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

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Obediah Baker Jr., Dr. William Carr, Voneka Bennett, Bradley Marshall, John O’Leary,
Timothy Oshiki, Heather Page, Patrick Sowers

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Altonia Garrett, Latasha Simmons

STAFF PRESENT:

Lisa Madron, Melinda Bringham-Office of Executive Director
Division Managers: Dr. Kanchan Clark - Medical Director, Elise Madison –
Emergency Services, Sherry Bowman – Community Support Services,
Sara Wheeler- Youth, Adult and Family Services; Mike Goodrich, Administrative Services
Staff: LeNelle Mozell, Gabriella Smith-Youth Adult and Family Services,
Joy Harris, Lynn Fritts- Community Support Services, Jim Fleming -Administrative
Services

GUESTS PRESENT:

None

PRESS PRESENT:

None

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OPENING: The Regular Meeting of April 15, 2021 of the Community Services Board was convened in the Powell’s Creek Conference Room, James J. McCoart Government Center, 1 County Complex, Woodbridge, Virginia.
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. Voneka Bennett and Ms. Heather Page notified the Chair that the Members are requesting permission from the Board to electronically participate at the Board’s April 15, 2021 meeting; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Voneka Bennett and Ms. Heather Page certified that they are unable to attend the meeting due an identified personal matter that prevents their physical presence; and

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

WHEREAS, Ms. Voneka Bennett 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 approve the request to participate in the meeting through electronic communication means in accordance with the Board’s policy and a quorum of the Board was physically assembled at one primary or central location and arrangements were made for the voice of, Ms. Voneka Bennett and Ms. Heather Page to be heard by all persons via Webex at the primary or central meeting location.

RESOLUTION 21-04R1-01

MOTION: Marshall
SECOND: O’Leary

Vote:
Ayes--Baker, Carr, Marshall, O’Leary, Oshiki, Sowers
Nays--0
Abstained--0
Absent During Vote--Bennett, Page
Absent From Meeting--Garrett, Simmons
CITIZENS TIME:
None

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STAFF TIME:

**Mike Goodrich, Administrative Services Division:** Mr. Goodrich shared that Community Services will be holding a virtual Open House for staff on Thursday, April 22, 2021 from 2-4 p.m. and invited the CS Board Members to attend. The program is being hosted by the CS PR Committee and Heather Martinsen will be facilitating. The program consists of short videos from the Extended Leadership Team and committee chairs and will allow time for questions from staff.

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**Presentation: REVIVE! Training**

Ms. LeNelle Mozell and Ms. Gabriella Smith provided training to the Community Service Board Members on how to respond to an opioid overdose emergency. The topics covered included: Virginia laws regarding opiate emergency response, understanding addiction, what is an opioid, what is an overdose, risk factors for opioid overdose, what to do and not do in an opioid overdose emergency, and how to respond to an overdose emergency and administer naloxone.

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**Presentation: Supported Living Services & PATH Program Presentation**

Ms. Joy Harris, SLS Program Manager shared that the mission of the SLS program is to assist adults with Serious Mental Illness who live in the community and require community-based services, to achieve and maintain their maximum level of independence. They provide case management, mental health skill building, and limited individual/group therapy. In fiscal year 2020 they served 139 clients with case management services and 63 clients received skill building services. PWC provides homes 9 for clients and they have community partners that operate an additional 20 apartments, 3 single family homes and one townhome. In FY20, four individuals moved from homeless to housed and eight individuals moved to more independent housing in county or community partner housing. Ms. Harris shared success stories of clients that the program has served.

Ms. Lynn Fritts, PATH Administrator, provided a brief history on the PATH program. The target population for PATH services individuals that are SMI and homeless and to provide outreach and engagement to all homeless persons. Their program goals include establishing a relationship
with individuals by providing bus tokens, socks, underwear, and deodorant. They then work to link the individuals to mainstream services such as mental health and substance abuse services, medical services, and benefits such as Medicaid and housing. They routinely provide outreach at the drop-in shelters, mobile drop-in shelters, emergency overnight shelter and homeless campsites. Ms. Fritts also shared a success story where the staff worked for several years to assist a homeless resident that was suffering from untreated Schizophrenia and substance abuse. They provided outreach and encouragement and she eventually was willing accept treatment. They were able to assist her in applying for Medicaid and Social Security disability. She has now been in permanent housing since November 2020 and is living independently with supports from the SLS program.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLUTION 21-04R1-02

MOTION: Marshall
SECOND: Oshiki

The Prince William County Community Services Board does hereby approve the minutes of March 18, 2021.

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

RECOMMEND BOARD OF COUNTY SUPERVISORS ACCEPT, BUDGET, AND APPROPRIATE $25,000 IN ONE-TIME FEDERAL REVENUES FOR THE GET ON TRACK PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZE BOARD CHAIR TO SIGN EXHIBIT D: PERFORMANCE MEASURES FOR THE COORDINATED SPECIALTY CARE PROGRAM
WHEREAS, the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) and notified Community Services (CS) of one-time federal funding in the amount of $25,000 for the Get on Track program; and

WHEREAS, signatures by the CSB Board Chair and Executive Director are required to receive these funds; and

WHEREAS, funds are restricted for use in the Get on Track program and must be expended by September 31, 2021 and staff recommends allocating the funds towards training, consultation, and client needs; and

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

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Prince William County Community Services Board does hereby recommend the Prince William Board of County Supervisors accept, budget, and appropriate $25,000 in one-time federal revenues for the Get on Track program and authorizes the Board Chair to sign Exhibit D: Performance Measures for the Coordinated Specialty Care Program.

RESOLUTION 21-04R1-03

MOTION: Marshall
SECOND: Carr

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

OPEN ITEMS

Chairman Sowers announced that registration is now open for the Virtual VACSB Training and Development Conference that is being held on May 5-6, 2021 and asked that any interested members please let the clerk know they would like to attend. The CS Board clerk will handle registration on behalf of the members.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S TIME

--Ms. Madron shared that there will be a press release coming out regarding Marcus Alert and Smart911. One of the deliverables with the Marcus Alert is that all localities have a voluntary database for individuals to submit information that might help first responders when responding to an emergency which can include medical and mental health conditions such as the Smart911 system that Prince William County has implemented.

--Ms. Madron announced that they are currently recruiting volunteers for the Marcus Alert Mission Workgroup. The Mission workgroup will be working with our community to get feedback concerning system gaps and help prioritize what would be helpful in our crisis system. There will also be an Implementation Workgroup that will be going on simultaneously to develop the interaction protocols. A survey has been released to the public to solicit their input and experiences with the emergency behavioral health system. There are two virtual focus groups planned for April 29th and May 1st, 2021. Ms. Madron will send the CS Board Members the information and invited them to attend either of the focus groups.

--Ms. Madron shared that supervisor Bailey issued a directive to look into the development of a Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) in Prince William County along with a short-term trauma program. She stated that she has had meetings with county staff, County Supervisors, and VOICES which is an advocacy group in Northern Virginia around the potential of developing the CSU. Ms. Madron also shared that the contract with Brandon House is expiring and that the new regional CSU to be operated by RI has been delayed with construction issues. Ms. Madron asked the CS Board Members for their support and advocacy for a 16 bed and 16 23-hour observation recliners facility that would act as a drop-in receiving center for those in crisis.

--Ms. Madron announced that the Prince William County Board of Supervisors approved the budget to double the size of the Co-Responder Program and that she is very grateful for their action. The current teams have been so busy running calls for service that they have been unable to take referrals or follow up on individuals that have been recently in crisis or released from an inpatient psychiatric facility. Ms. Madron asked the CS Board Members for their support for the 5-year phased Community Services plan for 70 positions across the agency which also would include a new trauma program.

BOARD MEMBERS’ TIME

HEATHER PAGE: Heather Page shared that the theme for this evening’s meeting should be that Community Services has a heart for the community. She shared that she was almost overwhelmed with emotion from all the stories that were shared. She also extended a thank you to the staff and to the folks that trust CS to seek services and allowing us to serve them and is
looking forward to advocating for a CSU to be brought into PWC. She extended her appreciation for the REVIVE! training tonight share that as a nurse, she has only had to administer Narcan in a controlled setting, so the training provided was very helpful. Heather apologized that she could not attend this evening in person since she is deployed assisting with the COVID-19 vaccination effort with FEMA.

VONEKA BENNETT: Ms. Bennett thanked LeNelle and Gabriella for the REVIVE! training this evening and shared that she found the training very informative. Ms. Bennett also thanked the presenters of the SLS and PATH program. She shared that she knows people personally who have participated in both programs and wanted to thank the staff for all the hard work that they do. Ms. Bennett apologized for not attending in person this evening as she is tending to a family emergency.

OBEDIAH BAKER, JR.: Mr. Baker shared that he echoes the previous comments and that the county is doing great things. He stated that he served on his supervisor’s budget committee over the past 3 months and that Supervisor Boddye expressed that he has confidence in Community Services.

DR. WILLIAM CARR: Dr. Carr shared that he was pleased with both presentations this evening but shared that the REVIVE! training was the best presentation he seen since he has been on the CS Board. Dr. Carr stated that he did not even receive this kind of training in medical school, internship, or his residency. He shared that this training could prove to be very helpful and that he was pleased that he was here this evening to take part. Dr. Carr shared that he has had conversations with Supervisor Bailey, and she is advocating for a CSU in Prince William County.

JOHN O’LEARY: Mr. O’Leary thanked the staff for the presentations this evening and they are good reminders of the work that is being done in the community and apologized that he was not able to attend last month’s meeting. Mr. O’Leary commented that it is wonderful to see the positive articles in the press on the Co-Responder Program.

**Chairman Sowers recognized Elise Madison as she was missed during Staff Time**

Ms. Madison shared a letter that was sent to Police Chief Newsham from the parent of an individual that received services from the newly created Co-Responder Unit. The letter detailed their experience with the unit and the parent shared that they are an advocate for this approach to community policing and response and extended their gratitude to the officers and the therapist that responded when their daughter was in crisis.

TIMOTHY OSHIKI: Mr. Oshiki commented that the letter that Ms. Madison read speaks to the quality of work and the quality of outcomes that are being achieved by the Co-Responder program.
PATRICK SOWERS: Chairman Sowers shared that he heard of another tragic story in the news this week that a 16-year-old was shot and killed by police officers in another jurisdiction and that it was believed to be a case of suicide by cop, and he wondered if that if they had a Co-Responder Program in place the outcome might have been different. Chairman Sowers stated that he fully supports increasing the Co-Responder Program to 24/7.

ADJOURNMENT

RESOLUTION 21-04R1-04

MOTION: O’Leary
SECOND: Oshiki

The Prince William County Community Services Board does hereby agree to adjourn the April 15, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Board at 8:50 p.m.

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

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