

COLONIAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Executive Director's Report – April 2025

Agency Issues

1. We are pleased to announce the hire of Denise Kirschbaum as our new Director of Behavioral Health Services. Denise began her new role on March 17th.
2. We anticipate presenting a Memorandum of Agreement with York County soon to memorialize the Fiscal Agent relationship between our organizations. The agreement will also entail proposed changes to CBH Bylaws and Financial Management policy.
3. All issues related to easements and property planning for the Cardinal Ridge parcel have been completed. Final documents are now progressing through numerous state offices for approval, with conveyance to JCC (and ultimately CCSI) by May 2025.
4. The Henderson/GuernseyTingle team will present their proposed plan for the Crisis Services Center at our May meeting as we approach the Final Agreement stage of our PPEA process.
5. CBH has had some recent successes in recruiting licensed and license-eligible clinicians. We continue to have difficulty recruiting Direct Service Professionals (DSPs) to work in our Day Support and Residential programs, resulting in strained work schedules.
6. CBH's 3-year CARF accreditation review for SUD IOP services is due in the fall of 2025.

Community Issues

1. September 10, 2025, has been tentatively scheduled as the date for our crisis services center Groundbreaking event at the Cardinal Ridge site. That date also corresponds to World Suicide Prevention Day. Early inquiries have begun to coordinate schedules allowing state leaders to attend.
2. An application has been submitted to the Williamsburg Health Foundation (by Colonial Community Corrections) for support of the new local Behavioral Health Court docket. This docket will operate in WJCC District Court but serve all CBH localities.
3. Our community has not yet applied to the Supreme Court of Virginia for the new Drug Court (operating out of York/Poquoson Circuit Court but serving all CBH localities).

Regional Issues

1. Regional access to Eastern State Hospital is still limited due to over 90% of their beds being filled with forensic patients. Almost all CBH-locality residents in need of state hospitalization continue to be transported throughout the state to access beds.

Public Policy

1. As of March 24th, Governor Youngkin's proposed amendments to the approved General Assembly budget conference report are still pending. A summary spreadsheet (to date) is attached to this report. The Reconvened (or "Veto") Session is scheduled for April 2nd.
2. We also continue to monitor the potential impact of Federal changes to safety net services. Impacts remain unclear on Medicaid, Federal staffing, and other major initiatives. CSBs have been notified by DBHDS that no impacts on Federal block grant funds are anticipated resulting from the Continuing Resolution passed by Congress (in effect until 10/1/2025)

Respectfully submitted,
David A. Coe