



Virginia Association Of  
Community Services Boards, Inc.  
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*Premier Mental Health,  
Mental Retardation,  
and Substance Abuse  
Services in Virginia's  
Communities*

## Impact of 2008 Actions-CSBs

George Braunstein, VACSB  
Public Policy Committee Chair  
October 23, 2008

## Results of Legislation

- CSBs spearheaded community meetings to work through local processes of all involved
- Statewide training-in person, web-based, video/DVD based
- DMHMRSAS website contains FAQs and Answers vetted by experts



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2

## Results cont'd

- CSBs attend all commitment hearings via telephone or in person, even with geographic constraints
- Increase in recommitment hearings, especially at state hospitals due to 30 day initial commitment period



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3

## CSB Accountability

Certain emergency services standards are written into the DMHMRSAS/CSB Performance Contract

- Phone response time for qualified pre-screener: within 15 minutes
- Face-to-face response when indicated: within 1 hour (2 hours in a rural area)



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4

## CSB Accountability

Data required by budget language now included in CSB data submissions to DMHMRSAS on a quarterly basis

- Number of ECOs, TDOs,
- Number of inpatient commitments and mandatory outpatient commitments



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5

## Trends Since July 1

- Increase in requests for TDOs, often misunderstood by those requesting
- Increase in numbers of inpatient commitments
- No overall increase in Mandatory Outpatient Commitments
- Use of technology increased



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6

## Major Challenges

- Increased demand for scarce inpatient beds
- Inadequate supply of crisis stabilization beds
- Current deficit in Local Inpatient Purchase of Service (LIPOS) funds in every region
- Reinvestment has stalled
- Legal system still working through changes in Code
- Need for services continues to rise



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7

## Possible Budget Impact

- While a crisis continuum may continue, the next “level” of services may be reduced with more potential crises as a result
- In hard economic times, more individuals need mental health and basic support services
- Loss of jobs and insurance translate to greater demand placed upon public system



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8

## Services for Stability

- Case management
- Psychiatry and medications
- Housing
- Day support/psycho-social services
- Education
- Employment



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9

## Next Steps

- Working with DMHMRSAS to maintain Emergency Service, Acute Inpatient and Crisis Stabilization capacity as a system priority
- Continuing to meet the goals and expectations set out with the new Mandatory Outpatient Commitment laws
- Working with private providers to maintain/improve a coordinated response to consumers who are in crisis
- Expand community support capacity once the economy improves



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10