

POLICY MANUAL

State Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services

POLICY 4038 (CSB) 94-1 Department and CSB Roles in Providing Services to Children Under the Comprehensive Services Act for At-Risk Youth and Families

Authority Board Minutes Dated April 27, 1991
Effective Date April 27, 1991
Approved by Board Chairman /s/ Lindsay B. West

References Comprehensive Services Act for At-Risk Youth and Families, § 2.2-5200
through § 5214, Code of Virginia (1950), as amended
CSA Manual, September 2004
Report of the Joint Subcommittee Studying the Comprehensive Services Act and
Comprehensive Services for At-Risk Youth and Families Programs, SENATE
DOCUMENT NO. 14, 2007

Background In March 1993, the Governor signed the Comprehensive Services Act for At-Risk Youth and Families (Comprehensive Services Act), which creates a collaborative system of services and funding that is child-centered, family-focused, and community-based when addressing the strengths and needs of troubled and at-risk youth and their families across the Commonwealth. This legislation grew out of the extensive work of the Council on Community Services for Youth and Families established by the Secretaries of Health and Human Resources, Education, and Public Safety in 1990 with the charge of improving community service delivery systems for children and families and controlling the costs of residential care.

It is important to note that the Comprehensive Services Act was preceded by a long history and active development of a system of care in Virginia. The Act represents formalization of the interagency approach that has been promoted by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, hereafter referred to as the Department, since 1985. Because many children with behavioral health service needs require coordinated services from more than one agency, the Department remains committed to the successful implementation of the Comprehensive Services Act.

Purpose To articulate policy for participation of the Department and community services boards and the behavioral health authority, hereafter referred to as CSBs, in full implementation of the Comprehensive Services Act.

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It is the policy of the Board that the Department shall:

- participate in the full implementation of the Comprehensive Services, working collaboratively with other child-serving agencies to achieve positive outcomes for children and their families;
- participate on the State Executive Council and the State and Local Advisory Team, ensuring that the duties in the Comprehensive Services Act, § 2.2-2648 and in §§ 2.2-5202 and 2.2-5203 of the Code of Virginia, are accomplished;
- seek the resources necessary to support the involvement and participation required by CSB staff in the activities required by the Comprehensive Services Act; and
- support the coordinated effort of the Office of Comprehensive Services to help develop partnerships among CSBs and private providers for services to children and their families.

It is also the policy of the Board that CSBs shall:

- be represented on the State and Local Advisory Team, ensuring that the duties in the Comprehensive Services Act, § 2.2-5202 of the Code of Virginia, are accomplished;
- be full and active partners on community policy and management teams and family assessment and planning teams, ensuring that the duties in the Comprehensive Services Act, §§ 2.2-5205, 2.2-5206, 2.2-5207, and 2.2-5208 of the Code of Virginia, are accomplished;
- continue to be responsible for providing services identified in the individual family service plans that are within the agency's scope of responsibility and that are funded separately from the state pool, pursuant to the Comprehensive Services Act, subsection E of § 2.2-5211 of the Code of Virginia;
- ensure their local plans and proposed service initiatives for the current Department Comprehensive State Plan related to the development of local child behavioral health (mental health and substance abuse) services are coordinated and integrated with the long-range, community-wide planning of community policy and management teams, pursuant to the Comprehensive Services Act, § 2.2-5206 of the Code of Virginia;
- focus on children with behavioral health service needs who require coordinated services from more than one agency; and
- play an active role in collaborative initiatives to increase the availability of and access to community services and reduce the need for group care placements.

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Further, it is the policy of the Board that the Department and CSBs shall:

- be guided by the statewide Comprehensive Services Act practice model, valuing child and community safety, believing that children do best when raised in families, and striving to achieve permanent family connections for all children, and
- engage families in meaningful participation in all aspects of Comprehensive Services Act operations, including the development of policies and programs.

Finally, it is the policy of the Board that, at the direction of the State Executive Council, CSBs, as the single points of entry into publicly funded behavioral health services, shall work collaboratively with local community policy management teams to develop a local plan for intensive care coordination services following the guidelines for Intensive Care Coordination approved by the State Executive Council, August 28, 2008, pursuant to § 2.2-5206 of the Code of Virginia and Chapter 781, 2009 Appropriations Act, Item 283 B.3.e.