

Virginia's Developmental Disability System

An Overview

Presented To

The Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee

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Presentation Will Include

1. State Profile
2. Recent Initiatives
 - Person Centered Thinking
 - *Supports Intensity Scale*[™]
 - Employment
 - Statewide Crisis Stabilization
 - Waiver Review
3. JLARC Report on ASD and DBHDS Response
4. Department of Justice
5. State and National Trends
6. Issues for families to know and understand

DBHDS

- Contracts with 40 local Community Services Boards
 - Provides Case Management for all ID services
 - Is local single point of entry for all ID services
- Operates 5 state training centers serving approximately 1100 individuals with ID
- Licenses over 300 public and private providers of Medicaid Waiver Services
- Operates the ID Waiver serving 8,700 individuals
 - Created in 1991
 - Serves children age birth through adult
 - Approximately 5800 individuals on waitlist for services

DMAS (Dept. of Medical Assistance Services)

- Designated State Medicaid Agency
 - Administers 7 different waivers in the state
 - Operates 6 waivers including
 - IFDDS Waiver serving _____
 - » Created in FY 2000
 - » Serves children age 6 through adult with developmental disabilities who do not have ID
 - » 792 individuals receiving services
 - » 960 individuals on the waiting list
 - » Identical services to the ID Waiver with exception that it does not have a residential service

Recent Initiatives

– Person Centered Thinking

- Developed over a 5 year period for the entire Medicaid funded ID system
- Written into the ID Waiver
- Involves a system of Mentors, trainers and coaches throughout the Commonwealth
- Intended to change the culture of the support delivery system - Requires continuous training and monitoring
- Results are –
 - Minimizes the critical incidences
 - Strengthens the fulfillment individuals have with their lives
 - Increases stabilization of the services

Recent Initiatives - continued

- *Supports Intensity Scale*™
 - Developed by the AAIDD
 - Added to the ID Waiver as an assessment tool
 - Is a person-centered assessment instrument – it measures strengths and interests and not deficits
 - Has the ability to determine levels of support needed that can be used for individual resource allocation
 - Virginia is assessing its use to possibly determine rates of reimbursement for exceptional needs

Virginia joined the State Employment Leadership Network sponsored by NASDDDS in 2009

– Developing an *Employment First* Initiative

- Governor's Proclamation to be delivered in October
- Employment First Summit in October to generate ideas and kick-off the Employment First campaign

Recent Initiatives - continued

-Statewide Crisis Stabilization

- \$5,000,000 Approved by the General Assembly in 2011 to initiate a system
- Adopted the START model originated by Dr. Joan Beasley , Univ. of New Hampshire
- Uses system of mobile crisis teams, respite, and treatment to stabilize population of individuals who are prone to behavioral crisis episodes
- Will be deploying among 5 regions in January

-Waiver Review

- Stakeholder involvement to
 - Develop both short-term and more long term sustainable improvements to the system
 - Short-term – FY 2012
 - Targeted rate changes
 - Develop exceptional rates for more intensive needs
 - Long-term –FY 2014/15
 - Combined waivers
 - Comprehensive DD Waiver
 - Supports Waiver

JLARC Report on ASD

Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission
published “Assessment of Services for
Virginians with Autism Spectrum Disorders”
June 2009.

- Found inadequacies in the Part B and Part C systems as well as lack of capacity in the Medicaid system of services.
- Created the push Virginia needed to move forward for those with ASD

ASD Related Current Activities

- VA General Assembly passed the Autism Insurance Mandate.
- VDOE provided 1.4 million dollars of grant funding to create the VCU Autism Center for Excellence
- DBHDS created a Outpatient service Guidelines so that BCBA's may provide ABA services through EPSDT.

ASD Related Current Activities

- Free trainings for Medicaid providers on Strategies for working with Adults with ASDs
- Training for Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors about working with individuals with ASD
- Autism Action Groups are being created in communities for family and providers to meet and learn about each others needs for mutual support and information exchange.

ASD Related Current Activities

- Training modules designed for police officers. All new police cadets must take this new training about autism.
- VCU is heading up a consortium of state universities and colleges in order to produce BCABA within our own state.

ASD Related Current Activities

- Part C has created a free online module, “Autism in Infants & Toddlers: What Every Early Interventionist Should Know”.
- Part C continues to expand the Communities of Practice in Autism(CoPA)
 - Addresses topics such as:
 - Floortime, Pivotal Response Training, video modeling, and iPad APPS for children with ASD.
 - Provides peer discussion for supports and strategies.

- Findings letter was critical of both the lack of movement of individuals from training centers to the community and the capacity of the community to serve them and others who are waiting for services
 - Settlement Agreement is anticipated this fall
 - Expected to change the profile of Virginia's service system over the next several years

State and National Trends

- Resources are not growing in proportion to the population in need
- States are finding that they need to re-look at how services are provided
- Need to begin a greater partnership with families for a lifetime of support
- Attention must be paid to insure that the system fosters independence rather than creating greater dependence

Issues for Families to Know and Understand

- Know the policies of your state system
- Be an active advocate
- Align yourself and your family's needs with other disability groups and organizations with similar needs – splitting resources will limit everyone's opportunities
- We are all more alike than we are different