

**FAIRFAX FALLS-CHURCH COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD
SERVICE DELIVERY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 9, 2023**

The Service Delivery Oversight Committee of the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board met electronically due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which has made it unsafe to assemble a quorum in one location physically or to have the public present. Access was made available via video and web conferencing platform to CSB Board members, CSB staff, and members of the public. The meeting notice, including participation instructions, was posted electronically and on the building where the meeting is typically held. Additionally, attendees were offered an opportunity to register for public comment during the 30 minutes prior to the meeting being called to order.

1. Meeting Called to Order

Committee Chair Anne Whipple called the meeting to order at 5:03 PM.

2. Roll Call, Audibility and Preliminary Motions

PRESENT: **BOARD MEMBERS:** COMMITTEE CHAIR ANNE WHIPPLE (GREAT FALLS, VA); ROBERT BARTOLOTTA (COROLLA, NC); SHEILA JONAS (ALEXANDRIA, VA); DARIA AKERS (FAIRFAX, VA); EVAN JONES (BURKE, VA); DAN SHERRANGE (CHANTILLY, VA)

ABSENT: **BOARD MEMBERS:** SRILEKHA PALLE; CAPTAIN DANIEL WILSON; GARRETT MCGUIRE

Associate Members in Attendance: Kathleen Baker, Kay Little and Lauren Goldschmidt, Service Source; Diane Monnig, The Arc of Northern Virginia; Joe Getch, Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services, Inc.; Brenda R Richardson, Service Source; and Tonya Henderson, Recovery Program Solutions of Virginia; Rebecca Kiessling, NAMI Northern Virginia; Heather Peck, Laurie Mitchell Empowerment and Career Center; Cynthia Koshatka, Northern Virginia Mental Health Foundation (NVMHF); Maureen Gum, Langley Residential Support Services; Sean McGinnis, Hartwood Foundation; Randy Shusman, Pathway Homes, Inc.; Theo Rucker-Abilla, Employment Advocates Group

Staff in Attendance: Deputy Director of Community Living Barbara Wadley-Young, Deputy Director of Administrative Operations Jean Post, Legislative and Grants Analyst Elizabeth McCartney, Director of Clinical Operations Abbey May, Division Director of Community Residential Services Liv O'Neil, Director of Individual and Family Affairs Michael T. Lane, Director of Project Management Christina Manning, Service Director Sierra Simmons, Division Director of BHOP Eileen Bryceland, and Board Clerk Sameera Awan.

3. Matters of the Public

None were presented.

4. Amendments to the Meeting Agenda

The meeting agenda was provided for review, no amendments were made.

5. Approval of Minutes

Meeting minutes of the August 9, 2023, Service Delivery Oversight Committee were provided for review. Committee Member Evan Jones pointed out that in the previous meeting, he was referring to vaACCSES instead of VMAP.

MOTION TO ADOPT WAS APPROVED BY ANNE WHIPPLE; DARIA AKERS; SHEILA JONAS AND ROBERT BARTOLOTTA.

6. Behavioral Health Crisis Response in Fairfax County

Director of Project Management Christina Manning provided information about the Behavioral Health Crisis Response System in Fairfax County. In recent decades, more regions have embraced collaborative efforts between law enforcement and mental health services to deliver a cohesive response to individuals undergoing mental health crises. Fairfax County has established co-responder teams consisting of a police officer trained in Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) techniques and a crisis intervention specialist. These teams offer immediate on-site assistance to individuals facing behavioral health crises and facilitate their connection with countywide and community-based support services as necessary. All team members possess substantial experience in assisting community members in crisis and undergo advanced-level training, which includes intensive scenario-based practice.

The objectives of the Co-Responder Program encompass:

- Enhancing the prompt assessment and de-escalation of behavioral health crises at the scene.
- Strengthening connections to ongoing behavioral health services and resources.
- Reducing interactions with the criminal justice system and arrests related to behavioral health issues.
- Diminishing the necessity for emergency custody orders/temporary detention orders, as applicable.
- Minimizing visits to emergency departments and addressing capacity constraints in psychiatric hospitals by offering less restrictive community-based alternatives for individuals in crisis.
- Fostering improved relationships between law enforcement and community members.

In the coming weeks, the CSB will be rolling out an additional follow-up response handled by a team of peer clinicians for co-responder referrals. This initiative is part of their continuous commitment to bolstering post-crisis response resources within the system.

Furthermore, this year, in collaboration with the Marcus Alert program, the organization is actively working on enhancing the integration of all post-crisis response services with the

broader crisis response system. The primary focus is to improve overall connectivity and coherence across these services.

7. Legislative Update

Committee Member Dan Sherrange shared legislative updates on behalf of Elizabeth McCartney. He emphasized the existence of a legislative planning calendar and mentioned the current focus on crafting essential talking points for the month. The team plans to engage with legislative candidates to discuss their objectives as they progress.

The fall strategy closely aligns with past practices, beginning with a meeting in October involving current legislators, including Senators and members of the House of Delegates. Following the November election, outreach efforts will target newly elected officials, particularly as there will likely be at least two new senators. This may involve individual briefings or separate discussions to convey key points effectively.

The plan will be examined in more detail in September, ensuring that all aspects are coordinated to keep everyone informed and on track. This outlines the current program and approach being taken.

8. Associate Member Reports, Updates and Concerns

Committee Chair Anne Whipple conveyed her gratitude to all participants in the online survey. She initiated the discussion by addressing the survey many had already completed, expressing appreciation for those who shared their thoughts. Anne emphasized that the survey remains open, encouraging anyone who has yet to respond to do so, as it would significantly contribute to shaping the committee's future direction.

Cynthia Koshatka, the President of Northern Virginia Mental Health Foundation (NVMHF), announced the forthcoming 30th anniversary celebration, scheduled for September 9, 2023, at 4:00 PM. Cynthia extended a warm invitation to all attendees to join in the festivities, expressing gratitude to donors, board members, and the community they have collaboratively worked with. She specifically acknowledged the Fairfax Falls-Church Community Services Board as part of their valued community. Cynthia also expressed appreciation to Joe Getch for PRS's support in hosting the event at their sites. For additional details, she encouraged individuals to visit their website, nvmhf.org.

Sean McGinnis, the Executive Director of Hartwood Foundation, shared that the Northern Virginia Coalition of Service Providers, which comprises approximately 30-40 agencies, continues to be open to all interested parties. This coalition, which has existed since the early 1990s, has an exciting development this year, primarily driven by Susan Keenan, who leads Community Living Alternatives (CLA). The noteworthy announcement is the inaugural DSPY (Direct Support Professional of the Year) Awards ceremony, scheduled for September 11, 2023, at the Fairfax County Government Center. This event will bring together various organizations across the DMV (District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia) region to celebrate and participate in the First Annual

DSPY Awards. It serves as a platform to honor and acknowledge the exceptional contributions of Direct Support Professionals in the DMV area. Their excellence in their roles significantly impacts the lives of others, making this event a fitting tribute to their dedication and achievements.

Joe Getch, the Chief Executive Officer of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services, Inc. (PRS), conveyed the news of PRS founder and inaugural Executive Director Vera Mellen's passing on August 2nd. Vera served as PRS's first executive director from 1963 until 1998. Joe had the privilege of attending her memorial service, highlighting her unwavering dedication to working with individuals with mental health challenges. Additionally, PRS is marking its 60th anniversary this year, and they have exciting plans in store. The "Imagine Hope" benefit is set to take place on Friday, October 13, 2023, from 6:30 – 10:00 PM at the Hilton McLean Tysons Corner. Invitations will be distributed, and the organization looks forward to welcoming many attendees to this special event. Lastly, it was previously announced several meetings ago that PRS had initiated a comprehensive service expansion focusing on working with youth and families. Part of this expansion involved actively extending PRS's outpatient therapy services to individuals aged 12 and older. PRS is on the verge of introducing a new service within this domain. To give the committee a succinct overview of this exciting development, Laura Fonner, PRS's Chief Clinical Officer, will deliver a concise presentation. The objective is to ensure this new service is on everyone's radar, as PRS is enthusiastic about this endeavor.

Laura Fonner, the Chief Financial Officer of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services, Inc. (PRS), provided a concise overview of PRS's current initiatives and expansions. In response to the pressing issue of youth mental health crises in the community, PRS has implemented the (TIP) model. This evidence-based program is tailored for individuals aged 14 to 29 experiencing emotional and/or behavioral health challenges without a specific diagnosis. TIP, which stands for Transition to Independence Process, is an evidence-based model that follows a structured curriculum for intervention. Numerous studies have demonstrated its effectiveness in improving outcomes for youth and young adults. The TIP program encompasses key areas, including education and employment, housing, personal effectiveness, well-being, and community functioning. The duration of treatment spans approximately 18 months. The vision for TIP involves some youth and young adults transitioning from more intensive services, such as Turning Point. Additionally, PRS has received feedback indicating that individuals aging out of foster care could greatly benefit from this program. TIP is designed to be highly integrated, working in collaboration with PRS services like outpatient therapy, family peer support, and employment and in conjunction with the CSB and their service providers within the community and with families.

Rebecca Kiessling, the Executive Director of NAMI Northern Virginia, shared the upcoming 15th NAMI Walks Northern Virginia event, which is scheduled for September 23, 2023, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at George Mason University. The focus for this year's NAMI Walks event is not only on mental health education but also on celebrating and embracing diversity within the community. The organizers aim to highlight mental health awareness and provide a platform for various community resources to come together. The goal is to ensure that attendees can find and relate to the exhibitors present at the event, reflecting the community's diversity. Rebecca

expressed her gratitude for the CSB's participation in the event, emphasizing the support received and the anticipation of an enjoyable and meaningful event.

Deputy Director of Community Living Barbara Wadley-Young shared the results of the Service Delivery Oversight Committee Survey and expressed gratitude to those who participated. The committee's genuine interest lies in discovering ways to enhance engagement for all attendees. The survey encompassed four key questions; the first question sought insights on topics that provided the greatest value during their attendance and their opportunity to engage directly with board members. The second question revolved around legislative updates, the third centered on industry services, and the fourth explored collaboration and strategies. Among these topics, legislative updates garnered the most interest. Dr. Wadley-Young encouraged attendees to be actively involved with organizations like the Virginia Association of Community Services Board (VACSB) and others engaged in legislative activities and the CSB's partners like the ARC of Northern Virginia to share their insights and ideas. The committee is eager to hear from them and is prepared to collaborate in determining the most pertinent and informative updates. Additionally, if any attendees wished to provide updates on innovative and creative initiatives or were seeking potential partners, Dr. Wadley-Young encouraged them to reach out to schedule discussions on these matters.

9. Staff Reports

Deputy Director of Community Living Barbara Wadley-Young provided a concise overview of a structural change that took place at the CSB a year and a half ago. The change involved transitioning from a deputy of clinical and administrative services and two assistant deputy directors to the current setup of two deputies of clinical services. The complexity of the service system necessitated this restructuring. Dr. Wadley-Young and Deputy Director of Clinical Operations Abbey May now share the responsibilities, including administrative tasks. While this arrangement might be a bit confusing for some in terms of knowing whom to contact, Dr. Wadley-Young clarified that if someone reaches out to her regarding a matter within Abbey's area of responsibility, she will either redirect the query to Abbey or provide a prompt response if it's a straightforward matter. The same approach applies to Abbey. For reference, Dr. Wadley-Young oversees all Developmental Disability (DD) services, behavioral health, employment, day services, and psychosocial rehabilitation services within the CSB.

Deputy Director of Clinical Operations Abbey May shared her recent promotion to Deputy Director in June, succeeding Lyn Tomlinson. A few months into her new role, she expressed her excitement to attend the meeting, meet all the attendees, and collaborate effectively. Abbey provided insights into the areas under her supervision, which primarily encompass the front door services, including entry and referrals for individuals seeking access to CSB services. This portfolio oversees the Behavioral Health Call Center and the Wellness, Health, and Provision Program. She also retains responsibility for Emergency Services, the Wellness Center, Crisis Stabilization Unit, all youth and family outpatient programs, Healthy Minds Fairfax, jail-based teams operating at correctional facilities, jail diversion programs, peer recovery services embedded across various CSB programs, and all detox and substance use programs.

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Deputy Director of Administrative Operations Jean Post provided an overview of her role, mentioning that she has been in her current position since January. Before this role, she oversaw regional programs at the regional office. In her current capacity, she has oversight over several key areas, including human resources, finance and business operations, health informatics, and complaint and risk management.

Director of Clinical Operations Abbey May shared that the Board of Supervisors (BOS) requests to prioritize Youth Behavioral Health carryover funding. Executive Director Daryl Washington is scheduled to present to the BOS on October 17, 2023, with three potential actions for them to consider. The first option is Youth Medicated Assistant Treatment (MAT) Service, which involves expanding the CSB's limited treatment program. The second option is the Youth Mental Health Outreach and Engagement and Intervention Program, which enables the CSB to provide outreach, mental health screening, engagement, assessment, therapy, and case management in communities across the county, particularly in non-traditional settings and various geographical locations, such as north, central, and south county areas. The third option is the Youth Crisis Services and Re-entry Program, which entails establishing a youth crisis stabilization program, including a crisis receiving center. This program would offer crisis stabilization, detox treatment, and aftercare, making it the most expensive option. Mr. Washington's presentation will address the BOS's request for carryover funding for these initiatives and explore potential additional state funding opportunities. The aim is to further support and expand Youth Behavioral Health Services to better serve the community's needs.

10. Adjournment

Committee Chair Anne Whipple made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:36 PM.

October 11, 2023

Date Approved

DocuSigned by:

Sameera Awan

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Clerk to the Board