



# DARS

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT FOR AGING  
AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

*Supporting Virginians' efforts  
to secure independence and employment*



## House Appropriations HHR Sub Committee

Commissioner Jim Rothrock  
January 21, 2014



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# Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services



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# DARS Mission Statement

*The Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services, in collaboration with community partners, provides and advocates for resources and services to improve the employment, quality of life, security, and independence of older Virginians, Virginians with disabilities, and their families.*





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## Vocational Rehabilitation

- \$63m NGF / \$16 m GF
- 25,000 number served in typical year
- 4000 goal reaching job success in 14 in competitive, community based careers
- 5158 have come off the waiting list in FFY 2013
- 850+- people on waiting list now and the number grows, but we are fortunate that our “most significantly disabled” consumer category is and will likely continue to remain “open”

## Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center (WWRC)

- \$21m NGF / \$6m GF
- 3000 served per year with daily census of 300
- 74% rehab/success rate for those completing training—have developed a workforce driven curriculum





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## **Disability Determination Services**

- \$49m NGF / \$1.2m GF (from Social Security Administration)
- 97,500+-applications process per year
- 35% approved on initial review

## **Community Based Services (CBS)**

- \$12m+ GF / \$1.83m NGF combined across 4 programs
- 15,000 Virginians with disabilities participating in CILs, Brain Injury, Personal Assistance Services, Case Management





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# Virginia Division for the Aging

- \$38m NGF / \$17m GF (guided by *Older Americans Act*)
- 25 Area Agencies on Aging (19 private non profits/6 local government) who provide critical services for aging in place:
  - 3,158,440 meals provided
  - 539,569 trips provided





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## **State Long-term Care Ombudsman—migrated to DARS July 1, 2012**

- \$1.15M NGF / \$372k GF / \$543k Local (nursing home assistance & advocacy)
- 32 Ombudsmen around the state (2 positions at DARS)
- 2300 investigations / 1583 closed / 15,375 consultations to individuals and nursing homes

## **Adult Services—migrated from DSS to DARS July 1, 2013**

- \$1.1m GF and 9 FTEs supporting APS, Auxiliary Grant and other Adult Services provided by the 120 local DSS Offices across the state
- 5770 recipients of the Auxiliary Grant—each receive on average \$485 per month

**DARS Budget: \$195m NGF / \$52m GF \$247m**



# McDonnell Administration Budget Amendments

- \$1.2m to offset impact of Sequestration on nutrition programs for seniors
- \$1.08m transferred from DBHDS for Guardianship services
- \$ 0.9m transferred from DBHDS for VR services
- \$150k to expand Brain Injury Case Management Services
- \$99k to stabilize and sustain Guardianship operations



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# Emerging Issues and Innovations at DARS

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## National Governors Association— “A Better Bottom Line”

Cited VA innovations NGA report:

- LTESS--\$5.2m in GF; serving 2307 through “job coaching” with avg. wage of \$9.17/hr.
- Project SEARCH—13 sites for youth in hospital settings; employment rate at approximately 77%.
- 8 Employment Services Organizations as SWAM vendors (SB523--Hanger).
- EO 55 signed by Governor McDonnell to promote public and private sector hiring of Virginians with disabilities
- ***Return on Investment*** Research with U of R and UVA and increased use of data for planning and quality improvement



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## Preparing for the *Age Wave*

Number of *Vintage* Virginians doubling to more than 2m over 65 years old by 2030

DARS supporting:

- Care Transitions
- Respite for care givers—just completed successful federal grant
- Chronic Disease Self Management
- No Wrong Door / ADRC—easier access to age in place
- DMAS collaboration on *Duals* in VICAP and Ombudsman





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# Care Transitions

Several of our Triple As are engaged with their local health care systems to offer coaching to Virginians with chronic diseases (blood pressure, diabetes, COPD) to reduce readmissions. Early pilot results show in some cases a 50% reduction in hospital readmissions.





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# Chronic Disease Self Management Education

A dozen of our partners offer a 6 week course for Vintage Virginians and Virginians with disabilities on how best to manage chronic health issues. More than 4000 have participated and early results show the potential to limit hospitalizations by keeping people healthy.

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# Guardianship

As our society ages, more adults become incapacitated and benefit from court appointed public guardians. DARS in concert with DBHDS serve 601 individuals and our wait list is projected now at 800+ known citizens in need and more than 1000 projected to benefit from this. As DOJ transition advances, this may be a critical link to success. Peace budget Amendment in HOD and another Senate budget amendment to expand.





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# Auxiliary Grant

We are answering preliminary questions posed by the Office of Civil Rights / Department of Health & Human Services regarding the alleged unlawful discrimination based on disability within the program. Working with Del. Peace on increasing portability of AG (HB 894)





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# Thank you for all you have done.

- Thank you for all you will do in the future for Vintage Virginians, Virginians who are vulnerable, and Virginians with disabilities.





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