



Virginia Association Of Community Services Boards, Inc.

Making a Difference Together

Response to the Introduced Budget by the
Virginia Association of Community Services Boards (VACSB) January 17, 2011

In support of DBHDS Provisions for “Down Payment”:

- \$5 M for regional crisis stabilization capacity to address psychiatric crises for individuals with ID and co-occurring mental health disorders
- \$4 M to expand crisis stabilization statewide for adults in order to reduce hospitalizations, divert individuals from incarceration, and achieve better outcomes for people served.
- \$9.8 M for 275 new ID Waiver slots, DBHDS to assess the number of community slots and the number of facility-discharge slots.
- \$2.4 M for targeted community behavioral health services in Tidewater to address the downsizing that has taken place at ESH

Concern Regarding Issues in DMAS section. Please consider the following:

- Restoration of 5% waiver services reduction effective July 1, 2011 -\$22.7 M for all waivers. Impact on families, providers, local jobs, consumer spending and loss of insurance.
- Restore reduction of respite hours for 7500 families whose family members utilize those hours to help maintain their family member in the home. Full restoration-\$11.7 M
- Restoration for Assistive Technology and Environmental Modifications to annual limit of \$5000 per person.
- Community concern that 275 ID Waiver slots are not adequate to address the most urgent of community needs.

Concern regarding CSA Provisions in the Introduced Budget

- Elimination of non-mandated services can mean that youth needing services through the courts or through CSBs may not have access.
- Match provisions appear to have implications for localities.

Care Coordination budget language. VACSB is working with the Administration to develop consensus and we are making substantive progress. The following elements are recognized;

- The critical vulnerability and volatility of individuals with SMI and SED if seamlessness in services is not maintained.
- Safety net services are vital and must be maintained.
- Community mental health rehabilitation services and other supports are vital if individuals with very disabling and complex conditions are to remain out of institutions.
- With Medallion expanded as a provision for individuals on waivers, these and other efforts that will be recommended to improve the ID Waiver should be evaluated before further care coordination is implemented.

The VACSB asks that the Senate Finance HHR Subcommittee be willing to consider changes to our requested budget language amendments through the budget report process.