



The Arlington Community Services Board
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James Mack
Chairperson

Cynthia Kemp
Executive Director

November 14, 2012
Department of Human Services – Sequoia Building
2100 Washington Boulevard
Arlington, Virginia
7:00 p.m.

Members Present: James Mack, Brian DeAtley, Barbara Jones, Shauna Alonge, Anne Hermann, Cynthia Fagnoni, Naomi Verdugo, Moira Saucedo, Scott Brannon

Members Excused: Brian Berke, Judith Deane, Linda Kelleher, Jenette O’Keefe, David Kidwell, Keith Whyte

Staff Present: Cynthia Kemp, Farah Shakour, Kelly Mauller, Suzanne Lane, Joanna Barnes, Alan Orenstein, Joe Bullock, Thomas Wallace

Public Comment (s):

There were no public comments.

Approval of the October 17, 2012 Minutes:

ACCSB Chair Mack called for the review and approval of the minutes for the October 17, 2012. The Members reviewed the minutes. Chair Mack called for a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Jones motioned to approve the minutes, Ms. Fagnoni seconded the motion and the minutes were approved with one correction.

Staff Recognition

The November staff recognition award was presented to Denise “Shelli” Wargo, Mental Health Therapist in the Behavioral Healthcare Division of the Department of Human Services. Ms. Wargo was nominated by Luis Marcano, Manager of the Program for Assertive Community Treatment. Mr. Marcano stated that Ms. Wargo is a dedicated employee who welcomes new responsibilities. Ms. Wargo volunteered to serve as the Interim Supervisor for the BHD Team C when the supervisor retired all while maintaining her own caseload. Ms. Wargo thanked Mr. Marcano and the CSB. Chair Mack thanked Ms. Wargo and Mr. Marcano and conferred the award.

Presentation and Approval Request – Letter to County Manager Regarding CSB Budget Priorities (Refer to Handouts):

Chair Mack opened a discussion about a draft letter to the County Manager, urging her to include funding in the proposed base budget to sustain existing CSB services at current levels that were funded previously. Chair Mack stated that though the County is facing a tough fiscal year, the CSB’s position is that these critical services should be maintained. The letter will be accompanied by the “Sustaining Existing Services” portion of

the CSB's FY14 Approved Preliminary Budget Priorities document. The County Manager's proposed FY14 budget will be released in early 2013. Ms. Saucedo asked if the County Manager has already responded to the CSB's earlier letter regarding inclusion of funding for the Intellectual Disabilities graduates in the base budget. Ms. Kemp responded that she has not received the reply yet but is expecting one and will inform the members once the reply is received.

Chair Mack stated that the chairs of the County's boards and commissions have been invited to speak to the County Manager regarding budget concerns on Tuesday, November 20, 2012. Chair Mack stated one other CSB member can attend the meeting, and Ms. Verdugo volunteered to attend with him.

Review – Revised CSB State and Local Budget / Legislative Advocacy Outline (Refer to Handout):

Chair Mack drew the members' attention to the CSB State and Local Budget Advocacy document in their packets stating that is a very helpful document. The document has been edited from the time of the CSB Retreat. Ms. Kemp noted that this is a fluid document and is subject to additions as circumstances change. Ms. Kemp stated that she and her staff will use the document to track legislative and budget process issues.

ACCSB Executive Director's Report:

ACCSB Executive Director Cynthia Kemp reported the following:

- Ms. Kemp reported on the group homes (*Refer to Handout*). She stated that there were 18 total incidents. Ms. Kemp reported that there were no major incidents; however, there was an increase in medication errors, none of which required any medical intervention.
- Ms. Kemp stated that due to moving the CSB meeting a week forward, the financial report is not yet available for this month. She will forward the report when it is available with an explanation.
- Ms. Kemp directed the Members' attention to two letters in their packets - one from the State Office of the Inspector General (OIG) and a response letter from the CSB to the OIG. Ms. Kemp summarized the contents of the letter reviewing the Extraordinary Barriers List (EBL) and Discharge Assistance Project (DAP) funding. The EBL is a list of people who are deemed to be as stable as they can possibly get and who are not in danger of hurting themselves or others, but who are still in need of extra support to live independently outside of a hospital setting. The OIG has asked why these people remain on the EBL. The State gives regions DAP money to fund the transition of people on the EBL from hospitals into the community; however, once all the funds are expended, people are placed on the EBL until funding becomes available. The OIG letter queried the CSB via survey about whether members are informed about DAP funding and the EBL in detail. Ms. Kemp stated that this issue will be discussed at the November Mental Health Committee meeting. There is also another survey to complete about the details of the DAP funding awarded and expended and is due in the next week or so. Chair Mack added that the OIG's letter implied that Arlington CSB receives an unusually large amount of DAP funding compared with other CSBs. He explained that the Arlington CSB is the fiscal agent for a large regional project, thus making it appear that Arlington was awarded more funding than it actually receives. Ms. Kemp would like for Arlington's regional versus local DAP funds to be differentiated on the State's report and will follow up on this. Arlington's cost of services is higher than other parts of the State as well. Ms. Kemp noted that there are a few people who use a large amount of funding while the majority of others use much less. Of the eight beds in the regional project, Arlington residents occupy five. Ms. Saucedo asked why the Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity (NGRI) clients are separated out in the report. Ms. Kemp explained that Arlington has only twelve people who are on the EBL, four of whom are deemed NGRI. The people who are NGRI are on the EBL and are medically stable, but who are not allowed to leave the facility, because release is subject to approval by the Forensic Review Panel deeming them

appropriate to leave the facility. Ms. Kemp stated that there may be an audit of the DAP funding in the future and that she is confident that the funding is being used appropriately.

- Ms. Kemp reported that last month the CSB requested a separate point-in-time report on the number of people who are in temporary residential treatment facilities (substance abuse, psychiatric facilities, training centers, children's residential and nursing homes). This report is also in the member packets.
- Ms. Kemp announced that there is a Family and Support Network Orientation on February 4, 2013 to inform the community of the behavioral healthcare services available to adults, including the intake process, an explanation of case management and emergency services. She asked that CSB members disseminate the information to anyone that might be interested.

ACCSB Chair's Report:

ACCSB Chair James Mack reported the following:

- Chair Mack opened the discussion on the County's legislative priorities and Ms. Kemp distributed the Arlington County 2012 General Assembly Legislative Priorities document (*Refer to Handout*). This document is the proposed package that the County will submit to the State General Assembly expressing Arlington County's priorities for the State. The County developed the document through input from Arlington's boards and commissions. The CSB's priorities that are included are as follows:
 - Drug Courts
 - Services for Older Adults
 - Restore 19 Beds at Northern Virginia Mental Health Institute
 - Community Services Act Funding
 - Community Placements for Northern Virginia Training Center Residents
 - Affordable Care Act
- Chair Mack reported that there is a public hearing to discuss the County's proposed legislative package on Saturday, November 17, 2012 at 8:00 a.m. in the County Board Office. People wishing to make public comments should sign up by 8:30 a.m. People wishing to speak on consent agenda items can sign up before 9:00 a.m. Ms. Verdugo stated that she would like to see stronger representation of children's mental health and substance abuse regional crisis stabilization. This issue is currently mentioned briefly on page five of the document, item 4. Ms. Kemp asked if Ms. Verdugo would like to testify on this or if this should be highlighted in a letter to the County Board. Ms. Verdugo stated that both actions are warranted. Ms. Saucedo also noted that the merging of the ID / DD waivers and changes to the waiver rates are not in the package. She requested that the issue be added to the letter as well. Ms. Saucedo will also testify at the public hearing. Ms. Kemp will draft a letter highlighting these omissions and forward it to Mr. Mack, Ms. Saucedo, Ms. Jones and Ms. Verdugo for review. Chair Mack stated that the Arlington's General Assembly members attended the CSB's State Legislative Delegation Forum and had a robust discussion on the Department of Justice settlement agreement.

- Chair Mack opened a discussion on the CSB members purchasing holiday gift cards for the Mary Marshall Assisted Living Residence (MMALR). Ms. Hermann noted that the Advisory Committee meeting was not held this month or last month and the substitute meeting was cancelled due to weather. Ms. Hermann will confirm which stores and denominations are being requested, and Ms. Shakour will distribute this information. Ms. Shakour added that the cards can be donated as a part of the County's Secret Santa program and Members can receive a receipt for tax purposes. Ms. Hermann stated that Members can forward gift cards to Ms. Shakour, and she will convey the cards to the Mary Marshall residents.
- Chair Mack stated that the revised final CSB By-laws are in the packets.
- Chair Mack stated that there are several upcoming presentations to the CSB. In December, Rhonda Williams from the Alexandria CSB will present on substance abuse among older adults. In January, Cindy Stevens from Arlington DHS Housing Assistance Bureau will present on housing options in the County. In February, Andrew Sperling of NAMI will present on mental health parody.

Informational Items:

- Ms. Verdugo informed the members that Darcy Gruttadaro will present at the Children's Committee meeting on December 10, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. in the Sequoia Building, Room C on the innovative developments around the country in children's mental health and young adult transition services. Ms. Verdugo would like to invite the Mental Health Committee and Substance Abuse Committee members and staff liaisons.
- Mr. Brannon stated that he is receiving training to become a Certified Peer Specialist and thanked the CSB Members for their advocacy for the training.
- Mr. Atkins stated that the County is finalizing the purchase of space for the permanent homeless shelter near the courthouse. He suggested that the CSB advocate at the upcoming public meetings to ensure that space is designated for the delivery of CSB services onsite at the shelter. Ms. Kemp stated that there is some space designated for mental health/substance abuse services delivery in the building plan.
- Ms. Verdugo suggested that perhaps the CSB should pursue a human services bond to fund housing for CSB clients. Fairfax County has pursued human services bonds in the past. Ms. Kemp will speak to the DHS Director about this issue. Mr. Atkins stated that this could be achieved from the sale of the existing Clarendon House site as well. The CSB would have to advocate with the County to set aside the funds from the sale for other CSB services.

The Arlington Community Services Board meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Farah Shakour