

MEETING MINUTES

Alexandria Community Services Board Meeting

4850 Mark Center Dr. Alexandria, VA

Conference Room #1301

October 10, 2024 – 6:30 pm

Members Present: Mary Lyman, Chair
Mary Catherine Gibbs
Michele Walz
Marybeth Plaskus
Luisa Lancetti
Marjorie L. Greenberg
Brian Marvin
Marybeth Plaskus
Erica Hamilton

Members Absent: Krista Oberlander (Excused)
Abdulahi Abdalla (Excused)

Staff: Phillip Caldwell, Center Director for Adult Services, DCHS
Chontelai Patterson-Mendie, Administrative Operations Officer
Olayinka Olarinde, Crisis Intervention Team Coordinator
Celestine Chew, Admin Support Supervisor

Ms. Lyman called the Board Meeting to order at 6:43p.m.

I. PUBLIC COMMENT

II. CONSENT ACTION ITEMS

- Approval of September 5, 2024, Board Minutes: On a motion by Ms. Mary Catherine Gibbs, seconded by Ms. Luisa Lancetti, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the September 5, 2024, Board meeting.

III. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Mr. Caldwell reported that this past fiscal year has been good. More staff are coming onboard. Filling the children's care positions is a little difficult because of salary levels, meeting the minimum requirements and competing with other jurisdictions which allow clinicians to see clients via telehealth.
- Mr. Olarinde informed the Board about the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training. The goal is to get 100% participation with law enforcement and mental health services personnel trained to triage mental health cases properly. The training is very intense for five days totaling 40 hours. This program is to help keep mental health patients out of the justice system.

- They had training about 2 weeks ago and 21 participants graduated from the class. Dispatchers have separate training from CIT. They are being trained to screen calls and dispatch calls to law enforcement and a CIT.
- Ms. Patterson informed the Board that policies 11-20 were reviewed last year and no changes were made. On a motion by Ms. Gibbs, seconded by Luisa Lancetti, these policies will remain the same.
- Mr. Caldwell informed the Board that a new member with lived experience will be joining the Board.
- There was a DMAS audit, including a review of personnel charts. There is some improvement needed, for example some signatures and Quarterly reports are missing. There were no concerns about care or support to the clients. There are about 10 audits a year.
- The budget process has been moved back 2 weeks. The schedule will be announced in February.
- Mr. Caldwell shared a letter from the City Manager. He has asked the Board's recommendations on policy/budgetary issues. Recommendations are due by November 1st. Please send them directly to Mary Lyman

IV. Adjournment

Having accomplished all the items on the published agenda and on a motion by Mr. Ian Ring and seconded by Mr. Brian Marvin, Ms. Lyman adjourned the meeting at 8:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Celestine Chew