

Region Ten Community Services Board

Board Meeting Minutes

December 14, 2020, 4:00 PM

500-B Old Lynchburg Rd

Charlottesville, VA

Members Present

Barbara Barrett, Chair
Nora Demleitner
Peggy Whitehead, Secretary
Helayna Banks
Tom Worosz
Dr. Barry Blumenthal
Stephen Wunsh
David Szwedo

Members Absent

Ms. D Pryor
Edna Harris
James Murphy
Diane Jacobs
John Kronstain

Others Present

Lisa Beitz, Executive Director
Jessica Phipps, Executive Assistant
Kathy Williams, Senior Director

I. Call to Order

Ms. Barrett called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

II. Welcome

Ms. Barrett welcomed everyone to the meeting.

III. Comments from the Public

There were no public speakers.

IV. Chair's Remarks

Ms. Barrett wanted to thank the staff of Region Ten for being so dedicated.
The Board appreciates all they do.

V. Executive Director's Remarks

Ms. Beitz did include state-wide information connected to the draft priorities going into the next General Assembly session in January. Heard from VACSB that they hope the legislative session will only be 30 days. She included the draft priorities in her report, and more information will come as we receive it. The January VACSB virtual conference is coming up which is focused on the proposed bills.

The Marcus Alert is connecting to a co-response model that will be implemented over the next several years across VA. DBHDS is working with DCJS to lead the effort around the co-response model for behavioral health law enforcement. There is a desire for five pilot sites, one for each region. The Department then asked for applications to become the pilot site for each Region. Region Ten did not apply because we serve six localities. We would have to attest to meeting marks of readiness that include infrastructure and engagement from law enforcement. We are not quite there across all six localities. Ms. Beitz is on two committees working on co-response models, one in Charlottesville and one in Albemarle. They are outreaching the four counties in January. There is funding allocated for the pilot sites. There is not funding allocated beyond that. Different law enforcement agencies have different beliefs about the role of law enforcement with people who are experiencing a psychiatric emergency. The Marcus Alert legislation intersects with STEP VA of mobile crisis response, more broadly a robust mobile response continuum (which is also unfunded and not fully developed). State-wide regional call centers: is seeking to implement a state-wide call center. So instead of calling emergency services locally, it would be one number regionally or state-wide.

Telehealth: Reviewing how facilities are set up, looking at how to bring in staff by shifts, meeting rooms continue to remain closed, social distancing. We had a target of after the new year. To begin the year as a new norm. We won't go back to how things were pre-Covid in lots of ways. Would like to continue offering some services ongoing through telehealth. We have decreased barriers to access with use of telephone and televideo. To ground our staff in a new norm and a new schedule and increased face-to-face services. Our highest priority is the health and safety of staff and the people we serve. We will not increase our physical presence until those numbers begin to decrease and become steady. Region Ten will not require staff to get the vaccine. We will encourage people and educate them. Some of our staff are in the first round of available to receive the vaccine.

We received twice as many responses as expected for the Climate Survey. The information is incredibly valuable. It gives us a base line, gave staff a chance to respond about their experiences at Region Ten, as well as their view of what we are doing and where we need to go with racial diversity, equity and inclusion. It also informs our Change Team, our DEI Training Director and Leadership Team on the development of the objectives in the strategic plan related to racial equity and inclusion. We have been very intentional saying we know that race is not the only disparate population of people who are marginalized in their experience both in who we serve and in our agency. Our goal is to address all areas of diversity, equity and inclusion, but if we did it all at the same time we would lose some of the differences and experiences.

VI. Consent Agenda

Ms. Barrett asked for approval of the consent agenda. Mr. Szwedlo indicated he was at the November meeting and requested the minutes be amended to reflect this. Ms. Demleitner moved to approve the consent agenda. Ms. Banks seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved as amended.

VII. Other Business

Fundraising Committee is waiting until Spring to meet. The Power of Ten application deadline is in the spring. There is a donation button on the top right of the Region Ten website for anyone interested in donating.

The question was asked if the LAC have an upcoming role in the legislative meetings or general assembly. The LAC would need to meet to decide how they would like to proceed.

The Finance Committee reported that Region Ten is exceeding targets for the year so far. We have been able to receive some reimbursements related to Covid purchases.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.