

Health and Human Resources Secretariat: Current Priorities

Pamela Kestner, MSW Deputy Secretary of HHR August 19, 2016

- Center for Behavioral Health and Justice
- Governor's Coordinating Council on Homelessness
- Department of Justice Settlement
- Children's Cabinet

 Challenged Schools
 Challenged Schools
 - Classrooms Not Courtrooms
- Virginia's Plan for Well-Being
- Data Sharing with Localities

Origin of the Center for Behavioral Health and Justice

- In November 2013, Virginians were jolted once again by a tragedy resulting from an individual unable to gain access to appropriate mental health treatment.
- We seem to have gotten used to this narrative:
 - Tragedy occurs
 - Fingers are pointed
 - Task forces are convened and recommendations made
 - Funding is provided
 - We move on
- Increasingly, policymakers are acknowledging that this narrative is unacceptable.

Governor McAuliffe Continues Work of Previous Task Force

- April 8, 2014 Governor McAuliffe signed EO12 to continue the work of the task force established the previous December in order to:
 - help improve Virginia's mental health crisis services and help prevent crises from developing,
 - review existing services and challenges in the mental health system, and
 - make recommendations for critical improvements to procedures, programs and services
- The Governor approved a budget that enhanced the array of community-based services while improving access to effective facility-based treatment when necessary.

Center for Behavioral Health and Justice Figures Prominently in Task Force Report

The Center for Behavioral Health and Justice will:

- Identify and utilize Virginia's resources (both public and private) to more effectively address behavioral health needs within the Commonwealth
 - Address the behavioral healthcare needs of individuals involved in all aspects of the criminal justice system
 - Serve as a coordinating center among state agencies and communities
 - Serve as a means to support evidence based programs and develop data resources

Center for Behavioral Health and Justice

Goals

- Improve clinical and criminal justice outcomes for individuals living with behavioral health disorders
- Effectively transition individuals between communities and facilities (jails, hospitals)
- Reduce inappropriate incarceration
- Provide earliest access to most appropriate services
- Enhance public safety
- Assure awareness of training needs and opportunities

Center for Behavioral Health and Justice

- Summit held in March 2016 with key stakeholders in attendance
- Action Committee structure developed

 Technology, Data & Information Sharing
 Diversion & Re-Entry
 Criminal Justice/Behavioral Health Facilities
- Action Committees have begun to meet

Governor's Coordinating Council on Homelessness

Strategies

- Increase the number of permanent supportive housing units in the Commonwealth
- Increase flexibility of funding to prevent homelessness and support Rapid Re-housing for individuals and families
- Increase statewide data collection and system coordination
- Increase access to substance abuse and mental health treatment
- Improve discharge policies and procedures for foster care, hospitals, mental health facilities and correctional facilities

Governor's Coordinating Council on Homelessness

Focus Areas

- Ending Veteran Homelessness
- Reducing Chronic Homelessness
- Preventing & Ending Youth Homelessness
- Intersection between Housing & Healthcare
- Criminal Justice & Homelessness

Department of Justice Settlement

- Commonwealth failed to provide services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (ID/DD) in the most integrated setting appropriate to their needs
- Reached Settlement Agreement 2012
- Overall goal: Through various supports and services to have 10% (national average) of adults served on the waiver in independent housing

Department of Justice Settlement

- Waiver Redesign has been approved and will be implemented beginning September 1st
- Additional Rental Assistance 386 vouchers
- Focused efforts in Richmond, South Hampton Roads, Peninsula and Northern Virginia
- Working with housing developers to create more housing options
- Working closely with I/DD population and their families

Children's Cabinet

Priority Areas

- Beyond the barriers
- Raising the foundation
- Access to basics
- Triumph over transitions
- Working parents, building families

Children's Cabinet

Initiatives

- Challenged Schools
 - o Richmond
 - Norfolk
 - \circ Petersburg
- Classrooms Not Courtrooms

Virginia's Plan for Well-Being

Vision

Well-Being for All Virginians

- AIM 1: Healthy, Connected Communities
- AIM 2: Strong Start for Children
- AIM 3: Preventative Actions
- AIM 4: System of Health Care

Data Sharing

 Challenge: Can't meet the needs of all 133 localities

• Solution:

Convene meetings during fall 2016
 Build consensus of locality data needs

Questions & Answers

Contact

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