

# The Mental Retardation Services System and Waiver Waiting List Procedures

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DMHMRSAS

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## DMHMRSAS VISION

Our vision is of a consumer-driven system of services and supports that promotes self-determination, empowerment, recovery, resilience, health, and the highest possible level of consumer participation in all aspects of community life including work, school, family and other meaningful relationships.

## Profile of Virginia's Service System

- Over 26,000 individuals identified by CSBs as having intellectual disabilities
- About 1,400 individuals live in one of five state operated training centers
- 6,852 individuals enrolled in the MR Waiver
- 283 individuals enrolled in the Day Support Waiver

3

## Providers of Community Based Services

- 40 Community Services Boards (CSBs)
- 295 licensed providers which provide services in:
  - 684 group homes
  - 139 day support programs
  - A variety of other support venues

4

## FY 2006 Financial Commitment to Mental Retardation Services

■ Medicaid Waiver	\$325.6 Million
■ Day Support Waiver	\$ 1.8 Million
■ State Training Centers	\$216.3 Million
■ Private ICFs/MR	\$ 26.1 Million
■ State GF for Community	\$ 20.1 Million
■ Local Tax Dollars	\$ 76.5 Million
■ SPO Case Management	\$ 22.0 Million
■ Acute Care And Transportation	\$ 87.5 Million
Total Effort	<hr/> \$775.9 Million

5

## Average Annual Cost/Individual In 2006 Receiving Services In:

■ ICF/MR	\$115,663
■ MR HCBS Waiver	\$ 62,296
■ MR Day Support Waiver	\$ 18,781

6

## MR Waiver Services

- Comprehensive services tailored to the specific needs of each individual
- Varying levels of intensity
  - services to enable individuals to remain in family homes (e.g., Environmental Modifications, Respite)
  - more intensive out-of-home services (e.g., Congregate Residential)

7

## Oversight

- OMR
  - approves services prior to initiation
  - provides training and technical assistance to CSBs and providers
- DMAS
  - enrolls qualified providers
  - conducts Quality Management Reviews of providers
- DMHMRSAS
  - licenses most provider agencies
  - approves licensed providers' Human Rights Plans and ensures membership in LHRC

8

## Accessing the MR Waiver

- Individual requesting MR services is screened by CSB case management to determine eligibility

9

## MR Waiver Eligibility Criteria

- **Diagnostic:** Documentation of mental retardation (or at developmental risk for those < 6)
- **Functional:** Meets at least two “Level of Functioning Survey” criteria
- **Financial:** Medicaid eligible per DSS

10

## Person-Centered “Triage”

- Once found eligible, an individual’s urgency of need is assessed
- Three waiting lists:
  - Urgent Needs
  - Non-urgent Needs
  - CSB Planning List

11

## Person-Centered “Triage”

- CSBs allocate available slots to the individual with **the most urgent needs** at the time of slot availability
- Per MR Waiver regulations slots unavailable to those on the Non-urgent Needs list until all on the Urgent Needs list have been served

12

## Urgent Criteria

- Meets Waiver diagnostic and functional criteria
- Needs services within 30 days
- Would accept services, if offered
- Meets one or more of urgent needs criteria

13

## Urgent Needs Criteria

- Primary caregiver(s) are 55 yrs or older
- Unpaid caregiver can no longer provide care
- Individual at risk of abuse, neglect, or exploitation
- Primary caregiver(s) unable to care for individual due to own physical or psychiatric condition
- Individual becoming homeless
- Health/safety risk to someone in the home due to individual's behaviors or physical care needs

14

## Non-Urgent Criteria

- Needs services within 30 days
- Meets diagnostic and functional criteria for Waiver
- Does **not** meet URGENT criteria

15

## Statewide Waiting List

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Urgent Needs (2011*)} \\ & + \text{ Non-urgent Needs (1836*) } \\ & = \text{ Statewide Waiting List (3847*) } \end{aligned}$$

OMR is the keeper of the Statewide Waiting List

\*Figures as of 6/1/07

16



## CSB Planning List

- Individuals who need services in the future
- Not part of the Statewide Waiting List

17

## Placement on the Statewide Waiting List

- Case manager places individual's name on the statewide waiting list if:
  - he/she meets eligibility criteria
  - he/she meets urgent or non-urgent criteria  
AND
  - there is no MR Waiver slot available

18

## Process for Placement on the Statewide Waiting List

- Case manager (CM) sends to OMR
  - request to enroll the individual
  - verification that the individual has chosen MR Waiver over ICF-MR
- OMR confirms receipt
- CM sends appeal rights to the individual since services will not commence immediately

19

## Slot Distribution to CSBs

- On July 1 of each year that new slots are funded, slots are distributed to the CSBs by this formula:

$$1 + (N / B \times (A - 40))$$

N = # of persons on the CSB Urgent Needs WL  
B = # of persons on statewide Urgent Needs WL  
A = # of slots that are made available

20

## Slot Distribution to CSBs (cont'd.)

- The formula assures that:
  - Each CSB gets at least 1 slot
  - A fair distribution of slots is made across the Commonwealth relative to the number of persons waiting

21

## Slot Assignment

- Each CSB is responsible for developing its own method of determining the most urgent need. The CSB must be willing and able to defend their process.
- Any slot that cannot be used by a CSB becomes available to the region for re-assignment.
- CMS Reviewed Va. Procedure in 2004 and approved it.

22

## Statewide Urgent Needs Waiting List

- Grows at a rate of more than 1 slot per day
- Slots funded in recent years have not kept pace with this rate of growth:
  - FY07 =145 Community + 110 Children's
  - FY06 =300 Day Support Slots
  - FY05 =700
- More than 1,500 persons have been added to the Urgent Needs Wait List in the last 1,000 days

23

## Long-Term Projections

- Our school systems are serving:
  - 1,702 individuals diagnosed with MR between 18 and 22 years old ("transition-aged")
  - 10,986 individuals diagnosed with MR between 3 and 22 years old
  - 7,910 children diagnosed with a developmental disability < 6 years old
  - 583 children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder < 6 years old

24

## Developing Options for the Future

- The DMHMRSAS is conducting a study of the Mental Retardation service system
- This study is due for completion in September 2007
- This study is being conducted with broad stakeholder involvement