



Lead State Agency for Autism and Developmental Disabilities Services

Joint Commission on Health Care
October 23, 2008

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Joint Commission Directive

- Finding: No state agency has the responsibility to develop policy, plan, and coordinate service delivery, request funding, or undertake strategic planning for Virginians with autism spectrum disorders (ASD)
- 2007 Joint Commission Work Plan:
 - Identify a state agency home for ASD
 - Consider inclusion of all developmental disabilities
 - 12 options identified
- 2008 Directive to Secretary:
 - Develop an implementation plan for lead agency
 - Consider inclusion of both ASD and developmental disabilities

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Options Previously Identified

- Develop a plan or introduce legislative language to designate:
 1. DMHMRSAS to serve individuals with ASD
 2. DMHMRSAS to serve individuals with developmental disabilities
 3. New HHR agency to serve individuals with ASD
 4. New HHR agency to serve individuals with developmental disabilities, including intellectual disabilities
 5. New HHR agency to serve individuals with developmental disabilities other than intellectual disabilities

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Implementation Plan Development

- Two facilitated sessions with stakeholders
 - August 6 and August 27
- Draft implementation plan
 - Distributed for public comment
 - Plan revised based on comments
- Final implementation plan and report completed October 17

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Participants

- A Voice for GAP Kids
- Alliance for Cross Disability Empowerment (ACE)
- Virginia Chapter--American Academy of Pediatrics
- ASANV
- Autism Society of Central Virginia
- Care Connection, CHKD
- Commonwealth Autism Service
- Community Integration Advisory Commission
- Faison School
- Mary's Family
- Partnership for People with Disabilities
- People First
- The ARC of Northern Virginia
- The ARC of Virginia
- DMHMRSAS
- DOE
- DMAS
- DRS
- VACIL
- VACSB
- Virginia Association of Personal Care Attendants
- Virginia Autism Resource Center
- Virginia Board for People with Disabilities
- VDH
- Virginia Network of Private Providers
- Self-advocates
- Parents

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Implementation Plan Overview

- DMHMRSAS will be the lead agency responsible for coordinating developmental disabilities services and policies
- Four themes:
 1. Agency infrastructure
 2. Medicaid services
 3. Policy and regulation
 4. Services
- Three phases:
 1. Establish an office within DMHMRSAS
 2. Build a detailed plan
 3. Expand and improve DD and MR waivers

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Implementation Plan Phases

- Establish an office within DMHMRSAS
 - DMHMRSAS would hire two individuals with expertise in ASD and DD to lead change
 - Assess JLARC study recommendations
 - Form a core workgroup to advise DMHMRSAS
- Build a detailed plan for a DD system
 - Determine role of CSBs and other agencies
 - Conduct public forms
 - Examine regulations and policies
 - Determine how to set up single point of entry and no wrong door
 - Outline parameters for case management
- Expand and improve DD and MR waivers
 - Analyze current waivers and services
 - Determine how to improve services
 - Determine how previously denied services may be served
 - Develop plan to eliminate waiting lists
 - Amend waiver applications and revise regulations
 - Receive needed funding based on project Medicaid waiver need

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Questions

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