

**Arlington County Community Services Board**  
**Intellectual Disabilities Committee**  
**January 8, 2014 Meeting**  
**DHS Stambaugh Building, 2100 Washington Blvd, Lower Level, Room A**  
**6:30 p.m.**

**Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by co-chairs Barbara Jones and Moira Saucedo.

**Introductions** – Barbara Jones and Moira Saucedo, committee co-chairs and Arlington County CSB members; committee members Donna Budway, Ann Kelly, Carol Skelly, Alex Yellin and Casey Youman; Lucy Beadnell of The Arc of Northern Virginia; provider staff Anne Rule and Kris Hollins of Community Residences, and Michelle Lange of Linden Resources; Arlington County staff members Becky Suttell of TRO and Joanna Wise Barnes of IDDS

**Agenda Items**

**The Arc of Northern Virginia – Lucy Beadnell** – Ms. Beadnell reviewed five hand-outs, attached:

- The Arc of Northern Virginia’s January 2014 Legislative Update
- The Arc Virginia 2014 Legislative Agenda
- The Arc Northern Virginia and Parents and Associates of NVTC, 2014-16 Biennium Budget Priorities
- The Arc Northern Virginia Achieve with us
- The Arc Northern Virginia The Path to Change in 2014

**Approval of December Minutes** – Minutes of the ID committee’s December 4, 2013 meeting were read and reviewed, and approved as written by the committee. They will be submitted to the full Arlington County CSB at its next meeting.

**CSB County Budget Priorities for Fiscal Year 2015** – Barbara Jones distributed a 1/6/14 hand-out (attached) titled Draft Justification for Consultant Study of Vocational Day Programs. Carol Skelly suggested revising the ID committee’s proposed funding request by reducing it from \$75,000 to \$25,000. The purpose of the funding would also be changed; rather than using the funds to hire a consultant, the funds would be used to purchase job development under existing contracts with non-profit providers. (See Carol Skelly’s attached chart, *Arlington ID/DD Employment Data*. If received, the funding would benefit individuals now in sheltered employment, and special education graduates transitioning to adult services. The IDDS staff liaison was asked to review the IDDS budget to determine whether a need exists for these additional funds, and to report back at the February committee meeting. The underlying intent of the committee is to increase employment opportunities for persons with IDD, to move the system from a culture of care to one that supports the progress of individuals, i.e. habilitation vs. employment. The proposed funding request – funding amount and how funds will be used – will be decided by committee vote during the committee’s February 5, 2014 meeting.

There was robust discussion about employment opportunities, including these points made:

- IDDS staff concerns about whether spending \$75,000 to hire an employment expert would result in more jobs for individuals served by IDDS

- Employment possibilities in Arlington as well as about how employment is developed in other states; Ann Kelly will share this during the February committee meeting
- Earlier presentations by ServiceSource, and how its service delivery model is transitioning to one of community-based services in small groups, and to the Employment First model. (See November and December 2013 minutes distributed earlier.)
- IDDS staff members will explore the Employment First philosophy with Arlington Public Schools staff, and discuss how to move toward that model.
- Services might offer employment and integration, employing persons with and without disabilities
- What about a clubhouse model for persons with IDD?
- SPARC program sites in Fairfax might be worth a visit; Joanna offered to set up a tour for committee members, who accepted
- Some who leave sheltered employment might thrive; others might not
- Some now in sheltered employment might move to habilitation programs; some might obtain group supported employment; some might find integration problematic

The IDDS staff liaison was also asked to provide statistics about employment to the March 2014 ID committee meeting. Information requested about those served in IDDS included:

- How many Arlington individuals attend the ServiceSource Headquarters program on Edsall Road in Alexandria, which is scheduled to down-size significantly during 2014?
- How many Arlington individuals participate in sheltered employment?
- How many Arlington individuals are in group supported employment?
- How many Arlington individuals change providers or move between services – habilitation (day support/pre-vocational services, sheltered employment, group supported employment, or individual supported employment - during one fiscal year?
- How many Arlington individuals earn less than the minimum wage?

**State Legislative Initiatives** – The State budget includes 3.2 mil for FY2014 in bridge funds. These are intended to support providers under the ID Waiver until the Waiver study is complete and reform of Waiver rates and the rate structure is accomplished. The governor’s proposed budget for FY15 also includes 2.7 mil in bridge funds. The parameters for use of these funds are still awaiting approval from the Virginia Attorney General.

### **Staff Reports**

**Therapeutic Recreation Office** – Becky Suttell reported that they expect no budget cuts for next fiscal year in her office, though others in the department will likely have cuts. Cindy Leiva is continuing to meet with group homes and others about adult programs to increase participation. Some pilot programs will be starting: Water Exercise class in addition to the adapted aquatics class, volunteer or service learning opportunities for the social club members. Volunteer activities include shredding, and bagging fliers; a park clean-up is pending. One area of feedback was to split activities up to include beginning and advanced offerings; the art class has been divided this way. The Fun and Fitness program

is another pilot, but has small numbers still. It might move to another day to see if participation increases. The program is once a month, for two hours on a Saturday. One of the sessions is hooping, which is a great physical fitness opportunity. TRO has only one vacancy and an internal recruitment for it is pending. Campfires and nature club were suspended because of the vacancy, with minimum impact. Two fliers were distributed, attached:

- Therapeutic Recreation Winter Classes
- Fun & Fitness/Volunteer Opportunity

**IDDS** – Joanna Wise Barnes reported and/or distributed the following:

- January 3, 2014 letter from the DBHDS Commissioner about Central Office Leadership Transitions
- Spreadsheet titled *ID Residential Services in Arlington* dated 12/31/2013
- Staffing update – The newly created second support coordination supervisor position was filled; the new employee begins work on January 21, 2014. One support coordinator position remains vacant; it will be filled when the hiring slow-down allows.
- Call-screening data July through December 2013 – IDDS received 36 calls or referrals. Eight were referred elsewhere; of these four were ineligible and four didn't apply. Twenty-eight were found eligible or are still in applicant status.
- The County purchased a group home that had previously been owned by a non-profit organization; the organization faced financial challenges. After purchase, the County repaid \$334,683 which was owed to the Virginia Housing Development Authority. The purchase eliminated the loan that the non-profit owed to the County in the amount of \$536,000. Services in the group home had been and will continue to be provided by another non-profit contract agency; there was no impact on services to the group home residents.
- One non-profit organization continues their interest in developing one or two new group homes in Arlington. IDDS staff will assist the organization in requesting bridge funds (see State Legislative Initiatives above) to cover costs not reimbursed by ID Waiver. Committee members suggested that day support costs be included in the bridge funding request. And suggested also that the request for bridge funds be sent to State legislative representatives for Arlington as well as to the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services.

**Approval of January Minutes** – These minutes were reviewed and approved as written by the ID committee at its February 5, 2014 meeting. The minutes will be submitted to the full CSB at its next meeting.