



FAIRFAX - FALLS CHURCH

Community Services Board

Behavioral Health Oversight Committee

The Merrifield Center
8221 Willow Oaks Corporate Drive, Fairfax, VA 22031
Room 3-314, West

Wednesday, February 12, 2020
5:00 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Meeting Called to Order 5:00 p.m.
 - Diane Tuininga
2. Opening Remarks, Introductions, and Announcements
3. Approval of the January 2020 Draft Committee Meeting minutes
4. Matters of the Public
5. Associate Member Reports, Updates, and Concerns
6. Legislative Update – Elizabeth McCartney
7. Challenge Question – Housing
8. Staff Reports
9. Adjournment

Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board
Behavioral Health Oversight Committee
January 8, 2020

The Behavioral Health Oversight Committee of the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board met in regular session at the Merrifield Center, 8221 Willow Oaks Corporate Drive, Fairfax, VA, Room 3-314, West

Committee Members in Attendance: CSB Board Member Daria Akers; CSB Board Member Captain Derek DeGeare; and CSB Board Member, Garrett McGuire

Committee Members absent: CSB Board Chair Diane Tuininga

Associate Members in Attendance: Peter Clark, No. VA. Mental Health Foundation (NVMHF); Joe Getch, Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services, Inc. (PRS); Lauren Goldschmidt, ServiceSource; Trudy Harsh, the Brain Foundation; Joe Pettit, Concerned Fairfax; Lauren Padgett, PRS, Inc.; Cate Powell and Kat Ashmore, Gateway Homes; Megan Souza, NAMI Northern Virginia; Eleanor Vincent, Pathway Homes, Inc.

Staff in Attendance: Georgia Bachman, Asst. Deputy Acute & Therapeutic Treatment Services; Lisa Flowers, Director of Communications; Evan Jones, Employment & Day Services; Michael T. Lane, Dir. Office of Individual and Family Affairs; Elizabeth McCartney, Legislative Liaison; and Lyn Tomlinson, Deputy Dir. Clinical Services

1. **Meeting Called to Order**

The meeting was convened at 5:04 p.m.

2. **Opening Remarks, Introductions, and Announcements**

Garrett McGuire, in the absence of Committee Chair Diane Tuininga, welcomed Committee and Associate Members as well as staff and members of the public, who then introduced themselves including staff position or agency affiliation.

Daria Akers encouraged attendees to visit the Fairfax County Public School (FCPS) Parent Resource Center to find many valuable workshops and resources, highlighting a program on January 21, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. *titled Bipolar Disorder in Children and Adolescents: Assessment, Treatment and Research Update*. Hosted by Dr. Lisa M. Cullins, attending physician in the Emotion and Development Branch at the National Institute of Mental Health. Clerk to the Board will forward this information with a link to the website to the CSB Board Behavioral Health Oversight and Developmental Disabilities Committee distribution lists.

It was confirmed that Elizabeth McCartney, CSB Legislative Liaison, would attend DD and BHOC meetings to provide regular legislative updates. Ms. McCartney provided a brief overview of recent legislative activities reporting that several CSB Board members had provided testimony at two legislative events. Associate Members were offered an opportunity for more regular updates than what will be provided at the February Committee meetings.

3. Approval of the Agenda and Minutes

No recommendations for revision of the agenda were offered.

Acknowledging that no recommendations were forthcoming, Daria Akers made a motion to approve the December 2019 Joint Committee meeting minutes as presented, which was seconded and approved.

4. Matters of the Public

The parent of an individual receiving CSB services offered thanks to the CSB for the services provided to his child and the community.

5. Emergency Services and Mobile Crisis Unit

Belinda Massaro provided an overview of Emergency Services and the Mobile Crisis Unit (MCU) emphasizing that the MCU provides the same emergency services out in the community. Acknowledging that there are now two MCU units, it was further acknowledged that the size of Fairfax County can pose a response time challenge.

The Community Response Team (CRT) combines CSB staff with public safety personnel to connect super-utilizers of public safety services with resources to decrease calls to 911 and other public safety departments. It was clarified that this unit provides ongoing contact with the individuals served, in contrast to the MCU who responds in crisis situations.

There is a long-term goal to establish MCUs in South and North Fairfax County as well.

The importance of Peer Support Specialists in Emergency Services was highlighted, as well as the increasing number of Fairfax county Police and Sheriff personnel that are CIT (Crisis Intervention Team) trained.

Members engaged in robust discussion following the presentation.

6. Associate Member Reports, Updates, and Concerns

Garrett McGuire opened the floor to Associate Members, information provided included the following:

- *Lauren Padgett* reported that CEO Wendy Gradison was retiring at the end of this fiscal year (6/30/2020) with Joe Getsch assuming the position at that time. Holiday events included a Thanksgiving dinner and CrisisLink Holiday Safety Program.
- *Trudy Harsh* reported that they operate nine homes in Fairfax county with 36 residents. Additionally, there are three homes in Fairfax City located within walking distance to grocery stores and public transportation noting that the increasing tax debt, currently at \$33K annually, makes it increasingly difficult to continue operating the homes.
- *Lauren Goldschmidt* reported the current President/CEO had just retired with two staff assuming the positions of President and CEO respectively. Additional updated included an affiliation with an agency in Utah and an event scheduled for February 22, 2020, *Reel Abilities*, with a movie screening, a resource fair, and panel at the Oakton office.
- *Eleanor Vincent*, expansion of Permanent Supported Housing to a total of 93 beds providing long term assistance to individual with serious mental illness and/or substance

use disorders. Combined with some state funded housing in collaboration with CSBs in Fairfax and Alexandria, the total beds will total 139.

- *Joe Pettit and Megan Souza*, noting no updates to /concerned Fairfax, it was reported that the search for a new president for NAMI Northern Virginia is ongoing. Additionally, Ms. Souza provided a staffing update on recent employment activities of NAMI.

7. Challenge Question: Discussion

Following Committee discussion, the topic of Housing was determined to be the Question for the February meeting. Members were encouraged to forward additional topic recommendation to the Clerk to the Board. Additional recommendations included possibly using the questions posed at the meeting for future Challenge Questions, discussion of integration of care with DD services included, data collection and discussion of characteristics related to frequency of contact with high utilizers of services, particularly related to management and possible reduction resources.

8. Discussion of the December 2019 Joint Meeting

Providing a brief overview of the meeting activities, Mr. McGuire indicated the meeting was successful with engaged and robust discussion and enthusiastic participation in the activities. Committee and Associate Members provided further input including concern over joint meetings for the DD Committee as it meets bi-monthly,

9. Staff Reports

Lyn Tomlinson provided several updates to include:

- January 2020 is the five-year anniversary of the Merrifield Center.
- Second round interviews for the Deputy Director for Administrative Operations are scheduled for the following week.
- Offering a reminder of the recent multiple leadership changes at the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, Ms. Tomlinson noted anticipation that some of the leadership will be in attendance at the upcoming VACSB (Virginia Association of Community Services Boards) conference. Reports of conference events will be provided at the February Committee meetings.
- Ms. Tomlinson spoke on the tremendous value of the partner agencies, noting some recent and critical support from Pathway Homes, Inc.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at #6:18 p.m.

Actions Taken –

- Approval of the December 2019 Behavioral Health Oversight Committee meeting minutes.

Date Approved

Clerk to the CSB Board