



Virginia Department of
Behavioral Health &
Developmental Services

DBHDS Response to JLARC Studies

Joint Subcommittee Studying Mental Health Services in the
Commonwealth in the 21st Century

Presentation

July 1, 2019

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Commissioner

Department of Behavioral Health and
Developmental Services

Implementation Update: STEP-VA Services

STEP-VA Service required by VA Code	GA Implementation Date Requirement	Status	STEP VA Funds Allocated
Same Day Access	July 1, 2019	100% implementation as of March 2019	\$ 10.8 million
Primary Care Screening/Monitoring	July 1, 2019	Launch: July 1, 2019	\$3.7 million FY19 \$7.4 million FY20
Crisis Services	July 1, 2021	Detox Services RFP issued to CSBs	\$2.0 million FY20
		Crisis Services Initiated: July 1, 2019	\$7.8 million FY20 (proposed)
Outpatient Behavioral Health	July 1, 2021	Initiated: July 1, 2019	\$15 million FY20
Psychiatric Rehabilitation	July 1, 2021	Planning complete Dec 2019	–
Peer & Family Support Services	July 1, 2021	Planning complete Jul 2019	–
Veterans BH Services	July 1, 2021	Planning complete Jul 2019	–
Care Coordination	July 1, 2021	Planning complete Dec 2019	–
Case Management (Adults and Children)	July 1, 2021	Planning complete Dec 2019	–
Developmental Services			

STEP-VA Implementation Process

- Formulation of STEP-VA Advisory Committee (STAC)
 - Summer 2018 determined need for STAC and engaged VACSB to create.
 - Purpose: Advise DBHDS on step definitions, metrics and funding formulas, and plan for STEP VA implementation
 - First monthly, in-person meeting Nov 2018 with 21 CSB Executive Directors representing the five regions and DBHDS leadership
 - Commissioner convenes, Chief Deputy leads, DBHDS Senior Leadership Team attends

STEP-VA Implementation Process

- Milestones to Date:
 - Definitions, metrics and funding formula complete for Primary Care Screening (PCS) and Outpatient Services
 - CSBs submitted Primary Care Screening AND Outpatient plans and distribute funds to initiate July 2019
 - Work groups formed or in process of formation for remaining steps to provide subject matter expertise
 - May 8 STAC: Initial feedback on definition, metrics and funding for Peer & Family Supports, Veterans Services, Case Management, Care Coordination, and Psychiatric Rehabilitation steps
 - June 24 STAC: Final discussion of Peers and Veterans.

STEP-VA Implementation Process

- Future Tasks:
 - July STAC: Final definitions, metrics and funding formula presented for Peers and Veterans steps. No plans till funding specified.
 - September STAC: First round of feedback on Psychosocial (PS), Care Coordination (CC) and Case Management (CM) steps
 - December STAC: Final definitions, metrics and funding formula presented for PS, CC and CM steps. No plans till funding specified.
 - January 1st, 2020 planning COMPLETE for ALL steps. CSBs ready to work on plans when funding appropriated.
 - Determine step initiation timeframe
 - Data collection, analysis and CSB performance assessment

First Two Steps: Same Day Access & PCS

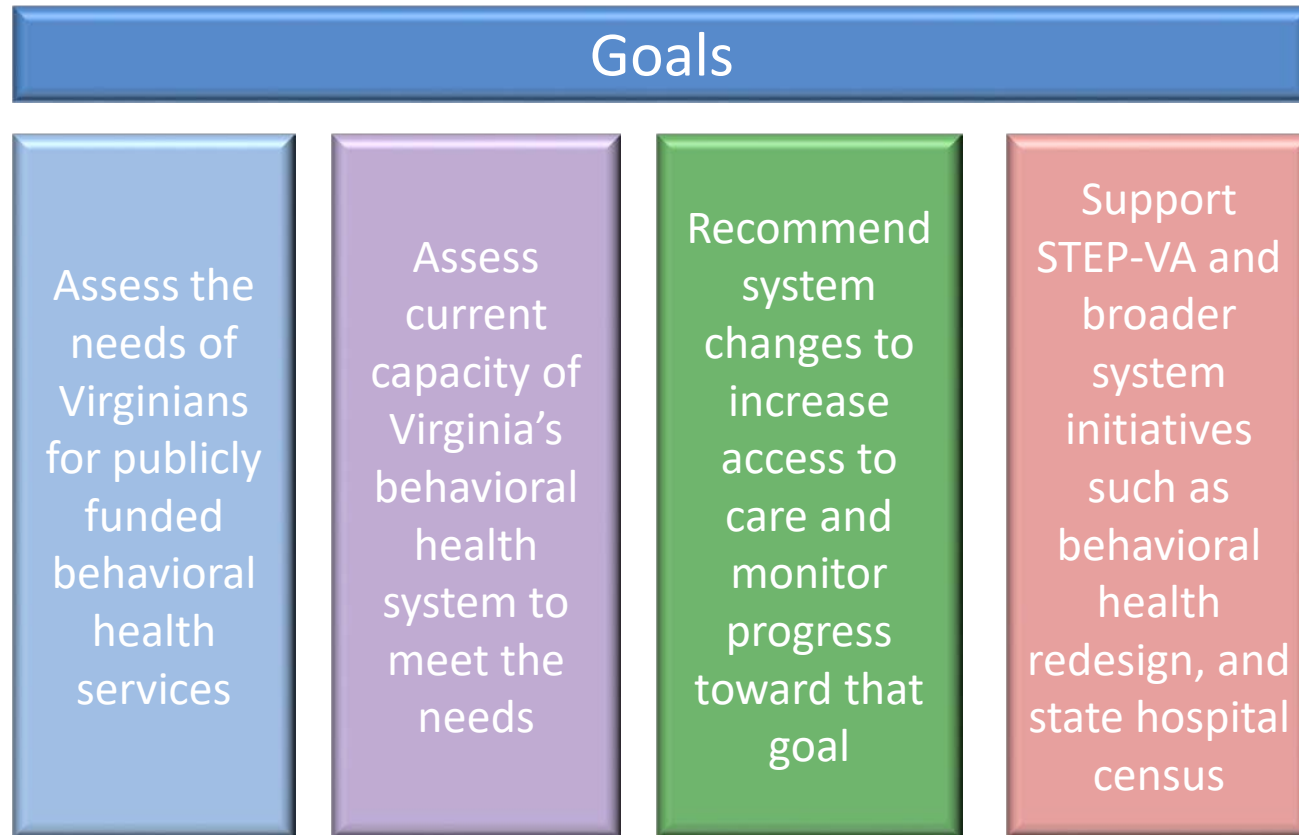
- Same Day Access has been a success, but more work remains:
 - The metric we are currently tracking is number of individuals who get an appointment within 10 days from assessment. We will begin analyzing Jan 2020.
 - DBHDS will examine the number of hours CSBs provide Same-Day Access and the impact on accessibility
 - DBHDS will work with STAC to update the performance measures to reflect the timeliness of assessments and whether hours are sufficient to meet demand
- Primary Care Screening requires monitoring before expansion
 - Any launch of Phase 2 (expansion to all populations) will be considered in context of Phase 1 and initiation of other steps

Leadership and Oversight

- Since internal re-organization (Fall 2019) Chief Deputy Mira Signer has led STEP-VA
- A team of individuals throughout agency support STEP-VA implementation including Project Management, Finance, IT/Data, Office of Adult Community Behavioral Health, and Office of Child & Family Services
- DBHDS agrees additional Central Office resources for oversight and implementation should be considered
 - For federal funds, we have a 1:2 ratio of oversight to dollars
 - For state general funds, we have a 1:15 ratio of oversight to dollars (including STEP VA) leaving only 8 people available for oversight

Aligning CSB Capacity with Funding

- DBHDS will use data from a community needs assessment and behavioral health equity index to inform funding of future steps



CSB Funding

- CSBs are operating in a complex environment with several major system transformation underway, any changes in funding allocations must be considered in that context
- DBHDS is undertaking several steps to enhance CSB accountability
 - Major overhaul of CSB Performance Contract FY21/22
 - Community Needs Assessment to align funding with local needs
 - Behavioral Health Equity Index
- Recommend DBHDS, CSBs, and General Assembly return to this discuss after full implementation of STEP-VA and any part of Behavioral Health Redesign that moves forward