

Meeting Minutes

Behavioral Health Care Subcommittee

June 17, 2015 at 1:00 p.m.

Senate Room A – General Assembly Building

Members Present

Delegate Christopher P. Stolle, Co-Chair

Delegate David L. Bulova

Delegate T. Scott Garrett

Delegate Patrick A. Hope

Delegate Riley E. Ingram

Delegate John M. O'Bannon III

Senator John C. Miller, Co-Chair

Senator George L. Barker

Senator John S. Edwards

Senator L. Louise Lucas

The Honorable William A. Hazel, Jr.

Members Absent

Delegate Kaye Kory

Senator Charles W. Carrico, Sr.

Senator Stephen H. Martin

Senator Linda T. Puller

CALL TO ORDER

Delegate Stolle called the meeting to order and asked Secretary Hazel to provide a brief update on behavioral-health initiatives.

Secretary Hazel made the following remarks:

Over the past year, there have large numbers of requested psychiatric evaluations, evaluations completed by CSBs, and TDOs issued. Despite these numbers, no person was turned away due to the lack of a bed. A few individuals eloped for various reasons but not due to a lack of bed space. Not that it has been easy, but the various partners have done a very good job of managing the system. TDOs for kids run at capacity but would prefer to build community capacity rather than add beds.

The total population of NVTC is around 480 down from 1100 in 2010. Expect closure to take place early next year and most residents will be placed by the end of this year. Nothing here has been easy to accomplish either.

Moving to waiver redesign of the ID, DD, and EDCD waivers, there are some services that are more generous than needed while some needed services have been left out. It has become clear that it would take too long to redesign the waivers in order to combine them, so the plan is to make them interlocking and interlacing. It is critical to get through the waiver process soon.

The Prescription Drug Diversion Task Force met yesterday and a report is due to the Governor by June 30. The Naloxone bill passed and training of law enforcement is underway. The prescription drug monitoring program still needs to be strengthened since about 45,000 per year Doc-shop during the course of one day to avoid detection. Virginia has a few drug courts and the courts tend to work very well and have been found to reduce costs related to incarceration

and recidivism. The disposal of prescriptions is an issue; while the incinerator in Alexandria is free determining who should transport and provide security is a problem.

In terms of system issues, there is a federal grant opportunity for certified community behavioral health centers and we will be pursuing planning grants. There are inconsistencies in services available and expertise. It should be noted that federal grants require a state match that is unencumbered and we will look for available funds in the budget.

On a cautionary point, CMS surveyed the Hancock Geriatric Treatment Center and found that the center does not meet the nursing home certification standards for Medicaid reimbursement. This represents a significant loss of federal funds. How can we meet the needs of this population long term? In response to a question from Delegate Stolle, Secretary Hazel explained that the understanding is that federal funding for Hancock will end August 26.

A recent article in pediatric literature discussed the long-term health effects of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) even showing that ACEs can impact brain development. There is a very interesting Institute of Medicine article that will be shared with JCHC members. *Following the meeting, Secretary Hazel proposed having several speakers to address these findings; speakers are being identified to address the Healthy Living/Health Services morning meeting on September 9.*

PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Marc Leslie discussed the numbers and rates of suicide in Virginia for 2003 through 2012; a handout on selected characteristics of suicide was provided also.

Ms. Anya Shaffer, described the Youth Suicide Prevention Program administered by the departments of health and behavioral health and developmental services.

Dr. Briana Mezuk presented the findings of “Suicide Risk in Long-Term Care in Virginia: 2003 – 2011” which is to be published in the *American Journal of Public Health*; a copy of the drafted article was distributed.

Ms. Cleopatra Booker, with the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, provided an update on the operation, benefits, and limitations of the acute psychiatric bed registry.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. *The next BHC Subcommittee meeting will be held on September 9, 2015 beginning at 1:00 p.m.*

ELECTRONIC MEETING YES NO

Prepared by: Sylvia A. Reid, Operations Manager

Date: July 10, 2015