



The Arlington Community Services Board
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Anne Marie Hermann
ACCSB Chair

December 14, 2016
Sequoia I
2100 Washington Blvd., Auditorium
Arlington, Virginia
7:00 pm – Full Board Meeting

Anita Friedman Interim
Executive Director

Present: Wayne Bert, Anne Hermann, Carol Skelly, Cherie Takemoto, Shauna Alonge, Frank Haltiwanger, Atima Omara, Leslie Gosling

Excused: Judy Deane, Jay Ternent, Linda Kelleher, Jarrod Nagurka, Jenette O’Keefe, Joanne Del Torro, Brian Berke, Asha Patton-Smith

Staff: Anita Friedman, Kelly Mauller, Oliver Russell, John Palmieri

Public Comment(s)

There were no public comments.

CSB Staff Recognition Award

- Evelyn Valentine, Human Services Peer Specialist, Forensic Case Management was nominated to receive the December 14, 2016 CSB staff recognition award. Ms. Hermann introduced Kelly Nieman, Emergency Services Discharge Planning Supervisor, who nominated Ms. Valentine. Ms. Nieman stated that Ms. Valentine works very hard at her own tasks as well as working with the other Emergency Services teams. She added that Ms. Valentine provides services to the most hard to reach clients. Grace Guerrero, Emergency Services Forensic Case Management Supervisor spoke about Ms. Valentine on behalf of the Forensic team. Ms. Valentine stated that she is honored and grateful for being recognized and thanked the CSB and her team for their support.
- Dr. Lawrence Spoot, Psychiatrist, Senior Adult Mental Health in the Aging and Disability Services Division, was also nominated to receive the December 14, 2016 CSB staff recognition award. Dr. Spoot is retiring in January of 2017. Ms. Hermann thanked Dr. Spoot for his many years of service.

Mr. Palmieri stated that it has been a privilege to work with Dr. Spoot, adding that he is an excellent clinician and a kind and compassionate person. He thanked Dr. Spoot for his service.

Glenda Blake, Division Chief, Aging and Disability Services also spoke about Dr. Spoot. Ms. Blake stated that Dr. Spoot is a premiere Geriatric Psychiatrist. She added that he is compassionate and still makes house calls to the Assisted Living Facilities (ALFs) and group homes. Ms. Blake presented Mrs. Spoot and Dr. Spoot’s granddaughter with orchids.

Alice Straker, Regional Older Adult Facilities Mental Health Support Team (RAFT) Program Manager, spoke about Dr. Spoot on behalf of her team.

Ms. Blake read a letter to Dr. Spont on behalf of Eileen Keane who recently retired from the Aging and Disability Services Division.

Dr. Spont thanked the CSB for their support of Senior Adult services. He stated that accomplishments are a team effort with dedicated staff. Dr. Spont spoke about starting the Regional Older Adult Facilities Mental Health Support Program (RAFT) and the work involved in doing so. Dr. Spont acknowledged the teams work.

Introduction

Ms. Friedman introduced Rick Strobach, Deputy Director of the Juvenile Domestic Relations Court Services. Mr. Strobach attended to observe the full board meeting.

Approval of the November 14, 2016 ACCSB Meeting Minutes

Chair Hermann called for a motion to approve the November 14, 2016 ACCSB Full Board meeting minutes. Mr. Bert motioned to approve the minutes, Ms. Takemoto seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved as amended.

Presentation: Overview of Mental Health Contracts, Current Monitoring Processes and Future Decisions

Ms. Hermann introduced Chinomso Ememe, Behavioral Healthcare Division (BHD) Residential Services Coordinator. Ms. Ememe presented an overview of the BHD Mental Health (MH) Residential Contracts.

Ms. Ememe stated that Arlington County BHD provides several housing options to clients:

- 2 Group Homes
- 2 Assisted Living Facilities (ALF)
- Intensive Community Residential Treatment (ICRT) Group Homes
 - Regional program
 - 8 clients housed in 2 homes in Arlington (4 males and 4 females)
 - Majority of services are provided by Fellowship Health Resources
 - Program will be transitioned to Fairfax in FY18

The group homes and ALFs are both managed by Community Residences (CR) and the ICRT is managed by Fellowship Health Resources.

She added that the County additionally supports:

- 6 bed crisis stabilization units (ACCESS), currently managed by Fellowship Health Resources
- 8 transitional beds (max 3 month stay) for homeless adults with mental illness, currently divided across 2 sites and managed by CR (2 co-ed homes with 4 bedrooms each)
- 2 townhomes (6 beds with a 1-2 year stay) open to all BHD clients and managed by CR

Ms. Ememe provided an explanation of the regulatory and licensing requirements:

- ALFs are licensed by the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS). VDSS conducts yearly licensing reviews. VDSS reviews policies and, if a violation is observed, a notice is sent to the vendor requesting a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) with completion dates.
- Group homes are licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and Disability Services (DBHDS). DBHDS conducts yearly licensing reviews and the review process is the same as the process for the ALFs.
- ACCESS is licensed by DBHDS and yearly reviews are conducted. The review process is the same as the process for the ALFs.
- Transitional living and townhomes are not licensed by a regulatory authority and are considered private independent housing.

Ms. Ememe stated that the contract manager conducts monthly unannounced visits to the group home to assess for cleanliness of the environment, adequate food supply and any safety/client concerns. The contract manager also meets with CR staff to discuss client well-being or any follow up items.

Ms. Ememe provided an overview of the admission and discharge process.

Admission

- The BHD case manager submits a referral with a detailed client assessment to the Residential Coordinator
- The Residential Coordinator reviews and clarifies the appropriateness of the referral and then submits the referral to the vendor point of contact
- The client is then placed on a wait-list and, as openings become available, the client is discussed in an Admissions meeting and identified and placed in the appropriate residential option in collaboration with the Residential Coordinator

Discharge

- The Residential Coordinator monitors the level of care needed using, in part, a periodic Locus of Control (LOCUS) measures completed by staff. The Locus of Control is a questionnaire that measures generalized expectancies for internal versus external control of reinforcement (Source: www.psych.unnc.edu).
 - Potential discharges are identified by the team and discussed during the admissions meetings
 - Most discharges occur from the group homes versus the ALFs or ICRTs); clients typically transition to their own apartment
- Discharge also occurs when a client is incarcerated or committed back to the hospital for an extended period of time

Ms. Ememe concluded her presentation by citing potential future changes in direction for the MH Residential Contracts:

- The County has implemented standard contract management and ethics training for all Project Officers and Supervisors
- DHS now has a Procurement Liaison to assist in streamlining and facilitating the RFP and procurement process
- Performance and bonus language to include specific training and performance requirements, Individual Service Plans (ISP)
- Obtain access to vendor Electronic Health Records for auditing purposes
- Include additional language related to on-going staff training in new RFP
- More ICRT oversight and quarterly client assessments by discharge planners.

Mr. Haltiwanger asked for the meaning of the term "ACCESS". Ms. Ememe responded that ACCESS is a short term crisis stabilization care facility.

Ms. Hermann asked if ACCESS is a regional program. Ms. Ememe responded that it is not.

Ms. Hermann asked if 39 is the correct number of individuals in all of the group homes. Ms. Ememe responded that the number of individuals in the group homes and ALFs is 39. She added that there are 6 individuals at ACCESS, 6 individuals in the townhomes, 8 individuals in transitional housing, 8 individuals in the ICRT home and 31 individuals in the group homes.

Ms. Friedman asked how many individuals are on the waiting list. Ms. Ememe responded that there are 29 individuals on the waiting list.

Ms. Gosling asked about the average length of stay in the group homes. Ms. Ememe responded that 2 years is the approximate length of stay.

Ms. Hermann, noting that the current group home contract has been month to month for 2 years, asked how much longer the contract will remain under the month to month status. Ms. Friedman responded that once the new contract is awarded it will potentially be on a more stable basis. Mr. Palmieri added that a goal for the group homes is to have increased integration of mental health and substance abuse services. He added that the RFP includes provision of both services.

Ms. Hermann asked how the CSB can impact the integration of services in the new contract. Mr. Palmieri suggested becoming involved in the Group Home Committee.

VHC Forum Next Steps

Chair Hermann opened a discussion about the Virginia Hospital Center Forum that was held on November 28th from 6:00 – 8:00 at Sequoia I, 2100 Washington Boulevard, lower level auditorium. The forum was held for members of the community and family members of individuals receiving services to present testimony about their experiences with mental health and substance abuse services treatment while at VHC. Chair Hermann stated that the forum was well attended and a success in that 20 participants wrote statements which they presented themselves, had others read or submitted in the days after the forum.

Chair Hermann announced that Ms. Deane has volunteered to chair a task force committee to address a follow up strategy. She added that, as next steps, a formal report and briefing will be written about the forum, among others. Any members wishing to volunteer to be a part of the task force committee should contact Ms. Deane.

Chair Hermann reported that Adrian Stanton offered several dates to meet with CSB members and County staff to discuss the expansion of VHC. The committee agreed to meet with Mr. Stanton and VHC representatives on January 5th at 2:00 p.m. at VHC.

Chair Hermann reported that Scott McCaffrey from the Northern Virginia Sun Newspapers was present at the VHC forum. She added that Mr. McCaffrey reached out to her for additional information and that there is a possibility that an article may come out about the forum.

Chair Hermann stated that Mr. Nagurka has written and submitted a column to the Progressive Voice, an affiliate of Arlington Now, which will be published on December 15th. The Progressive Voice is a weekly opinion column.

Chair Hermann reported that a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request was submitted to Arlington County requesting specific information as it relates to communication between VHC and the County Board Office regarding any existing or draft site plans that have been proposed for the expansion of VHC. She added that she has not yet received a response.

Ms. Friedman suggested that the CSB become involved members of the Arlington Site Plan Review Committee (SPRC). Ms. Skelly suggested inviting a member of the SPRC to speak about the site plan review process at the January 25th full board meeting. The members discussed recruiting support of the CSBs vision for the VHC expansion from the community and local civic associations.

FY18 Preliminary Local Budget Priorities

Mr. Russell, BHC Assistant Division Chief, provided an update on the CSB FY18 local budget recommendations (Refer to Handout).

Developmental Disabilities (DD) Committee:

- 2, .2 additional support coordinators needed to handle increased caseloads associated with the State's waiver redesign, including: (1) additional waiver slots received from the State; and (2) workload associated with the designation of CSBs as the "front door" for all DD services, including services and oversight previously handled by other agencies.
- \$50,000 in one-time money to fund a consultant study of unmet employment needs for individuals who want community-based employment.
- \$15,000 in one-time money to cover legal fees for families willing to become guardians for their loved ones, but who cannot afford the legal expenses. 10 families are currently waiting for assistance from the County Attorney's office with guardianship applications. In addition to funds, a change is needed in county procedure to allow these individuals to get help from community attorneys.

Mental Health (MH) Committee:

- Jail Diversion: 1 MH Therapist to divert individuals at bond hearings (or work with the prospective MH docket) (\$86,000 plus benefits)
- Expansion of adult MH residential beds (10 beds at \$17,000/bed estimated)
- 1 MH Therapist case manager for the Community Support Teams (\$86,000 plus benefits)
- 1 MH Therapist case manager for the young adult services (\$86,000 plus benefits)
- 1 MH Therapist for Emergency Services (\$100,170 including benefits)
- 1 MH Therapist and 1 Case Manager for ASD/SAMH to work at Mary Marshal (\$108,000 and \$82,536 respectively including benefits, totaling \$190,536)

Child and Family Committee:

- (pending)

The members agreed that the priorities should be reviewed during the January 9, 2017 Executive Committee meeting and brought before the full board on January 25th for final approval.

Approval: Memorandum of Agreement

Mr. Russell brought the draft revised Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) before the members for final review and approval (Included in Member Packet). The members approved recommending presenting the MOA to the County Attorney for review and approval before being brought before the County Manager for approval and signature.

Report Out on ACCSB Retreat Initiatives

There were no retreat initiative reports.

Informational Items

- ✓ Ms. Friedman reported that the main County Human Resources Department (HRD) has received numerous applications for the DHS Assistant Deputy Director position. The CSB Chair and one other CSB member will be a part of the interview process.
- ✓ Mr. Russell reminded the members about the upcoming VACSB January 2017 Legislative Conference being held on January 17th and 18th, 2017 at the Hilton Richmond Downtown Hotel. (Included in Member Packet). Members wishing to attend should contact Ms. Mauller as soon as possible.

- ✓ Ms. Hermann stated that Mr. Russell and Ms. Mauller are in the process of revising the CSB State and Local Budget Advocacy Timeline document (Included in Member Packet). A draft of the revisions will be provided at the January 9, 2017 Executive Committee meeting.
- ✓ Chair Hermann reported that Secret Santa gift cards will be distributed to the group homes as well as to the residents of the Mary Marshall Assisted Living Residence (MMALR). She added that donations are still be accepted and that Ms. Mauller has tax forms available for the members.
- ✓ Chair Hermann announced that the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees of the Virginia General Assembly will hold regional public hearings (Included in Member Packet) on the Governor's proposed amendments to the 2016-2018 biennial state budget as follows:

Wednesday, January 4, 2017 (hearings begin at 10:00 a.m.)

- Fairfax County - Northern VA Community College at Annandale, Ernst Center Theater, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, VA 22003
- Abingdon - Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center, Grand Hall, One Partnership Cir, Abingdon, VA 24210

Wednesday, January 4, 2017 (hearings begin at 12:00 noon)

- Newport News - Christopher Newport University, David Student Union, Ballroom, 1 Avenue of the Arts Newport News, VA 23606
- Central Virginia - City of Richmond, General Assembly Building, House Room D, 201 N 9th St, Richmond, VA 23219

The purpose of the hearings is to receive comments on the Governor's proposed amendments to the 2016-2018 biennial state budget. Those persons wishing to speak may register at each hearing site no earlier than one hour prior to the start of the hearing.

Speakers will be taken in the order of registration. Each person may register only one speaker at a time. Speakers are asked to limit their comments to three minutes or less. Speakers representing groups and organizations should consolidate remarks to reduce duplication. Persons unable to attend may comment in writing to either:

- Delegate S. Chris Jones
P.O. Box 406
General Assembly Building
Richmond, Virginia 23218

Or,

- Senator Thomas K. Norment Jr./Senator Emmett W. Hanger Jr.
P.O. Box 396
General Assembly Building
Richmond Virginia 23218

Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted by Kelly Mauller