

**Arlington County Community Services Board
Executive Committee Meeting**

**November 6th, 2019
2100 Washington Boulevard – Lower Level Room A
Arlington VA 22201**

Present: Jenette O’Keefe, Carol Skelly, Dori Mitchell, Paul Kalchbrenner, Wendy Carria, David FitzGerald, Asha Patton-Smith, Sherry Coles, Frank Haltiwanger, Cherie Takemoto

Absent: Jim Mack, Steve Taphorn, Gretchen Foster, Joanne Del Toro, Lynn Kozma, Anne Hermann, Bob Gallagher

Staff: Deborah Warren, Kelly Mauller, Ollie Russell, Anita Friedman

The November 6, 2019 Arlington County Community Services Board (ACCSB) Executive Committee meeting was convened by ACCSB Chair O’Keefe at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held at 2100 Washington Boulevard, Lower Level Auditorium, Arlington, Virginia 22204.

The regularly scheduled Arlington County Community Services Board (CSB) meeting was preceded by the CSB’s Annual Legislative Delegation Forum. The legislators in attendance were Senator Adam Ebbin (30th Senate District) and Delegate Richard Sullivan (48th House District). The purpose of the Forum was to discuss the needs of the Arlington CSB relating to mental health, developmental disabilities, substance use, and children and youth, and to promote open dialogue with the members of the General Assembly representing Arlington; specifically:

Child and Family (CF) Services

- Increase the reimbursement rate for Medicaid Early Intervention Case Management. Early Intervention Services result in special education cost savings and provide an increased quality of life for the child and his/her family.
 - Delegate Sullivan asked when the rate was last increased. Ms. Carria responded that the last increase was in 2012.
 - Ms. Warren clarified that the targeted case management for early intervention refers to the rate paid for Parent, Infant and Education (PIE) services (children 0-3 in age with a 25% delay in development).
- Peer Support and Family Support - Peer and family support is a requirement for the implementation of StepVA. The objective of this step is to provide family/caregiver support services for services involving children and youth. Implementation is anticipated July 1, 2020 with full implementation July 1, 2022. Arlington CSB has 6 locally funded Peer Specialists that serve adults; however, a significant gap is Parent Partners to help parents whose children have emerging behavioral health issue to navigate systems of care.
 - Ms. Warren commented that the State has not yet allocated funding for the implementation of peer and family support services, as required by StepVA.

Developmental Disability (DD) Services

- Support a request by the Arc of Virginia for an increase in the Developmental Disabilities (DD) Medicaid Waiver reimbursement rates for employment, day programs, and residential services.
- Reinstate an age-of-caregiver criterion of 65 years for eligibility for the Statewide DD waiver Priority 1 waitlist. (Only individuals on the Priority 1 list are eligible to be considered for DD waiver allocation.) The current system does not consider caregiver age, which means that aging parents must wait for their health to deteriorate before their family members with DD can obtain a waiver and qualify for residential support. Statewide there are 13,000 individuals on the waitlist.
 - Delegate Sullivan asked how many individuals are on the Arlington wait list. Ms. Warren responded that there are 4 individuals on the Priority 1 waitlist and 40 individuals on the Priority 2 waitlist.
 - Senator Ebbin asked about State supplemental funding for waivers. Ms. Skelly responded that supplementing State funding is not allowed by the regulations. She added that most of Arlington's funding for DD services is for individuals coming out of the school system who have not yet received a waiver and are on the waitlist. There are 14 individuals graduating this year who will be eligible to receive a waiver. Once an individual receives a State waiver, the funding is converted from local to State.
 - Senator Ebbin asked, if an individual is placed on the Priority 2 waitlist, how long does it take to receive a Priority 1 waiver. Ms. Warren responded that it depends on how many waiver slots Arlington receives.

Ms. Takemoto commented about reinstating the age-of-caregiver criteria to 65 years; adding that, if a parent is not incapacitated, once the individual is 28 years of age, they will move to the Priority 2 waitlist until the parent is incapacitated or passes away.

 - Senator Ebbin asked about the difference between a Priority 1 and Priority 2 waiver. Ms. Takemoto responded that an individual first receives a Priority 1 waiver (State funded). She added that, if an individual receives a Priority 2 waiver (Locally funded) and a parent becomes incapacitated, the individual is eligible for a Priority 1 waiver. Ms. Skelly added that the Priority 1 and Priority 2 waivers are based on critical need.
 - Senator Ebbin asked how much funding would be needed to fully fund all individuals who require a Priority 1 waiver. Ms. Warren will research the data. There are 13,000 individuals in the State that need a Priority 1 waiver.
 - Delegate Sullivan asked if the age of caregiver is always 65. Ms. Takemoto that the age of caregiver was 55 prior to the waiver redesign.
- Change the method for awarding Statewide reserve waiver slots from a chronological to an urgency-of-need basis.

- Strengthen measures to prevent sexual abuse of individuals with DD. ACCSB members have been studying this issue in the aftermath of rapes resulting in two pregnancies for clients of a Fairfax day program, but we do not yet have a specific proposal.

Mental Health (MH) Services

- Need for more psychiatric beds in state and private hospitals - Virginia is currently short 1,000 in-patient intensive care psychiatric beds. There are roughly 55,000 total admissions to psychiatric hospitals in Virginia every year, and 80% of these are admitted to private hospitals with the remaining admitted to State facilities.
- Mobile Crisis Response (part of STEP VA) funding for Northern Virginia (Region II)
- Mandatory Outpatient Treatment (MOT) - Problems with the existing statute include its inapplicability for patients who lack insight into their illness and are expected to agree to treatment, and too short maximum length of plans (90 days) for them to be effective for most participants.
- Continued legislation and budgetary support for programs not to criminalize persons with Serious Mental Illness (SMI)
- Need for more group homes for persons with SMI such as schizophrenia with onsite staff support given the long wait lists. The Assisted Living Facility (ALF) wait is 2 to 3 years because current residents are not expected to move. The supportive apartment wait is up to 2 years because there is limited affordable housing. As the population ages, the need for residential supportive care apartments and ALF group homes will only continue to increase.
- The MHC advocates for stringent national background checks of staff and volunteers to help prevent abuse of persons with SMI and DD living in residential homes and participating in day programs.
 - Senator Ebbin asked if background checks are currently being conducted. Ms. Mitchell responded that the MH Committee plans to collaborate with the DD Committee to discuss what can be done moving forward to promote legislation around background checks. She added that work is also being conducted with staff to develop policies and procedures to assure that best efforts are being made for criminal background checks.

Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Services

- The restoration of the Medicare Expansion cuts remains a high priority for the SUD and the CSBs across the State. Medicaid expansion has allowed the CSB to provide more individuals with SUD services, but there are still many who do not qualify for Medicaid. When paired with the reduction in funding from the State general fund, the Arlington CSB continues to face a significant shortfall in funding.
- The SUD supports continued full funding for STEP VA so that it may continue to help more people with SUD find treatment and support. Additional funds should be appropriated to support outpatient services - a goal set by the General Assembly in the authorizing legislation.
- The SUD Committee would urge our State legislators to remain vigilant and to guard against complacency when it comes to addressing the SUD epidemic in Virginia. The SUD

Committee urges our delegation to look at innovative ways to spend federal STR/SOR funds in 2020, providing a greater focus on recovery supports including housing, education, job training, and finding employment.

Chair O'Keefe asked the legislators if they have any additional questions or comments.

- Senator Ebbin stated that he visited a group home program in Fairfax for individuals who were circumventing being admitted to a psychiatric hospital or discharging from a psychiatric hospital without a Post Hospitalization Program. He asked what, if any, agreement exists with the Virginia Hospital Center (VHC).

Mr. FitzGerald responded that, in the negotiations for the County's land swap deal with VHC, VHC had agreed to include an Intensive Outpatient Treatment program. He added that, just recently, VHC notified the community that they are not going to follow through with the program.

Ms. Friedman noted that implementing an Intensive Outpatient Treatment, with conditions as to how the plan would be designed, were agreed to in the site plan conditions. Ms. Warren stated that the CSB will contact the County Manager and report back to CSB County Attorney Liaison, Pat Carroll.

- Senator Ebbin, referencing red flag laws, asked if DHS ever encounters individuals with a firearm who could pose a substantial threat to themselves or others but have no authority to address the situation.

Ms. Friedman responded that DHS has a Project Peace Program, which is community coordinated response to domestic violence and sexual assault. Project Peace is composed of the Sheriff's Office, the County Board, Arlington Police, the Commonwealth Attorney, the Magistrate, DHS staff and Community Partners. Ms. Friedman stated that legislation was passed for a firearm protocol. The protocol states that when an individual has a protective order against another individual, who is a threat in terms of violence, the court can order the police to remove the firearm or request that the individual turn in the firearm. She noted that the protocol is only utilized for individuals with a protective order in place.

Ms. Carria stated that Arlington has a Lock and Talk Program. She added that DHS provides a free locking mechanism for guns and medications to families who request them.

- Ms. Warren reported that draft revisions have been posted to the rules and regulations for licensing providers of behavioral health services. Behavioral Health Services are licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS). Ms. Warren stated that the revisions create multiple and direct conflict with the statutes that are already included in the Code of Virginia and create administrative burdens for providers.

Delegate Sullivan asked if the revisions have gone before the regulatory town hall process. Ms. Warren responded that the town hall process closed November 1st. She added that the Northern Virginia Regional CSBs have requested language be added to specifically exclude CSBs from the provisions.

- Ms. Warren reported that another VACSB priority is to request funding to create a student loan repayment program specifically for behavioral health providers.
- Delegate Sullivan asked about the Northern Virginia Regional CSB Executive Directors. Ms. Warren responded that the CSB Executive Directors coordinate regional care and planning and are collaboratively involved in regional initiatives. She noted that the CSBs share some funding and have shared responsibility of several regional contracts.

Chair O'Keefe thanked the legislators for attending.

Approval of the October 14, 2019 Executive Committee Minutes

Chair O'Keefe called for a motion to approve the October 14, 2019 ACCSB Executive Committee meeting minutes. Mr. FitzGerald motioned to approve the minutes, Ms. Skelly seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved with no amendments.

CSB Chair Report

- Chair O'Keefe thanked the presenters for speaking at the CSB Legislative Delegation Forum.
- Chair O'Keefe opened a discussion about the CSB orientation for new and current committee members held on October 29th. She stated that there were presentations for each area of CSB service and that the orientation was well done. She asked the committee for any comments or suggestion.

Ms. Skelly suggested that the orientation place more emphasis on organizational structure and relationships and less emphasis on the content of services.

Chair O'Keefe suggested having additional handouts from all areas of service and rotating the orientation leader.

Ms. Mitchell commented that the orientation is a good opportunity for new members to learn but that it is also good for veteran committee members to attend. She suggested holding the orientation every other year and, if so, the CSB could dedicate one hour at the annual retreat to discuss organizational or program changes.

CSB Executive Director's Report

- Ms. Warren announced that, long-time advocate, Betsy Greer, passed away on November 3rd. She stated that the funeral will be held on Thursday November 21st at 2:00 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Arlington. Ms. Mauller will forward information about the funeral services to the committee.
- Ms. Warren opened a discussion about the Mental Health Committees request to post resources in a more accessible format on the County website. She distributed a handout of a proposed resource portal page created by DHS Communications Manager, Kurt Larrick. Ms. Warren provided a timeline of the project plan.

The steps in the process are as follows:

- Inventory – conduct inventory of resources listed across DHS sites (and new list from the Mental Health Committee) November 4th – 15th
- Draft – Create working draft portal page November 18th – 22nd

- Review – Share with staff SME and CSB November 25th – December 6th
- Refine – Make changes based on feedback December 9th – 13th
- Launch – Use DHS/County communications vehicles to spread word of new resource December 18th
- Maintain – Review periodically to ensure information is accurate and up to date

Ms. Mitchell will send the mental health committees working draft plan to Ms. Warren.

- Ms. Warren stated that DHS has submitted its base budget to the Department of Management and Finance. She added that DHS is scheduled to meet with the County Manager on December 6th.
- Ms. Warren reported that the signatories of the Behavioral Health Docket application have held four work sessions. She noted that the new draft application includes a pre-plea track. A public forum will be held on November 18th at 2100 Washington Boulevard in the auditorium from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Ms. Skelly asked if public comment will be allowed. Ms. Warren responded that she will inquire about the format of the forum.

Ms. Mitchell followed up on a previous conversation about a member of the CSB serving on the Behavioral Health Docket Committee. Ms. Warren responded that it would not be appropriate for a member of the public to serve on the committee because the committee discusses actual cases. She noted that it would be appropriate for the Chair of the CSB to be representative at the quarterly oversight committee meetings.

Ms. Warren stated that the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court confirmed that the Docket can be modified as needed.

- Ms. Warren stated that Dr. John Palmieri would like to provide a brief presentation about changes in our crisis system at the November 20th full board meeting. The committee agreed.

Additional Information

- Ms. Skelly asked if there is information available about who investigated the incident of rape at MVLE and if there are results of the investigation available. Ms. Warren responded that she will contact the Executive Director at MVLE and speak with Daryl Washington, who manages the MVLE contract.

Ms. Mitchell commented that MVLE should have completed an analysis about what could have been done differently to prevent the abuse. Ms. Skelly responded that MVLE may not be able to discuss the details due to civil litigation.

- Mr. FitzGerald asked about the procedure, moving forward, to address VHC backing out of a portion of the site plan agreement. Ms. Warren responded that she will speak with Ms. Friedman to develop a plan.

Upcoming Items for CSB Full Board Meeting on November 20, 2019

- Lizabeth Schuch, Recovery and Wellness Manager, Behavioral Healthcare Division, was nominated to receive the November 20, 2019 CSB Staff Recognition Award.

- Dr. John Palmieri, Behavioral Healthcare Division Chief, will present about the Behavioral Health Crisis Response System.
- Kelly Nieman, Assistant Supervisor, Forensic Team, Client Services Entry, will present an overview of Jail Diversion efforts.
- The Committee chairs will provide an update about the work of their committee.
- Chair O'Keefe will ask for any updates and Information.

The Arlington County Community Services Board Executive Committee meeting was adjourned by Chair O'Keefe at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kelly Mauller.

Upcoming Committee Meetings - MH/CY/YA Joint Meeting November 13th

Mental Health -Wednesday November 13th, 2120 Building, Room 322 - 6:00 - 8:00

Substance Use -Monday November 25th, 2120 Building, Room 115 - 7:00 - 9:00

Child and Youth -Wednesday November 13th, 2120 Building, Room 322 - 6:00 - 8:00

Developmental Disabilities -Thursday November 7th, 2100 Building, lower level - 6:30 - 8:30

Upcoming Events

November 11th - County closed to observe Veteran's Day

November 14th - NVJDC: City Hall, Laurel Room, 300 Park Ave., Falls Church 22046 7:00 - 8:30

November 15th - Annual DHS Holiday Marketplace - 2100 building, lower level

November 20th - NVJDC: Lee Center Exhibit Hall, 1108 Jefferson St., Alexandria 22314 7:00 - 8:30

November 21st - NVJDC: Central Library Auditorium, 1015 N. Quincy St., Arlington 7:00 - 8:30

November 28th & 29th - County closed to observe Thanksgiving

VACSB Conferences & Trainings

2019/2020 Events

- Legislative Conference - January 21-22, 2020 The Richmond Marriott
- Development & Training Conference May 6-8, 2020 the Williamsburg Lodge
- Public Policy Conference October 7-9, 2020 Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center