

## ARLINGTON COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD

### Mental Health Committee

October 24, 2018

Approved 12/5/18

**Committee Members Present:** Judy Deane (Co-chair), Dori Mitchell (Co-chair), John Mitchell, Wayne Bert, David FitzGerald, Tameka Parker, John Blount, Anne Hermann, Leslie Gosling, Betsy Greer, Sam Howlett, Debra Byrd, Tamara Theiler

**Committee Members Absent:** Caroline Bragdon, Scott Brannon, Steve Gallagher, Tom Quinn

**Others Present:** Lila Corey (CRI), Meade Hanna (NAMI)

**Staff Present:** Alan Orenstein, Leslie Weisman, Alexis Mapes

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

**Approval of Minutes:** The May 2018 minutes were approved with correction.

### Emergency Services Presentation

After a brief discussion about how to proceed with the presentation, since some questions had been e-mailed beforehand by Mr. FitzGerald, it was decided to review the Emergency Services Performance Management Plan. Ms. Mapes reviewed the program's FY18 utilization data including clients served, face-to-face contacts, and the increasing number of TDOs (491 FY17 and 613 FY18). This review was interspersed with many member questions including: the definition of TDO (Temporary Detention Orders), CMA (Court Mandated Admission), and MOT (Mandatory Outpatient Treatment); and the involvement of the police when there is an emergency outreach. Mr. FitzGerald emphasized the importance of MOT as one tool to help patients without insight move towards compliance on medication and other issues, perhaps significantly lessening the load on jails, prison, and homelessness when used appropriately, and he expressed the hope that it would be more widely used in Arlington. During her discussion, Ms. Mapes was asked to guess the percentage of times when only the police can respond to ECO/TDO requests from families as compared to when ES mobile crisis staff backed up by police are able to respond. She guessed that around 75% of all such requests are responded to by police only, with ES mobile crisis staff only able to respond 25% of the time. Finally, Ms. Mapes was invited to identify staffing needs. She described the need for an emergency therapist to help handle anticipated TDOs and divert clients to community-based alternatives, and a Human Services Specialist to assist the emergency therapists with clinical-administrative duties.

### Review of Budget Proposals

Ms. Deane gave some County budget- related background. VHC may request a financial contribution to a program it is developing (CR2); there will likely be a CSB Autism service-related budget ask; and the County Manager noted at a virtual townhall meeting that the County would likely be covering the \$1.6 million annual cost of Medicaid Expansion, if CSB and County Board advocacy efforts to restore the money to the CSBs does not succeed.

Dr. Orenstein summarized where we were with the budget discussion and briefly summarized the surviving 3 proposals. Anticipating a priority ranking procedure, he distributed and described voting ballots. Ms. Mitchel invited clarifications and thoughts about preferences, and there were comments

from Dr. Orenstein, Mr. FitzGerald, Ms. Byrd, Ms. Parker, and Ms. Hanna regarding the proposals. The members then completed the ranking ballots and returned them to Dr. Orenstein. Follow-up: Dr. Orenstein will tally ratings and inform members by e-mail

(Amendment: The calculation completed after the meeting is below and Dr. Orenstein informed the Committee chairs 10/26/18.)

<b>RATER</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>RANK</b>
<b>MH Therapist Emergency Service</b>	2.7	<b>3</b>
<b>MH Therapist Forensic Services</b>	2.3	<b>2</b>
<b>Human Services Spec (peer spec) PACT</b>	1.4	<b>1</b>

1= highest priority, 3=lowest priority

### **Outpatient Director's Report**

Dr. Orenstein distributed and reviewed the monthly Committee agenda topics drafted at the previous meeting. He reported that all the proposed presenters had confirmed. He noted, also, that the agenda of the 3/27/19 meeting is still to be determined.

### **Chairs' Report**

Ms. Deane gave an update of the VHC negotiations. While the negotiations are continuing, they are close to an agreement regarding VHC's contribution to expanding treatment options for children in psychiatric crisis. All other aspects of the agreement have been agreed upon including the formula for requesting and distributing additional behavioral health beds; plans for improvements in the psychiatric ward and the Emergency Department; and VHC's proposal to establish an intensive outpatient program. The new behavioral health beds are not likely to come on line for several years, and the exact number will depend on the data recorded at the time of application. However, if VHC applied for them today, using current data, it would lead to at least a doubling of the current number of psychiatric beds.

### **Announcements**

Mr. Bert noted and recommended a PBS movie, "God Knows Where I am". Ms. Deane noted the 11/8/18 joint meeting with the Developmental Disabilities Committee regarding Autism. The meeting will be 7 pm-9 pm at the 2120 auditorium, and the agenda will include: an introduction by Ms. Skelly; a summary of State research findings by Ms. Warren; a panel describing the needs of current MH and DDS clients and the experience of the school system; and a community discussion and recommendations for next steps.

**Adjournment.** The Committee adjourned at 7:55 pm.