



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

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JAMES W. STEWART, III
COMMISSIONER

August 3, 2010

To: Community Services Board Executive Directors
DBHDS MH Facility Directors
Private Inpatient Psychiatric Hospitals

From: James W. Stewart, III

Re: Implementation of Web-based Psychiatric Bed Registry

In FY 2009, DBHDS entered into a partnership with Virginia Health Information (VHI) to develop a web-based psychiatric bed registry to collect, aggregate, and display real-time data on the availability of licensed acute beds in public and private inpatient psychiatric facilities and in residential crisis stabilization units of community services boards. Hosted by VHI, the registry will enable authorized CSB and hospital users to more efficiently determine the availability of beds anywhere in Virginia using various search parameters.

Implementation of the registry was delayed in FY 2010 due to the uncertain state budget. This memo is to notify you that the registry will become operational over the next few months.

In preparation for implementation, your CSB or facility will be asked to designate a primary point of contact for this project. Contact persons will coordinate updates of descriptive information on providers listed in the registry, and will coordinate user names and passwords to establish user access to the registry. In the coming weeks, you will receive more specific instructions from the state project coordinators, Ms. Priscilla Scherger of DBHDS (priscilla.scherger@dbhds.virginia.gov) and Ms. Deborah Waite of VHI (deborah@vhi.org).

We are very hopeful that this initiative will enhance our system's responsiveness to persons in crisis and look forward to working with you on this important effort. Thank you.

Cc: Michael Lundberg
Kim Snead
Susan Ward
Olivia Garland
Joy Yeh
Priscilla Scherger

Deborah Waite
Betty Long
Mary Ann Bergeron
John Pezzoli
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