

Virginia Board for People with Disabilities

Virginia's Developmental Disabilities Planning Council

March 11, 2010

What is the DD Council?

- Authorized and principally funded by the federal Developmental Disabilities and Bill of Rights Act (DD Act).
- Every state and the territories have federally funded DD Planning Councils.

Purpose of DD Councils

- Advocacy
- Capacity Building
- Policy and Systems Change



Purpose

- Consumer and family centered and directed service system,
- Individualized supports, and other of assistance--so that
- Individuals with DD can exercise maximum self-determination and be independent, be productive, and be integrated and included in all facets of community life.



How do we do our work?

- Outreach, training, & technical assistance
- Supporting and educating communities
- Barrier elimination
- Coalition development
- System design/redesign
- Informing policymakers, and
- Demonstration of new approaches



Outreach & Advocacy

- Newsletter
- On-line communication
- Public comment
- Policy and Assessment documents
- Informing policymakers
- Interagency workgroups
- Virginia Alliance for Community

Investment Initiatives

- Demonstration of new approaches, services, and supports (Grants).
- Competitive or solicited
- Generally not disability specific
- 5 new grant projects, totaling **\$410,813** in Board funds

Medicaid Waiver Training and Information

- To increase access to Medicaid HCB Waiver services through the development and distribution of information via workshops, the Internet and traditional paper documents and through the collaborative efforts of disability advocates.

Integrated Dental Service Initiative

- To build regional capacity, capability and commitment for the provision of dental health services to people with developmental disabilities within their own communities.



Creating a Community Based Network of VaNavigator Centers

- To develop a person- and family-centered network which will foster interagency cooperation, expand service capacity, encourage inclusion in the community and enable adults with disabilities to achieve greater independence.



Using 21st Century Technology and Skills to Promote Employment

- Demonstration project on how technologies and social media can support transitioning youth to access career pathways of their choice and participate in integrated employment.



Creating Opportunities through Customized Employment

- To expand employment for persons with significant disabilities through training and job placement.



Comprehensive Assessment

- *Assessment of the Disability Service System in Virginia - 2006 & 2008* editions available; and upcoming, *2011 Triennial Assessment*
- Extensive data collection and interagency cooperation



Then

2008 Assessment Findings

- Increased commitment to Community-based services and supports
- Recognition by legislators and policy-makers of community needs and provider rate issues
- Dedicated professionals at state and local level and in private sector



Then

2008 Assessment Findings

- Increased availability of consumer directed services
- More funding to Part C although more children not being served
- Better coordination among housing workgroups and entities

Then

2008 Assessment Findings

- Between FY 2006 & 07, funding for students with disabilities increased by 15%
- Compliance moved from procedural review to student outcomes.
- State level focus on services to students with ASD

Then

2008 Assessment Findings

- No DD agency or funding stream
- System is highly compartmentalized and Fragmented within service or disability silos
- System lacks a person centered focus and a lifespan design
- System continues to have institutional bias

Then

2008 Assessment Findings

- Challenges in access to early diagnostics and intervention
- Significant and growing waiting lists for certain services and programs
- Significant disparities in educational achievement and disproportionate un- and underemployment

Then

2008 Assessment Findings

- Inadequate funding and services for non-waiver eligible individuals
- Inadequate access to technology that can increase independence
- Perceptions regarding individuals with complex medical needs

Then


2008 Assessment Findings

- Fragmented Transportation systems
- Lack of affordable, accessible housing
- Workforce shortages and low provider rates


Then

2008 Assessment Findings


- Stigma of Disability—NIMBY
- Inadequate information for families and professionals
- Lack of reliable data on long term systems needs

 **TODAY ...**

- DBHDS in transition as state DD agency
- Statewide training to providers on Person-Centered Principles
- Dissemination of info to state regulatory staff and via web to public on PCP

 **TODAY ...**

- Significant interagency/organizational collaboration in response to JLARC Study on Autism Services
- More awareness of needs of individuals with ASD among policymakers and elected officials
- New initiatives in education and employment

 **TODAY**

- \$2 BILLION STATE DEFICIT ... Major service cuts likely that will negatively impact individuals with disabilities—Final budget decisions pending
- Governor McDonnell – EO 2, establishes Commission on Government Reform and Restructuring

Today: System Change Partners

- Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services
- Commonwealth Autism Service
- Department of Education
- Department of Rehabilitative Services
- Department of Health (VDH)
- Department of Medical Assistance Services

System Change Partners

- Partnership for People with Disabilities
- Autism Society of America local chapters
- Virginia Autism Resource Center
- JLARC and JCHC
- Virginia Autism Council
- Office of Community Integration

The Future

- What is the service system it like now?
- What should it be like?
- What can we do to make it change?



Where are We Going?

- Policy Leadership in infrastructure development, capacity building, systems change.



The Future

- Create opportunities to bring about collaborative systems change through public awareness and education



The Future

- Evaluate and strategically fund programs that make a difference in moving the system forward in a consumer-directed manner.



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