

MINUTES
OF THE
SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES COUNCIL
SANDRA O'DELL, CHAIR
JULY 13, 2017
VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARDS
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Stephanie Arnold, *Department of Criminal Justice Services*
George L. Barker, *Virginia House of Delegates*
Madeline Berry, *Virginia Certification Board*
JoAnn Burkholder, *Department of Education*
Anna Burton, *Department of Corrections*
Brian Hieatt, *Virginia Sheriffs' Association*
Dwight Jenkins, *Department of Motor Vehicles*
Marty Kilgore, *Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth*
James C. May, Ph.D, *Virginia Association of Community Services Boards*
Jamie McDonald, *Virginia Association of Community Services Boards – Prevention Council*
Mary Gresham McMasters, M.D.
Susan Morrow, *Virginia Drug Court Association*
Charlene Motley, *Commission on the Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program*
Sandra O'Dell, *Virginia Association of Community Services Board*
Mellie Randall, *Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services*
The Honorable Jennifer Wexton, *Virginia State Senate*
Chuck Wilcox, *Virginia Association of Addiction Professionals*
W. Eddie Wirt, *Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control*
Marjorie Yates, *Substance Abuse and Addiction Recovery Alliance of Virginia*

GUESTS:

Janet Lung, *Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services*
Jodi Manz, *Office of the Secretary of Health & Human Resources*
Keith Westbrook, *Legislative Assistant to the Honorable Delores McQuinn, Virginia House of Delegates*

STAFF:

Kate Marshall, *Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services*
Lisa Street, *Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services*
Karen A. Taylor, *Office of Attorney General*

- I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:** Ms. O'Dell called the meeting to order and asked members and others present to introduce themselves.
- II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JULY 13, 2017.** Ms. Motley made a motion to approve minutes which was seconded by Mr. Pritchard and accepted by voice vote.

III. OLD BUSINESS:

No Old Business

IV. NEW BUSINESS.

- A. Presentation: Governor's Executive Leadership Team on Opioids and Addiction. Jodi Manz, MSW, Policy Advisor, Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, reported that there has been a steady increase in fatal drug overdoses over the years. However from 2015 to 2016, there was a massive increase which is likely to continue due to fentanyl. This trend is expected because there is still not a handle on prescription drug abuse/heroin, and fentanyl is still the strongest marker. In September 2014, Governor McAuliffe signed Executive Order 29 establishing the Governor's Task Force on Prescription Drug and Heroin Abuse. The Task Force was created to recommend immediate steps to address a growing and dangerous epidemic of prescription opioid and heroin abuse in Virginia, with the ultimate goal of improving public safety and public health. It was co-chaired by Secretary Hazel and Secretary Moran, and included 32 multi-disciplinary members from Health and Human Services and Public Safety, judiciary, families affected by the opioid crisis, individuals in recovery, treatment providers, and legislators. The Task Force was to provide advice and make recommendations on: Education, Treatment, Storage & Disposal, Data & Monitoring, and Enforcement. The Task Force made over 50 recommendations for action by the General Assembly, the courts, and the Executive Branch. Many of those recommendations have been implemented. However, Virginia's efforts in combatting this epidemic are far from complete.

In 2016, and Executive Directive 9 was issued to establish an Executive Leadership Team on Opioid Abuse and Addiction to coordinate Executive Branch efforts in response to the continuing opioid problem. The team is comprised of designated leadership from several State agencies. The key objectives were to: 1. Provide guidance and assistance in the implementation and oversight of the Task Force recommendations; 2. Identify and support implementation of new initiatives in the areas of public safety and health response to the shifting nature of Virginia's opioid and addiction epidemic; 3. Collaborate with local entities, task forces and agencies to develop a coordinated and consistent state, regional, and local responses 4. Work with Federal, state and private entities to leverage existing resources, identify grant opportunities that will support and improve Virginia's response to the complex public safety and health challenges of licit and illicit opioid and drug addiction problems in the Commonwealth; and 5. Integrate and analyze data from healthcare, law enforcement, and other sources to increase understanding of and improve response to this dynamic challenge. This group is somewhat of a mini-taskforce and applies for NGA learning labs, finds opportunities through the STR grant for implementing recommendations and collaborating, and looks to local entities for help. They are figuring out how to be supportive and help localities. Governor's bills that were developed and passed this year were a result of the communication that happened in these groups. Changes have been made with the Boards of Medicine and Dentistry Regulations related to Pain Management, and with the Board of Medicine related to Addiction Treatment. Peer services are one of the most important things we can use in this opiate crisis. The focus of the Task Force for the remainder of

the year is to set the new administration up for success through 1. local resource focus; 2. data integration and governance; and 3. institutionalization to continue fostering agency collaboration.

B. Discussion of SASC Recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly was led by Ms. O'Dell. In preparation for the report to the Governor, Ms. O'Dell noted topics and issues the Council researched and explored and stated that recommendations will be coming from what had been reviewed by the membership. A broad list of categories was listed and members were given an opportunity to review them in preparation for the report to the Governor, the Council will summarize recommendations. Ms. O'Dell opened the floor for discussion.

- Council should get ongoing information relative to the ARTS Program so that it can evaluate and look at what enhancements/changes need to be made to programs; improve, if necessary, and make sure the resources needed are available.
- The Council reviewed a lot of legislation and discussed funding such as the \$9.7 million STR grant to focus on opioid problem. State general funds are not dedicated to Prevention – all money comes from federal block grants which is a serious gap. Virginia didn't expand Medicaid, and 400,000 people could have benefited from that - 40,000 of those people are likely to have substance abuse problems. This Council year, the major focus has been on the impact of opiates on families, workforce development, and the need for more licensed behavioral health professionals.
- There is a huge gap of people needing services and are not included in the ARTS funding.
- Recommendation pertaining to education must be included to make sure there is enough funding to get people trained.
- VASAP is now requiring anyone providing assessments to have completed ASAM training in order to provide services to VASAP individuals.
- A vulnerable population is young adults ages 16-25 with substance use disorders. DBHDS has a three-year grant targeted at this population, but there is no state funding once this grant ends. General Assembly has funded mental health services, but not substance abuse services for youth.
- In the fall, the Virginia Department of Health is launching Project ECHO, tele-grand rounds to support new MAT physicians. Virginia Recovery Foundation, led by Capt. Mike Zohab, is a part of Richmond Police Dept. Angel Program. Through donations, it is able to almost immediately place someone in treatment beds across the country. Funding would certainly help this program.

After the discussion, Ms. Randall summarized the two major areas:

Funding: a need to expand GAP to include substance abuse disorders; for primary prevention; for individuals ages 16-25; drug treatment courts; recovery high schools and collegiate activities; supporting Law Enforcement diversion programs; supportive housing for people in recovery; workforce development issues; and advance-practice residencies for substance use disorders.

Policy: monitor ARTS and fix with regulatory changes, if needed; and monitor work Department of Health Professions is doing regarding curriculum development for medical and other health practitioner schools.

C. Updates from Members.

- CSBs are receiving funds through the OTP-R Grant and are working hard with a short turn-around to use funds in time allotted.
- DBHDS is focused on the OTP-R grant and providing support to CSBs
- YSAT grant (youth 16-25) is being piloted at four CSB treatment programs and offering some training with the University of Virginia Institute for Law, Psychiatry and Public Policy.
- SAARA is providing training for peers to work in settings that include medication assisted treatment called Medication Assisted Recovery Services (MARS).
- Department of ABC's largest prevention program will take place at Longwood College – a weeklong youth leadership/prevention program that will immerse participants with data and teach them how to collect it. They have 12 months to implement the program in their communities.
- Department of Criminal Justice Services is soliciting for responses to its Byrne grant, the largest source of federal funds for criminal justice programs.
- VDCA is rebranding - the Virginia Association of Drug Court Professionals is a new association working closely with State associations of drug courts. Its goal is to develop a sustainability plan to fund all drug courts across the state. The new organization will be up and running by September.
- VACSB SA/MH Council will meet next week. Reviewing the ARTS experiences so far and uneven practice by MCOs are topics on the agenda.
- Delegate McQuinn's follow-up town hall meetings will be scheduled in the future.
- VA Summer Institute for Addiction Studies will be held next week in Williamsburg.

D. **PUBLIC COMMENTS.**

None were offered.

E. **ADJOURNMENT.** Mr. Pritchard made a motion to adjourn that was seconded by Senator Wexton. The motion was passed on a voice vote and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Marshall
Staff to the Council