



DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Child and Family Services Division

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December 13, 2021

Dear Arlington County Community:

The Arlington Community Services Board (CSB) within the Department of Human Services (DHS) has served the community since 1968. As the government behavioral health safety net provider, we strive to provide quality, equitable, accessible, affordable, and timely services for Arlington’s residents with a focus on those who are most vulnerable with the highest need.

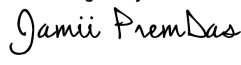
The COVID-19 pandemic is resulting in increased mental health needs. At the same time, there is a national shortage of behavioral health providers. Due to significant vacancies, DHS Children’s Behavioral Health, in accordance with Community Services Board policy, is implementing a prioritization for services to balance client care and safety while maximizing resources. We are in a period of emergency standards of care and have a plan to address the staffing challenges in Children’s Behavioral Health.

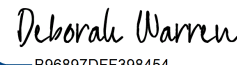
To continue high quality services, we are prioritizing:

- Youth with significant clinical needs and risk including the presence of a mental health and/or substance use diagnoses impacting functioning in more than one area,
- Youth with mental health or substance use needs that cannot be met elsewhere and who do not have alternative resources,
- Services that are mandated by law, policy, or contractual obligation,
- Eligible youth who are Arlington County residents.

Beginning December 20, 2021, Same Day Access/Intakes will be scheduled through 703 -228-1560. Visit our website: [Children’s Behavioral Healthcare – Official Website of Arlington County Virginia Government \(arlingtonva.us\)](http://www.arlingtonva.us) for updated information.

We will get through this difficult period together. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

DocuSigned by:

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 Jamii PremDas, LCSW
 Children’s Behavioral Health
 Bureau Director

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 Deborah Warren, LCSW, DCSW
 CSB Executive Director
 DHS Deputy Director

CC: Tabitha Kelly, Child and Family Service Division Director
Anita Friedman, DHS Director

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