2018 Activities of the Joint Subcommittee to Study Mental Health Services in the Commonwealth in the 21st Century & Associated Work Groups

Joint Subcommittee

- Toured six state mental health facilities: Eastern State Hospital, Central State Hospital, Catawba Hospital, the Southwest Virginal Mental Health Institute, the Northern Virginia Mental Health Institute, and the Virginia Treatment Center for Children
- Monitored implementation of major initiatives including STEP VA, the financial realignment, the Medicaid Behavioral Health Redesign, and state hospital bed crisis

Work Group 1 - System Structure and Finance

- Reviewed the existing publicly funded behavioral health system, including presentation on:
 - Organization and functions of the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (June)
 - Role and function of the State Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (July)
 - Community services boards performance contract requirements and process (July, November)
 - Organization and functions of community services boards (VACSB) (June)
 - Community services boards' services and funding (DBHDS) (July)
 - DBHDS licensing of private behavioral health service providers (July)
 - Private providers of behavioral health services' perspectives on the existing publicly funded behavioral health system (July)
 - Organization and functions of the Department of Medical Assistance Services (June)
- Received information on alternative models of service delivery, including presentations on:
 - Service system structure and financing in other states (August)
 - State/local cooperative service delivery systems in the Commonwealth, including the Virginia Department of Health and local departments of health and the Virginia Department of Social Services and local departments of social services (August)
- Received updates on the work of the System Structure and Finance Expert Advisory Panel
- Received updates on the work of the stakeholder work group on the state hospital bed crisis

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Work Group 2 - Criminal Justice Diversion

- Reviewed mental health services in local correctional facilities, including presentations on:
 - Quality of health care services in Virginia's jails and prisons and the impact of requiring community services boards to provide mental health services in jails provided by the Joint Commission on Health Care (October)
 - The 2017-2018 Healthcare Study in Virginia's Jails provided by the L. Douglas Wilder School of Government of Public Affairs, Virginia Commonwealth University (October)
 - Survey of mental health services in Virginia's jails provided by the Criminal Diversion Expert Panel (October)
 - Mental health services in Virginia's jails provided by the Virginia Sheriff's Association (November)
 - Mental health services in Virginia's regional jails provided by the Virginia Association of Regional Jails (November)
- Received information about jail diversion efforts in the Commonwealth including presentations on:
 - Mental health specialty dockets (September)
 - The Virginia Department of Corrections' Secure Diversionary Treatment Program (September)
 - The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services' Criminal Diversion Programs (November)