The Joint Subcommittee to Study Mental Health Services in the Twenty-First Century

Continuum of Care Workgroup Presentation

JULY 1, 2015
Who we are, what we do

• Statewide nonprofit organization
• Our pillars are support, education, and advocacy
• 22 affiliates
• 1,800 members – “lived experience”
• 17,874 Virginians reached through our volunteer-driven education and support programs (2014)
• 3,064 HelpLine responses (2014)
10 Pillars of a High-Quality State Mental Health System

1. Comprehensive
2. Integrated
3. Adequately funded
4. Focused on wellness and recovery
5. Safe and respectful
6. Accessible
7. Culturally competent
8. Consumer-centered and consumer- and family-driven
9. Well-staffed and trained
10. Transparent and accountable

Source: NAMI, Grading the States, 2009
Strengths of Virginia’s mental health system

• CSB system is the single point of entry
• CSB system gives the state a vehicle to enact policy and accountability standards
• Localized system fosters local buy-in
• Movement to infuse recovery principles throughout system
• Private providers give consumers options and support to CSBs struggling with waiting lists and capacity challenges
• Many examples of excellence, success, effectiveness, and collaboration throughout Virginia
Challenges of Virginia’s mental health system

• Fragmented (public, private, legal) and confusing to navigate
• System is largely crisis-driven
• Inequity in funding structures from CSB to CSB
• Inconsistent array of services available to Virginia’s citizens
• High numbers of uninsured people
• No entity required to govern CSBs
Challenges- Continued

- Lack of clarity and guidelines governing the relationship between public and private providers
- Most Medicaid dollars (for community-based services) are spent in the private sector
  - Not reinvested into new services
  - Can be difficult to find providers that accept Medicaid
- Private psychiatric hospitals have no obligation to accept psychiatric patients
- Private insurance – lack of parity
- Housing
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<th>All Mental Illness</th>
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*Including transportation services
Child and Youth Mental Health Services and Supports

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Membership Needs Assessment – Preview

**Top Five Priorities to Receive Additional Funding**
1. Integrating mental health with primary care
2. Additional hospital and residential care beds
3. Prevention services for mental health/substance abuse
4. Access to medications
5. Intensive outpatient services

**Top Priorities to Improve Access**
1. Medicaid expansion
2. Permanent supportive housing
3. Access to affordable health insurance
Membership Needs Assessment – Preview, Continued

**Most pressing short term need**

1. Crisis stabilization
2. More acute care services (inpatient beds)
3. Housing

**Most pressing long term need**

1. Public awareness and addressing stigma
2. Housing
3. Outpatient services
Thank you!

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