

MEETING MINUTES

Alexandria Community Services Board Meeting

4850 Mark Center Dr. Alexandria, VA

Conference Room #1301

March 6, 2025 – 6:30 pm

Members Present: Mary Lyman, Chair
Mary Catherine Gibbs
Michele Walz
Ian Ring
Brian Marvin
Luisa Lancetti
Marjorie Leong Greenberg
Erica Hamilton
Lemuel Houston, Jr
Mouaad Jaani

Members Absent: Krista Oberlander (Excused)

Staff: Phillip Caldwell, Center Director for Adult Services, DCHS
Alexandar Cisek, Quality Assurance Specialist
Celestine Chew, Admin Support Supervisor

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

I. PUBLIC COMMENT

II. CONSENT ACTION ITEMS

- Approval of February 6, 2025, Board Minutes: On a motion by Ms. Luisa Lancetti, seconded by Ms. Mary Catherine Gibbs, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the February 6, 2025, Board meeting.

III. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Ms. Cisek discussed the Incident Report Analysis for 2024. She stated there has been a decrease in total incidents from 2022 to the present. Covid incidents are reported less to the State. Incidents noted are from serious to minor incidents. Level 1 consists of bumps, bruises or scrapes, Level 2 are incidents requiring emergency medical attention. Level 3 incidents would be clients needing medical attention and not psychiatric attention. There were 9 deaths and 2 suicide attempts in 2024. Most of the deaths were natural, while one was caused by a hit and run. 1 and 2 level incidents are discussed in the Safety Committee meetings. The committee discusses how to prevent some of these incidents. Child and/or Adult Protective Services are involved when there are suspicious acts of abuse or neglect. There were no physical altercations between staff and clients in 2024.

- Facilities incidents are usually outside of the Mark Center at group homes.
- Vehicular accidents are reported when, for example, a staff member has a fender bender in a city vehicle.

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMMENTS /CONCERNS

- Mr. Caldwell informed the Board that there was only one Corporate Compliance change, the NEOGOV government hiring system
- Virginia has no registry of people who abuse adults/seniors, which some states have.
- The Federal changes have disrupted some DEI related money.
- The Virginia State Government is concerned about possible cuts to Medicaid Part C, which would affect 0–3-year-olds receiving development treatment for speech pathology, physical therapy and motor development.
- There is no negative impact on CSB services from the city budget.
- 2 FTE positions at the sheriff's office will not be filled. This will help meet the budget cuts.
- Therapist signing on with DCHS will be offered a hiring bonus. The bonus does come with stipulations.
- Mr. Caldwell stated HR is trying to under-hire for therapists' positions, which means someone could be hired while they are working towards receiving their Masters.
- The May VACSB conference is in Norfolk, May 6-8. Please let Celestine Chew know if you plan to attend by March 15th.
- Due to the May conference being May 6-8, a motion was made to move the monthly Board meeting to May 1st instead of May 8. The Board members unanimously voted to have the meeting on May 1st.
- The person who was slated to make complete the Board's membership was not sworn in to join the CSB. The Clerk did not approve the appointment because the person did not meet one of the criteria for the seat being filled, which was someone with lived experience. We still have enough members to meet quorum. If necessary, a letter can be written to the Council requesting them to waive the criteria.

Adjournment

Having accomplished all the items on the published agenda and on a motion by Ms. Greenberg, seconded by Erica Hamilton, Ms. Lyman adjourned the meeting at 8:06 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Celestine Chew