

**Intellectual Disabilities Committee of the Arlington Community Services Board
Minutes of June 12, 2013 Meeting**

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by committee co-chair Barbara Jones.

Attendees – Barbara Jones, committee co-chair and CSB member; CSB member Brian DeAtley; CSB executive committee member Carol Skelly; committee members and guests Mary Black, Donna Budway, Ann Kelly, Sarah McKinley, Nancy Tishman, Alex Yellin, and Casey Youman; Provider staff members Missy King, Pam Jaikaran, and Pat Vinson of Job Discovery Inc.; Lindsay Fenlon of Linden Resources; and Brenda Richardson of ServiceSource; Lucy Beadnell representing The Arc of No VA; County DHS staff members Don Conley, Steve Garcia, Eileen Keane, Jennifer McKinney Acheson, and Joanna Wise Barnes

Approval of Minutes – Minutes and attachments from the committee’s May 1, 2013 meeting were distributed, read, and approved as written. These will be submitted to the full CSB at its next meeting.

The Arc of Northern Virginia – Lucy Beadnell

- See hand-out titled June 2013 Legislative Update (attached)
- *Report of the Independent Reviewer on Compliance with the Settlement Agreement, United States v. Commonwealth of Virginia, United States District Court for Eastern District of Virginia, Civil Action No.3:12 CV 059, October 7, 2012 – April 6, 2013* indicates that the Independent Reviewer who authored the report intends to focus on Southeastern and Northern Virginia during the six month period beginning April 2013.
- Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) should announce soon which private company has been contracted to study the ID and DD Waivers, including a rate study, and recommendations about merging the two Waivers and enhancing services.
- DBHDS family support fund should re-open for applications perhaps in the late summer or fall. The program will move to on-line submissions and will make use of debit cards.
- Virginia’s housing plan has not changed in the past month. We still await news on the pilot project for affordable housing in Northern Virginia.
- Enhanced ID Waiver reimbursement rates for those in congregate residential services and who have complex needs may be available on October 1, 2013. (A committee member pointed out that the higher rates won’t be available to those using consumer-directed services.)
- The Arc’s transition booklet should be ready for distribution in late June, and while intended for Northern Virginia Training Center families considering community services, may be helpful to others as well.
- The Arc’s Spring 2013 group home tours for legislators were successful and will probably be repeated in the fall, and opened to families as well.

Annual IDDS Program Reviews

See hand-out titled *CSB Program Review, Committee Name: ID (IDD Services)*. Barbara Jones and Joanna Wise Barnes emphasized that these annual reviews are done by CSB committees before the full CSB studies them. This and other information allows the CSB to make recommendations to the County Board about services to residents who have intellectual and developmental disabilities.

IDD Mental Health Services (page 4) – Eileen Keane

Discussion:

- Some service recipients live at home with parents, others live in apartments, and some live in group homes.
- They are referred to IDD mental health services by their IDDS support coordinators.
- The differences between psychiatric and psychological services were clarified.
- The psychologist provides both individual and group therapy.
- There is overlap between some of the 40 seen by the psychologist and the 45 receiving psychiatric services.
- Some other IDDS clients see private therapists and psychiatrists.

IDD Support Coordination (page 1) – Steve Garcia

Discussion:

- Support Coordinators meet monthly with clients receiving enhanced case management, every 90 days for those receiving active case management, and as needed for all of these and others – depending on need and circumstances.
- Some residential site visits are announced; others are unannounced.
- Steve has supervised support coordination services since November 2011. Nearly half the Support Coordinators have several years of experience with IDD Services.
- Joanna will continue to report to the committee monthly about support coordination vacancies.
- The estimated increase of 14 clients for Fiscal Year 2014 doesn't indicate a need for another new support coordinator position, since it's only an estimate. Attrition may negate the increase.
- Support Coordinators, their supervisors, and ID directors in No VA recently met with DBHDS staff to discuss challenges associated with implementing the new enhanced case management requirements. The State is reviewing some of the requirements.

IDD Family Support (page 1) – Steve Garcia

Discussion:

- Support Coordinators assist families in completing the paperwork to apply for reimbursements.
- Joanna processes payments and tracks funding levels.

IDD Supported Employment and Habilitation Programs (page 2) – Don Conley

Discussion:

- 129 currently receive habilitation, 18 are in sheltered employment, 35 are in group supported employment, and 19 are in individual supported employment.
- June 2013 special education students have chosen the following services to begin in Fiscal Year 2014 – habilitation (6), sheltered employment (2), individual supported employment (3), and undecided (2).
- A CSB member mentioned Virginia’s Employment First initiative, with details about implementation and impact on services still unknown.
- A training center parent mentioned one habilitation provider’s concern about ID Waiver reimbursement rates post-discharge from training centers. The State is reviewing Waiver reimbursement rates compared to the cost of providing habilitation services in Northern Virginia.
- A committee member suggested that everyone read the *Report of the Independent Reviewer*, particularly page 21 which addresses adequacy of community services for those leaving training centers, so that the committee can discuss this topic in the future.

IDD Transportation (page 3) – Don Conley

Discussion:

- There are 13 van routes operated by Diamond Transportation Services. Eight of the routes have aides on the vans in addition to drivers, depending on the needs of riders.
- A few individuals receive transportation from Red Top Cab, either because their supported employment sites are not on a van route, or their work hours vary from the hours when van routes operate.
- Seven June 2013 special education students will be absorbed into existing routes when their transportation services begin in Fiscal Year 2014.
- Committee members discussed the high quality of Diamond Transportation Services, especially when compared to descriptions of lower quality transportation services provided by other Medicaid transportation vendors and in other localities.

IDD Residential Services (page 3) – Jennifer McKinney Acheson

Discussion:

- As requested, Jennifer described a meeting she attended with Linda Kelleher, CSB member and APAH employee. It focused on a County housing study, ensuring that the needs of persons with disabilities are addressed in the upcoming study, which will span two to three years. Three members of the committee and CSB also met with Kelleher separately about the study.
- A committee member suggested that the County might consider adding new project-based affordable housing (such as group homes) in addition to the individual, person-specific affordable housing assistance now available.
- Another committee member suggested that County-owned land should be considered for use as group homes. Joanna replied that this month staff reviewed five County-owned properties but unfortunately they were not suitable as group home sites. The committee

member also asked about follow-up on a Highland Street property, which she thinks might be appropriate for a group home site. Jennifer and Joanna will look into it.

- Joanna shared information from Volunteers of America. VOA is speaking with a disability housing company to determine whether that company might purchase and renovate a home in Arlington which VOA might lease.

IDDS Updates – Joanna Wise Barnes

Joanna distributed pages 62 and 63 (attached) of the *Report of the Independent Reviewer*. These pages contain the recommendations of the Reviewer about the Settlement Agreement.

She also distributed a May 20, 2013 PowerPoint presentation by James W. Stewart III, Commissioner, Virginia DBHDS to the House Appropriations Committee, titled *Update on Implementation of the DOJ Settlement Agreement* (attached).

New Business

July meeting agenda - It was suggested that the above PowerPoint and the Reviewer's report be read by committee members and discussed at the July meeting. Joanna agreed, at committee members' request, to mail the July meeting agenda to all training center families.

Parents and committee members expressed concern about training center families recently receiving letters from the State, with specific discharge dates set for training center residents. Concerns expressed included the potential for training center parents to feel pressure to accept placements in the community which might not fully meet the needs of their adult children now in training centers.

A committee member requested a staff update to an earlier document which specified housing and day support needs, including costs, for persons returning to the community from training centers. The update should include current information about discharges underway for some training center residents, and others which are planned. One committee member would like to use this information to update County Board member Mary Hynes about IDD housing needs, perhaps in the fall.

IDD Proclamation – Co-chair Barbara Jones announced that significant changes are planned for the March 2014 proclamation event. She will share details with the committee during its September 2013 meeting.

Members discussed whether to meet on the next regular date of July 3 or whether to reschedule for July 10 or on another date. This will be decided later and committee members will be notified by email.

Approval of Minutes

These minutes were approved as written during the committee's July 10, 2013 meeting. The minutes will now be submitted to the full CSB at its next meeting.