PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY
COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH, INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES
AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES BOARD

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
Obediah Baker, Jr, Voneka Bennett, Dr. William Carr, Altonia Garrett, Bradley Marshall,
John O’Leary, Timothy Oshiki, Heather Page, Latasha Simmons, Patrick Sowers

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:
None

STAFF PRESENT:
Lisa Madron, Betsy Strawderman, Melinda Bringham-Office of Executive Director,
Division Managers: Dr. Kanchan Clark - Medical Director; Elise Madison –
Emergency Services; Sherry Bowman – Community Support Services
Mike Goodrich, Jim Fleming -Administrative Services; Beth Dugan – Quality
Improvement

GUESTS PRESENT:
Pat Victorson, NAMI

PRESS PRESENT:
None

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OPENING: The Regular Meeting of September 17, 2020 of the Community Services
Board was convened in Powell’s Creek Conference Room, James J. McCoart
Government Center, 1 County Complex, Woodbridge, Virginia.
**Chairman O’Leary amended the agenda as follows**

APPROVE REQUESTS TO PARTICIPATE REMOTELY THROUGH ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION MEANS

WHEREAS, the Community Services Board adopted a policy pursuant to § 2.2-3708.2 VA CODE ANN to allow for remote participation by Members of the Board; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Board’s policy, Ms. Altonia Garrett and Ms. Heather Page notified the Chair that the Members are requesting permission from the Board to electronically participate at the Board’s June 18, 2020 meeting; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Heather Page certified that she is unable to attend the meeting due to a temporary or permanent disability or other medical condition that prevents their physical presence; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Altonia Garrett certified that she is unable to attend for personal reasons that prevents her physical presence; and

WHEREAS, the remote locations from which the above members plan to electronically participate is their personal residence temporary or permanent residence and these remote locations will not be open to the public; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Altonia Garrett and Ms. Heather Page verified that their participation in any closed session of the meeting shall remain confidential and not be disclosed to any unauthorized persons or entities; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Board’s policy, a request for electronic participation from a remote location shall be approved unless participation violates the Board’s policy or any provision of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Community Services Board hereby approves the request to participate in the meeting through electronic communication means in accordance with the Board’s policy’ a quorum of the Board was physically assembled at one primary or central location and arrangements were made for the voices of , to be heard by all persons via Webex at the primary or central meeting location. Ms. Altonia Garrett and Ms. Heather Page.

RESOLUTION 20-06R1-01

MOTION:  Sowers
SECOND:  Oshiki
Votes:
Ayes-- Baker, Bennett, Carr, Marshall, O’Leary, Oshiki, Simmons, Sowers
Nays--0
Abstained--0
Absent from Vote--Garrett, Page
Absent from Meeting--0

CITIZEN’S TIME:
Pat Victorson with NAMI Prince William shared a flyer on their local programs. She stated that they have been providing their programming virtually due to Covid-19. The next virtual Family & Friends will be held on October 8th and Ending the Silence will be held on October 17th. Ms. Victorson also announced that the NAMI walk will be held virtually this year and encouraged everyone to participate.

STAFF TIME:
None

PRESENTATION: Co-Responder Program Review and Update- Ms. Heather Baxter

Ms. Baxter shared a brief overview of the Co-Responding Program which means that a clinician will ride in the car with a CIT certified officer throughout their assigned shift and respond to mental health calls. They are also able to proactively check on high utilizers of 911 services and citizens recently released from hospitals. The clinician can provide support, make follow up appointments, access the consumer’s record, provide pre-screening on site, and consult with officers on the best strategy to move forward. The benefits of the program are reductions in the use of force, calls for service, and ECO’s (Emergency Custody Orders) and TDO’s (Temporary Detention Orders) thereby reducing the need for utilizing beds in hospital emergency departments and inpatient facilities. They are able to provide needed resources to the community and preserve citizen dignity.

The Prince William Board of County Supervisors has approved $900,000 to fund the program which will allow for a team of 3 clinicians, 3 officers and a clinical supervisor. The Prince William County Police Department has now assigned a Captain and Lieutenant to the CIT & Co-Responder programs making it an official unit with an established chain of command structure. The PWCPD will be providing clinicians with a two-day safety training and Community Services will continue to provide “squad day” training for officers.

Phase I (July–August 2020) of the rollout timeline has been completed. It consisted of forming a development committee, recruitment of clinicians and officers, development of a Memorandum of
Understanding between Community Services and PWCPD, development of job descriptions for the new positions, policies/procedures outlined and put into SOP’s, procurement of office space at the Western District Police Station and identifying/procuring the needed equipment.

Phase II (September 2020) is currently underway which consists of finalization of the MOU, assignment of the CS Clinical Supervisor, Clinical Supervisor and Program Manager to begin training of stakeholders on the Co-Responder Program, and newly hired clinical staff to begin a 3 month long training to be certified by the state as preadmission screeners along with CS training to conduct ECO/TDO assessments. The CS Clinical Supervisor will be assigned and transferred to the Co-Responder Unit and begin riding along with an officer 1-2 days a week.

During Phase III (October 2020), the CS and PWCPD supervisory positions will be assigned and transferred to the Co-Responder Unit and continuing of the recruitment/training of clinicians and officers to build 3 full time functional units.

Phase IV (November-December 2020) will consist of the officers and clinicians completing their training and begin Co-Responding with a target date of December 7, 2020.

The future plans of the program are to expand and offer service 7 days a week /24 hours a day, provide advanced training for CIT officers, increase the number of CIT trainings offered, and provide training on Trauma Informed Policing.

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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**RESOLUTION 20-09R1-02**

**MOTION:** Baker  
**SECOND:** Marshall

The Prince William County Community Services Board does hereby approve the minutes of June 18, 2020.

**Vote:**  
Ayes-- Baker, Bennett, Carr, Garrett, Marshall, O’Leary, Oshiki, Page, Simmons, Sowers  
Nays--0  
Abstained--  
Absent During Vote--0  
Absent from Meeting--0

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RECOMMEND BOARD OF COUNTY SUPERVISORS ACCEPT, BUDGET, AND APPROPRIATE $214,667 IN ONE-TIME STATE REVENUES, $112,512 IN ONE-TIME FEDERAL REVENUES, $67,235 IN ONGOING FEDERAL REVENUES, AND $66,953 IN ONGOING FEE REVENUES TO RECONCILE THE FISCAL YEAR 2021 COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD’S COUNTY BUDGET TO ANTICIPATED REVENUES

WHEREAS, the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) and other funding sources have notified Community Services (CS) of one-time funding changes; and

WHEREAS, CS is required to reflect accurate revenue projections; and

WHEREAS, CS must request an increase in budget authority so that additional funds can be expended; and

WHEREAS, CS requests increasing one-time budgeted state revenues by $163,076 and one-time budgeted federal revenues by $31,415 for the Early Intervention program to augment funding for contracted specialists and one-time technology purchases; and

WHEREAS, CS requests increasing one-time budgeted state revenues by $26,884 to support clients served by Pathway Homes, Inc., in the Permanent Supported Housing program; and

WHEREAS, CS requests increasing one-time budgeted state revenues by $24,707 and one-time budgeted federal revenues by $30,157 to support prevention related activities; and

WHEREAS, CS requests increasing one-time budgeted federal revenues by $47,768 to support the State Opioid Response program for the period July 1, 2020 through September 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, CS requests increasing one-time budgeted federal revenues by $3,172 and ongoing federal revenues by $13,210 to support staff training and outreach efforts in the PATH program; and

WHEREAS, CS requests increasing ongoing budgeted federal revenues by $54,025 due to an increase in the federal block grant for serious emotional disturbance and increasing ongoing budgeted Medicaid revenues by $66,953 to create a Therapist IV (Clinical Services Case Management Supervisor) position to provide program support for the New Horizons Division; and

WHEREAS, there are no local funds required in accepting these funds;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Prince William Community Services Board does hereby recommend the Prince William Board of County Supervisors accept, budget, and appropriate $214,667 in one-time state revenues, $112,512 in one-time federal revenues, $67,235 in ongoing federal revenues, and $66,953 in ongoing fee revenues to reconcile the Fiscal Year 2021 Community Services Board’s County budget to anticipated revenues,
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Prince William Community Services Board does hereby recommend the Board of County Supervisors add the following full-time position:

Therapist IV  Grade C52  TBD  1.0 FTE

RESOLUTION 20-09R1-03

MOTION: Sowers
SECOND: Baker

Votes:
Ayes-- Baker, Bennett, Carr, Garrett, Marshall, O’Leary, Oshiki, Page, Simmons, Sowers
Nays--0
Abstained--0
Absent from Vote--
Absent from Meeting--0

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN UPDATE

Ms. Beth Dugan provided an update on licensing citations and corrective action plan requests. She defined an Investigation as a detailed inquiry or systematic examination of the operations of a provider or its services to determine if there has been a violation of regulations. An investigation may be undertaken as a result of a complaint, an incident report, or other information that comes to the attention of the Department. She also defined an Inspection as a thorough review by the Department of the provision of a specific licensed service provided by the CSB. At a minimum, the agency will have a thorough inspection at least every three years as part of the license renewal process.

During FY20, the agency had two inspections driven by the Department of Justice (DOJ) settlement. Both the DDCM and ID In-Home Services were inspected in May 2020. Both reviews resulted in the renewal of the agency’s license to provide those services for the maximum period. We are currently scheduled to have the rest of the agency inspected next week.

According to the Department, a serious incident is any event or circumstance that causes or could cause harm to the health, safety, or wellbeing of an individual up to and including significant injury or death (expected or not). The department has broken down the definition of incidents into three categories. All incidents within the second and third categories require the agency to
complete a root cause analysis (RCA) in an effort to identify underlying causes of these incidents with the goal of focusing on systems, processes, and outcomes that demonstrate the need for an agency change in order to reduce the risk of harm and/or negative outcomes.

Based on this requirement, in FY20 the agency reported 156 separate serious reports to DBHDS. Of those, the CS completed 114 separate RCAs. In addition to our own reviews, DBHDS also completes an investigation of the incidents we report. These incidents are generally a “desk” audit of the services we provided leading up to the incident and a review of the agency’s policies and procedures. Additionally, as part of the DOJ settlement DBHDS has vastly increased the number of departments and staff reviewing incidents to include at least 4 different department at this time. As they are completing both investigations and inspections, DBHDS may or may not issue citations for non-conformance to licensing regulations. If a citation is used to the agency, we have 3 weeks to respond and submit a corrective action plan in an effort to avoid making the same error. If we make the same error again, DBHDS may issue a systemic deficiency citation.

Over the course of FY20, the agency had 18 investigations and 2 inspections that resulted in a total of 38 different citations. Of the 13 different licensed services 6 received citations throughout the year with the services receiving the most being the DDCM department (9) which is indicative of the increased scrutiny of department on DD services throughout the state brought on by the DOJ settlement. Of the 18 investigations 12 of them (66%) were for a “late incident report.” DBHDS has implemented a 24-hour reporting timeframe for all incidents 7 days a week.

Overall, with 156 incidents reported and 12 being late we achieved a 92% on time measure. With the addition of COVID19 cases, regardless of symptoms or impact, to the list of what needs to be reported, we have increased the number of reports by over 90 since mid-March. Therefore, we anticipate a significant increase in the number of reportable serious incidents overall for FY21.

**Appointment of the CY21 Nominating Committee for Board Officers**

Chairman O’Leary, Mr. Obediah Baker, Ms. Voneka Bennett, Mr. Bradley Marshall, and Ms. Latasha Simmons were appointed to the Nominating Committee for Board Officers for calendar year 2021.

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**EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS TIME:**

Ms. Madron thanked the members of the Community Services Board for completing the annual member survey. Community Services is compliant with the state code.

Ms. Madron shared that the Virginia General Assembly is entering a special session to address many issues including the freeze on STEP VA funding, the reallocation of funding for DD waiver services, the restoration of discharge assistance funding, and the reallocation of Medicare psychiatrist billing rates.
Ms. Madron shared that the Virginia Senate and House bills are changing rapidly with two bills currently being considered regarding Co-Responder programs. The House and Senate bills have some similarities, such as mandating a Marcus alert system. The bills have significant differences, as well. The VACSB is actively opposed to the HB5043 sponsored by Del. Bourne, as it does not allow responders to carry lethal weapons and they must be in unmarked cars and not in uniform. SB5038 sponsored by Sen. McPike does not include these restrictions. Neither bill addresses funding. Both bills are very prescriptive, and if passed, the County’s Co-Responder plans may have to be adjusted. The VACSB and CSB’s all support some form of a Co-Responder program but recommend that each locality be permitted to design Co-Responder programs that best meet the needs of their respective communities.

Ms. Madron shared that there is still an issue with state hospitals not adhering to VA State Code as the bed of last resort per the Governor’s Executive Order. She received a follow up from Secretary Carey in which it was stated that there is no money to expand the accessibility of inpatient hospital beds. CS staff are working very hard to find placements for individuals requiring hospitalization, which has placed a great burden on our Emergency Services staff, who already face increased challenges due to Covid-19. Currently, consumers are waiting in hospital emergency departments handcuffed to a gurney on average 3.5 days, while waiting for an inpatient bed. This is causing great concern because there is no supervision or treatment provided when a consumer is placed on a medical floor. Also, the police department no longer has jurisdiction once the consumer has had the commitment hearing which means that the consumer is then able to elope from the hospital.

Ms. Madron shared that she is involved in a workgroup with the Commissioner, the VACSB and other CSB’s to try and come up with a solution. This continues to be a long journey to find resolution and she asked that the members bring it up in conversation if they speak with legislators or supervisors.

Ms. Madron stated that many ID/DD vendors have had to stop services due to the pandemic. In an effort to preserve the existing vendors who serve this very vulnerable population from going out of business due to the financial hardship brought on by COVID-19, the County has approved funding for them at a rate of 66% of their normal operating funds.

The ID/DD program has been the subject of investigations and audits due to the DOJ settlement. Ms. Bowman, Ms. Turner and Ms. Strawderman have done a wonderful job overseeing the many changes that staff must now adhere to.

Ms. Madron detailed several steps that Prince William County and Community Services are working on regarding equity and inclusion. Community Services provided a seminar by Dr. Brown, on Race-Related Stress and Trauma, which was well attended by staff and some members of the CS Board. Dr. Brown is also consulting with Community Services regarding the dynamics of racial relations within our agency and has conducted an employee survey, policy reviews, and 3 employee focus groups to assist in developing strategies that will be included in the CS Strategic Plan. The CS Strategic Plan draft will be sent out to the CS Board and she is requesting their involvement and feedback. PWC is also expanding their equity and inclusion efforts and will be hiring a Diversity Director to work with county departments in the near future.

Ms. Madron announced that October 10th is World Mental Health Day and the theme for this year is Kindness and Moving.
DEPUTY DIRECTORS TIME:

Ms. Strawderman shared some information on training that the agency is doing. As Ms. Madron has said many times, we are committed to being a learning organization. CS is dedicated to providing the best care to our clients, and this requires ongoing staff training in evidence-based practices and core competencies. In order to develop and maintain a well-trained staff, CS has developed a comprehensive training program that included training in trauma informed treatment, ACES training, risk assessments and risk management, Motivational Interviewing, and cognitive behavioral therapy. All CS clinical staff are in the process of completing the core competency training program. All newly hired clinical staff will complete the training within the first year of hire.

Ms. Strawderman share the exciting news that CS has been invited to participate in a national research study with the National Institute on Drug Abuse Research. The funding for this study is being provided by the Justice Community Opioid Network (JCOIN). Training is being provided through George Mason University and the University of Wisconsin. The focus of the research is to identify successful processes to implement medication assisted treatment for opioid use disorders. CS has designed a pilot project in cooperation with the Adult Detention Center to provide medication assisted treatment for inmates diagnosed with an opioid use disorder.

BOARD MEMBERS TIME:

VONEKA BENNETT: Ms. Bennett thanked Ms. Baxter for her presentation on the Co-Responder Program and stated that she appreciated her passion. She shared that as a person who has gone through this process personally, it pleases her heart to know that so much time and effort has gone into creating the Co-Responder program. Ms. Bennett also shared that she is very excited to attend the virtual VACSB Conference on October 7-8 and she is interested in attending the session on intergenerational trauma in African Americans and the session on understanding the mental health needs of the ID/DD population.

BRADLEY MARSHALL: Mr. Marshall commended the work on the Co-Responder program. He shared that he has been hearing a lot in the media about other counties just starting think about this program and our county already has developed a plan for and secured the resources to launch a Co-Responder program. Mr. Marshall shared that the CIT program he is involved with is going very well. He has been providing the legal portion of the training. They will be partnering with the Magistrate’s Office during the CIT next training scheduled for December. They are working to get all of the stakeholders collaborating and working together.
WILLIAM CARR: Dr. Carr stated that Ms. Baxter’s presentation was absolutely excellent. He stated that before her presentation he understood nothing about the Co-Responder program, however Ms. Baxter’s thorough presentation provided him with a good understanding. Dr. Carr shared that he is looking forward to working with everyone over the years to come.

OBEDIAH BAKER: Mr. Baker thanked Ms. Baxter for her presentation and shared that he appreciates her relentless passion and determination and stated that he feels the program is in good hands. Mr. Baker also thanked Ms. Dugan for her Action Plan Update this evening as well. Mr. Baker welcomed Dr. Carr and the new board members. He has not been physically present lately due to health issues but shared that everyone will be seeing and hearing a lot more of him now that his health is improving.

TIM OSHIKI: Mr. Oshiki shared that he was thoroughly impressed with the Co-Responder presentation and is happy to see the program taking off as he had hoped it would. Mr. Oshiki commented that CS is incredibly blessed to have such great stakeholder participation in the things that we do and it behooves us as an organization to encourage continued participation as it only makes CS better. Mr. Oshiki thanked the staff for their amazing resiliency with the ongoing challenges that they face everyday and that everyone at every level deserves recognition. Mr. Oshiki stated that with everything going on right now, the realization that things must change, that as an organization we cannot just continue to do things the way we always have done them, and that we must reexamine how we do things and continue to be creative on developing solutions to problems that go beyond what we are used to providing. He thanked the staff for their efforts. Mr. Oshiki welcomed Dr. Carr and the other new members of the board and invited them to contact him if they have any questions or if he can be of any assistance.

LATASHA SIMMONS: Ms. Simmons stated that the staff has been amazing and that while most people have been teleworking, they have been out in the field providing services in the community. Ms. Simmons thanked Ms. Baxter for her Co-Responder presentation and shared that she hopes Manassas Park gets on board with the program, as well.

PATRICK SOWERS: Mr. Sowers stated that he has supported the concept of expanding the Co-Responder program from day one and is a huge proponent of our law enforcement and our citizens in this county. Mr. Sowers shared that the passion Ms. Baxter shows for the Co-Responder program is impressive and it shows every time she speaks about it. He shared that he believes it is important to provide officers with the right tools to deescalate situations and have a better understanding of mental illness and how to deal with someone with mental illness. Mr. Sowers also shared that since the last meeting, he attended his first meeting as the Vice-Chair of the VACSB and that he is doing everything he can to get involved. Mr. Sowers shared that he had a meeting with Supervisor Vega and representatives from the Friends of Horticulture Therapy (FOHT). They are currently raising funds privately to build a new center that, when completed, will transfer to Prince William County. He stated that the meeting was productive, and that Supervisor Vega contributed some fundraising ideas.

ALTONIA GARRETT: Ms. Garrett echoed the sentiments of the other board members tonight. Ms. Garrett thanked Ms. Baxter for her presentation and shared that she is proud that our county is a leader in our area. Ms. Garrett shared that she attended the Race-Related Stress and Trauma training back in June and thanked Ms. Madron for putting that together and allowing her to attend. Ms. Garrett thanked Ms. Madron and the staff for everything that they do.
HEATHER PAGE: Heather Page shared that she wanted her comments to be brief and echoed the comments of the other members. She thanked Ms. Baxter for her tremendous presentation this evening and shared that she is very proud to be a part of PWC Community Services as we are on the forefront of change and that we are the county that other counties and states are looking to on this program. Heather Page thanked Ms. Madron for her leadership.

JOHN O’LEARY: Chairman O’Leary thanked Ms. Baxter for her awesome presentation. He shared that this is a hot button issue within the General Assembly right now and he encouraged the members to reach out to their legislators in support of the McPike bill with some changes to allow us to continue with our plans in Prince William County. Chairman O’Leary urged the members to keep in mind the Friends of Horticulture Therapy program and that their annual holiday fundraiser is coming up soon and that more information will be coming soon. Chairman O’Leary shared that he will be doing some additional research on the Co-Responder program to include checking out the resources Ms. Baxter identified at the end of her presentation. Chairman O’Leary stated that he will be reaching out to the Nominating Committee members to schedule a time to meet.

ADJOURNMENT

RESOLUTION 20-09R1-03

MOTION: Oshiki
SECOND: Baker

The Prince William County Community Services Board does hereby agree to adjourn the June 18, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Board at 9:05 p.m.

Vote:
Ayes--Baker, Bennett, Carr, Garrett, Marshall, O’Leary, Oshiki, Page, Simmons, Sowers
Nays--0
Abstained--0
Absent During Vote--0
Absent from Meeting--0

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