- Working families received an average annual income of \$28,085

Housing Choice Voucher Program

Ms. Harmon stated that the Housing Choice Voucher Program is a federally funded rental assistance program. She provided the eligibility criteria for obtaining a housing choice voucher.

- Income is below 50% of the average median income
- Must be able to contribute 30% of income
- Prioritization is given to:
 - County residents
 - Disabled individuals qualifying for PSH
 - Victims of domestic violence
 - Special needs
- Ms. Harmon provided statistics for FY18. They are as follows:
- 1,504 families received a housing choice voucher in FY18
- The overall lease-up rate was 95%
- 490, or 33%, housing voucher recipients age 62 and older received a housing choice voucher
- 307, or 20%, housing voucher recipients with a disability received a housing choice voucher
- 707, or 47%, of non-elderly disabled housing voucher recipients received a housing choice voucher

Ms. Harmon stated that, on average, 69% of those eligible will stay in the housing choice voucher program for five or more years.

Housing Choice Voucher: Mainstream Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)

Ms. Harmon stated that the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) partnered with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, representatives from the Center for Medicaid/Medicare Services, The Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), Administration for Community Living and the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation. Arlington County applied and was awarded over \$400,000 in grant funding for Mainstream Vouchers; or 40 new vouchers.

She added that NOFA:

- Helps further the goals of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) by helping individuals with disabilities live in the most integrated setting
- Encourages partnerships with health and human service agencies with a demonstrated capacity to coordinate voluntary services and supports to enable individuals to live independently in the community

- Incentivizes Public Housing Authorities (PHA) to assist non-elderly individuals with disabilities who are:
 - Transitioning out of an institutional or other segregated setting
 - At serious risk of institutionalization
 - Homeless or at risk of becoming homeless

Ms. Harmon stated that an eligible household is composed of one or more non-elderly individuals with disabilities, and may include additional household members who are not non-elderly individuals with disabilities. She added that a household where the sole member is an emancipated minor is not an eligible household.

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Program

Ms. Thompson presented background information about PSH:

- PSH is a program for individuals with disabilities who need housing supports in order to obtain and keep housing
- The tenant pays 30% of their income towards rent
- Support services/case management is provided by County staff
- PSH staff identify units for participants
- PSH staff can provide additional housing supports in the event of unresolved tenant issues
- There are currently over 250 participants in scattered locations

Ms. Thompson described the PSH referral process:

- Referrals are made by DHS case managers
- PSH schedules an admissions meeting to screen referrals twice per month
- Once an applicant is accepted, PSH will work to identify an apartment for an individual and assist with the apartment application and subsidy process
- Applicants are prioritized by housing need
- Screening criteria includes:
 - The applicant must have a disability
 - The applicant must have a DHS case manager
 - Income must be 40% below the area median income
 - The applicant must have a critical housing need (homeless, group home, couch surfing, discharging from hospital, etc.)

Ms. Thompson added that there are currently 48 individuals that have undergone the screening process.

Ms. Thompson provided a comparison of local and state PSH programs.

Local	State
All individuals must have a disability	CSB client with a serious mental illness - homeless or discharging from a state institution
Requires a DHS case manager	Does not require a DHS case manager
1 housing specialists for 231 tenants	1.75 housing specialist for 44 tenants
Minimum home visit every 90 days by DDHS case manager	Minimum home visit every 30 days by housing specialist; every 90 days by DHS case manager
DHS case manager responsible for addressing routine housing issues	PSH housing specialist responsible for addressing routine housing issues
Does not provide funds for moving, furniture and utility deposits	Provides funds for moving, furniture and utility deposits

Ms. Thompson stated there were 254 occupied PSH households at the end of FY18 and 55% approved applicants who obtained housing.

Medicaid 1115 Demonstration Waiver

Ms. Thompson stated that a Medicaid 1115 waiver is a request made under authority of Section 1115 of the Social Security Act, which gives the Secretary of Health and Human Services authority to approve experimental, pilot or demonstration projects that promote the objective of the Medicaid and CHIP Programs.

Ms. Thompson stated that, as a part of the 2018 Appropriations Act the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) submitted a waiver "designed to empower individuals to improve their health and well-being... while simultaneously ensuring the program's long-term fiscal sustainability". In VA, the changes requested to the Demonstration project include:

- Implement Work and Community Engagement Requirements
- Implement a Health and Wellness Program
- Provide Housing and Employment Supports for High Need Enrollees

Ms. Thompson stated that, if the demonstration waiver is approved, Medicaid could pay for:

- Individual Housing Transition Services, inclusive of Community Transition Services
- Assessment, applying for apt, service plan, identifying resources to secure housing, move in inspection
- Individual Housing and Tenancy Sustaining Services
- Modifying service plan, linking tenant to services, entitlement assistance, education on tenancy and landlord rights, eviction prevention
- The above are all services that PSH staff provide under our local program

Ms. Thompson stated that services not eligible for Housing Supports Benefit are as follows:

- Rental assistance
- Capital cost related to housing development/modification
- Recreation services
- Duplicative services from other state or federal programs

Housing Grant Questions and Responses

- Is the 40% income contribution pre-tax or after taxes? The contribution is pre-tax.
- Is there a limit to length of stay in the program? There is no limit as long as the individual remains within the requirements of the grant.
- Why would individuals leave the program? For a variety of reasons such as a fluctuation in income.
- How difficult is it for an individual to obtain a lease prior to applying for grant support? The individual applies for the grant and receives a pre-eligibility letter, if approved. The individual can then present the approval letter to a landlord, obtain a lease, and then present the lease to DHS within 60 days.
- Does DHS track eviction rates? DHS can track individuals that have been evicted or if there is a change in income.
- How does DHS monitor continued eligibility? Individuals must recertify eligibility annually.
- Are the grants funded by the State? The housing grants are fully funded by local funds.
- Are rents frozen or do rent increases create a barrier to maintain housing? The maximum allowable rents that are set for housing grants are set by the County and have remained in place since 2010.

Housing Choice Voucher Program Questions and Responses

- How is it determined if individuals are still eligible? Individuals are required to recertify annually.

- What is the difference between tenant based vs. project based housing choice vouchers? Project based vouchers are designated to a property or a unity. Tenant based vouchers remain with the tenant and can be used at various properties.
- Is there an advantage to having a housing choice voucher as opposed to a housing grant? The housing choice voucher is more subsidized and there is no maximum allowable rent.
- How many applicants on the waiting list obtain housing per year? Approximately 6 applicants per year.
- If individuals move from Arlington, can they remain on the waiting list? Yes, per County policy.
- How do you determine fraud such as a voucher holder subletting to a third party? Inspectors randomly visit the properties, landlords are educated about their rights in the program and how to identify suspicious activity. Landlords can also contact DHS to schedule a visit from an Arlington Fraud Inspector.
- What is a 2130? A 2130 is a letter from the landlord that states that there is a lease violation and that the tenant has 21 days to correct the violation. If the tenant does not correct the violation, the letter serves as a 30-day notice to vacate the premises.

Housing Choice Voucher: Mainstream Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)

- The members discussed the distribution timeline for obtaining a mainstream voucher. Ms. Harmon stated that it can take up to approximately 120 days to qualify and distribute a voucher to an individual.

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Questions and Responses

- There were no questions.

1115 Medicaid Demonstration Waiver Questions and Responses

- When will the 1115 waiver go into effect? The waiver has not yet been approved.

The members thanked Ms. Harmon and Ms. Thompson for the presentation.

Approval of the November 14, 2018 ACCSB Meeting Minutes

Chair Hermann called for a motion to approve the November 14, 2018 ACCSB Full Board meeting minutes. Ms. Mitchell motioned to approve minutes, Ms. Deane seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved with no changes.

Debrief: Ethics Consultation December 3rd

Chair Hermann asked the members if they have any comments about the presentation by Michael Gillette Ph.D., of Bioethical Services of Virginia. Mr. Gillette presented about the Allocation of resources during a time of scarcity. The members did not have any comments.

CSB Executive Director's Report

- ✓ Ms. Warren provided an update about the County Budget. She stated that there will be reductions in CSB services within DHS and that the County manager will release the County's budget in February. She added that the CSB must submit their budget priorities to the County Manager by January 11th. Chair Hermann suggested that the members move the Executive Committee meeting from January 14th to January 7th in order to have time to discuss the priorities in more detail. The members agreed.

The CSB draft budget priorities are as follows:

Mental Health (MH) Committee

- 1 FTE Peer Recovery Specialist for the PACT team
- 1 FTE MH Therapist for Forensic Services

- 1 FTE MH Therapist for Emergency Services

Developmental Disabilities (DD) Committee

- Customized employment, especially as a service for the upcoming "graduates."

Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Committee

- 1 FTE therapist to assist in addressing the increasing number of clients being seen by the Outpatient SUD team.
- 1 FTE therapist to respond to the growing Office Based Opioid Treatment (OBOT) program.
- 1.25 FTE Peer Recovery Specialist to increase outreach and focus on "warm hand-off's" from jail and residential treatment programs.

Child and Youth (CY) Committee

- The Child and Youth Committee does not have a request at this time.

Mr. Russell reported out about the joint Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Child and Youth Committees to discuss gaps in services for individuals with Autism. He added that, as a result of that meeting, a recommendation was made for the following:

- .5 FTE to increase the current psychologist from .5 to 1.0 FTE
- Funding for a consultant who can provide clinical supervision and coaching for staff working with clients with ASD/MH. The consultant would be expected to coach staff on developing and implementing behavioral plans, in addition to the ongoing clinical support.

Ms. Warren stated that DHS secured funds for the region from the State to invite Dr. Robert Fletcher to Northern Virginia on February 25th, 26th and 27th to train clinical staff about autism and co-occurring behavioral health issues and how to treat them. The training will be held in Fairfax. She added that enough funding was secured to be able to have Dr. Fletcher train an additional cohort in June of 2019.

- ✓ Ms. Warren provided an update about the Regional Mobile Crisis Stabilization (CR2) program. She reported that the Fairfax CSB was able to find funding to support the addition of 2 clinicians for CR2. Ms. Warren also reported that there is language in the draft State budget that about increasing funds for mobile crisis stabilization for children with co-occurring disorders and adults.
- ✓ Ms. Warren provided an update about the Virginia Hospital Center (VHC) expansion. She stated that the County Board approved accepting a grant from VHC to pilot "Diversion First." She added that VHC will fund a \$100,000 per year pilot for 1 mobile licensed clinician for 5 years. The clinician's responsibilities will include meeting with youth, up to the age of 22, presenting at the Emergency Department or crisis intervention center and providing intensive care coordination in an effort to divert the individual from being hospitalized. Ms. Warren added that staff, CSB members and VHC will engage in quarterly progress report meetings.
- ✓ Ms. Warren stated that STEP VA includes nine mandatory services to be available in all regions of the Commonwealth. These services may be provided directly by the Community Services Boards, through regional collaborations, or by designated collaborating organizations (contractual/referral arrangements). All services are grounded in person/family centered, recovery oriented, and trauma informed approaches. Arlington has already implemented two of the nine services; Same Day Access and Primary Care Screenings.

Ms. Warren reported that 16 individuals, including herself, across all 40 CSBs have been chosen by Commission Melton to form a regional advisory group to determine how to develop and implement Step VA. She added that Commissioner Melton would like to utilize Arlington's Performance Measurement Plan report as a template for measuring STEP VA outcomes.

Ms. Warren reported that State Commissioner Melton is proposing organizing CSBs into 8 regions as opposed to the current regions. She added that HPR II, our region, would be used as a model for the entire State.

- ✓ Ms. Warren reported that changes to the CSB State Performance Contract are being proposed by Commissioner Melton. She stated that the Performance Contract will be based on outcomes instead of services provided. A draft will be available in January or February of 2019.

Miscellaneous Updates/Information - due to time constraints, Ms. Mauller will email the updates and informational items to the members.

- ✓ A report was not provided about the Commissioner Appreciation Reception held December 3rd at the County Board Office.
- ✓ Secret Santa is collecting Secret Santa gift cards for the residents of the Mary Marshall Assisted Living Residence (MMALR). Target gift cards are preferred in denominations of up to \$25. Cash and check donations are welcome. Checks should be made out to the Arlington County Treasurer. Ms. Mauller will provide the tax forms to the members.
- ✓ The Senate Finance Committee public budget hearings: Governor's Proposed Amendments to the 2018-2020 Biennial State Budget will be held on January 3, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center located at 12000 Government Center Parkway in Fairfax.
- ✓ The Arlington Delegate Public Hearing will be held on January 3, 2019 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the County Board Room.

Adjournment

The Arlington County Community Services Full Board meeting was adjourned by Chair Hermann at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kelly Mauller