

## MEETING MINUTES

Alexandria Community Services Meeting

4850 Mark Center Dr. Alexandria, VA

Conference Room #1301

January 4, 2024 – 6:30 pm

Members Present: Mary Lyman, Chair  
Mary Catherine Gibbs  
Michele Walz  
Ian Ring  
Brian Marvin  
Marybeth Plaskus  
Abdulahi Abdalla  
Luisa Lancetti  
Marjorie Leong Greenberg

Members Absent: Erica Hamilton (Excused)  
Krista Oberlander (Excused)

Staff: Phillip Caldwell, Center Director for Adult Services, DCHS  
Chontelai Patterson-Mendie, Administrative Operations Officer  
Emma Beall, Coordinator, SAPCA  
Raphael Obenwa, Chief Fiscal Officer  
Celestine Chew, Admin Support Supervisor

Ms. Lyman called the Board Meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

### I. PUBLIC COMMENT

### II. CONSENT ACTION ITEMS

- Approval of December 7, 2023, Board Minutes: On a motion by Mrs. Michele Walz, seconded by Mr. Abdulahi Abdalla, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the December 7, 2023, Board meeting.

### III. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Mr. Caldwell introduced a new member of the Board, Marjorie L. Greenberg. She works with the Nursing Homes Associations, and she has a son who receives Mental Health Services and DD services.
- Ms. Chontelai Patterson-Mendie on behalf of Berline Lewis discussed the serious injuries and deaths within the DCHS programs. There were no serious incident reports in September. A slight increase in medication errors occurred in November due to the individuals being out of the program for the holidays. Ms. Patterson-Mendie stated that there is a CAP (Corrective Action Plan) Committee for residential programs to help with staff-training and documentation.

- Mr. Obenwa reported the budget is on track for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. Funds are coming in from billing and reimbursement.
- Ms. Emma Beall and Allan Lomax gave a presentation about the Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria (SAPCA) program which was founded in 2007 because of the high use of alcohol and tobacco use amongst youth in 2006. A package was given out with information about resources and where to go for support to help the youth to overcome the misuse of alcohol.

#### IV. BOARD CHAIR COMMENTS /CONCERNS

Ms. Mary Lyman, Chair, informed the Board Members that Henry Johnson, Vice Chair, had resigned. Mr. Marvin, Ms. Walz and Mr. Abdalla nominated Mary Catherine Gibbs to replace him as Vice Chair. A vote on this nomination will take place at the next meeting.

Mr. Caldwell gave the Board Members copies of VACSB's 2023 Annual Report. It contains information about all the CSBs across the state. Alexandria is in Region 2. The next VACSB conference will be the Legislative Conference January 16-17 in Richmond, followed by the Development and Training Conference in Norfolk, VA. May 1-3. If you are interested in attending in May, please let Celestine Chew know by March 15, 2024.

#### Adjournment

Having accomplished all items on the published agenda and on a motion by Mr. Brian Marvin and, seconded by Ms. Mary Catherine Gibbs, Ms. Lyman adjourned the meeting at 7:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Celestine Chew