

Arlington County Community Services Board
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, December 12, 2011
6:00 pm

Present: Carol Skelly, Jenette O'Keefe, Judith Deane, Naomi Verdugo, Anne Hermann, James Mack

Excused: Barbara Jones

Staff: Cynthia Kemp, Farah Shakour

The December 12, 2011 Arlington County Community Services Board (ACCSB) Executive Committee meeting was convened by the ACCSB Executive Committee Member Chair, Carol Skelly at 6:10 p.m. The meeting was held at the Department of Human Services Sequoia Building, Conference Room A, 2100 Washington Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia.

Approval of the November 7, 2011 Executive Committee Minutes:

Chair Skelly called for a motion to approve November 7, 2011 ACCSB Executive Committee minutes. Ms. Deane motioned to approve the minutes, Ms. O'Keefe seconded the motion and the minutes were approved without correction.

Discussion of the RAFT Clients / Mary Marshall Issues:

Ms. Kemp gave some background about a proposal to move RAFT clients into the Mary Marshall Assisted Living Residence (MMALR). Ms. Kemp explained that there are ten clients (two from Arlington, eight from other jurisdictions in the region) who are being assessed to determine if the MMALR may be the best facility for them. Currently these individuals are spread out among several Assisted Living Facilities. This makes oversight more difficult and may not be the best use of resources since the limited RAFT staff travels extensively to serve these clients. Under this proposal, the RAFT staff would be moved from Chantilly, Virginia into the main Arlington DHS building (Sequoia). The Regional Oversight Committee for RAFT has some objections to the process, because they were not informed about this early on nor where they involved in the process. In addition, the Oversight Committee has concerns about representation from Arlington on the Committee. Currently, Arlington RAFT staff is working with the Oversight Committee and the staff in the other jurisdictions to determine if and how these clients can be transitioned to MMALR, if a move is deemed appropriate for each of them.

The Members expressed several concerns about the proposal as follows:

- It moves some clients out of their own jurisdiction into Arlington, which may not be agreeable to the clients, the families or the other jurisdictions.
- This move is a shift in the philosophy of RAFT from integration in the community to a specialized facility. The RAFT program was intended from the beginning for placing people into community-based assisted living (ALFs), not to place people into facilities like MMALR, which is intended for special populations.
- If the RAFT clients are moved out of the community-based ALFs, the region loses beds.

- Given that there is not a county subsidy for RAFT clients, the state funding may supplant the county funding, thereby decreasing the total amount of local funding dedicated to MMALR. (Ms. Kemp stated that this may not be the case and that she will confirm whether RAFT funding will decrease the commitment of local funds to the MMALR.)
- Eight to ten (approximately 20%) Arlington MMALR beds will potentially be lost to Arlington residents, which may be problematic given the limited number of beds.
- Accepting non-Arlington residents would decrease the county's projection of Permanent Supported Housing slots.
- The RAFT Oversight Committee has not been given ample opportunity for input on this issue. Ms. Hermann also noted that moving the RAFT staff to Arlington may increase efficiency by consolidating efforts. She stated that the RAFT Oversight Committee needs more information in order to formulate a sound opinion on the issue.
- Any time RAFT clients are slated to be moved, the CSB should be given ample advance notification of this intent.

Several Members asked clarifying questions regarding the proposal. Ms. Deane asked if there would be a problem filling the beds at the MMALR. Ms. Kemp responded that there should not be a problem filling the beds; however, the process is taking longer than originally anticipated and that it is important to fill the beds. Mr. Mack suggested waiting six months to determine if all beds are filled, and if not, consider accepting non-Arlington residents at that point. Ms. Verdugo asked what the benefits would be for Arlington to house non-Arlington residents at MMALR. Ms. Kemp responded that if the ten residents of the Fairfax facilities were moved, it would reduce travel time for RAFT staff. However, unless all ten residents moved, the staff would still have to travel out of county to serve clients anyway. Ms. Deane stated that these clients would be moved out of their local jurisdiction and farther away from their families and communities. Ms. Kemp responded that that may be true for some clients, but not all since the clients are from Arlington and Alexandria as well as Fairfax. Chair Skelly added that the clients would also move from a less restrictive environment to a more restrictive environment under this proposal, which opposes the philosophy of the CSB. Ms. Hermann clarified that the community is defined as the regional community in the RAFT program, because staying within the region prevents placing people into state hospitals outside of Region II. Ms. Verdugo asked what RAFT provides above what people could receive at MMALR. Chair Skelly stated that RAFT staff provides therapy and case management through the state funding stream, whereas MMALR clients would get these services through the local CSB funding and staff. Ms. Kemp added that the RAFT team would gain more management and administrative support by moving to Arlington. Chair Skelly stated that there is a concern that the community-based ALFs are not fully capable of handling crisis situations, whereas, the MMALR is equipped for managing psychiatric crises.

Chair Skelly proposed that the number of RAFT clients at the MMALR be capped at five beds. She stated that this proposal should be brought before the full board at the December meeting if the proposal to move the RAFT clients to MMALR is moving forward quickly. Ms. O'Keefe stated that there should be further discussion before deciding a cap, because there has not been a meeting of the minds between the Arlington CSB, the RAFT Oversight Committee, and other vested parties. Ms. Hermann stated that there should be an evaluation between the jurisdictional RAFT staff, prior to making a decision about capping RAFT clients. Chair Skelly stated that if DHS agrees to the following statement, the CSB will not have to make an immediate decision about a cap on RAFT clients and the Members agreed: "the CSB recommends that 47 spaces be reserved at the Mary Marshall Assisted Living Residence (MMALR) for Arlington CSB clients

(not funded by RAFT), until a determination can be made of whether MMALR can be fully subscribed with Arlingtonians, and no additional placements earlier than June 30, 2012." Ms. Kemp agreed to follow up with DHS leadership right away and get back to the Committee.

Discuss and Review Housing Issues: *(Refer to Handout)*

Chair Skelly opened a discussion to review the Permanent Supported Housing (PSH) Tables. Ms. Kemp explained that these tables specify the number of PSH beds available to people who live in these facilities as their permanent home, rather than during limited-term treatment.

Chair Skelly gave brief updates on two meetings regarding housing of CSB clients. The first meeting on ID housing included county staff in the CSB; the Department of Human Services, Economic Independence Division; and the Department of Community Planning, Housing and Development. She stated that the meeting was successful and had an overall positive outcome and that staff is following up on the tasks. The second meeting on housing and homelessness included a review of Permanent Supportive Housing, available subsidies / affordable housing, and alternative housing models. Ms. Deane added that the meeting was helpful in bridging the understanding between staff and the CSB regarding both the service and housing needs of clients. She also stated that there were good ideas presented about alternative housing structures. Chair Skelly stated that it would be more helpful in the future to present tangible housing proposals to county staff in order to guide the discussion.

Update on the Arlington Drug Court:

Mr. Mack reported on the status of developing a Drug Court in Arlington. The Arlington contingency (Dr. Joe Bullock, DHS Substance Abuse Bureau Chief; James Mack, CSB Substance Abuse Committee Chair; Judge Newman, Arlington Judge; Theo Stamos, Commonwealth Attorney; Matt Foley, Public Defender; and Winston Marcus; Probation Office), will hold another meeting to observe the Loudoun County Drug Court on Wednesday, December 21, 2011 at 8:00 a.m. Cindy Kemp, Chair Skelly and Ms. O'Keefe were invited as well.

Local and State Budget Updates: *(Refer to Handout)*

Chair Skelly distributed the revised Arlington CSB FY13 Budget Priorities document. Ms. Kemp clarified that in FY13, there are currently 2.0 FTEs and 1.5 contract staff in Job Avenue. The proposed addition to FY13 is that there would be 2.0 contract staff to target adult mental health and substance abuse clients and 1.5 contract staff to target young adults.

The changes to the document are as follows:

- Eliminate residential program 1.0 contract position under young adult services (will be funded by one-time Dfunds in FY13)
- Eliminate the special fund for young adult emergency needs (will be funded by one-time funds in FY13)
- The cost of the psychiatric hours for children and adolescents was adjusted from \$137,500 to \$97,500, based on further evaluation of salary calculations
- Eliminate the request for housing and residential services for a person without Medicaid Waiver funding
- The total contract positions requested is reduced from 7.88 to 6.88
- The budget request for items previously funded with one-time dollars was decreased from \$251,429 to \$191,429
- The additional funding request was reduced from \$672,065 to \$506,904

- The total overall request was reduced from \$923,494 to \$698,333

Ms. Kemp stated that the staff is considering applying for a national “innovations” grant from the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services for integrated primary care and behavioral healthcare services. If received, Ms. Kemp stated that the \$60,000 request for primary care services may not be needed. Ms. Kemp will provide a Board Report to the CSB Members if there is a recommendation to go forward in seeking the grant.

The Members agreed that the changes to the budget priorities do not need to go before the full board since there are only reductions, not additions, being proposed. The Executive Committee Members agreed on the proposed revisions by consensus.

Chair Skelly recommended that the items on the request be further drilled down with accompanying talking points and grouped by theme for presentation to the County Board. She recommended that the one-time funding and the on-going funding be delineated very clearly, perhaps in a table, to avoid confusion. She recommended that the request be broken down by disability area and population as well. Chair Skelly stated that the Peer Recovery request will be more difficult to advocate for, because it is a new service in Arlington, and because it encompasses clients who are receiving other services. There must be enough data in the first presentation to the County Board to support past successes and to build a basic case for new funding, but the main points should not get lost in the data. Ms. Kemp suggested a similar format as last year since it was so well received by the County Board. Chair Skelly suggested presenting an opening paragraph on each item, with bullets supporting each point. Ms. Kemp and Ms. Shakour will work on a draft format.

Ms. Deane stated that a group of parents will meet with the County Board regarding young adult issues on December 22, 2011 from 1:30 – 3:00 p.m., and will express their support of the CSB’s budget requests.

Chair Skelly stated that she attended a forum last week on local budget. She stated that it was said that the budget will be tight. Chair Skelly urged Members to participate in the online chat with the County Manager to advocate for the local budget requests. Chair Skelly announced that the state budget hearing is on January 6, 2012, and she will not be able to attend. She recommended that others attend. There will be information on this in the packets. Ms. Verdugo suggested that individual Members can write letters. Ms. Verdugo encouraged Members to attend another County Board meeting on January 4, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the County Board Room to advocate. The Members will organize their talking points. Ms. Verdugo asked Ms. Shakour to email out the state General Assembly recommendations document to the full CSB board with a note about the Governor’s budget release date and upcoming state hearing dates.

Chair Skelly is attending a meeting of human services advocates to discuss the year round shelter for homeless people in Arlington, and will state that the county has been a good neighbor and very few incidents have occurred that negatively affect the community.

Brief Updates / Information:

- Chair Skelly reminded the Members that the December 21, 2011 CSB meeting will be held at the MMALR at 7:00 p.m. The CSB Members have been asked to bring \$25 Target

or CVS gift cards to be distributed to the facility residents. CSB Members will let Chair Skelly know if they will bring refreshments.

- Chair Skelly stated that Linda Kelleher will make a presentation to the CSB on the work of the Homelessness / Housing Committee at the December 21, 2011 full board meeting and will include a review of the FY11 PSH Tables.
- Chair Skelly and the Members agreed that the CSB Legislative Forum in November went well and were pleased that all legislators who were invited attended or sent a representative.
- Joan Planell, Deputy Director of the Department of Human Services and Heather Carter-Stowe, Bureau Chief of the Child and Family Services Division will attend the January CSB meeting to present on the progress of the Juvenile Justice Committee.
- Chair Skelly stated that Ms. O'Keefe will make a presentation for the full board in February to discuss the Substance Abuse Committee's work on identifying issues related to the service needs for older adults with substance use issues.
- Ms. Kemp announced that the Behavioral Health Partnership of Virginia has partnered with a Managed Care Organization, Value Options, to form a new nonprofit organization called Community Health Partnerships of Virginia to apply for the Medicaid Managed Care Request for Proposal issued by the Department of Medicaid Assistance Services.
- Ms. Kemp updated the Members that she responded to Delegate Robert Brink's request for information on the regional transportation of persons on TDO to hospitals outside of the region (*Refer to Handout*).
- Chair Skelly stated that there are two vacancies on the CSB. Ms. Verdugo stated that Shawna Alonge is expected to apply for appointment to the CSB.
- Chair Skelly stated that she will recommend that James Mack be appointed as the CSB Vice-chair beginning in January 2012, as a part of her succession plan in anticipation of her departure as the CSB Chair in June 2012. Mr. Mack is retiring from his full time job and has extensive experience running meetings and advocating for services for CSB clients.

Upcoming Items for CSB Full Board Meeting on December 21, 2011:

- There will be a presentation by the Homelessness / Housing Committee which will include a review of the Permanent Supported Housing Tables.
- There will be an update on the progress of the Drug Courts in Arlington.
- The staff recognition will be presented to Lyanne Trumball, Mental Health Residential Coordinator.
- There will be a report on the new CSB retreat priority initiatives.

- Ms. Kemp will report on revenue in the Financial Report, as necessary.
- Ms. Kemp will provide a report on the Group Homes, as necessary.

Announcements:

- There were no announcements.

The Arlington Community Services Board Executive Committee meeting was adjourned by Chair Skelly at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Farah Shakour