

## ARLINGTON COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD

### Mental Health Committee

September 11/ 2019

Approved 10/23/19

**Committee Members Present:** Dori Mitchell (Co-chair), David FitzGerald (Co-chair), John Mitchell, Tameka Parker, Anne Hermann, Bob Carolla, Joe Klem, Leslie Gosling, Meade Hanna, Cecelia Revilla, Steven Gallagher

**Committee Members Absent:** Caroline Bragdon, John Blount, Scott Brannon, Tom Quinn, Debra Byrd, Betsy Greer, Sherry Coles, Judy Deane, Sam Howlett, Wayne Bert

**Others Present:** Lila Corey

**Staff Present:** Alan Orenstein, Shelli Wargo, Mark Doering

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm.

**Introductions:** Ms. Mitchell called for introductions, particularly since there were several new members. Mr. FitzGerald provided a brief overview of the purpose, role and activities of the Committee, including remaining informed of CSB services, policy-setting, needs prioritizing, and advocacy. Ms. Mitchell noted the scheduling of a CSB orientation 10/29 that should be attended by all Committee members.

**Approval of Minutes:** The 6/26/19 minutes were approved with corrections and amendment. Follow-up: Dr. Orenstein will correct the minutes and submit them to Kelly Mauler for the record.

#### **VHC Aftercare Discussion:**

- Dr. Orenstein reported on the method by which Arlington residents discharged from the Virginia Hospital Center (VHC) are connected to CSB services, by highlighting the full report already distributed to members. He responded to the question from the Committee about who is responsible for the procedure and how successful it is. He noted that the procedure is somewhat complicated, in part because there is no CSB discharge planner at VHC; this function is required only for state hospitals. Therefore, there are multiple people responsible for the procedures, including notification of providers of the client's hospitalization, determination of the client's CSB service eligibility, the aftercare planning, and the service follow-up. These functions are performed mainly by the VHC social workers, Outpatient Services staff, Intake staff, and in certain circumstances, by Emergency Services and the CSB Discharge Planner, depending on the whether the VHC patient is a current CSB client, the client's commitment/detention/volunteer status, and the funding source. During completion of this review, there was general agreement by BHD management that changes were necessary to standardize procedures and ensure the measurement of success.
- Mr. FitzGerald gave some background noting there were 840 VHC admissions and estimating 50-75% were Arlingtonians. He described his view that all Arlingtonians should be informed of CSB services and, if agreeable, connected to CSB services for aftercare.
- In response to indication that Same Day Access precluded appointments and, therefore, there was no data regarding VHC referrals and no shows, there were questions why appointments were not part of intake procedures. It was explained by Mr. Doering that this was the state- mandated procedure.
- Ms. Hermann noted there were already contacts with VHC about beds and perhaps this could be expanded to address linkage issues.
- In response to Mr. FitzGerald's question about where this stood, Dr. Orenstein noted that BHD leadership accepted there were gaps in the process and Dr. Palmieri will follow-up and determine when this could be addressed as a priority, i.e., it was an issue of timing. Mr. FitzGerald asked that Dr. Orenstein follow-up with Dr. Palmieri and indicate that solutions to the gaps in the discharge and

aftercare process with VHC for Arlington residents was an issue of interest to the Committee. Follow-up: Dr. Orenstein will inform Dr. Palmieri of the Committee's interest in VHC discharge and aftercare connection issues with DHS.

### **Budget Discussion:**

Dr. Orenstein gave a brief reminder of the Committee budget process to date and importance of completing discussion and priorities by the October deadline set by Ms. Warren. He also outlined the budget review process that also involved discussion by the CSB Board, DHS leadership and CSB advocacy with the Arlington County Board. Therefore, some currently unresolved budget issues may very well at later stages be incorporated in the process. Dr. Orenstein also updated the Committee by noting that: The Peer position was removed since two-year state funding became available; the Forensic program manager prioritized the staffing proposal; it was determined the SAMH capacity funding request was one time; and the wait list for group home/supported apartments was reported, in response to Committee questions. Ms. Mitchell noted that with discussions beginning at the May meeting and receiving the October deadline from Ms. Warren, she suggested that the discussion be limited and asked for member comments and advocacy. There followed advocacy for the SAMH staffing request, the Forensic team staffing proposal, and the young adult staff proposal. After clarification that voting should be limited to members, Dr. Orenstein distributed and explained the budget priority ranking form. Members then ranked the 6 remaining proposed priorities. Follow-up: Dr. Orenstein will analyze the ranking forms and inform the co-chairs of the ranked priorities, highlighting the top three, and inform the BHD Division Chief and CSB Executive Director.

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

Dr. Orenstein then listed some key updates for member information:

- The CSE Bureau Chief position is now being advertised until the end of September, at which time it will be closed and the applicants received up until that time will be considered for the position.
- The Forensic/Homeless program was moved from the CSE Bureau to the RSS Bureau.
- BHD was invited by the state to submit a proposal for additional Permanent Supportive Housing funding and requested 10 additional apartments and housing and mental health support staffing.
- The RFP for the group homes was released and responses requested until 10/31.
- The Committee member list was updated, after reaching out to those not attending meetings. Follow-up: Dr. Orenstein will make the corrections noted since the list was distributed.
- Dr. Orenstein again noted the upcoming CSB orientation, and to prepare handouts, he asked for who planned on attending. All 11 members in attendance indicated they planned to attend. Follow-up: Dr. Orenstein will send orientation meeting reminders to MH Committee members.

### **Chairs' Report:**

Ms. Mitchell noted the status of the Committee schedule and prompted discussion of the agenda beginning with December, since September, October and November meetings were already determined and confirmed. The following was decided:

- December 11: either VHC regarding the intensive outpatient program or JA Employment Services (Jose Campos). Follow-up: Dr. Orenstein will contact Mr. Russell for a lead in inviting VHC and will alert Mr. Campos of the possibility of his presenting his program.
- January 22: co-responder model (John Palmieri)
- February 26: MH Continuum of Care Discussion (Dr. Orenstein, et. al.)
- March 25: Behavioral Health Docket Status (presenters TBD)
- April 22: Needs/ Gaps Discussion (Committee members)
- May 27: Budget Overview and discussion: Part 1
- June 24: Budget Discussion Part 2, as needed

Follow-up: Dr. Orenstein will determine and confirm the participation of presenters and update the schedule.

Ms. Mitchel distributed a comprehensive listing of MH resources with significant contribution from Mr. Corolla for their review and later discussion. Finally, she noted that the new CSB Chair is Jenette O'Keefe and the incumbent of a new position (Vice Chair) is MH Committee member Steve Gallagher.

**Adjournment.** The Committee adjourned at 8:10 pm.