**Virginia Board for with Disabilities**

**Board Meeting Minutes**

***June 13, 2018***

The Virginia Board for People with Disabilities held its regular quarterly meeting on Wednesday, June 13, 2018, at the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel, 4700 South Laburnum Avenue, Richmond, Virginia.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Vicky Beatty, Joan Bender (designee for Deanna Parker) Phil Caldwell, Theresa Casselman, Allison Coles-Johnson, Donna Gilles, Dennis Findley, Melissa Gibson, Pam Hinterlong (designee for Ray Hopkins), Jocelyn Kilgore, Jarl Jackson, Sarah Kranz-Ciment, Richard Kriner, Donna Lockwood, Rachel Loughlin, Teri Morgan (designee for Ann Bevan), Alexis Nichols, Atima Omara, Ethel Paris Gainer, Eric Raff, Cindy Rudy, Summer Sage, Maya Simons, Alexus Smith, Jamie Snead, Ed Turner, Frederique Vincent

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Randy Burak, John Eisenburg, John Kelly, Felicia Hamilton, Traci LaGanke, Mary McAdam, Christopher Nace, Angela Sadsad, Matthew Shapiro, Travis Webb

**LUNCHEON PRESENTATION:** Sara Link, No Wrong Door (NWD), Director from the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services and her colleague Erica Kosnova, provided an update to the Board on the NWD initiative and progress made. They responded to multiple questions from the Board, primarily focused on how individuals are able to access the system and know that it is available. The Board’s outgoing Board members, Curtis Andrews, Vicky Beatty, Donna Lockwood, Atima Omara, Angela Sadsad, Ed Turner, Angela Yong West were also recognized during the luncheon. Ms. Lawyer noted that Ms. Omara and Ms. Lockwood were eligible for reappointment.

**CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:** Board Vice Chair, Mr. Phil Caldwell, called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm. Mr. Caldwell welcomed the Board members and guests, and asked them to introduce themselves. He also thanked the luncheon speaker and reviewed the housekeeping notes.

**APPROVAL OF MARCH 14, 2017 MINUTES:** The Vice Chair asked if there were any changes to the December Board Meeting minutes. None were noted. The Vice Chair called for a **MOTION** to **APPROVE.** Ms. Rachel Loughlin made a **MOTION** to **APPROVE** the minutes and Mr. Ed Turnerseconded. The **MOTION** carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**  The Board received no public comments.

**REPORT OF THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE.** Mr. Phil Caldwell, Chair of the Nominations Committee reported on the work of that Committee and officially announced the slate. Mr. Caldwell asked if there were further nominations from the floor. There were none. Mr. Caldwell then made a **MOTION** from the Committee to accept the slate of officers and at large members as follows: Mary McAdam, Vice Chair; Rachel Loughlin, Vice Chair; Jamie Snead, Secretary and Alexis Nichols, Ethel Paris Gainer, and Chris Nace as at large members. The Vice Chair asked for a vote on the **MOTION.** The **MOTION** passed unanimously.

**SFY 2019 BUDGET.** Mr. John Cimino, Deputy Director gave a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed SFY 2019 Board Operational Budget which was recommended for approval by the Executive Director. He first reviewed information regarding changes in the federal interpretation of obligation and liquidation requirements, which may necessitate a change in our grant processes. Following the presentation, the Board Vice Chair called for a vote on the Executive Committee’s **MOTION** to recommend full approval of the SFY 2019 Budget. The **MOTION** passed unanimously.

**ALUMNI DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.** Ms. Nia Harrison, Director of Planning, Research, and Evaluation, provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Year 2 evaluation of the Alumni Development Program (ADP). Ms. Harrison reviewed its successes, challenges, and opportunities for improvement as well as plans for SFY 2019, the third year of the program.

**DISABILITY ASSESSMENT.** Mr. John Cimino provided a PowerPoint presentation on the 2018 Disability Assessment Briefs on Housing and Transportation. He noted that they be disseminated very shortly. He reviewed the findings and recommendations from each Assessment Policy brief and responded to questions.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING:**

Mr. Caldwell, Vice Chair, asked if there were any questions regarding the activities of report of the Executive Committee. There were none.

**REPORT OF THE ADVOCACY, OUTREACH AND TRAINING COMMITTEE:**

Ms. Rachel Loughlin, filling in for the committee chair and vice chair, who were both absent, called the meeting to order at 9:14 a.m.

Ms. Loughlin called for a **MOTION** to approve the March 2018, committee meeting minutes as written. Mr. Jarl Jacksonmade a **MOTION** to approve the minutes and Ms. Allison Coles-Johnson **SECONDED** the **MOTION**. The **MOTION** carried and the December minutes were approved.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.** Ms. Laughlin provided an updated on the Executive Committee meeting.

**ALUMNI DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (ADP).** Ms. Nia Harrison, Director of Planning, Research and Evaluation presented the Year 2 evaluation of the ADP, reporting on successes, challenges, and future directions. She and Dr. Penni Sweetenburg-Lee, Director of Training and Alumni Development responded to questions from the Committee about the evaluation. Dr. Sweetenburg-Lee then presented the SFY 2019 ADP work plan and budget and provided an overall program update.

**PARTNERS IN POLICYMAKING.** Ms. Harrison presented the results of the Partners in Policymaking Class of 2019 evaluation. Dr. Sweetenburg-Lee provided an update on the program, reviewing activities throughout the year, including the April 7, 2018, graduation. Dr. Sweetenburg-Lee responded to questions from the Committee.

**YOUTH LEADERSHIP ACADEMY.** Dr. Sweetenburg-Lee provided an update on preparations underway for the July 9-12 Youth Leadership Academy. Twenty-five Delegates were selected who were diverse in gender, grade, disability ethnicity and geographic location. One individual had to bow out and an alternate was contacted. YLA logistics have been very complicated due to new procurement rules but with extensive effort by the Training Program staff and administrative staff, things are proceeding smoothly. All speakers have been selected. A training session for the YLA staff will be held June 15-16,

**COMMUNICATONS UPDATE.** Mr. Benjamin Jarvela, Communications Director, reported on Board’s communications activities. Mr. Jarvela informed the Committee about the work to finalize and print the Assessments, which staff are expecting to receive very shortly. He also updated on the publication of the Board’s Program Performance Report Highlights, the impact of new spending regulations on promotional activities, and work regarding the Youth Leadership Academy.

The Acting Chair then called for any additional business. Hearing none, the Acting Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

[For the full details, see the AOT Committee meeting minutes for June 13, 2018.](https://www.vaboard.org/boardmeetings.htm)

**REPORT OF THE INVESTMENT & STATE PLAN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

Committee Chair Ms. Cindy Rudy reported that:

**REVIEW OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING:** Ms. Rudy provided an update on the Executive Committee meeting.

**GRANT EXPENDITURE UPDATE:** Mr. Jason Withers, Grants, Contracts, and Program Information Manager discussed grants and contract expenditures for six projects: 1) The Virginia NICU Early Intervention Collaborative through the Virginia Hospital Research & Education Foundation (VHREF). 2) The Development of Adult Curriculum on Critical Decision-Making Points for Students with Disabilities project through the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE). 3) The Improving Transportation Planning in Cities and Counties to Increase Access to Community-Based Healthcare through the disAbility Law Center of Virginia (dLCV). 4) The Increasing Access to Disability Resources in non-English Languages through The Arc of Northern Virginia. 5) The Improving Health and Wellness through Empowerment project with James Madison University and 6) The Communication & Health Advocacy Training project with Virginia Commonwealth University. These projects and expenditures were referenced in Attachment ISP 3-2.

**APPROVAL OF LOIs for COMPETITIVE GRANT RFP:** Ms. Rudy informed the Committee that 26 Letters of Interest have been received and after review, the Grant Review Team selected 13 from whom to solicit full proposals. A technical assistance call was held with the applicants and the Grant Review Team will meet on August 7-8 to review the full proposal and prepare a recommendation to the Board on which proposals to fund.

**APPROVAL OF REVISED EVENT SUPPORT PROCEDURES.** As a follow up to the March 2018 meeting, Mr. Withers reviewed changes to the Event Support (conference) procedures to ensure clarity for applicants and for Board members making decisions on these events. The specific change made is that Conferences and events that do not directly support individuals with developmental or other disabilities in Virginia will not be considered for funding. The Vice Chair called for a **MOTION** to approve the revised event support procedures. Since the motion originally came out of Committee, a second was not needed. The **MOTION** carried unanimously.

**VHREF PROJECT UPDATE.** Betsy Cole-Archer from the Virginia Hospital and Health Care Association provided an update to the Committee on the Virginia NICU Early Intervention Collaborative Project funded by the Board. Also in attendance were Ms. Tracy van Marcke and Mr. Abraham Segres. Ms. Cole-Archer updated the Committee on progress and challenges and responded to questions from the Committee.

**2017-2021 STATE PLAN UPDATES AND DISCUSSION:** Ms. Nia Harrison discussed highlights of progress in the 2nd Quarter of FFY 2018 towards meeting the goals and objectives in the 2017-2021 State Plan. The Board is on track to meet its overall goals, objectives, and activities in the State Plan. The Board is also on track to meet all of its performance measures with the exception of two related to Partners in Policymaking.

[For the full details, see the ISP Committee meeting minutes for June 13, 2018.](https://www.vaboard.org/boardmeetings.htm)

**REPORT OF THE POLICY, RESEARCH AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:15.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes from the March 2018 meeting were approved.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT:** The Chair summarized the Executive Committee discussions and the Committee discussed the new federal guidance on Council’s obligation and liquidation requirements as well as grant review process.

**BOARD POLICY UPDATE:** Mr.John Cimino, Deputy Director, provided a brief update on recent policy developments, and staff work. There was some discussion about the format and content of the policy update in the Board packet.

**ASSESSMENT UPDATE/STRUCTURE:** Mr. Cimino updated the Committee on the dissemination of the Housing and Transportation Assessments and discussed and received feedback on the structure of the Assessments that will be completed in 2019: Community Supports; Institutional Supports; and Early Intervention.

**COMMITTEE FEEDBACK/FUTURE MEETINGS.** The committee discussed future meeting content and possible speakers for the next Board Meeting in September.

**ADJOURN:** The Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:15

[For the full details, see the PRE Committee meeting minutes for June 13, 2018.](https://www.vaboard.org/boardmeetings.htm)

**AGENCY REPORTS:**

Agenda representatives who were present provided oral reports. Ms. Lawyer reminded the Board members that they were provided written reports by email from most of the agencies. Those are incorporated into the minutes below as submitted by the agencies.

**Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services,** Richard Kriner, designee

**VR Program Updates:** As of June 5, 2018

Currently DARS has served 23,883 clients if FY18

91% Most Significant Disabilities

51% are 14-24 years of age.

DARS has found employment for 2,203 clients 3,400 is yearly goal

Average hours worked 28.4 hours

100% competitive employment rate

2,140 currently on waiting list. Waiting List Opened June 1, 2018 for clients who are MSD on or before 4/30/18

Median hourly earnings $9.75 (goal of $10.50) this is up from $9.25 in June of 2017. Rehab Rate 43%

Waiting List Opened June 1, 2018 for clients who are MSD on or before 4/30/18

For SFY18 $16,989,232 was spent as of 5/8/18 68% of all expenditures were for supported employment and job coach training skills. Second highest category in spending was Training/Tuition @ $999,435.12 (6% of all expenditures)

**Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS):** At the end of the second quarter of FFY18, DARS was serving 3,513 students with disabilities with open vocational rehabilitation cases and 2,361 students with disabilities who were potentially eligible for the vocational rehabilitation program. In total, the agency was serving 5,874 students with disabilities and 2,892 of these individuals had begun to receive at least one pre-employment transition service.

1,268 Pre-ETS were provided in April, which was an all-time high (May data is not out yet) Community of Practice on Transition meetings were held in May in all seven DARS districts. The CoPs included representatives from DARS, DBVI, DOE and the local school divisions.  The focus was enhancing the VR-school understanding of and partnership for Pre-ETS.  There will be future CoPs on Transition that will include additional community partners.

All DARS Pre-ETS counselors are gathering together for a statewide meeting/training this summer

**Virginia Assistive Technology System (VATS) outcomes FY 2017:**

* Served 4,687 Virginians: AT Demonstrations; Short-Term Equipment Loans; AT Reuse; Training; and Information & Assistance. This represents a 25% increase in individuals served over FY16.
* 2,002 Virginians with limited resources received 2,699 pieces of gently used durable medical equipment (DME) valued at nearly $867,000.  This equipment was gifted to qualifying individuals through VATS’ DME Reuse Program, the FREE Foundation.  This represents a 36% increase in individuals served over FY16.
* Served 179 DRS vocational rehabilitation clients in the DME Reuse Program.
* In the fall of 2017, the DME reuse program provided 539 reused DME devices in response to disaster relief efforts in Texas, Florida, California, Mexico, and Puerto Rico with a value of $78,000.
* Provided one-hundred and ten (110) high-impact assistive technology trainings across Virginia to 810 participants.
* Provided 1,346 Virginians with Information & Assistance.  This represents a 215% increase in individuals served over FY16

**Project SEARCH**

* All 20 ​PS sites celebrated their graduations during May and June.  Students are now either looking for work or have begun their new jobs.
* 5 of 7 Districts have begun Customized Employment training.  This is a joint effort between DARS, DBHDS and DOE.   Each cohort is hosting up to 30 participants and several cohorts have already begun the technical assistance stage.  Technical assistance is a hands on approach to CE and includes Griffin and Hammis consultants working with our teams in the implementation of CE services.
* DARS is continuing to work with Partnership for People with Disabilities to Implement Section 511 Career Counselling to all individuals in VA who are being compensated below minimum wage.  Last year approximately 1850 individuals received career Counseling.

**DARS Business Services**

* The Virginia Business Leadership Network (VABLN) in partnership with the Virginia Autism Council (VAC) held a program, "The Diversity Advantage: Hiring Employees on the Autism Spectrum," on May 17 at the Maywill office.
* Richard Kriner assisted Wes Seaton and the VABLN board to organize the event, including finding panelists, hiring interpreters and setting up real-time captioning. Lauren Roche, with the Virginia Statewide Independent Living Council, provided a wireless mic system and Betsy McElfresh took photos.
* Howard Green lead the panel discussion including three employers who actively hire job candidates on the spectrum and a VDOT engineer with autism who shared his experiences looking for a job. VAC and VABLN represenatives Rachel Payne and Bob Lancaster collaborated on opening remrks, defining the collective purpose, shared values, and setting a collabroative tone for what turned out to be a very successful and well recived event.
* Roughly 40 people attended and 15 companies were represented, including Southern States, United Methodist Family Services, ARC, RSVP Inc., Adapt Staffing Agency, Dominion Energy, VDOT, Consult5, Federal Reserve, VCU, Altria, SunTrust and Virginia529.

**Career Pathways for Individuals with Disabilities**

Career Pathways for Individuals with Disabilities is holding 10 Career Exploration Academies this summer. For more information, [please access the CPID website, Training and Activities](https://www.vadars.org/gsp/cpid/cpid_home.htm).

**Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired**, Ray Hopkins, Commissioner

**Federal Updates**

Mark Schulz, former Director of the Nebraska general agency, has been nominated as the Commissioner of the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA), US Department of Education. After nomination by the President, this position requires confirmation by the Senate. Mr. Schulz was nominated in March but a date for his confirmation hearing is yet to be set.

Previously, we have mentioned that many organizations have sought to have the RSA interpretation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) provisions related to competitive integrated employment redefined. On April 27, Congressman Grothman of Wisconsin introduced H.R 5658, a Bill to amend the definition of Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE). The bill is entitled the "Workplace Choice and Flexibility for Individuals with Disabilities Act". Some Congress watchers feel that it is unlikely that there will be action on the bill this year.

Last fall the Department of Education collected input regarding regulations that should be modified or eliminated. The comment period ended on September 20, 2017. Since then, the Department has indicated that it is reviewing the comments but has declined to offer information about regulations they may open for elimination or modification. Since the close of the comment period, the Department has continued to receive pressure to reconsider its guidance regarding integrated settings. On May 9, the Office of Management and Budget posted a notice of the intent to amend regulatory definitions in 34 CFR part 361, implementing programs under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. While this notice of proposed rulemaking does not specify which definitions may be revised, there is speculation that the interpretation of integrated setting as it relates to competitive integrated employment is likely to be addressed.

**Budget Updates**

Since the last meeting of this body, a federal budget has been passed. This provides some stability for the agency’s federally funded programs, but it does not totally alleviate the financial pressure these programs are experiencing. The Vocational Rehabilitation program continues to prioritize services under its Order of Selection for Services policy and currently has a waiting list.

The Virginia General Assembly recently passed an appropriations bill for fiscal year 2019. The bill as passed does not include any significant changes in the operating budget for DBVI. The bill does include funding for renovation of the Department’s main administrative building on its Azalea Avenue complex.

**Legislative**

Two bills directly affecting DBVI were passed by the General Assembly and signed into law. House Bill HB1061 removes language from the Code of Virginia that referenced “sheltered workshops” and “industrial schools” while also clarifying the exemption of certain employees at Virginia Industries for the Blind (VIB) from the Commonwealth’s classified personnel system. House bill1522 and Senate Bill 905, addressed commercialization of safety rest areas in the Commonwealth and were passed into law.

**Other Highlights:**

The Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services and the Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired recently adopted policies pertaining to reciprocal services between Virginia’s vocational rehabilitation programs. The Code of Federal Regulations  require the designated state units authorized to provide services under the Rehabilitation Act to promulgate policy on the delivery of services to individuals needing services from both agencies.

On May 18, Commissioner Hopkins delivered the commencement address at the Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind. He dared the graduates to follow their dreams.

**Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Eric Raff**

**VDDHH Advisory Board Meeting**

On Wednesday February 7th VDDHH hosted its’ quarterly meeting of the 9-member advisory board. The agenda included agency reports, status of legislation pertinent to deaf and hard of hearing, discussions about prospective interpreter licensure, NG 9-1-1 Deployment Plan and Communications Plan by guest speaker, Dorothy A Spears-Dean, Public Safety Communications Coordinator of VITA.

**Virginia Relay**

Last fall, VDDHH had previously submitted an application for renewal of a five (5) year certification for the state telecommunication relay service (TRS) program, aka Virginia Relay. This would allow VDDHH to continue as the Commonwealth’s TRS administrator. During this third quarter, FCC was accepting public comments. Application for state certification [can be viewed here](https://www.fcc.gov/general/trs-state-and-territories).

**Interpreter Services Program (ISP)**

The Interpreter Programs Manager has worked closely with House and Senate legislative staff to resolve issues related to communications access for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing including problems with the captioning of live-streaming committee meetings. Consumers viewing on computers were unable to see the link to turn on the captions for these meetings nor were the captions available at all on the archived live streamed meetings, even though the meetings were captioned in real time. Captioning is a new development in improving access for Virginians who are deaf or hard of hearing who wish to track legislation during committee or floor proceedings.

**Community Services**

Per one of its’ mandates, VDDHH responds daily to Virginians’ requests for information and referral on a wide range of topics pertinent to deaf and hard of hearing. For the first time, VDDHH publicly released its’ “2018 Directory of Services for People Who Are Deaf, Hard of Hearing and DeafBlind” publication inclusive of businesses, government agencies and nonprofit organizations providing niche services that are accessible to people who are deaf, hard of hearing or deafblind. The Directory of Services organized by niche topics includes contact information and is available online to download.

**Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services,** Ms. Joan Bender Designee

**Waiver Waiting List/Slot Summary (6/1/2018)**

| **Waiver Type** | **# of Individuals** |
| --- | --- |
| Community Living (CL) | 11,302 |
| Family and Individual Supports (FIS) | 1,762 |
| Building Independence (BI) | 360 |
| **Total** | **13,424** |
| Priority 1 | 3,367 |
| Priority 2 | 5,616 |
| Priority 3 | 3,939 |
| **Combined Waiting List (Total)** | **12,892**  |

**Training Center Census as of 6/14/18**

| CVTC | 92 |
| --- | --- |
| SEVTC | 73 |
| SWVTC | 26 |
| **Total** | **191** |

**DBHDS Independent Housing Outcomes Summary, May 30 2018**

* Baseline # of People in \*Target Population Living in their own home 343
* Number of People in \*Target Population Living in their \*own home 451
* **TOTAL # of People in \*Target Population Living in their \*own home 794**
* # of Rental Assistance Resources Set-Aside for the \*Target Population 513
* # of individuals in \*Application/Voucher Intake/Housing Search Process 68

**\*Settlement Agreement Population**: (1) individuals currently residing at any of the Commonwealth’s training centers, (2) individuals who meet the criteria for the Developmental Disability Waivers (includes individuals who currently have BI, FIS or CL waivers), or (3) individuals who currently reside in a nursing home or ICF-IDD. **Own Home**- Non-provider owned or operated housing that is leased or owned by an individual in the target population. **Rental Assistance Set-aside**- This is rental assistance made available for individuals in the target population. **Application/Voucher Intake/Housing Search Process**- Individuals in the target population have been referred to a PHA and are completing a program application and submitting required documentation; 2) the individual has submitted an application and associated documents that are under review by the PHA determine program eligibility; 3) the individual has received rental assistance and is actively looking for housing.

**DD Waivers Update**

* 1,695 waiver slots were funded by the General Assembly for FY 2019 and FY 2020. The newly-approved waiver slots will be available for distribution once CMS approves the slots through waiver amendments (to secure the federal match). The waiver slots are allocated as follows:

| BLANK | FY 2019 | FY 2020 |
| --- | --- | --- |
| CL Community | 129 | 135 |
| CL Facility | 60 | 60 |
| FIS | 414 | 481 |
| BI | 40 |  |
| Reserve Slots  | 25 | 25 |
| Priority 1-All FIS |  | 326 |
| **Total** | **628** | **1,067** |

* DBHDS and DMAS continue to respond to questions from CMS with regard to the recent waiver renewals for the FIS and BI waivers. These renewal applications include the new service of Benefits Planning as well as updated Performance Measures.
* DBHDS has assumed responsibility for annual completion of the “Documentation of Individual Choice between Institutional Care or Home and Community Based Services” (CHOICE) form previously administered by CSB Support Coordinators to individuals on the DD waivers waiting list. DD waiver regulations require annual completion of this form. DBHDS staff will annually distribute the CHOICE form and a form asking about potential supports needed along with an explanatory letter to each person on the list during the month in which that person was added to the waiting list in order to:
	+ - Obtain an updated signature confirming that waiver services are desired over ICF-IID services and
		- Obtain information about future service needs.

The CHOICE form will be relayed to the CSB for inclusion in their files in the event of an audit, and the remaining information will be entered into WaMs. The first set of letters was mailed in April. If the forms are not returned to DBHDS within 2 – 3 weeks, a second letter and accompanying forms are sent. If there is no response to the second letter, a Notice of Action letter (standard DMAS form) is sent stating that the individual’s name will be removed from the waiting list and offering the right to appeal. DBHDS does not want to remove anyone from the waiting list unnecessarily so if the forms are returned within 30 days of the individuals receiving the Notice of Action letter, DBHDS will process the forms and the person’s name will not be removed. If the individual returns to the CSB after his name is removed from the waiting list, he may be rescreened and added to the waiting list again.

* The next Settlement Agreement stakeholder meeting will be July 17th. The topic of discussion will be Case Management/Support Coordination.

**IFSP** **Update**

* In late March 2018, the IFSP program issued funds to over 3,000 individuals approved for FY18 funding. The IFSP is also preparing to fund an additional 188 applications for individuals who were initially denied due to FY 2018 IFSP funding having been fully expended.
* The IFSP staff participated in meetings with the Independent Reviewer Consultant tasked with conducting the DOJ Settlement Agreement study.
* The IFSP State and Regional Councils met for their quarterly meeting on Friday, April 20th in Richmond, Virginia. Seventeen state and regional council members participated and the council provided recommendations for enhancing the FY19 IFSP funding process. Council members agreed to develop a work schedule for creating outcomes for Virginia’s State IFSP Plan.

**Department of Education,** John Eisenberg, Designee

1. The US Department of Education approved Virginia’s state ESSA plan.
2. Dr. James Lane, was appointed the new State Superintendent of Public Instruction. He was the former Superintendent in Chesterfield County Public Schools.
3. VDOE has applied to be a target state for the new TIES national technical assistance center that will work with state and local staff to enhance inclusion options for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.
4. VDOE has applied for an Education Innovation and Research grant to ramp up efforts related to the Virginia Tiered Systems of Support.
5. The Office of the Secretary of Education is now reviewing the Draft Restraint and Seclusion Regulations – the Department of Planning and Budget and the Office of the Attorney General have cleared them.
6. VDOE received additional state funds in the budget to expand Virginia Tiered Systems of Support to more schools and additional funds for Dyslexia training
7. The budget also requires VDOE to work with CSA to set rates and outcomes for private special education placements.
8. VDOE advertised a variety of summer training options for teachers including numerous co-teaching institutes.
9. The 12th annual I’m Determined Youth and Parent Summit will be held this month.

**Department of Medical Assistance Services,** Teri Morgan, designee

**2018 – 2020 State Budget**

* Governor signed the new biennial budget (2018-2020) on June 7th.
* This budget does include an expansion of health care services to possibly 400,000 Virginians through Medicaid.
* As part of expansion: DMAS has been tasked to develop a supportive employment and housing benefit targeted to high risk members with mental illness, substance use disorder, or other complex, chronic conditions who need intensive, ongoing support to obtain and maintain employment and stable housing.
* More information available via the [Cover Virginia website](http://www.coverva.org) and at 1-855-242-8282. DMAS will post regular updates as new details become available.
* 2% increase in rates for Agency and CD services for waivers and EPSDT (Item 303 NNN) effective July 1, 2019
* SIS Stakeholder workgroup continues its work annually with a report due to GA by Oct 1.

**HCBS Final Rule**

DMAS and DBHDS are continuing our work together to implement the Home and Community Based Settings regulation in our public DD system. DMAS staff continue to perform desk reviews of all new providers wanting to enroll with DMAS to provide services in HCBS settings. If a review of the self-assessment and evidence submitted shows compliance, then DMAS issues a letter verifying provider organizational compliance, which the provider then uses to complete enrollment as a Medicaid provider. DMAS is developing a comprehensive HCBS compliance toolkit to help providers make changes to their policies, procedures, and practices.

DMAS and DBHDS will convene a stakeholder workgroup to discuss SB310. SB 310 requires the following:

SB310 from VA's 2018 session of the General Assembly:

**1.***§ 1. The Department of Medical Assistance Services (Department) shall make recommendations to the General Assembly for legislative, regulatory, or policy changes that provide flexibility to an individual enrolled in a home and community-based waiver to choose his place of residence in the Commonwealth and that ensure such individual's informed choice of place of residence does not reduce, terminate, suspend, or deny services for which he is otherwise eligible. The Department shall report such recommendations to the House Committees on Appropriations and Health, Welfare and Institutions and the Senate Committees on Finance and Education and Health by November 1, 2018.*

**DOJ Settlement**

DMAS continues to collaborate with DBHDS in implementing terms of the DOJ Settlement Agreement. DBHDS will provide additional detail on current activities.

**Waiver Operations**

DMAS staff are continuing work on the permanent proposed regulations for waiver redesign. Work on the permanent proposed regulations is in the final stages of review prior to public comment. The provider manual workgroup has redrafted significant portions of the manual. An internal DMAS workgroup is meeting to make some revisions over the next two weeks. Next month DMAS and DBHDS will meet together to revise the content collaboratively.

Three new waiver services have been approved by CMS: community guide, peer mentor and employment & community transportation. The community guide and peer mentor services will be effective July 1. It is anticipated that the employment & community transportation service will be implemented November 1. This service requires additional work to build the provider billing and reimbursement system due to the complexity of service and billing options.

Still pending from CMS, are the FIS and BI waiver renewals and CL waiver amendments. It is anticipated that the benefits planning service will be approved with the renewals and amendment and will be effective July 1.

DMAS can begin preparations to submit the new waiver slot numbers to CMS.

**Electronic Visit Verification (EVV)**

CMS has mandated the use of EVV no later than Jan 1, 2019. Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) systems are technology-based systems that electronically record when attendants begin and end providing services to individuals who have Medicaid. Such systems may include features to verify the attendant's location, for example, if services are provided in an individual’s home; verify that the attendant is at the home. Companion, personal assistance and respite services provided in an individual’s home or community setting require and EVV system. DMAS has convened several stakeholder workgroups and meetings to solicit feedback from providers. Additional information will be made available as the project proceeds. There is also additional info, including and FAQ available on the DMAS website

**Slots**

Community Living Waiver 11,302 slots for 2017
+ 189 slots for 2018 (60 of these will be facility slots) + 25 reserve/emergency slots
+ 195 slots 2019 (60 of these will be facility slots) + 25 reserve/emergency slots

*\*Beginning July 1, 2018, DBHDS shall provide a quarterly report on the use of the emergency slots*

Family and Individuals Support Waiver 1,762 slots for 2017
+ 414 slots for 2018
+ 481 slots for 2019 + 326 slots in 2019 to address priority 1 wait list

Building Independence Waiver 360 slots for 2017
+ 40 slots for 2019

**CCC+**

CCC Plus was fully implemented and operating statewide as of January 1, 2018. As of May 2, 2018, there are a total of 211,881 individuals enrolled statewide. CCC Plus includes Medicaid members who:

* Receive Medicare benefits and full Medicaid benefits (dual eligible), including members enrolled in Commonwealth Coordinated Care (CCC).
* Receive Medicaid long term services and supports (LTSS) in a facility or through one of the home and community-based (HCBS) waivers
* Excluded are the Community Living, the Family and Individual Support, and Building Independence waivers, known as the Developmental Disabilities (DD) waivers, will enroll for their non-waiver services only.
* At this time, their DD waiver services will continue to be covered through Medicaid fee-for-service.
* Are eligible in the Aged, Blind, and Disabled (ABD) Medicaid coverage groups, including ABD individuals currently enrolled in the Medallion 3.0 program.

The EDCD and Technology Assisted Waivers were combined into the new CCC+ waiver. The CCC+ waiver offers all the services previously offered on the EDCD and Tech waivers, but now in one waiver managed by the MCO’s.

For more information, [visit the CCC+ Website](https://www.cccplusva.com) or the DMAS website and click the “CCC Plus” link on the far right.

**disAbility Law Center of Virginia,** Melissa Gibson, designee

dLCV is nearing the end of the third quarter of FY2018, so we are looking back at progress on this year’s projects and individual case goals and looking forward to planning for FY2019. One current project we are working on is outreach at 14(c) certificate holders regarding dLCV’s Client Assistance program and Section 511 of WIOA.

The dLCV annual Public Input Survey is still active for anyone who would like to provide feedback, and we are considering some new strategies for getting feedback and planning to reflect systemic advocacy goals.  We are planning an Open House in October to share the FY2019 Goals and Focus areas with the public.

We have recently hired four new staff, including Monica Lanier, Program Support Assistant, and Steven Hall, Staff Attorney. We have also hired two new advocates who will begin work in the next couple of weeks.

We have been able to expand staffing in part due to a new grant program. dLCV previously conducted representative payee reviews for the Social Security Administration through a contract with its Federal organization, the National Disability Rights Network (NDRN). Now we will conduct reviews and other activities through a direct grant program.

dLCV continues to monitoring polling place accessibility with its PAVA grant, and we invite you to contact us or complete our survey to share your experiences regarding voting accessibility.

dLCV recently hired a coordinator to support outreach efforts to the Spanish-speaking community.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** There was none.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The Vice Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:00 pm.