



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

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BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT FOR THE BOARD MEETING:

John O’Leary, Voneka Bennett, Vicky Castro, Bradley Marshall, Patrick Sowers, William Carr, Deanna Bayer, Lisa Climer, Alisa Thornton

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT FROM THE BOARD MEETING:

James Keller

STAFF PRESENT:

Lisa Madron, Georgia Bachman, Leslie Quinteros – Office of the Executive Director

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Division Managers:

Elise Madison – Emergency Services; Michael Goodrich – Admin Services; Sara Wheeler – Adult Services; Robyn Fontaine – Finance; Sherry Bowman – Community Support Services; Tanya Odell – Youth Services; Tricia Peny – Early Intervention Services.

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GUESTS PRESENT

Alexis Mapes – Connections Health Solutions
Alexandra Horton – Connections Health Solutions
Cassie Leavitt – Connections Health Solutions
Marcia Diallo – Virginia Recovery Living Corp
Dr. Rose Ehichioya – Virginia Recovery Living Corp
Phanta Jah – Virginia Recovery Living Corp

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PRESS PRESENT:

None

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Opening: The Regular meeting of the Community Services Board was convened on April 16, 2026, at 6:32 p.m. in the Powell’s Creek Conference room.

1 County Complex Court Woodbridge, VA 22192



CITIZEN’S TIME

None.

STAFF TIME

Tanya Odell shared a recent email from a parent recognizing Gabby Padron. The message highlighted Gabby as a valuable asset to New Horizons, noting her professionalism, consistency, and genuine care for her clients.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLUTION 26-04R1-01

MOTION: Marshall

SECOND: Carr

The Prince William County Community Services Board does hereby approve the minutes of March 19, 2026.

Vote:

Ayes – O’Leary, Bennett, Sowers, Climer, Thornton, Marshall

Nays--0

Abstained – Bayer, Carr, Castro

Absent During Vote – 0

Absent From Meeting – Keller

PRESENTATION: Connections – Alexis Mapes, Cassie Leavitt, Alexandra Horton

Connections provided an overview of their services and “Providing immediate care to people in crisis and connecting them to long-term support within their community”. They operate 24/7/365, serving adults 18+ and youth ages 12–17. Services include 24-hour walk-in care, a 16-chair observation unit, a 16-bed crisis stabilization unit, and comprehensive discharge planning. Their multidisciplinary team delivers compassionate, effective crisis care in collaboration with Prince William County Community Services.

ACTION ITEMS:

A. RECOMMEND BOARD OF COUNTY SUPERVISORS AUTHORIZE AND DECLARE PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY TO BE A STEPPING UP COUNTY TO SUPPORT EFFORTS TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESSES IN JAIL

WHEREAS, Stepping-Up is a national, data-driven initiative focused on reducing the overincarceration of individuals with serious mental illnesses and improving outcomes across the criminal justice and behavioral health systems.; and

WHEREAS, the initiative is led by the Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center, the National Association of Counties (NACo), and the American Psychiatric Association Foundation (APAF) and provides counties with training, technical assistance, and a flexible framework tailored to local needs; and

WHEREAS, through Stepping Up, CSG, NACo, APAF are encouraging public, private, and nonprofit partners to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in jails; and

WHEREAS, Prince William County agencies have established a shared definition of serious mental illness used throughout the local criminal justice and behavioral health systems, use a validated mental health screening tool on every person booked into the jail, and record clinical assessment results and reports regularly, to its stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, Prince William County and all counties take pride in their responsibility to protect and enhance the health, welfare, and safety of their residents in efficient and cost-effective ways; and

WHEREAS, counties routinely provide treatment services to the estimated 2,000,000 people with serious mental illnesses booked into jail each year; and

WHEREAS, prevalence rates of serious mental illnesses in jails are three (3) to six (6) times higher than for the general population; and

WHEREAS, almost three-quarters of adults with serious mental illnesses in jails have co-occurring substance use disorders; and

WHEREAS, adults with mental illnesses tend to stay longer in jail and, upon release, are at a higher risk of recidivism than people without these disorders; and

WHEREAS, County jails spend two (2) to three (3) times more on adults with mental illnesses that require interventions compared to those without these treatment needs; and

WHEREAS, without the appropriate treatment and services, people with mental illnesses continue to cycle through the criminal justice system, often resulting in tragic outcomes for these individuals and their families; and

WHEREAS, the Prince William Board of County Supervisors has legal authority to identify Prince William County as a Stepping Up County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Prince William County Community Services Board recommends that the Prince William Board of County Supervisor hereby signs on to the Call to Action to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in our County jail, commit to sharing lessons learned with other counties in the state of Virginia and across the Country to support a national initiative and encourage all county officials, employees and residents to participate in Stepping Up;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Prince William County Community Services Board recommends that the Prince William Board of County Supervisors resolves to utilize the comprehensive resources available through Stepping Up to:

- Convene or draw on a diverse team of leaders and decision makers from multiple agencies committed to safely reducing the number of people with mental illnesses in jails. Collect and review prevalence numbers and assess individuals' needs to better identify adults entering jails with mental illnesses and their recidivism risk and use that baseline information to guide decision making at the system, program, and case levels.
- Examine treatment and service capacity to determine which programs and services are available in the county for people with mental illnesses and co-occurring substance use disorders and identify state and local policy and funding barriers to minimizing contact with the justice system and providing treatment and supports in the community.
- Develop a plan with measurable outcomes that draws on the jail assessment and prevalence data and the examination of available treatment and service capacity, while considering identified barriers.
- Implement research-based approaches that advance the plan.
- Create a process to track progress using data and information systems, and to report on successes.

RESOLUTION 26-04R1-02

MOTION: Marshall

SECOND: Bayer

Vote:

Ayes – O’Leary, Bennett, Sowers, Climer, Thornton, Marshall, Bayer, Carr, Castro

Nays--0

Abstained – 0

Absent During Vote – 0

Absent From Meeting – Keller

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Policies and Procedure Update – Michael Goodrich

The Community Services Policy and Procedure Committee with the approval of the CS Leadership Team has updated the following policy:

- Part II. Administrative Services, Article 1 Management and Administration
- Part II. Administrative Services, Article 2 Physical Environment
- Part II. Administrative Services, Article 3 Physical Environment of Residential and Inpatient Locations
- Part II. Administrative Services, Article 4 Human Resources
- Part II. Administrative Services, Article 5 Health and Safety Management
- Part III. Services and Supports, Article 1 Service Description and Staffing
- Part III. Services and Supports, Article 2 Screening, Admission, Assessment, Service Planning and Orientation
- Part III. Services and Supports, Article 3 Crisis Intervention and Emergencies
- Part III. Services and Supports, Article 4 Medical/Physical Health
- Part III. Services and Supports, Article 5 Medication Management
- Part III. Services and Supports, Article 6 Behavior Management Interventions
- Part III. Services and Supports, Article 7 Continuity of Service and Discharge Planning
- Part IV. Records Management and Confidentiality
- Part VI. Human Rights

OPEN ITEMS:

None.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S TIME

Lisa reported that the County Executive’s budget was presented Tuesday evening. Of the ten CS positions, two were eliminated. The Board also removed funding for the compensation and classification study, so there will be no market adjustment for staff this year. She noted that changes may still occur before the budget is adopted next Tuesday and encouraged board members to share with their supervisors how these decisions are affecting staff.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S TIME

Mrs. Bachman reported that, thanks to the efforts of Sara, Robyn, and their teams, Community Services was notified this week by DMAS that it has been approved as a DMAS OBAT provider for Worth Avenue.

She also shared that Ms. Tricia Peny has been selected as the new Division Manager for Early Intervention Services.

BOARD MEMBERS' TIME

ALISA THORNTON

Ms. Thornton thanked Connections for the presentation and for their ongoing work. She informed the board that she will be attending the CWLA Conference in Arlington and will represent the CSB to the best of her ability. She also expressed appreciation for the support and prayers for her surgery.

LISA CLIMER

Ms. Climer thanked Connections for the presentation and for their excellent work. She also expressed appreciation for the budget update.

DEANNA BAYER

Ms. Bayer thanked Connections for their presentation and for their hard work. She also announced her resignation from the CS Board, noting that this would be her final meeting. She expressed her respect for all members and shared that she would miss everyone.

WILLIAM CARR

Dr. Carr thanked Connections for their presentation and expressed appreciation to Lisa for the board shirts. He also shared that he was saddened to hear of Ms. Bayer's resignation from the board and wished her the best in her future endeavors.

BRADLEY MARSHALL

Mr. Marshall thanked Ms. Bayer for her service and expressed appreciation to everyone who contributed to the policy and procedure updates. He noted that staffing challenges are difficult to hear. He also announced that the PWC Bar Foundation's Beat the Odds scholarships are back and will be held on May 20 at 5:30 p.m. at Brentsville Hall. He invited those interested in discounted tickets to contact him via email.

PATRICK SOWERS

Mr. Sowers thanked Connections for their presentation and stated that he could not be prouder of the staff at Prince William County.

VICKY CASTRO

Ms. Castro thanked Deanna for her contributions and wished her the best. She also thanked Connections for their presentation. She shared that NAMI has several new programs, including a stigma-free workplace presentation and a Creative Mindset presentation being offered in schools.

VONEKA BENNETT

Ms. Bennett thanked Lisa and CSB staff for their work. She also expressed appreciation to Ms. Bayer for her service and shared that she is looking forward to attending the VACSB Conference next month.

JOHN O'LEARY

Mr. O'Leary expressed his thoughts and prayers for the Fairfax family following the recent tragic event. He shared that he will attend the Dumfries Town Council meeting for the proclamation recognizing National Autism Awareness Month, and noted that a member of the ID/DD Services team will accompany him. He also stated that he will not be present at the May board meeting. Mr. O'Leary thanked Ms. Bayer for her service.

ADJOURNMENT

No motion

Adjourn time: 7:42PM
