

DBHDS

Virginia Department of
**Behavioral Health and
Developmental Services**

Status of Virginia's Services for Autism Spectrum Disorders

Joint Subcommittee – HHR and Education
Senate Finance Committee
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Commissioner, DBHDS

Finding a Home

- 2007 JCHC study to determine a lead agency for autism, and as a result:
 - Secretary of HHR given decision-making authority for determining lead state agency
 - DMHMRSAS designated as lead for autism and other developmental disabilities
 - 2008 Stakeholder Workgroup worked with DMHMRSAS on transition plan
- 2009 DMHMRSAS becomes DBHDS

DBHDS – A Good Fit

- Person-centered service model is well-suited for developmental disabilities
- History of a collaborative approach to addressing service needs
- Child & Family Services involved with all children at risk
- Office of Developmental Disabilities history of addressing the needs of persons with multiple developmental disabilities
- Strong connection to community providers throughout the Commonwealth

DBHDS: Historical Involvement

- “Communities of Practice” – A Regional Autism Collaborative for service providers
- Collaboration with DOE on training of personnel related to autism
- Participation with the Statewide Autism Council
- Collaboration with the Virginia Interagency Coordinating Council and the VACSB related to autism

Agency Profiles

- Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS)
- Department of Education (DOE)
- Department of Rehabilitative Services (DRS)
- Department of Health (VDH)
- Office of Comprehensive Services (OCS)
- Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS)

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JLARC Report: ASD Data

Agency	Service	FY08 Expenditures (Estimate cost)	Estimated persons with ASD Served
VDH	Child Dev Clinics	\$3.56M	2,516 suspected/at risk
DMAS	DD Waiver	\$6.21M	316
	EDCD Waiver	\$5.2M	371
DBHDS	ID Waiver	\$49.3M	837
	Day Support Waiver	\$0.38M	33
	Early Intervention	\$1.32M	460
DOE	Part B Program	\$90.5M	7,580
OCS	CSA	\$17.4M	831
DRS	Job Coaching/Supported Employment	\$0.5M	794
	Woodrow Wilson	\$1.21M	123
CIL	Inf/Ref/Train/Counsel	\$0.41M	453
	TOTAL	\$176M	

Department of Medical Assistance Services

- Virginia provides services to individuals with autism and autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) through 4 Medicaid Home and Community-based Services Waivers (HCBS):
 1. Individual Family Support and Developmental Disability Waiver (DD),
 2. Elderly or Disabled with Consumer-Direction Waiver (EDCD),
 3. MR/Intellectual Disability Waiver (MR/ID), and
 4. Day Support Waiver (DS).
- Each designed as alternatives to institutionalization and assist persons to remain in their homes and communities

Department of Medical Assistance Services

- 1,557 individuals with Autism or ASDs served in Medicaid home and community based waivers 2008
= 7% of the 24,000 approved slots in the four waivers
- 2009: 53% of all served on the Medicaid DD waiver have a diagnosis of Autism or ASD
- EPSDT services are open to all Medicaid eligible children under the age of 21, including those with autism

Department of Medical Assistance Services

- DMAS and DBHDS collaborating on options for addressing ASD service needs, including:
 - A framework for a Medicaid Autism Waiver
 - Enhanced services provided in existing waivers (DD) in lieu of developing a separate new waiver
 - A combined ID/DD Waiver
- Under review: Medicaid's recent HCBS state plan option (section 1915(i) of deficit reduction act)
- Working with DBHDS to determine if Early Intervention Service structure can be adjusted to best fit the needs of Autistic children

State Plan Services

- Case Management
- Psychological Evaluation
- Neuropsychological Evaluation
- Psychology
- Treatment Related Services: Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy
- Nutritional Supplements
- Durable Medical Equipment
- General Medical Care – physicians, hospital visit
- EPSDT

Integrating Autism examples:

- Written materials such as brochures and newsletters have been updated to include information on Autism services
- DMAS website will be updated to include information targeting services available to those with Autism (i.e., IFDDS Waiver section, links to the DBHDS website)
- Information on ASD covered services will be included in the September 2009 case manager's communiqué

DOE Services

- Professional Development
- Technical Assistance
- Network of Training and Technical Assistance Centers
- State Priority Project on Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Family information and referral
- Support the Virginia Autism Council (VAC)
- Funding to School Divisions through IDEA and State SOQ
- Oversight and general supervision of school divisions
- Monitoring for compliance with state and federal regulations to ensure FAPE for students with disabilities

DOE Partnerships

- DBHDS
- Partnership for People with Disabilities
- National Technical Assistance Centers
- Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center
- Virginia Board for People with Disabilities
- Training and Technical Assistance Centers
- Virginia Autism Resource Center
- Infant and Toddler Connection
- Autism Society of America – Central Chapter
- Commonwealth Autism Services

ASD Students Receiving Special Education Services

- 2006 – 6,749
- 2007 – 7,854
- 2008 – 9,136

The annual cost for students with ASD is approximately \$20,172 per student.

- 2009 – Received a 2-year grant from the National Professional Development Center on Autism Spectrum Disorders (NPDC)
 - Cross agency partnership to build local capacity on improving service delivery expertise in ASD
 - Partnership for People with Disabilities is the lead organization

DOE Future Directions

- Full Time Autism Specialist Begins September 24th
- Coordination with DBHDS
- Attendance at TACIDD meetings
- Continued partnerships with Institutes of Higher Education
 - Improve ASD expertise at pre-service and in-service levels
- Expand statewide expertise in Applied Behavioral Analysis
- Expand statewide expertise in research-based diagnostic instruments
- Explore new models of long term technical assistance to build local/regional capacity
- Factsheets to families and professionals

DRS Services

- Vocational evaluation
- Career exploration and vocational counseling
- Job development and placement
- Support for vocational training
- Support for physical & mental restorative Svs.
- Rehabilitative engineering
- Supportive employment
- Long Term Employment Support Services (LTESS)

Autism Spectrum Disorder Efforts

- 794 individuals with ASD received services in FY 2008
- 96 individuals with ASD received LTESS
- Collaboration with DOE to serve ASD youth transitioning from secondary school to work
- Vendor relationships with Employment Service Organizations – linkage with LTESS

Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitative Center

- Campus-based vocational and life skills training
 - 123 ASD individuals received services in FY 2008
 - \$1M expenditure in support for ASD individuals
 - Collaboration with DOE and statewide school divisions in serving students participating in Post Secondary Education Rehabilitative Programs
- Independent Living
 - Information and referral, advocacy, peer counseling and independent living skills training
 - 453 ASD individuals receives services in FY 2008 through Centers for Independent Living (CILs)

Partnership with VCU Rehabilitation and Research and Training Center

- \$2.5M grant-funded research project
 - Analysis of VR service delivery and employment outcomes among DRS clients with ASD
 - Impact of intensive community-based work experiences on employment outcomes of youth with ASD
 - Postsecondary school participation and employment of college students with ASD
 - Impact of personal digital assistants (PDAs) on the employment outcomes of individuals with ASD

- 831 ASD youth received community-based services in FY 2008
 - In-home assistance and supports
 - Respite
 - Home modifications
 - Private day school
 - Residential
- Collaboration with Special Advisor for Children's Service Transformation
 - Reduce reliance of out-of-home placement

DBHDS 2010 ACTION PLAN for ASDs

- State agency collaboration
- Workforce Readiness
 - Increase provider understanding of ASD
 - Increase provider/service coordinator understanding of existing resources
- Linkage to existing services and supports
- Identification of service needs

First Steps Taken

- October meeting with the heads of all departments involved in ASD to craft partnership directions for ASD
- First year action plan drafted
- Commonwealth Autism Service - DBHDS partnership formalized
- Stakeholder discussions The Advisory Consortium on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (TACIDD)
- Obtained membership in the NASDDDS Supported Employment Leadership Network
- Housing study for persons with developmental disabilities to be completed October 1
- Part C Office is capturing the autism specific diagnosis for Early Intervention children

Two New Staff Added to DBHDS

- ASD Specialties Manager
- DD Specialties Manager
 - Serve as DBHDS Point persons for ASD and DD
 - Coordinate the development of information dissemination
 - Establish stakeholder communication links
 - Help to coordinate stakeholder involvement in Comprehensive Plan development (due Nov., 2010)
 - Development of supported employment and housing initiatives for persons with DD