

# **ARLINGTON COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD**

## **SUBSTANCE ABUSE COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**May 15, 2014**

**Members Present:** Jim Mack, Shawn Buckner, Keith Whyte, Jenette O'Keefe

**Members Absent:** Charlie Baughman, Craig Dabney, Wes Sanchez, Lonnie Ford

**BHD Staff:** Dr. Octavia Madison

- I. ARLINGTON COUNTY DRUG COURT PROGRAM SITE VISIT-** For the May 2014 meeting, the SA Committee made a site visit to the Arlington County Drug Court Program. The Arlington Drug Court Program was established in April 2013 and recently celebrated the first year anniversary. The mission of the Arlington County Drug Court Program is to enhance public safety by providing a cost-effective, integrated system of treatment and judicial supervision in order to reduce recidivism and its effects on the community. The Arlington Drug Court is a four phased program that integrates court supervision, substance abuse treatment, wrap-around community support and services with individual accountability among participants. Individuals eligible for the drug court program are limited to those consumers with a probation violation who also meet substance dependence criteria. Key community stakeholders include Arlington Probation and Parole, Commonwealth's Attorney's office, Substance Abuse Bureau, DHS, Sheriff's Office, Office of the Public Defender and Police Department.

The primary goal of the Arlington County Drug Court Program is to get clean and sober, end the cycle of probation violations and learn effective strategies and skills for in support of achieving ongoing, sustainable recovery. The drug court program meets every Thursday beginning at 8:30 a.m. SA Committee members were greeted by Dr. Octavia Madison, SA Bureau staff liaison to the drug court for a brief orientation prior to entering the drug court hearing room. Members of the SA Committee were able to observe a live drug court session and see the process first hand.

**NOTE:** The next SA Committee meeting will be held on **June 16, 2014 at 7:00 pm at the George Mason Center Building, 1801 N. George Mason Drive next to the Drewry building.**