

VACSB Comments
House Appropriations Committee, HHR Subcommittee
15 June 2015

Thank you all for inviting me to speak on behalf of the Virginia Association of Community Services Boards (VACSB). The VACSB represents the 40 Community Services Boards that make up the public system of service delivery and supports for individuals with behavioral health and developmental disability needs. In FY2014, CSBs served over 220,000 people, over 21,000 of whom had a developmental disability.

I'd like to begin by stating the VACSB's strong support for the Waiver re-design process, specifically the ability to add services and supports that make sense to individuals and families as they strive to achieve the greatest level of independence that their situations allow.

While the services arrays for each of the three proposed amended waivers has not been finalized, VACSB feels that earlier draft versions have demonstrated a good faith effort to enhance services across the waivers and to focus in on those services of most value to individuals and families.

We are hopeful that CMS/DMAS/DBHDS will be able to provide additional clarity on the waiting list for the waivers, including whether there be one for each of the proposed Waivers or one total, and how the current DD waiver waiting list be integrated.

We are also hopeful that we can gain clarity on how, when service needs either become more intensive or when greater independence and fewer services are desired, slots will be "shuffled" to accommodate those changes.

Finally, thank you all so much for recognizing the need for a rate increase for providers of Waiver services and for acting upon that recognition by implementing some of the rate increases this past General Assembly session as outlined in the Burns proposal.

We look forward to continuing our work with DBHDS and DMAS on this process and greatly appreciate all of your support now and into the future.