



## Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities

Frank E. Shelp, M.D., M.P.H., Commissioner

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### Region 2 DBHDD Office

3405 Mike Padgett Highway, Bldg. 3, Augusta, Georgia 30906

Phone: 706-792-7733 Fax: 706-792-7740

Toll Free: 1-866-380-4835

### DBHDD REGION TWO PLANNING BOARD MEETING THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 2012 AT 1:00 PM MEETING SUMMARY

The DBHDD Region Two Planning Board met at 1:00 P.M. on Thursday, June 21, 2012 via video conferences taking place at: the Northeast Health District Office, 189 Paradise Blvd., Athens, Georgia 30605; the North Central Health District Office, 811 Hemlock Street, Macon, Georgia 30507; and the Richmond County Health District Office, 1916 North Leg Road, MIS Conference Room Bldg B, Augusta, Georgia 30909.

#### **Board Members Present:**

Josette Akhras, Putnam; Gloria Berry, Walton; Bessie Bonds, Twiggs; Sandra Brown, Bibb; Laverne Crawford, Richmond; Sherri Cunningham, McDuffie; Linda Echols, Wilkes; Linda Ellis, Bibb; Kathy Fitzner, Screven; Ed Glauser, Clarke; Nan Gunn, Jefferson; Debbie Harbin, Monroe; Cathy Hayes, Columbia; Lisa Jones, Columbia; Geneice McCoy, Richmond; Mandy Underwood, Jenkins; Don Wilkes, Emanuel

#### **Excused Absences:**

Martha Crumbley, Burke

#### **Unexcused Absences:**

Ann Hester, Oconee; Laverne Williams, Wilkinson

#### **Regional Office Staff Present:**

Karla Brown, DD RSA; Keith Edmonds, BH RSA; Jessica Seigler, Program Assistant; Audrey Sumner, Regional Coordinator

#### **Guests**

Marcus Crawford, Richmond

#### **Vacancies as of 4/19/2012:**

Baldwin (1), Barrow (1), Bibb (2), Clarke (2), Elbert (1), Glascock (1), Greene (1), Hancock (1), Jackson (1), Jasper (1), Jones (1), Lincoln (1), Madison (1), Morgan (1), Oglethorpe (1), Richmond (2), Taliaferro (1), Walton (1), Warren (1), Washington (1)

#### **Call to Order**

Geneice McCoy, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:02 PM.

#### **Roll Call**

Present Board members were accounted for and are reflected in the attendance above.

#### **April 19, 2012 Meeting Minutes**

The April 19, 2012 meeting minutes were approved as written with a unanimous decision by the Board, based on a motion by Sherri Cunningham that was seconded by Don Wilkes.

## **Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

## **Board Member Appointments and Resignations**

Linda Ellis of Bibb County, Cathy Hayes of Columbia County, Lisa Jones of Columbia County and Mandy Underwood of Jenkins County were welcomed to the Board.

Latasha Walton and Bobby Hankerson, both of Richmond County, have resigned from the Board.

## **Nominating Committee**

Nan Gunn presented the nominees as decided by the nominating committee. The nominees were as follows:

Chairperson – Geneice McCoy  
Eastern Vice Chairperson – Linda Echols  
Western Vice Chairperson – Bessie Bonds  
Northern Vice Chairperson – Ann Hester  
Parliamentarian – Sandra Brown

Each nominee accepted their nomination and was appointed by a unanimous decision by the Board.

## **Leadership Council Appointments**

The Board appointed Sandra Brown, Debbie Harbin, and Bessie Bonds to the Leadership Council.

## **DBHDD Leadership Council Report**

The Leadership Council Report was presented by Geneice McCoy.

Kim Greer of the Georgia Division on Aging Services spoke at the last meeting about the aging population and the agency's preference for community based services versus nursing homes. She also spoke about the company Rest Assured, which provides monitoring services for families.

New officers were nominated and voted on at the last LC meeting. Bonnie Seery will be the next Chair.

The capability to attend Leadership Council meetings is now available via teleconference.

## **Behavioral Health Report**

Audrey Sumner presented the BH Report (see attachments #1, #2 and # 3).

## **Developmental Disabilities Report**

Karla Brown presented the DD Report (see attachments #4, #5).

## **Announcements/Concerns**

Audrey Sumner spoke of the transition prioritization of approximately 40 individuals from Gracewood and 12-13 individuals with DD with waivers on the psychiatric unit.

It was announced that the governor and DBHDD are putting together a DD task force. It's in the beginning phase and people are currently being recruited to serve. As more information is gained it will be shared with the Board.

There will be a Microenterprise Meeting in Monroe County on July 10<sup>th</sup>, as well as a Conversations That Matter event in August or September. These items were announced by Debbie Harbin and she will provide more information as it becomes available.

Mandy Underwood expressed concern about the lack of services available in Jenkins County, especially substance abuse.

Geneice McCoy mentioned concerns about possible mentally ill squatters in vacant houses. Audrey Sumner advised her to get in contact with PATH team or to call GCAL if the individual is in a crisis.

Karla Brown offered to share the 1 page profile that DD has created (see attachment #6). She will also be receiving 1 page profiles from providers and will share them as they become available.

The Public Forums and FY15 Annual Plan will be discussed at the August meeting.

Don Wilkes mentioned the gap between superior courts and probate courts doing accountability courts and recommended members discuss this with administrative offices of courts. It was requested of Mr. Wilkes to provide contact information if he has access to it.

Gloria Berry discussed her involvement with the treatment and accountability courts in Athens and suggested it was a model of the operation of said courts and invited members to come and observe.

**Adjournment**

Hearing no further comments, Geneice McCoy adjourned the meeting at 2:40 PM.

**PREPARED BY** Jessica B. Seigler  
**Program Assistant**

**APPROVED AT** \_\_\_\_\_ **BOARD MEETING**

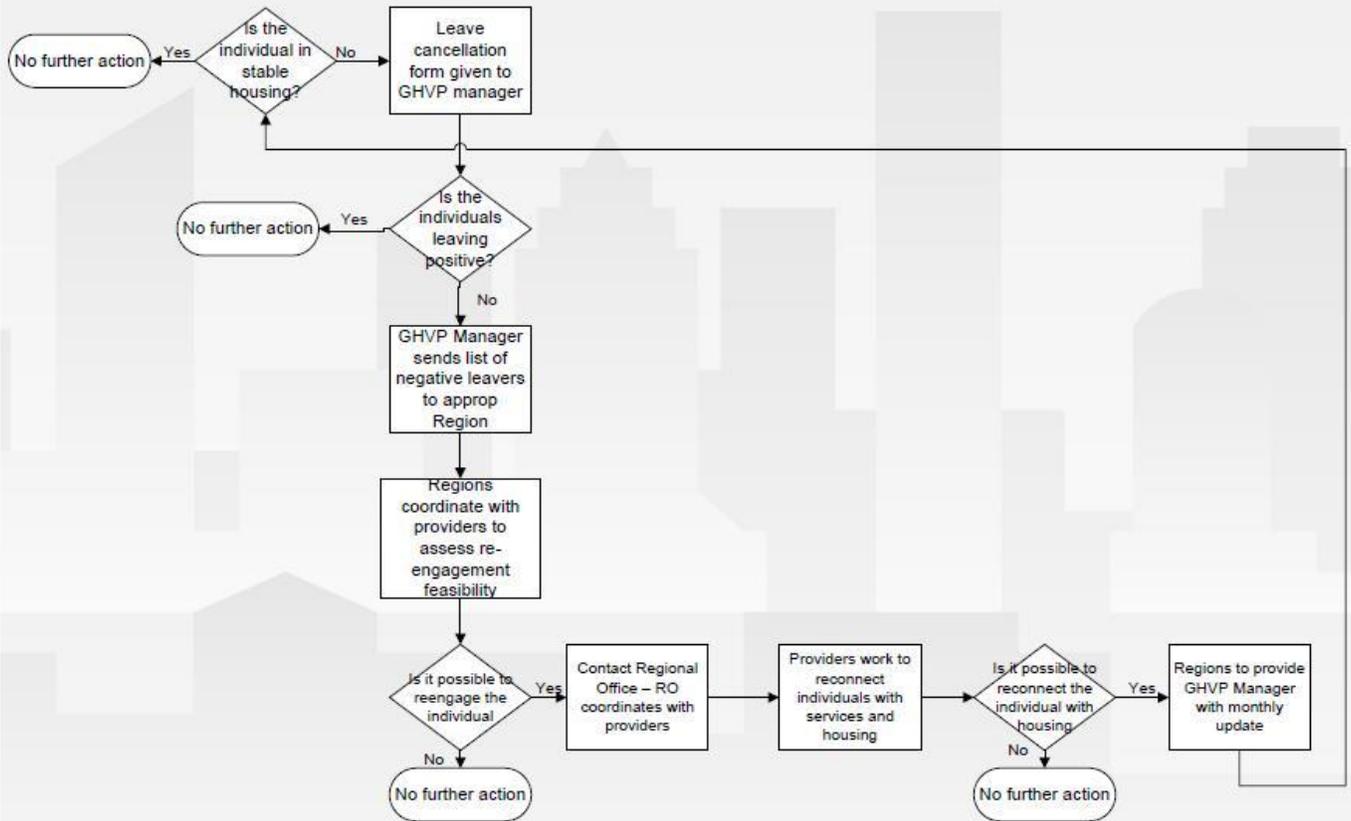
**(Attachment #1)**

June 21, 2012

- The state has been able to restore most of the federal dollars cut for TANF Ready for Work Residential programs. Adequate funding to continue the programs without cutting slots is available for FY 2013.
- Behavioral Health contracts have been sent to providers.
- A Statement of Need for ACT in Clarke, Barrow, Walton and Jackson counties has been sent to Advantage BHS. This is not an additional ACT team but will replace the current provider with which there has been a problem with performance.
- River Edge opened additional services in Baldwin County in late April. Services include: Crisis Services Center (24-hour walk-in treatment services), 2 Crisis Apartments, Case Management and Peer Support.
- Georgia Housing Voucher Program (see attachments).
- We will be adding funding for 2 Case Managers to the Advantage BHS contract in FY 2013. The Advantage service area has the lowest AMH funding per capita in the region. We are working to balance resources when we have the opportunity.
- Legislative Highlights
  - a. DBHDD and other stakeholders successfully advocated for the favorable passage of HB 434, expanding the scope of practice for social workers across the state.
  - b. The legislature passed the omnibus Criminal Justice Reform bill, which overhauls the state correctional system and specifically seeks to expand accountability courts across the state.
- Provider Trainings
  - June 8 – The Drive to Work: Promoting MH Recovery through Employment
  - June 15 – Clinician Administered PTSD Scale (CAPS) Training
  - June 26 – 28 – System of Care Academy (C&A Providers)
- There have been some issues coming to the forefront about individuals living in unlicensed Personal Care Homes. The Department is working with providers to make sure that we are not paying any PCHs that are not licensed.

***(Attachment #2)***

## Georgia Housing Voucher Program – Individuals Leaving Stable Housing



As of June 15, 2012 Region 2 has a total of 126 individuals who are participating in the Georgia Housing Voucher Program. The breakdown of Region 2 providers and the numbers they are serving in the program are as follows:

- Advantage BHS – 37
- American Work – 37
- Central Care - 5
- Oconee CSB – 7
- Ogeechee BHS – 5
- Psychotherapeutic Services – 15
- River Edge – 16
- Serenity BHS - 4

**(Attachment #3)**

**PER CAPITA FUNDING BY SERVICE AREA**

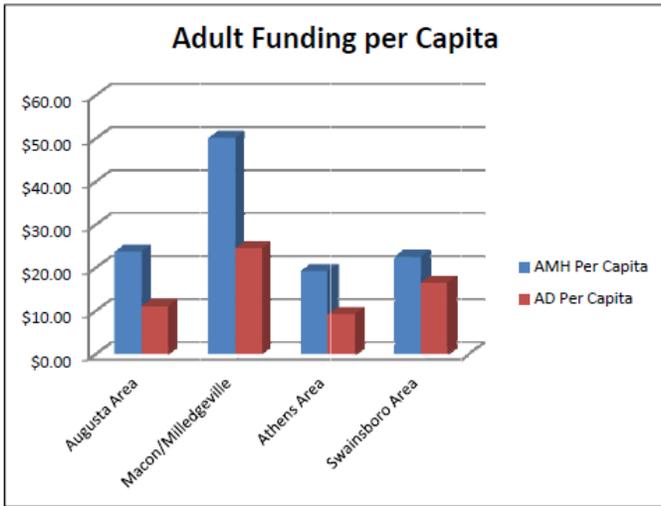


Chart 6 Obtained from DBHDD Data.

<b>Adult Funding Per Capita</b>				
	<b>Augusta Area</b>	<b>Macon/Milledgeville Area</b>	<b>Athens Area</b>	<b>Swainsboro Area</b>
<b>Adult Population</b>	277,618	257,887	246,080	65,692
<b>AMH Per Capita</b>	\$23.72	\$50.15	\$19.26	\$22.51
<b>AD Per Capita</b>	\$11.13	\$24.54	\$9.30	\$16.55

Table 12 Obtained from DBHDD Data.

**DD Planning Board Report  
June 21, 2012**

Changes in Department

- Assistant Director of DD is no longer with DBHDD
- Dr. Bryce McLaulin, Assistant Director of MH, is Acting Assistant Director of DD
- Regional Offices have been re-united
- Karla Brown will continue to direct DD Services at the regional level
- Work under the leadership of Audrey Sumner

Initiatives for FY '13

- We expect to hear soon on our new direction based on changes in the Department
- One high priority will be community placement of individuals with DD in the hospital psych units
- Another will be continuing with community placement of individuals in the ICF's

Hospital Transitions

- All individuals from CSH have been transitioned to the community
- FY '12, about 170 individuals from hospitals moved to the community
- 369 individuals in ICF's statewide as of this week, with 273 at Gracewood
- Individuals at 2 other hospitals have been identified to work toward placement
- Have begun doing Person-Centered Descriptions on people at Gracewood

New Provider Enrollment Meeting

- Recruiting providers
- Macon on 6/22/12

Region 2 Funding Updates:

- Funding everyone on the Short-Term Planning List in Immediate need. (All have been placed)
- Converting as many state-funded slots to waiver funded as we can. (We have converted about 70)
- Now trying to place as many people from the Short-Term Planning List as possible. Cannot place individuals who are not Medicaid-eligible, who have other waivers (SOURCE, CCSP, etc.) Having difficulty because many individuals are not Medicaid eligible.

Provider Fairs

- Region 2 will hold 3 – Augusta, Athens, Macon (Will send out flyer) In lieu of July Provider Meeting
- All DD providers doing business in R2 will be invited.
- Requesting all providers develop a one-page profile to hand out to families
- All individuals remaining on STPL who are eligible will be invited.
- All individuals at Gracewood who have been identified to work on this year will be invited.

Georgia Crisis Response System:

- Continuing to train providers on when to call. Attempting to use MCT as regular staff, and just for reporting purposes
- Continuing to train providers on importance of having safety plans and contingency plans for individuals in services.
- The Crisis System should not be a provider's contingency plan, if staff aren't trained to properly implement Behavior Support Plans.
- Crisis #: 1-800-715-4225

**(Attachment #5)**

Region 2 DD Provider Fair for Families  
Hosted by Region 2 DBHDD Office

# Save the Dates!

**Saturday, August 11th**  
10 am to 1 pm  
Central Presbyterian  
Church  
380 Alps Rd.  
Athens 30606



**Saturday, July 21st**  
10 am to 1 pm  
Our Redeemer  
Lutheran Church  
Augusta GA

**Saturday, August 18th**  
10 am to 1 pm  
River Edge Assembly Room  
175 Emery Highway  
Macon, GA 31217

For Registration  
Information, contact  
Wanda 'Diane' Hawkins,  
at 706 792 7741 or  
[wdhawkins@dhr.state.ga.us](mailto:wdhawkins@dhr.state.ga.us)

(Attachment #6)



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[www.dbhdd.ga.gov](http://www.dbhdd.ga.gov)

**Who We Are:** Region Two DBHDD Office is one of six regional offices in the Georgia DBHDD system of services that administers hospital and community resources assigned to the region. There are thirty three counties in Region 2 which include: Baldwin, Barrow, Bibb, Burke, Clarke, Columbia, Elbert, Emanuel, Glascock, Greene, Hancock, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Jenkins, Jones, Lincoln, Madison, McDufhe, Monroe, Morgan, Oconee, Oglethorpe, Putnam, Richmond, Screven, Taliaferro, Twiggs, Walton, Warren, Washington, Wilkes, and Wilkinson. The Regional Office is located in Augusta, GA.



**What We Do:** The regional offices:

- Oversee statewide initiatives.
- Develop new services and expand existing services as needed.
- Monitor the services being received by individuals to ensure quality and access.
- Investigate and resolve complaints.
- Conduct special investigations and reviews when warranted.

**Our Strengths and Values:**

- Respect
- Inclusion
- Transparency
- Professionalism
- Responsiveness
- Accessibility
- Person Centered Holistic Approach
- Strive for excellence in all we do

### The Region 2 DBHDD Office

consists of a diverse group of staff with over 200 years combined knowledge and experience in providing supports to individuals with Intellectual Disabilities/ Developmental Disabilities. The people we serve (approximately 2,704 state and waiver funded individuals) are most often uninsured or on Medicaid. Very often they have few resources and few options. Our staff includes:

**Administrative support staff** are the first people with whom you will come into contact. They will answer your questions about available services, how to access DD services, will provide information about community resources, or direct you to the right person!

**Aging Specialist** serves as the liaison with aging services to ensure individuals and/or carers 60 years and older receive information and referral for needed services.

**Case Expeditors** facilitate hospital and community transitions to DD services.

**Health & Safety Quality Manager** provides technical assistance, monitors support coordination ratings and conducts health and safety reviews.

**Intake and Evaluation staff** (nurses, social workers, behavior specialists, physician and psychologist) conduct clinical, medical and behavioral assessments to support individuals accessing and/or receiving DD services. Clinicians also provide consultation and technical assistance and facilitate public presentations on developmental disability services.

**Operations Analysts** manage waiver and state funding.

**Planning List Administration and State Services Coordinators** provide case management services for individuals accessing and/or receiving DD services.

**Providers of DD Services:** In Region 2, providers of residential services include 95 CLA (Community Living Arrangement) providers, 234 PCH (Personal Care

### Providers of DD Services (cont'd):

Home)/Host Home providers, 495 CLS (Community Living Supports) providers and 148 Day Services providers. (Source: DBHDD Provider Network Mgt Database; Health Facility & Regulations HFR Report "CLA and PCH Licensed Sites as of Jan. 19, 2012.)

### What People Say About Region 2:

- *Responsive.*
- *Accessible.*
- *Easy to work with.*
- *Staff are --*
  - *Efficient, Professional and Knowledgeable.*
  - *Extremely respectful, knowledgeable and compassionate.*
- *Informational Provider Meetings*
- *Regional Newsletter is good resource for individuals, families, caregivers, providers and the community.*

### Our Partners include (but not limited to)

- Advocates/Self Advocates
- Aging and Disability Resource Centers
- Behavioral Health (state and private entities)
- Civic and Community Leaders
- Community Service Boards
- Delmarva Foundation, Inc
- Educators and Parent Mentors
- Faith Based Organizations
- Families
- Family Connections
- Georgia Crisis Response System and Teams
- Providers of DD services
- Regional Offices
- Region 2 Planning Board
- Region 2 Quality Improvement Council
- State Person Centered Trainers
- Support Coordination Agencies

Georgia Crisis Response System for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities  
1-800-715-4225