

POLICY MANUAL

State Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services Board Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services Board

POLICY 1010 (SYS) 86-7 Board Role in the Development of the Department's Comprehensive State Plan for Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and Substance Abuse Services.

Authority Board Minutes Dated October 22, 1986
Effective Date November 19, 1986
Approved by Board Chairman /s/ James C. Windsor

References 37.2-315 of the *Code of Virginia* (1950) as amended
Senate Joint Resolution 50 (1988), Future Funding for Mental Health, Mental
Retardation and Substance Abuse Services

Background The State Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services Board is responsible for ensuring that long-range programs and plans for mental health, mental retardation, and substance abuse services provided by state hospitals and training centers, hereafter referred to as state facilities, and community services boards and behavioral health authorities, hereafter referred to as CSBs, are developed. The Board has served as an active participant in the Department's planning process to ensure that the goals and future directions contained in Department plans are consistent with Board policies.

The 1988 General Assembly, in SJR 50, expressed its belief that the Virginia Comprehensive State Plan of 1988-1994, as adopted by the State Board, was necessary for the delivery of adequate services to the individuals in Virginia. It resolved that the plan be updated and used as the basis for Executive Branch budgetary review.

Purpose To define the role of the Board in the development of Comprehensive State Plan to ensure that the plan reflects the Board's programmatic and fiscal policies.

Policy It is the policy of the Board to ensure that the biennial updates to the Comprehensive State Plan reflect programmatic and fiscal policies adopted by the Board. To this end, the Board shall participate, through its Planning and Budget Committee, in the identification of the services and supports needs, critical issues,

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strategic responses, and resource requirements to be included in the Plan.

Further, it is the policy of the Board that the Comprehensive State Plan shall be developed in consultation with CSBs, state facilities, consumers, family members of consumers, advocacy organizations, and other interested parties. The Board, with Department support, shall conduct a series of public hearings across the state to obtain comments on the draft Comprehensive State Plan. The Board and the Department shall make every effort to encourage public participation in these hearings. The Board shall review comments received through this process and may offer suggestions to the Commissioner for incorporation into the final plan.

Finally, it is the policy of the Board that the Department shall reflect the services and supports needs, critical issues, strategic responses, and resource requirements contained in the Comprehensive State Plan in the Department's budget proposals and operational priorities. The Board shall monitor the implementation of goals and major initiatives contained in the Comprehensive State Plan and shall identify areas where further policy and plans for program development are needed.
